



DRAYTON MANOR HIGH SCHOOL



DRAYTON MANOR REOPENS

There are no spring lambs to be found in West Ealing. But right now the flowers are blooming, the birds are singing and it is the students that are flocking back in through the gates of Drayton Manor High School and it is wonderful to see!

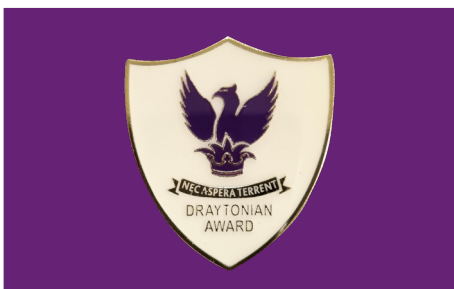
THE DRAYTONIAN AWARD

At the end of last half term, we brought news of The Draytonian Award, a termly award presented to one student in each Key Stage whose outstanding contribution has most embodied the ethos of the school that term.

We were in no doubt that when the school was forced to close its doors at the beginning of January for a second lockdown, that our students would continue to strive to do their very best and demonstrate the three core pillars of the school ethos – Ambition, Character and Civic Virtue.

We are delighted that the following students were selected by teachers for the prestigious Draytonian Award.

Key Stage 3	Luca van Dorp
Key Stage 4	Mustafa Guled
Key Stage 5	Giovanna Leon De Souza



On Wednesday 17 March the school held a small socially distanced ceremony so that the students could be congratulated. The event was held in the Dining Hall and was attended by Ms Mills, along with a small group of school friends invited as their guests. Ms Mills spent time chatting to the award-winning students about their achievements and then presented each of them with a certificate and one of our special Draytonian badges. The presentation was then followed by some light refreshments.

ETHIC OF EXCELLENCE CELEBRATIONS



Although teachers continued to award students merits for their school work during lockdown, it has been wonderful to be able to reinstate our Ethic of Excellence Award ceremonies and celebrate with students in person once again.

Students receive the award for a variety of reasons which include sustained excellence in a subject, a one-off outstanding piece of work, major improvement in school work and for contributing to the school community. They are presented with a certificate and have a chance to speak about their achievements and are rewarded with a delicious brunch which includes pizza, cookies, fresh fruit and juice.

Celebrations have been taking place all this week for students in Years 7 to Year 10 and will continue after the Easter holidays for students in Years 11, 12 & 13.

SIXTH FORM NEWS

Our Year 13 students continue to receive offers and attend selection days for university courses and very competitive degree apprenticeships. These students have done exceptionally well at balancing the competing demands for their time. At present 595 offers have been received with more to come. Once all students have heard from the universities we will update you, the universities deadline is 20 May.

Please view any Sixth Form page on our website and then click the 'University destinations 2020' tab to see all our university destinations in 2020.

We continue to be very proud of the contributions that Sixth Form make to the school and community. Sixth formers have been involved with running lower school enrichment activities, such as 'The Big House Quiz' and Sign Language Workshops. Year 12 students have been organising and running fundraising events as part of their WOHA and Mark Evison charity projects. Our Assembly Programme continued throughout lockdown where students heard from different universities, charities and Uptree a work experience platform. We continue to urge students to take every opportunity to undertake virtual work experience.

UCAS SUPPORT

The Sixth Form team has been readying Year 12 students for university applications through the use of Unifrog – our online platform which supports students in finding out more about all post-18 options.

This term, the Year 12s have had a variety of sessions both remote and in-person supporting them in finding out the ideal courses for them. Students have explored both university degrees and apprenticeships, have discovered the sheer variety of courses available to them both in the UK and around the world, and have identified 'supercurricular' reading, listening and watching that they can use to supplement the interests they have gained from their Sixth Form courses of study using Unifrog's database. We have also benefitted from the support of our partners at Brunel University and the University of East Anglia, who have delivered a variety of sessions to both the Year 12s and Year 13s on a variety of topics from personal statement writing to student finance.

SCHOLARS NEWS

We are delighted that Priyanka has received the particular distinction of being awarded a prestigious bursary at the Abu Dhabi campus of New York University, where she intends to study for a degree in Social Policy. This course is one of the most competitive in the world, with only 4% of students gaining admission. Congratulations to Priyanka on this amazing achievement, which represents the culmination of a lot of hard work both inside and outside the classroom!



Our Scholars Programme for Year 12 students seeks to build on existing links to further help students who are looking to secure places at competitive universities. Year 12 students have also applied to the UNIQ summer school run by Oxford University, and the Sutton

Trust summer school, and have taken part in a Maths study day and a Classics essay competition, both organised by St John's College, Oxford. These courses aim both to demystify the process of applying to highly academic courses and give students new perspectives on subjects they find interesting beyond the A Level curriculum. Students have also had the opportunity to attend the virtual Oxford and Cambridge Student Conference where they received information on the process of applying to and studying at both universities.

MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY NEWS

We were delighted to hear that three of our students have won places to study Dentistry and Medicine. These are particularly competitive courses in normal years but, in the light of the current circumstances, their achievements are all the more impressive. We wish them luck in the next stage of their careers!

Our year 12 and 13 Medicine and Dentistry students have had the pleasure of receiving advice from doctors around the UK through live streams giving students the opportunity to ask them questions about the profession. Most recently, Doctor Mehta, Consultant Gastroenterologist from University College London Hospital and Doctor Kalla, Consultant Cardiologist and Electrophysiologist, from Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham presented to students about how to ace the selection process and the highs and lows of the profession. Next term the series of talks continues!

YEAR 10 INTERHOUSE NETBALL

After a frustrating year with regards to school sport due to the understandable restrictions placed on teams and clubs it was fantastic to be able to welcome our



students back onto the netball courts after such a long time away. Following the published national guidelines for school sport we were able to host the second Inter House Netball tournament of the year.

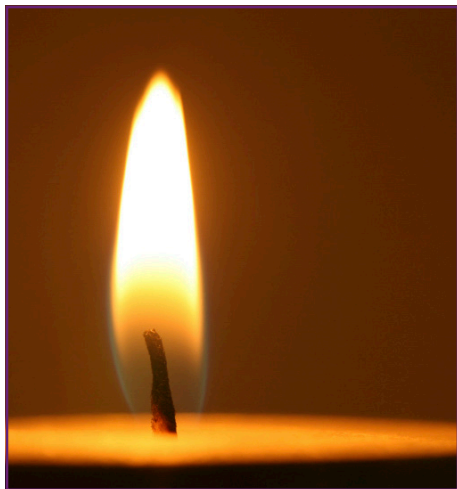
The first tournament was for the Year 13 girls before Christmas with Phoenix being the eventual winners followed by Caladrius, Pegasus and Griffin. The Year 10 tournament was open to boys and girls to include some of the boys who have been improving their netball skills over the year in their GCSE PE classes. The squads of ten players were excited to be taking part in their first competitive sport since lockdown and the atmosphere was heightened by the sheer pleasure of being in a competitive arena once again. All the matches were close but the final result came down to the last two games of the round robin format with Phoenix maintaining their unbeaten record against Pegasus to finish in first position followed by Pegasus, Caladrius and finally Griffin. We look forward to running the Year 7, 8 and 9 tournaments later on in the summer term.

HOUSE NEWS



Our new House system is playing a key part in Drayton Manor's culture and ethos and is establishing opportunities for engagement in extra-curricular activities. Since the start of the academic year these have included a tutor board competition, an art competition to help celebrate Black History Month, and the House music festival competitions to name just a few. The most recent scores are in and we can announce that leading the field at the moment is Griffin on 1,220 points, Phoenix on 900 points, Calarius on 765 points and Pegasus on 570 points. House points are also awarded for the best attendance and as a result, students in tutor groups 7E, 8J, 9G, 10F and 11I will receive a special treat this week.

TIME TO REFLECT



On Friday 26 March at 11am the school observed a one-minute silence to mark the one-year anniversary of the first national lockdown. We felt that it was incredibly important to allow this moment of reflection as we are aware that so many of our students and their families have been affected by the coronavirus.

Members of the Senior Leadership Team along with members of the pastoral support team were on hand to offer support to those students who needed it.

THE DRAYTON MANOR COOKBOOK

It is not too late to get involved with our Drayton Manor Cookbook which we launched as part of Children's Mental Health Week, and one that students might enjoy getting involved with over



the Easter holidays. We would like you to submit some of your favourite family recipes.

Since so many cultures are represented at the school we hope that this book will include mouth-watering recipes from all around the world. To add character to the book we would like you to share why your recipe means so much to your family. Please email your submission to cookbook@draytonmanorhighschool.co.uk by Monday 19 April.



Please include:

- Ingredients
- Method
- Cooking time
- Why this recipe is important to you
- Drawing, image or photo of the dish

We will be selling the book and all proceeds will go to a children's mental health charity.

THANK YOU

We would like to thank you all again for all the kind messages of support that we have received from members of the school community in the most recent lockdown. We would also like to thank our incredible students too for the support they have given one another during this challenging time.



We would like to wish everyone a very safe and happy holiday - the Easter Bunny has even been delivering treats to students today! We look forward to welcoming back students in school on Monday 19 April.

