

SELLY PARK

GIRLS' SCHOOL

SUMMER 2019

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER NEWSLETTER
July 2019
Selly Park Girls' School

THANK A TEACHER DAY

The exceptional teachers at Selly Park show an enormous amount of dedication and commitment to the school and pupils. The teachers are role models and inspire pupils to achieve their very best at all times.

As part of **Pearson's National Thank a Teacher Day**, we would like to thank all the teachers for their hard work throughout this year.

A special thanks goes to the following teachers who have gone above and beyond their role:

Mr Mobey, Miss Mackuin, Miss Hunt, Mr Pritchard, Mrs Randle, Miss Darwood, Mrs Phelan, Miss Hofman and Mr Quinton.



As part of celebrating Pearson's National Thank a Teacher Day, a huge Congratulations goes to Mr McCauley, who has won the silver award for Teaching Assistant of the Year.

Pictures: Left - Mr Mobey, Miss Mackuin, Miss Hunt, Mr Pritchard, Mrs Randle, Miss Darwood, Mrs Phelan, Miss Hofman and Mr Quinton.

Right - Mrs Darwood and Mr McCauley with his Silver award.

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Visit from West Heath Primary

Selly Park's International Council were delighted to welcome pupils from West Heath Primary School's 'Friends Around the World' group to teach them about zero hunger and sustainability as part of our British Council Connecting Classrooms project. The International Council prepared resources and led sessions around planting potatoes, raddishes, tomato plants, brussel sprouts, and also supported Ms Mackuin creating clay leaves. The pupils from Selly Park involved are: Safa, Hannah, Madihah, Nabihah, Alana, Deena, Zara and Hibba. Well done to you all, you're all great ambassadors for Selly Park!

We look forward to hosting West Heath Primary School again at the end of term where fruit and vegetables will be harvested and used to make some delicious meals and desserts.



Parent TEFL course

A number of parents took part in several English workshops over the course of 5 weeks. Parents took part in sessions based on a Selly Park pupil's life at Selly Park, these included: uniform, behaviour, assessment and attendance. We look forward to running the course again next year. If you are interested in taking part please email Mr Turner to register your interest or for more information.

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Parental Engagement

We are extremely proud to announce that as a school we have been awarded the **'Leading Parent Partnership Award 2019-2022'**.



Verification report quotes include:

Substantial evidence that presented objectives and key performance indicators well.

Firm commitment is given by SLT and governors to develop the school's partnership with its parents.

The school is very welcoming.

Parents greatly value the communication they receive.

Emphasis shown by school in valuing their (parents) opinions.

Parent learning sessions have been provided in English language acquisition including TEFL, IT and CV building.

Thank you to all of the parents and carers that support their daughter's education journey.

Engaged
Stakeholders

Parents

Community

Partners



Competitions

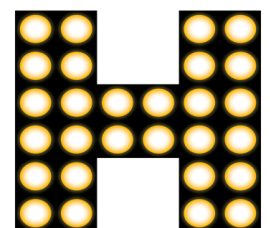


Congratulations! to Hafsa, Safia and Maariyah. Our year 11 GCSE Art students have had their artwork selected by the **Inspire 19 Youth Arts Competition** to be shown over the summer in an exhibition in the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery.

The exhibition is based on the theme of 'family' and their artworks were perfect entries to this prestigious competition.

Well done to you all!

Winner of the 'Exploring Space' Competition
Congratulations!
Muminah (Year 8)



BIRMINGHAM
HIPPODROME

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MFL Trip to Normandy

At the start of July, 39 pupils from Years 7 to 10 (plus Mrs Nasir, Miss Hofman, Mr Quinton and Mr Smith) went over to France to visit the beautiful French region of Normandy. After a long journey, broken by an amazing ferry crossing (see photo), we stayed in a hotel right by the beach. During our trip we enjoyed the beach near our hotel, shopping for souvenirs in the pretty port town of Honfleur and exploring the castle of William the Conqueror (see photo). Thanks again to all the pupils and staff who made this such a fantastic trip – look out for another trip next year.

Mr Smith

Head of MFL



Pictures: Left - Leaving England behind and Right - At William the Conqueror's Castle

Taster Day-Joseph Chamberlain Sixth-Form College

Year 10 students used one day of their work experience week to attend the Taster Day at Joseph Chamberlain Sixth-Form College. Students enjoyed preparing for their next stage of education and took part in taster lessons and experienced the life of a college student.

Alisha said “It was a positive day which helped me to consider my college choices”.

Another student Suzanne said “It was a good day and helpful and all the teachers made me feel welcome in a comfortable learning atmosphere”.



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Attendance Fair

As a reward for 100% attendance the fortnight around summer half term, students were treated to a super exclusive film screening of **How To Train Your Dragon 3** with sweets and popcorn served by students from the International Committee.

Well done to all our students this academic year for taking attendance and their right to an education (Article 28 of the United Nations Charter of the Rights of the Child) so seriously.

As a result we've seen a significant improvement in attendance at Selly Park and a culture of students attending school as much as possible to maximise their outcomes.

Thank you to our staff, parents and students for your support.



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Geography Field Trip

As part of their course, all the Year 10 Geography pupils recently spent the day at the River Dove in the Peak District, measuring the width, depth and speed of the river at three different points along the river.

After two weeks of heavy rain we were lucky that it was a dry day, although some pupils did get rather wet from splashing around in the water!

It was a very successful day and hopefully the research that pupils completed will help them to achieve good marks in their Geography GCSE.



Think Tank Trip



Year 7 visited Birmingham Thinktank on Tuesday, 25th June 2019 where they learnt about the development of science and engineering from the past, the present and in the future.

The Past:

Pupils unlocked the fascinating industrial heritage of Birmingham and experienced the mighty steam machines that powered the Industrial revolution.

The Present:

Pupils uncovered the science all around us: in the city, in the wild and even in our own bodies!

The Future:

Year 7 explored new technologies and advancements for the exploration of space. They had the opportunity to program a robot and marvel at how medical advancements are saving lives.

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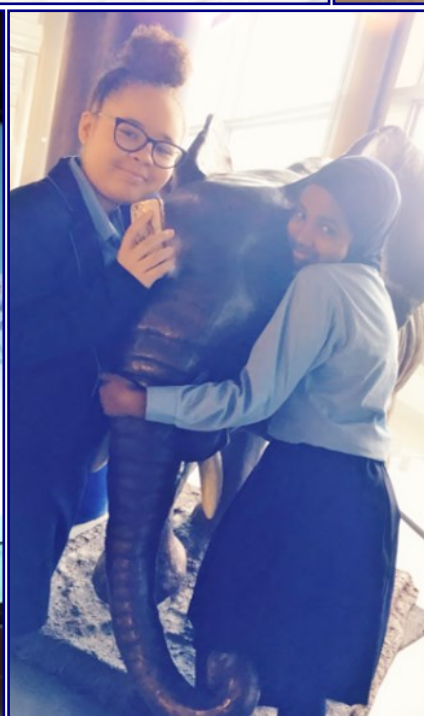
Think Tank Trip (contd...)

Year 7 were also entertained with an amazing Energy show!
They learnt that energy cannot be created or destroyed and explored electrical energy by electrocuting Mr Bamford. 🤖



They discussed heat and chemical energy by creating sugar fireballs and learnt about kinetic energy by spinning a volunteer in circles

Pupils also explored Thinktank's Science Garden which is an outdoor discovery space packed with surprises and fun activities. The garden's activities have themes of engineering, mechanics and transportation through over 30 hands-on exhibits.

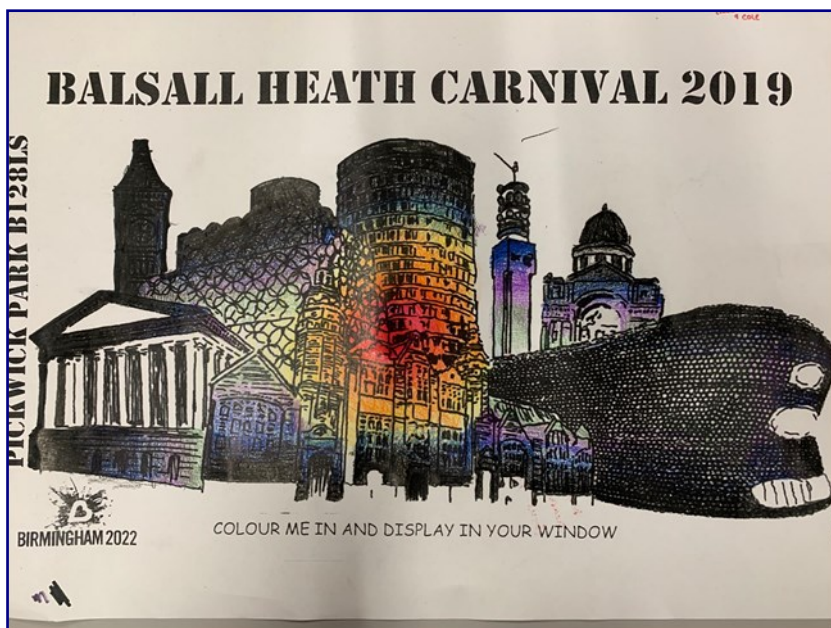


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Balsall Heath Carnival

An amazing time had by all. Thank you to everyone who helped organise the event and supported the Carnival in all kinds of ways. The Selly Park Choir did us proud opening the Carnival and our Rights Ambassadors sold badges to raise money for UNICEF. It was nice to see so many Selly Park families. We raised £450 as a school. **Well done everyone!**



unicef 
for every child



**Winner of Selly Park Balsall Heath
Carnival Colouring Competition,
Designed by Mr Turner
Hadeel Year 9**



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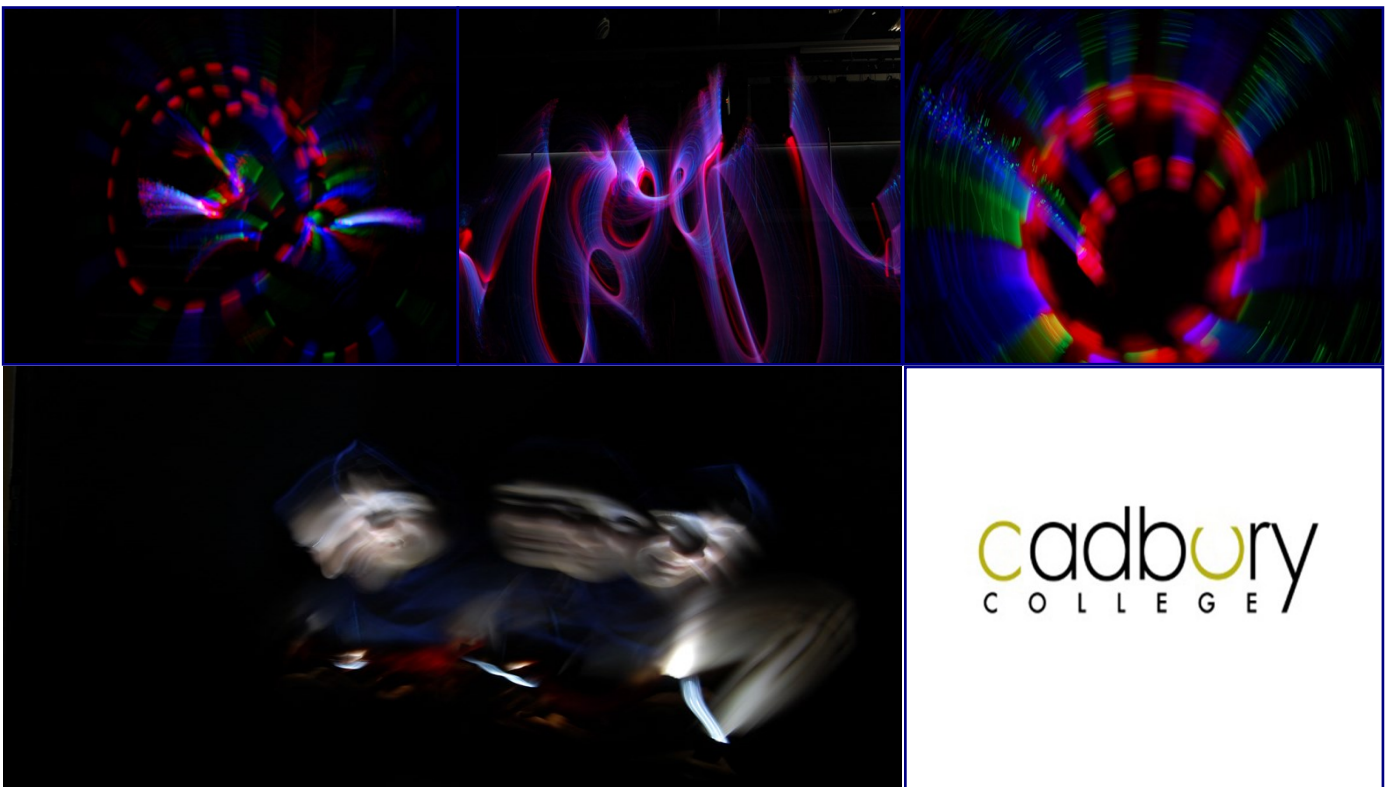
Art Department News

Year 10 GCSE Art students visit Cadbury College

A huge thanks to all the staff at Cadbury College for a fantastic inspirational day for our Art students. We were able to experiment with photography techniques and create some amazing images for our portfolios which you can see below. We also got to view current artwork, some from our past students. We are so grateful and look forward to working with you next year. A brilliant day!



Year 10 got creative at Cadbury College when taking part in a photography workshop. Excellent work and thank you to Cadbury College Staff.



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Selly Park GCSE Art Show

Our year 11 students have worked so hard creating amazing artwork of all kinds so it is wonderful to celebrate their achievements in our Selly Park art show. It was fantastic to see our students work exhibited and enjoyed by all. We are so proud of what you have achieved and good luck in all you do in the future.

Thank you to everyone who supported the show, our students and families. And a special thanks to artists Mohammed Ali and David Walton of the RBSA for giving us your time to judge the show.



South Network Art Exhibition 2019

An incredible event for our Selly Park community. We are proud to be part of the annual South Network Exhibition which takes place in the beautiful School of Art at Birmingham City University. The show is a celebration of the creativity and talent of young artists from schools in the Birmingham South Area Network.

The standard of work this year has been incredible, and our year 11 artists, families and teachers were present to view our student's work at the Private View event. As a culmination of students' hard work throughout the year, this exhibition is put together with a great sense of pride, and seeing the reactions of pupils, their parents and the South Network community on the opening evening is priceless. Thank you to all the organizers. Amazing work.



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Rights Respecting Schools Award

Rights Focus of the Month: July 2019

Article 19 You have the right to be protected from being hurt and mistreated, in body or mind.

Our Rights Ambassadors delivered an assembly about anti bullying and how at Selly Park we promote kindness to everyone, no matter your race, gender, religion or background.



Pictures : (L) Mr Swan receiving his Rights Ambassadors award for using Rights Language when promoting 100% attendance.

(R) A few of our Rights Ambassadors shared their ideas and plans for Rights Respecting Schools at our Governors Strategy Day.

Our Governors were awarded with an ambassador award for thinking about Rights during this important planning day. Thank you for asking us along Mrs Darwood!

Rights Respecting Ambassadors Annual General Meeting

Our Rights Ambassadors spent an afternoon sharing their ideas and strategies to meet our Rights Respecting goals for the coming year.

Our Ambassadors would like:

- All rights holders (children) and Duty Bearers (adults) to know and understand rights in the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of a child.**
- Our Selly Park community to continue to respect and uphold the rights of all children.
- Our Selly Park community to be active ambassadors for the rights of others in school, nationally and globally.



For more information on the award please visit our website, and also the Rights Respect Schools Award website:

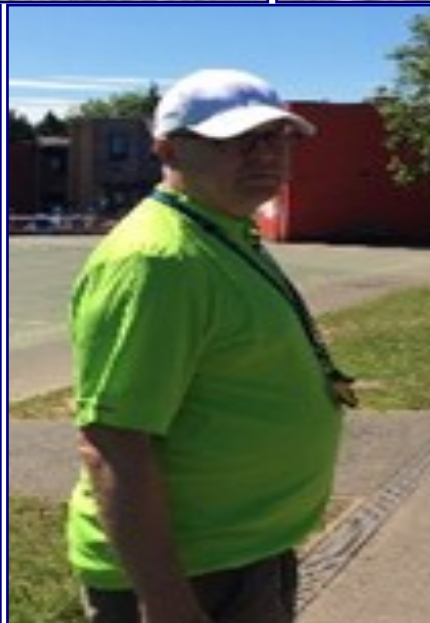
<https://www.unicef.org.uk/rights-respecting-schools/>

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Sports Day

Sports Day was a fantastic day for all the pupils and staff at Selly Park. They go to participate and cheer on their house in track and field events. Thank you to all the staff and pupils who made it such a successful and enjoyable day. Congratulations to the winning house- AIR!



Soccer Aid supporting UNICEF

Pupils took part in a week long football world cup tournament to raise money and awareness for Unicef. Along with promoting the start of the Women's Football World Cup. Well done to team Brazil who won the Selly Park World Cup without losing a game! Star Players were Hibba and Wabiha, Layla, Aiman and Ayah.



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Level 2 Rounders Competition

Year 9 and 10 rounders came a fantastic 2nd in this years competition. Winning all their group games to go into a final against Lordswood Girls, unfortunately losing by 2 rounders. The girls should be so proud of themselves for their fantastic effort and attitude! Well done! (Picture: Below Left)

Year 7 and 8 rounders team finished the tournament in a brilliant 2nd place. After losing their first group game, they then went on to win their remaining games. They showed fantastic team work, resilience and skill. Well done girls, we are all really proud of how they performed in their first competition. (Picture: Below Right)



Birmingham School Games Level 2 Cricket competition

The KS3 cricket team competed in the School Games cricket competition against Hillcrest School.

They had an excellent win, winning by 100 runs. This means they have gone through to the Level 3 School Games Finals. These take place on the 12th July. Woman of the match was Khadija who scored 46* not out.

Good luck girls!



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Year 10 Level 1 Sports Leaders Award

The pupils in Year 10 have been undertaking the Level 1 Sports Leaders Award this year in P.E. The girls have performed brilliantly, learning and being assessed on new skills. Pupils have been gaining essential sporting and life skills through sports leadership. These skills include; communication, self-belief, teamwork, self-management and problem solving.



Year 11 Prom

The Year 11 pupils signed off in style at the Prom. A great night was had by all. Saying goodbye to their friends as they move into the next chapter of their lives.



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Year 8 Visit to Guru Nanak Gurudwara

As part of the year 8 topic of Religious buildings, Mrs Nasir, Mr Leak and Miss Silverlock took a group of year 8 pupils to visit the Guru Nanak Gurudwara in Sparkhill.

“I liked my trip to the Gurudwara because the people there were very welcoming and we learnt a lot about the Sikh religion. Mr Singh taught us the importance of coming together to help others amongst many other things. We also learnt about the Langar, a little history of the Gurudwara, about the five K's and the ten Gurus who put together the holy book, Guru Granth Sahib. When I was on the coach, I was feeling very curious about what is inside the building and when I entered it, I was extremely eager to explore the Gurudwara. I was very interested in what our tour guide was saying.” - Year 8 pupil



Year 9/10 Visit to Ghamkol Sharif Mosque and The Islamic Experience Exhibition!

On Monday 17th June, a group of year 9/10 pupils accompanied by Mrs Nasir, Mr Leak and Miss Hofman visited the Ghamkol Sharif Mosque and the Islamic experience exhibition as part of their Religious Studies course. Pupils were given a tour around the Mosque by the friendly and welcoming staff who talked to the pupils about the importance of the features and the uses of the Mosque within the local community.

Pupils then went to the Islamic Experience Exhibition in Small Heath where they were presented information on five sections. These were: Faith & History, The Five Pillars, Family Life, Islam & Science and Activities which included a Q/A session. Pupils were given the unique opportunity to ask any questions they wanted answering. All pupils had an enjoyable day which will hopefully prove worthy as it will assist with their end of year R.E. exam.



Mrs F. Nasir (Head of R.E.)

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ELLA KIRK-BOWER IN JECKYLL & HYDE

For a number of years now Ella Kirk-Bower (Year 11) has been a part of The Young Rep drama group at The Birmingham Rep. I have been lucky enough to have had the opportunity to attend a number of their performances in recent years but this year I was blown away by their interpretation of *Jeckyll & Hyde*.

In Evan Placey's version of the Robert Louis Stevenson tale, the title characters are female and the amazing Young Rep cast put on a show that was called 'furious and fearless' in a 5-Star review by The Guardian. As a modern day version of the title characters, Ella was at her most confident best as she gave a bold and brilliant portrayal. She was called "excellent" by The Guardian but that doesn't cut it, she was sensational. It is fair to say the 17 young members of the cast all have a bright future ahead of them. They controlled the stage, playing multiple roles as scenes changed quickly and the story flowed. It is hard to believe we were watching young teenagers at work, such was the quality on show.

Ella was invited to staff briefing to read out the review by The Guardian and was given a huge round of applause by everyone. Even in standing in front of staff she showed all of her confidence and ability to take centre stage.

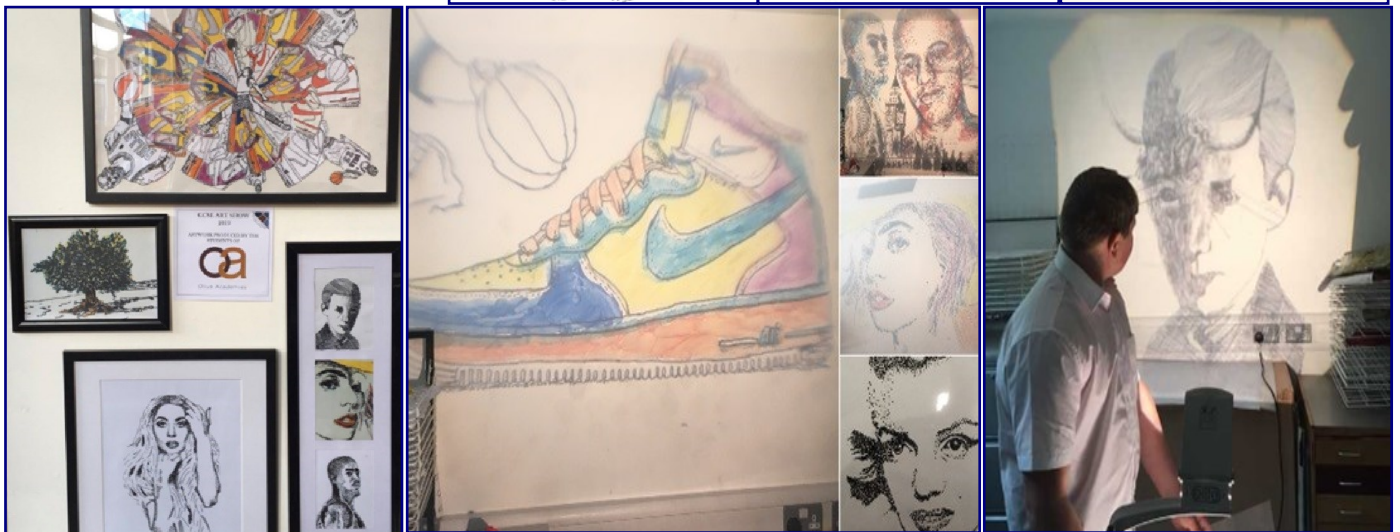
I first met a young, bright, confident eleven year old Ella way back in Summer School 2014 and she has certainly come a long way in her five years at Selly Park. She has a talent and will surely be on stage in many performances, playing many leading roles going forward. I look forward to seeing what happens in the next chapter of a fruitful young career.



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Olive Academies Partnership

Throughout this term we have been working in partnership with Olives Academy to support their pupils in Mathematics and Art. The pupils have worked incredibly hard and made great progress in both subject areas.



House Competitions 2018-19

This year has seen a number of house competitions take place. The house competitions have fallen into the following categories:

Departmental, Extra-Curricular and Sport.

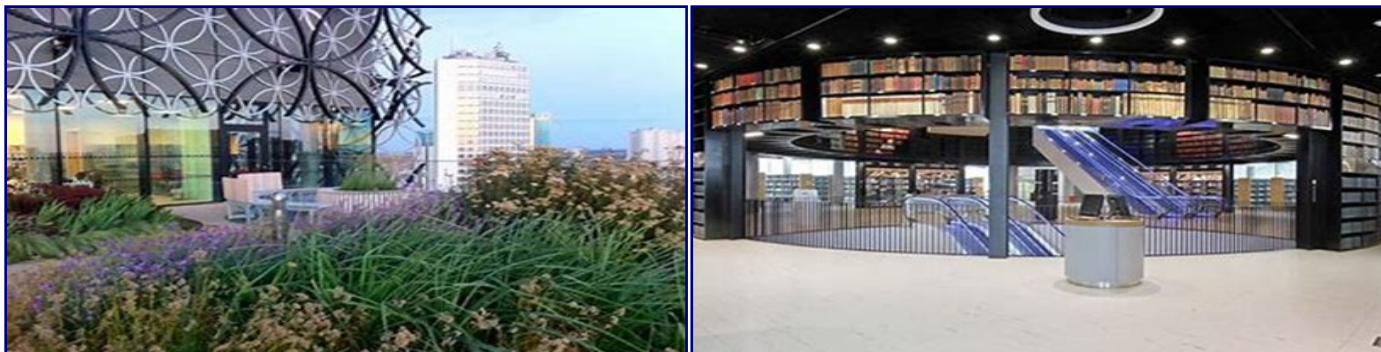
Competitions have included a History based design a coat of arms competition, a Geography photograph competition, an English reading competition, a Maths challenge and a Science activity.

This year has seen the introduction of house sports leagues. Members from the different houses compete against each other in cricket. Each week a fixture was played where the house groups would compete against each other. The girls have shown excellent skills and a great competitive spirit. The winner will be announced during international day on the last day of term.

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Visit to Birmingham Library



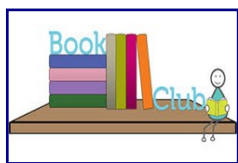
A small group of our Year 7 students went with Ms Hofman and Mrs Clarke to Birmingham Central Library on Monday 8th July. The girls went in the children's library and had a chance to look at the wide range of books on offer. We gathered some ideas for new books for our own library and were pleased to see that we already have many of the books. The new library has a wonderful buzz about it which the girls really enjoyed. We also had a drink and snack in the café which has a relaxing atmosphere.

We finished our visit by enjoying the city from the libraries Secret Garden on the 7th floor where the girls ate their lunch before returning to school.

The girls particularly enjoyed the Reading Steps, The Secret Garden, the wide range of books and the lifts that played stories between floors. The girls generally agreed that they would love to go again.

We would like to thank the girls who went on the trip for their excellent behaviour and representing our school in such a splendid manner.

Year 7 & 8 Book Club



Every Monday in the Library 12.40 – 1.00pm.

Come along read and share new books and make new friends. Come and join us in September.

Craft Club

The group has produced some fabulous craft items over the last year from greetings cards, mother's day gifts, cards for charity, keyring's and pom-poms to name just some of the projects completed. The girls worked very hard, met new friends and learnt new skills. We will continue with Craft Club next year every Wednesday from 3.05 pm to 3.40 pm. A big thank you to all our club members!

Mrs N Clarke (School Librarian)



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Aspiring Senior Leaders Programme

Congratulations! to Mr Swan, Ms Mackuin, Miss Hesson, Mrs Smith and Mrs Phelan for completing the **Aspiring Senior Leaders Programme at Bishop Challoner Teaching School Alliance**. Certificates were awarded by Brendan McGurran Senior Vice Principal.



Smoothing the Path from Primary to Secondary Transition

Selly Park have forged well-established links with local primary schools, working collaboratively with staff and pupils to embed effective communication. We also share our facilities with local primary schools: a good example being the Year 5 days which are run annually. This means many pupils know the school well before they join us. We have an experienced transition team who meet our new intake pupils at their primary school, once they have made their choice to join Selly Park. As part of these visits there is an open “question and answer” session which the new intake students find very helpful to reduce worries and show the exciting school life our students experience. During the official Induction Day in July, they are given a full day of taster lessons and activities. We also spend some time with parents on this day welcoming them to our school and reassuring them if they have any concerns. The transition is supported by a fully funded Summer School, which provide a wonderful opportunity for new pupils to get to know the school, some of their new teachers and make new friends. Summer School is held over the summer holiday and delivers sessions in a fun and exciting way. This year students will experience a diverse rotation of subjects including Art, PE and Science as well as attend an exciting day retreat climbing, bouldering and caving.

The new intake students are looked after by staff and student mentors, so that they are made welcome in their new school and have any anxieties or queries dealt with. If a pupil is the only one joining Selly Park from a feeder school, she is offered a Selly Park student as a buddy who is available to offer support.

In the Autumn term, we hold a “Progress Day” where parents/guardians can meet with daughter’s form tutor and discuss how they have settled in and deal with any concerns which may have arisen. We are aware that first impressions are very important, and we make every effort to enable our new students to start their secondary school phase in a relaxed and happy atmosphere.

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S.P.G.S Vogue...Aspire to Inspire (Pupil Newsletter)

Illustrated by Imaan (Year 8)

COMPETITION TIME

Below is a description of one of the important figures of Selly Park Girls School. Can you guess who is being described?

WHO AM I?

I'm a teacher who is engaging and enthusiastic. I am not good with numbers when it comes to story writing I'm almost as good as Roald Dahl. My voice isn't as scandalous as Donald Trump, nor is it as whining as Theresa May. My height is below average, but at least I'm not as short as Danny Devito. *Who am I?*

ANSWER: _____

Tear this slip and put it in the competition box that is placed in the reception area. Send in your entries between 4th September to 30th September 2019.

RIGHTS RESPECTING

UNICEF and Selly Park – Making our playground a safer and fun place

All throughout the term, our Rights Respecting Ambassadors have been working extremely hard and are striving to receive a **gold** award.

Here are some exciting updates for you:

RIGHT OF THE MONTH: ARTICLE 24 (health and health care services)

Every child has the right to the best possible health. Governments must provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food and a clean environment so that children can stay healthy. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.

A positive change made by the Rights group is that there is now a Rights button on class charts which allows teachers to award pupils with house points every time a pupil uses the 'Right' of the month.

Look out for a surprise that will come your way soon regarding the upcoming Right of the month. You will laugh your wigs off.

LPPA AWARD

An amazing collaboration between parents and Selly Park School

For the first time ever, our school has received the LPPA Award. The LPPA group was organised two years ago and has had an amazing impact on the school. The purpose of having the LPPA group was to get the parents more involved with the school. The LPA group have helped design the new uniforms, run charity events and they have many more events coming up. If you think you would like to become part of the LPPA team then please get in touch with Mr Turner on 0121 4721238.

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S.P.G.S Vogue...Aspire to Inspire (Pupil Newsletter)

INSPIRATIONS OF THE TERM

This is the very first time where we have introduced a very special shout out to 1 pupil from every year who has improved the most this term. This is based on the individual's behaviour, improved work, attendance or making a positive impact on others around them.

YEAR 7 **NASREEN**; YEAR 8 **EMTLAK**; YEAR 9 **SUMAIRA**;
YEAR 10 **HAJRA** and YEAR 11 **MANAL**

EVENT OF THE TERM

TRIP TO NORMANDY 2019

This July, our school arranged a trip to France, Normandy. The 40 pupils who went were accompanied by four of the school's brilliant teachers. One of the teachers (Mrs Nasir) has kindly agreed to be interviewed regarding her experience on the trip.

Q1. Did you benefit from this trip in any way?

Yes, I did benefit from this trip as I got to know the students, see them in a different perspective, and learn French and bond with the girls.

Q2. Did you communicate with anybody in French, and if so was it challenging?

Yes, I did communicate with a few people at the shops and it was difficult because it was different to normal life

Q3. Have you got any countries on your 'bucket list' which you think that the school should consider visiting?

I think that the school should consider visiting Italy, Rome because of the Catholicism, or perhaps Poland so that pupils could learn more about the holocaust.

Q4. If you could change anything about the pupils that went with you what would it be?

If I could change anything about the pupils it would be that they sleep on time.

Q5. Overall, how would you sum up your experience on this trip and do you think that there could be any room for any improvements?

Overall, I would sum this trip up as a fantastic experience as I enjoyed it all, especially the road trips. Another thing which I particularly enjoyed was seeing the world and trying new things.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

For the forms with the highest attendance

1st PLACE 8ES

Well done to 8ES for being the form with the highest attendance!

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Selly Park Technology College for Girls
Newsletter Summer 2019

Exam Results

We appreciate the hard work done by all our Year 11 pupils and convey our Best Wishes to all of them for their results in August.

Students will be permitted to pick up their results from 10am on the Thursday, 22nd August 2019 from the hall.

Safeguarding Information

Our school is committed to the highest standards in protecting and safeguarding the children entrusted to our care.

Our school will support all children by:

Promoting a caring, safe and positive environment

Encouraging self-esteem and self-assertiveness

Effectively tackling bullying and harassment

We recognise that some children may be the victims of neglect, physical, sexual or emotional abuse. Staff working with children are well placed to identify such abuse.

At our school in order to protect our children, we aim to:

Create an atmosphere where all our children feel secure, valued and listened to.

Recognise signs and symptoms of abuse.

Respond quickly, appropriately and effectively to cases of suspected abuse.

Dates for your Diary...

**INSET Days: Monday, 2nd September & Tuesday, 3rd September 2019,
School closed to pupils.**

Wednesday, 4th September 2019: School Reopens for pupils.

Half Term: Monday 28th October 2019 to Friday 1st November 2019

Autumn Term Ends: Friday 20th December 2019

Spring Term Starts: Monday, 6th January 2020

HAPPY SUMMER HOLIDAYS...
FROM ALL THE STAFF AT SELLY PARK