

### Science of Surgery

Want to do something fun, FREE, and family-friendly over the Easter holidays? Then make sure you visit the Science of Surgery event, showcasing the cutting-edge medical research at UCL. Use a medical ultrasound scanner, try simulated keyhole surgery, and go on behind-the-scenes tours of their labs to see robot surgeons. For more info visit:

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/interventional-surgical-sciences/events/2024/apr/science-surgery-friday-12th-april-2024>



### Music to Our Ears

The harp has long been associated with healing and relaxation, so we were delighted to host local harpist, Sue Rothstein, for an hour of magical music that transported everyone to a world of tranquillity and wonder. The melodies generated by this incredible instrument had an amazing calming affect that brought smiles to the faces of everyone present, offering a moment of respite from what can often be very anxious moments for both young people and families as they wait for a procedure or the outcome of a test. We would like to thank Gill Hyatt from the Royal Free Charity Volunteer service as we continue to prioritise their well-being and education, and look forward to further opportunities to bring art and culture to the classroom.

### Access and Special Consideration

Our SENDCO and Examinations Team have worked extremely hard assessing students to ensure they receive the necessary Access Arrangements for them to sit examinations on a level playing field. The practice tests sat toward the end of the last term were an excellent opportunity to simulate as closely as possible, a real examination experience for each subject. The remaining practice tests for next term are shown here.

Tues 16 April	English Literature Paper 1	9.30	2h 15m
Weds 17 April	Citizenship	1:15	1h 15m
Friday 19 April	Biology Paper 1	11.00	1h 30m
Mon 22 April	History Paper 1 Cold War	13.15	1h
	Chemistry Paper 1		
Tues 23 April	English Literature Paper 2	9.30	2h 45m
Friday 26 April	Biology Paper 2	11.00	1h 30m
Fri 3 May	History Paper 2 History of Medicine	10.00	1h
	Chemistry Paper 2		
	Astronomy		
Tues 7 May	History Paper 1 Nazi Germany	11.00	1h
Thurs 9 May	History Paper 2 WW1	11.00	1h

Fri 19 April – Chair of Governors, Dr Nicky Rogal, visits Konstam 1pm  
 Sun 21 April - Last date to apply for an entry fee refund for a student withdrawn from June 2024 exams  
 Fri 10 May first main GCSE – Biology Paper 1, 9.30am  
 Fri 7 June last main GCSE – Biology Paper 2, 1.30pm

Spring term 1 Tues 9 Jan - Fri 9 Feb  
 Spring term 2 Mon 19 Feb - Thurs 28 Mar  
 Summer term 1 Mon 15 Apr – Fri 24 May  
 Summer term 2 Mon 3 June – Mon 22 July  
 2023-24 INSET Days:  
 4. Tues 23 July 2024  
 5. Wed 24 July 2024

### Message from the Headteacher

A very busy time of year as the Exams team finalise entries and access arrangements (alongside our fantastic SENDCo) for all our examination candidates in the summer. This is a huge logistical challenge as we also provide access for private candidates, many with medical conditions, including a growing number of young people who are home educated. Thank you Liberty!

It is also a time for change across our alternative provision programmes as we review individual progress for young people at Konstam and start, for most, the process of transition and planning either next steps on to new programmes or into other settings.

We now have a new logo (thank you Shaida and see opposite) which better reflects the balance of intake across the school. Parents and carers will be familiar with the daily lesson summaries they receive via email from our Google Classroom. This provides a valuable link to those learners unable to attend due to appointments, illness or a medical condition. This term, we will be introducing a parent link via our school management system called Sims Parent, further improving communication between home and school. Login codes will be provided during the first of the summer term.

It is also a time of change in terms of staffing and in the Summer 1 newsletter I hope to be able to confirm two key appointments as we look to recruit a new SENDCo and Headteacher to the leadership team who will both play a crucial role in guiding the school through the next part of its journey. **Alex Yates**



### Healing Hooves and Equine Therapy

Equine Therapy has become a proven source of healing and support for our young people; especially those missing education for long periods of time. The sessions provide a sense of physical and emotional connection, an opportunity to be outside, and instils a renewed sense of responsibility and independence. Welcome back!



### Easter Revision Classes

During the first week of the Easter holiday the following extra help will be on offer at our Konstam site. Young people currently or previously attending the hospital school are also very welcome if they wish to catch up.

Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Maths
Weds 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Biology/Chemistry
Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup>	Art/Maths/Sci

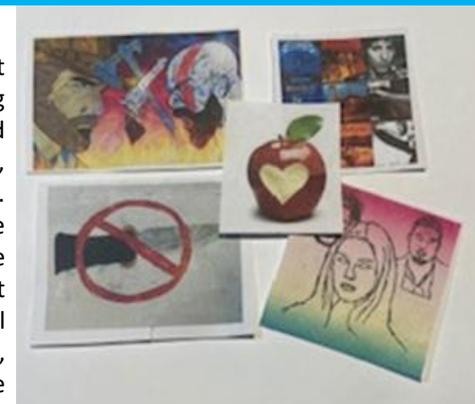
**Read for Good**

There was a lovely buzz in the hospital classroom where children were able to enjoy Jen, from the charity Read for Good, guide in the art of fabulous story-making as well as reading, sharing books and of course lots of Easter creative activities. Jen then headed towards Konstam to run sessions there. Thank you Jen for running yet another creative writing workshop using the beautiful Shan Tan books as stimuli. Thanks also to Sally l'Anson, pictured centre, visiting from Read for Good's head office. Busy day!



**AQA Unit Awards Podcast**

This term we were given a thorough insight into the world of creating podcasts; reviewing songs, making mini documentaries and discussions on topics such as knife crime, soundscapes, video games and music reviews. Boe: "I enjoyed the scriptwriting aspect of the program as I got to talk about my favourite songs. I also learnt the process and steps that go into creating a podcast." Full versions of all podcasts will be made available to staff, students and parents of our school in the summer term.



**Virtual Reality to a New Dimension**

Talia fell from a horse over the half term and ended up being admitted to the ward for 3 days. She had previously raised over £400 for the school which we invested in a Virtual Reality console. She had no idea she would be the first person to use it and after 3 days of hardly moving in bed can be seen here, fully mobile, exploring the Solar System and avoiding being hit by asteroids. This has been a great addition and we hope to use it to further explore the universe and shorter distances such as the journey from the ward to the MRI.



**Mentors on and off the Pitch . . .**

Ramone has spearheaded an exciting new partnership between our school and a cohort of dynamic interns from the United States. Craig, Sam, and Mitch, ambitious undergraduate students pursuing degrees in Sports Management, have wholeheartedly committed themselves to elevating the spirit of Thursday Sport through an engaging mentoring initiative. Their boundless energy and infectious enthusiasm have left an indelible imprint on the school community, kindling a reinvigorated interest for sports, particularly soccer, or football as it's known in the US.

**Pizza Nights**

Uncertainty around carbohydrate content can sometimes make eating in restaurants an added complication for young people with Type 1 Diabetes. With funding provided by our Jack Petchey Achievement Award winners, we hosted our second Pizza Night for 14 families to share good practice, eat great food and, most importantly, meet other families and young people with the same condition. Between slices, we made decorations from clay and explored our Tree's of Life.



**Emergency Insights: Providing a Voice**

Ten volunteers from Woodhouse College have been conducting a survey that should provide a better understanding of the various factors that influence a families decision to seek help before attending the children's Emergency Department. By understanding the reasons behind these decisions, we hope to shed light on the challenges faced by families and thereby use the results to help tailor the quality of service provided and meet the needs of families by providing the necessary support during visits. Jessica and Aisling said: "The project provides an excellent insight into what it's like to work in a busy children's A and E. It takes so much dedication."

