

The Victory Academy Newsletter

April 2025



Headteacher's End of Term Message



As we draw to the end of an extremely busy Term 3 and Term 4, this newsletter serves to remind us all of the richness of our school community. Both within the classroom and outside the classroom, our staff and students work tirelessly demonstrating both pride in themselves and their school.

Our curriculum is designed to support all students by **providing academic challenge, developing cultural capital and recognising diversity**. Alongside this

newsletter, for Years 7-10 and 12, we will be sharing year group curriculum maps so that parents/carers and students can see, ahead of time, what students will be learning about over the next two terms. Hopefully this will support parents/carers to engage in conversations with students about their learning.

Our Year 11 and 13 students have been working incredibly hard in the lead up to their final exams. Many have taken every opportunity to access extra revision sessions and additional support from staff. During the first week of Easter break, we have some revision sessions available to support the final push.

During Term 3, as part of the Trust #WeAreOne event, we had a week focusing on Thinking. At the heart of our Trust and school is a belief that by explicitly teaching our students tools and habits that enable them to reflect on their own thinking and learning, we support our students as they prepare for their next stage. This focused week also coincided with a number of other events designed to support students to make informed choices about their futures. We were grateful for employers and visitors who shared their experiences with students as part of the Year 9 Careers Fair and also International Women's Day.

I remain extremely proud to be at the helm of The Victory Academy and look forward to continuing to work with you in Terms 5 and 6 to ensure we continue to provide opportunities for our students to achieve their very best.



Key Dates

Term 5

Tuesday 22nd April to Friday 23rd May 2025

Year 7 Parents' Evening – Thursday 24th April

May Bank Holiday – Monday 5th May

Year 12 Work Experience Week – 19th to 23rd May

May Break – Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May 2025

Term 6

Monday 2nd June to Friday 18th July 2025

Year 12 Enrichment Week – 2nd to 6th June

HPV Vaccinations – 4th to 6th June

Staff Training (students leave at 12.30pm) – Wednesday 18th June

School Show Performances – 25th, 26th & 27th June

Year 11 Prom – Tuesday 24th June

A Level Results Day – Thursday 14th August

GCES Results Day – Thursday 21st August

Updates and News

Junior Teaching and Learning Drive Team

This year we have introduced a Junior Teaching and Learning Drive Team; the team consists of students from all year groups. Students are involved in helping to make decisions that will improve Teaching and Learning across the school. We pride ourselves on listening to student feedback and incorporating opinions from our students to aid their learning where possible, and the Drive Team allow this to be a continuous conversation. Students were selected based on an application form that they submitted to our Staff Drive Team.

So far, students have taken part in a Student QA, created House Mottos for our school houses and helped to prepare the school for Thinking Week, which took place in February. We look forward to continuing our work with them throughout the year.

Congratulations to the Student Drive Team for their fantastic work so far! Students involved in the team are:

Sienna C (Year 7)	Grace A (Year 9)	Kyron C (Year 12)
Katelyn H (Year 7)	Emmanuella A (10)	Orlando E (Year 12)
PJ L (Year 7)	Adam A (Year 10)	Dalal H (Year 12)
Simi P (Year 7)	Esther A (Year 10)	Anastasia I (Year 12)
Katarina S (Year 7)	Jessica D (Year 10)	Rehan M (Year 12)
Lacey S (Year 7)	Nikoleta K (Year 10)	Shekinah M (Year 12)
Harley V (Year 7)	Gerald O (Year 10)	Rebecca S (Year 12)
Nathaniel H (Year 8)	Adewale A (Year 12)	



SEND Sensory Wall

We are excited for our new sensory wall in the SEND department. A big thank you to Gemma C (year 8) for helping.



Breakfast Club

The school site is open for students from 8am daily. At this time students will be able to enter the Galley for Breakfast Club. All students have access to a free breakfast, to ensure they are energised and ready to learn.

A reminder that unless a student is attending a planned extra-curricular activity or intervention, they should not be onsite until this time.

Updates and News

Food Influencer Competition

This term three of our year 10 Food students, Tilly, Rhys and Ellie, took part in the TSAT Food Influencer competition. The brief was to design and cook a main meal, following Government School Food Guidelines and containing certain food groups. As the overall winning dish will become part of the school lunch menu, the students also had to consider how the dish would be prepared in a school kitchen and the cost of production.

The three meals to be judged were Tilly's Teriyaki Beef Tacos, Rhys' Chicken Parmesan and Ellie's Peri Peri Chicken Tagliatelle. The Victory Academy winner was Ellie, whose fusion dish went into the next level of the Trust-wide competition.



On Tuesday 25th March our students, along with the competition participants from Holcombe Grammar School and Goodwin Academy, had the exciting opportunity to visit Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Club. They met the Executive Sushi Chef who gave a demonstration on how she prepares sushi for the top tennis players, then students were able to make their own sushi.

The students attended a presentation where they were awarded gift bags for their participation in the competition. We are extremely proud to announce that the overall winner of the Food Influencer competition was Victory's Ellie! Her Peri Peri Chicken Tagliatelle dish will now be incorporated in the Chartwells summer menu and served across the Trust's schools – we can't wait to taste it! Following the presentation, students enjoyed a tour of Wimbledon, including the media centre and prestigious Centre Court.



Ramadan Circle: Spreading Kindness & Reflection

This Ramadan, our students embraced the spirit of generosity and reflection through meaningful activities in our Ramadan Circle. They participated in the Kindness Challenge, filling our Kindness Jar with thoughtful gestures to spread compassion throughout the school. Creativity flourished as they designed beautiful Arabic calligraphy bookmarks inspired by Ramadan's spiritual themes.

Additionally, students engaged in insightful discussions on balancing studies with fasting, and sharing practical tips to stay focused and energized during this holy month. The most heartfelt moments came during our lunchtime chats about fasting while studying. Students swapped practical tips ("drink more water at suhoor") and moral support ("if I can do it, you can do it too!"). It's been moving to see older students guide younger ones, and friendships grow stronger through shared understanding. It was a example of cultural appreciation and mindful perseverance. Ramadan Mubarak to all!



Updates and News

Uniform

Ahead of the new term please can we ask for support in ensuring students have the correct uniform. As part of our Victory Values we take pride in ensuring a high standard of uniform and appearance. Items marked * can be purchased from our uniform suppliers [Monkhouse](#) and [School Time](#).

Our School Uniform:

- Academy blazer*
- Academy tie (House colour)*
- Plain black V-neck jumper (optional item in addition to a blazer)
- White shirt either short or long sleeved
- Plain black straight leg trousers (no skinny fit, flared or denim) *or* plain black knee-length pleated skirt (skirts not to be rolled up)
- Plain black or white ankle socks (no logos, stripes or colours) *or* plain black or skin-colour tights
- Plain black flat formal enclosed shoes (no boots, canvas shoes or trainers)
- Black headscarf (to be worn for religious reasons only)

General Appearance

- One small plain gold or silver stud in the lower lobe with no other visible piercings including tongue and nose piercings. If clear studs are to be used as an alternative, they should be discreet and as minimal as possible. No other clear piercings permitted. Students taking part in practical subjects (including PE and Performing Arts) will need to remove any piercings before participating.
- No other visible jewellery other than a wrist watch
- No make-up including false eyelashes
- Nail polish including false nails should not be worn and will have to be removed before entering the Academy
- Hairstyles should be appropriate and of a natural colour and not contain exaggerated colours or styles. Patterns or tramlines should not be shaved into the hair or eyebrows.
- Hair bands should be plain and either black or navy and of discreet size
- Not hats, caps, hoods or durags other than for religious purposes
- Hoodies, tracksuit tops, scarfs, denim and leather jackers are not permitted
- If belts are to be worn they must be plain black, discreet buckle or fastening with no logo



Exams

Upcoming in Term 5 we have the summer external exams, starting on 1st May. Students will receive their timetables in due course.

Advice to students:

- Make sure you know the date and time of each of your exams
- Ensure you arrive in plenty of time for your exam
- If you are running late, please contact the Academy and advise them you have an exam
- If you are unsure of anything please contact the Exams Officer, Ms Littlemore

All students sitting summer exams need to be available up to and including Wednesday 25th June, as this date has been chosen as the JCQ contingency day. This is the last date upon which any exam can take place, should it have to be moved from its original time/date in the event of national or local disruption to exams.

The examinations awarding body (JCQ) has put into place rules and regulations to allow the exams to run as smoothly as possible and to ensure fairness for all students. Please take time to familiarise yourself with them [here](#).

We look forward to celebrating with students as they receive their results in August. The dates are:

- A Level – Thursday 14th August
- GCSE – Thursday 21st August

WEEK 1 MENU














W/C: 21/4 12/5 1/6 23/6 14/7
15/9 6/10

FOOD UNION

CHOICE One

CHOICE Two

CHOICE Three

MON	Satay Chicken Pho Vietnamese Noodles 	Veggie Burrito Filled Mexican Wrap  	Cheese Pizza Panini Melt With Slaw and Salad
TUE	Beef Burger Served with Garlic and Herb Wedges and Corn on the Cob	Beetroot and Feta Burger Served with Garlic and Herb Wedges and Corn on the Cob  	Pasta Arrabiata Penne Pasta with Tomato and Basil Sauce  
WED	Roast Pork With Roast Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables and Gravy	Spicy Vietnamese Chicken Banh Mi Bun Spiced Chicken Bap 	Sticky BBQ Quorn Pitta 
THUR	Chicken Katsu Served with Wholegrain Rice and Nut Free Satay Sweetcorn 	Macaroni Cheese 	Jacket Potatoes With Baked Beans and Cheese 
FRI	Battered Fish With Chips, Peas and Baked Beans	Veggie Burger With Chips, Peas and Baked Beans 	Southern Fried Chicken With Chips, Peas and Baked Beans

 Fruity!  Nutritionist's Choice  Vegetarian  Oily fish  Wholegrain  Halal Our menu is subject to change.

WEEK 2 MENU

















W/C: 28/4 19/5 9/6 30/6 21/7
1/9 22/9 13/10

FOOD UNION

CHOICE One

CHOICE Two

CHOICE Three

MON	Chicken Kottu Roti Rice Box Sri Lankan Spiced Chicken and Roti Bread 	Soya Yakisoba Edamame Bean Noodles  	Jacket Potato Served with Baked Beans and Cheese 
TUE	Mexican Beef Enchilada Served with Garlic and Herb Wedges and Tex Mex Vegetables	Vegetable Fajita With Garlic and Herb Wedges and Tex Mex Vegetables  	Food Influencer Competition Winner Ellie's Peri Peri Chicken Pasta   
WED	Roast Gammon With Roast Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables and Gravy	Roast Quorn With Roast Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables and Gravy 	Persian Vegetable Pitta  
THUR	Chicken Tikka Rice Box	Spinach and Chickpea Dahl With Yellow Rice  	Cheesy Melt Panini With Slaw and Salad 
FRI	Fish Fingers With Chips, Peas and Baked Beans	Cheese and Onion Slice With Chips, Peas and Baked Beans 	Southern Fried Chicken With Chips, Peas and Baked Beans

 Fruity!  Nutritionist's Choice  Vegetarian  Oily fish  Wholegrain  Halal Our menu is subject to change.

WEEK 3 MENU













W/C: 5/5 16/6 7/7
8/9 29/9

FOOD UNION

CHOICE One

CHOICE Two

CHOICE Three

MON	Jerk Chicken Burger With Spiced Wedges and Mixed Salad	Tiger Bhaji Burger With Spiced Wedges and Mixed Salad  	Jacket Potato With Baked Beans and Cheese or Tuna Mayo 
TUE	Mandarin BBQ Pork With Pineapple Rice and Nut Free Satay Sweetcorn 	Sweet and Sour Vegetables With Pineapple Rice and Nut free Satay Sweetcorn   	Beef Bolognese Served with Wholewheat Pasta 
WED	Roast Turkey With Roast Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables and Gravy	Persian Chicken Kebab With Roast Potatoes and Mixed Salad	Sticky BBQ Pitta With Slaw and Mixed Salad 
THUR	Firecracker Beef Spicy and Sweet Beef with Rice, Shredded Vegetables and Siracha Mayo	Teriyaki Vegetarian Wrap With Wholegrain Rice   	Jacket Potato With Veggie Tikka Masala 
FRI	Battered Fish With Chips, Peas and Baked Beans	Vegetable Goujons With Chips, Peas and Baked Beans 	Southern Fried Chicken With Chips, Peas and Baked Beans

 Fruity!  Nutritionist's Choice  Vegetarian  Oily fish  Wholegrain  Halal Our menu is subject to change.



Terms 3 and 4 Events

World Book Day

We celebrated World Book Day on Thursday 6th March, and some of our staff and year 7 students dressed up as characters from some well-known books. Many departments chose team costumes including our English department as characters from 'Animal Farm', Science and SEND as characters from 'Alice in Wonderland', Art as characters from 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and the Student Services team as 'Peter Pan'.



A book stall was held at lunch time to give old books new homes. It was wonderful to see so many of our students excited about a new read! Thanks to Mr Tate, Mrs Farjad and the wonderful Student Librarians.



Careers and University Fair

On Thursday 13th February we were excited to hold our first ever Year 9 Careers and University Fair. Students were able to explore a range of opportunities with our external visitors. Visitors included the Army, Kent Police, NHS paramedics, civil service, Alltask, Royal Mail, McDonalds, Transport for London, and more! We also welcomed Canterbury Christ Church University, University for the Creative Arts, University of Kent and University of Greenwich, to discuss higher education opportunities and courses.

We were pleased to have the following feedback from Jim Scott, Head of Trainee Recruitment and Development at Alltask: "What a great idea. These students were in the process of considering their options; what a perfect time to receive inspiration and guidance on potential career pathways to help influence their choice of subjects and subsequent educational pathways to take. The work and effort by the school staff, in particular Mr Anderson and Miss Alsop, in preparing students for the event was first class. The question booklets to promote conversations between students and employers/further education providers worked extremely well."

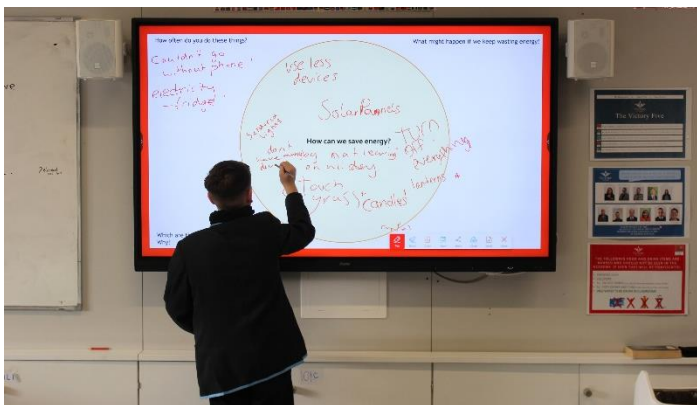




Terms 3 and 4 Events

Week of Thinking

In term 3 we took part in the Trust-wide Week of Thinking event. The event celebrated our identity as a Thinking School and showcased the positive impact the use of Thinking Tools has on our students and staff. Each day of the event had a particular focus; on the first day our students used Thinking Hats to explore critical and creative thinking, then on the second day they looked at Thinking Maps. Students also worked in their logbooks to complete their weekly PMI which is a useful CoRT Tool to focus their reflection time to identify a plus, a minus and something interesting.



Students were given Thinking Cards to be signed throughout the week when they showcased a Victory Virtue. The completed cards were then entered into a prize draw.



International Women's Day

In March we celebrated International Women's Day. A big thank you to our visitors who spoke to our students about their careers and journeys. We welcomed: Rupa Sen, Executive Manager at Medway Diversity Forum; Izzie River, Founder and CEO of Realm; Lameesa Iqbal, Employment, Discrimination and Equality Barrister; Lyn Finch and Nicky Oliver from the DWP; and The Mayoress of Medway Cllr Liubov Nestorova.



Safer Internet Day

In February we took part in Safer Internet Day, with activities at lunchtime to raise awareness and start discussions with our students about online safety.





Terms 3 and 4 Events

Red Nose Day

On Friday 21st March we took part in Red Nose Day. To raise money for Comic Relief we held a cupcake sale and red nose face painting.



Guide Dogs Assembly

This term we welcomed Guide Dogs Ambassadors Mike and Kean to visit our year 7 and 8 students. Mike spoke about the journey of a Guide Dog puppy and their importance to blind and visually impaired people. Following their visit, our non-uniform day fundraising will go towards sponsoring a Guide Dog puppy for each year group. Students can also bring spare pennies to Reception to help us raise money.



Medway Youth Conference

Some of our students attended Medway's Annual Youth Conference in February. The conference brings together students from across Medway to explore a particular topic. This year's topic 'Our Community: Medway' was based around what young people think about living, learning and working in Medway. Our students attended a variety of workshops and discussions, finishing with a Q&A panel.

Dalal (year 12): "The conference used creative activities to show the different ways in which students learn, raising awareness between the variety of ways students in the conference learn. It also used the opportunity to address and ask for feedback on deficits of learning in school based on personal student experiences and their thoughts. I appreciated that, as students, our thoughts about living in Medway in terms of safety, youth centres, fun centres, and schools were explored and talked about, indicating to us that we do play a part in our communities. My personal favourite part was having the opportunity to ask questions to the leader of Medway Council and police, but also listening to other students' questions and the responses they got. Overall, it was a cordial experience in which our thoughts and opinions were considered to support the youth we represented."





Library Mural

Our Art Ambassadors have been working hard to create a tree mural in the library. Led by Miss Scudder, the students first designed the mural in their sketchbooks, experimenting with painting and stencilling techniques. The progress has been very impressive and we can't wait to see the finished project.



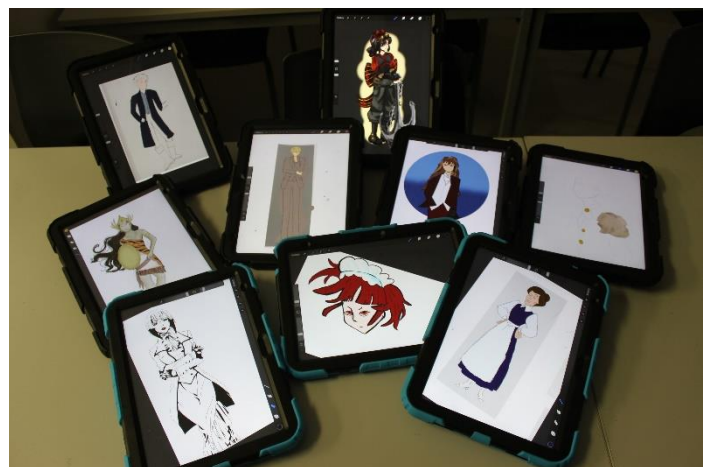
Year 9 Cupcakes

This term our year 9 students have experimented with clay and plaster of Paris. They produced cupcake sculptures and sweet reliefs as part of our curriculum project around food.



New Chronicles of Mudfog

We welcomed back artist Nadia Perrotta to deliver the second workshop of the 'New Chronicles of Mudfog' project. The project is an exciting creative initiative by the Chatham-based creative hub, House of Stars. During the workshop, our art students explored storytelling and illustration, inspired by local history. Their artwork will become part of an augmented reality installation on Chatham High Street. Updates on the project and the students' artwork can be found on the House of Stars website [here](#).



Sixth Form Art Area

To access the new SEND building attached to the art department, we have adapted our Sixth Form art area, for our students to be able to work as well as showcasing some of their final pieces.



Business

Business Ambassadors

Congratulations to Andra S and Caroline H (year 10) who have become The Victory Academy's first ever Business Ambassadors. We asked students to apply by letting us know why they wanted to be considered for the role and what they could bring to it. We then shortlisted candidates and invited five of them in for an interview, mirroring a real-life scenario. All applicants did a great job and can be very proud of themselves.



In the end, Andra and Caroline were the students selected and we know they will do a tremendous job representing the Business Studies department with pride and inspiring their peers through their involvement in events, competitions, and initiatives. Well done!



Easter Trail

Our Business Ambassadors organised an Easter Trail for all students to take part in during lunchtime on 31st March. They designed nine posters of decorative Easter eggs, each with a letter on, that they hid around the Courtyard. They then designed and printed trail sheets for students to purchase for 50p which included a small chocolate egg, given to students by the Easter Bunny! Students were then tasked with finding the nine eggs, writing down the letters and then rearranging them to spell a mystery word. The trail sheet also asked the students to try and find a link between the word, Business and Easter. Correct trail sheets were collected and one was drawn at random with that student winning an Easter egg. Well done!

All money raised was used to purchase as many Easter eggs as possible which have now been donated to The Salvation Army who will gift them to young people and children in need.

The Business Ambassadors did a great job, especially as it was their first project since being appointed and we look forward to seeing what follows. Thank you everyone who came and purchased a trail sheet, showed your support and helped a wonderful cause.

Apprenticeship Week

To promote Apprenticeship Week in February, our year 10 Business students participated in a 'mini apprenticeship' activity focusing on problem solving in business. Firstly, they looked at what problem solving means, then worked in small groups to analyse why a clothing company was losing money and proposed solutions to save the failing business. We encouraged students to utilise Thinking Maps to help think about and communicate their ideas.





English & Media Studies

Sky Studios Trip

On 4th March our Media Studies students had an exciting opportunity to visit Sky Studios Elstree. Both year 12 and 13 students took part in an engaging tour of the studios and had the chance to create their own mini film using state-of-the-art equipment. Throughout the day, students experienced various roles within the media industry, including Producer, Director, Editor, Actor, and Writer.



Youth Speaks Competition

It was an honour to host the Rotary Youth Speaks competition in February, welcoming the Rotary Club, Mayor of Medway and Councillor Marian Nestorov, and Leader of Medway Council, Councillor Vince Maple. The competition is designed to encourage young people to develop the creative and presentation skills essential to the art of public speaking.

We had three inspiring and articulate Victory students taking part, discussing a wide range of topics, and they all impressed our esteemed visitors!



Huge congratulations to Sydney-Mae G (year 7) who came in 1st place in the junior category with her passionate speech about the importance of gorillas, and to Adewale A (year 12) who came in 2nd place in the senior category. Despite only having three hours to prepare after replacing a classmate due to illness, Adewale impressed the judges with his speech on 'Why do people listen to music?'

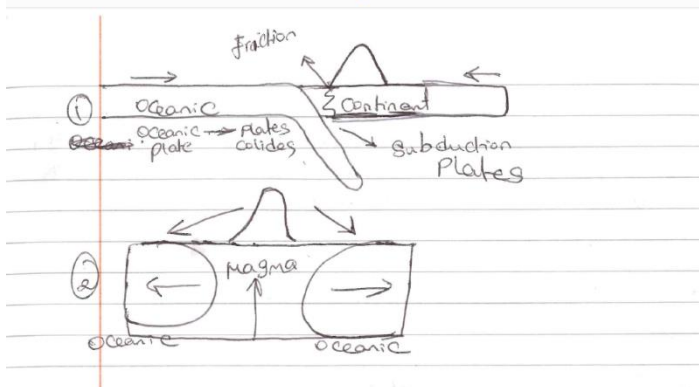


Key Stage 3

Our Key Stage 3 geographers have spent this term learning about population, tectonics and ecosystems.

Year 7 have understood the global distribution of population, investigating where people live and why. They are able to understand the link between population and development, and how a country's population grows and will eventually fall as it develops. By looking at the consequences of over population and underpopulation, and taking into account views from people like David Attenborough and Gandhi, they are able to make a judgement on whether overconsumption or overpopulation is the biggest threat to the planet.

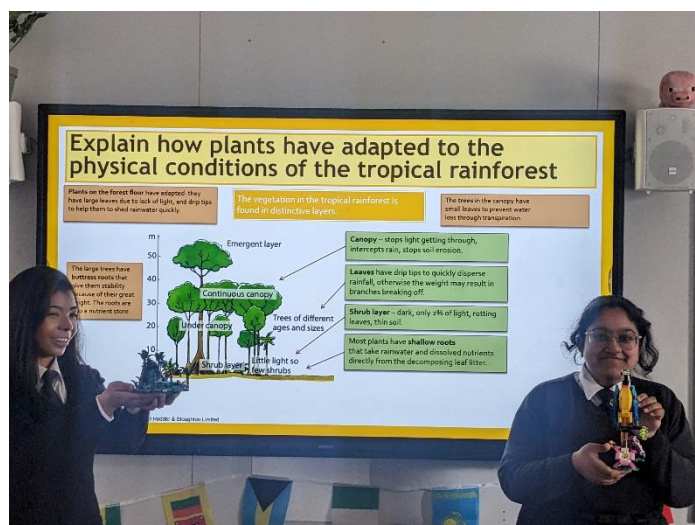
Year 8 have been learning about tectonics and understanding how the earth has changed. They looked at how tectonic plates move and the risks associated with them. They are now able to explain the different stages of a volcano and the factors that influence the strength of an earthquake.



Year 9 have focused on ecosystems, looking at the different types of ecosystem across the globe, from the rainforest at the equator to the cold nature of the Tundra. Within each ecosystem they have learnt about the different flora and fauna and how they interact with each other.

Key Stage 4

Year 11 have been exploring the adaptations of flora and fauna in both the desert and the rainforest. The students were able to explain the special adaptations that have allowed cacti to thrive within the desert, from its waxy skin to its ability to store water. Within the rainforest they looked at the different layers of the rainforest and how each have their distinct adaptations, from buttress roots keeping trees stable in the wind to drip tips stopping their leaves from breaking.



Geography Club

In Geography Club this term we have been watching David Attenborough's newest documentary series 'Asia'. This links closely with Year 9's current topic of ecosystems, highlighting Asia's vast biodiversity, from the frozen north to the arid deserts and coral reefs. At 98 years old, David Attenborough continues to inspire future geographers and environmental scientists! 'Asia' is available to watch on BBC iPlayer.





Performing Arts

Dance Festival

Thirteen students from years 7-8 participated in a Dance Festival at MidKent College's GlassBox Theatre. They performed a dance from 'Bring It On: The Musical' choreographed by Miss Wilson. The students were confident and professional; Miss Wilson and Miss Lacey are incredibly proud of the students and cannot wait to see more great things from them. Each student received a medal, t-shirt and certificate for their incredible performance. Well done all!



Year 11 GCSE Drama

This term the GCSE Drama students had their final performance exam in which they were marked on their performance live by an attending external examiner. Each student remained calm, professional and confident throughout the whole day. They represented the school well and made the Performing Arts department very proud. Each student worked hard to learn all their lines and have been working tirelessly over the last couple of months to perfect their performances.

Oliver! West End Trip

The Performing Arts department took 64 students to the West End to watch Oliver! the Musical. The students loved the show and are excited to get stuck into rehearsals for our summer production of Oliver! Jr at the end of June. Audience members and staff at the Gielgud Theatre commented on how good the students' behaviour was, which made us extremely proud of every single one of them.



Tickets for The Victory Academy's production of Oliver! Jr go on sale after the Easter break, with performances taking place on Wednesday 25th, Thursday 26th and Friday 27th June.

THE VICTORY ACADEMY PRESENTS

MUCH, MUCH MORE THAN A MUSICAL!



Wednesday 25th June 7pm

Adult Ticket £5

Thursday 26th June 6pm

Child/Senior Ticket £3

Friday 27th June 7pm

Purchased with cash from the Performing Arts department at lunchtimes or on +Pay

PE



Extra-curricular Sports Clubs

The PE department continued to deliver a range of sports clubs during terms 3 and 4, and our students have been working on a number of different challenges during this time. Many students fully engaged in the PE Passport, which will be drawn when we return to school after the Easter break. Congratulations to all students who have continued or started to participate in a sports club at The Victory Academy.

Basketball



Our Year 7 & 8 and our Year 9 & 10 basketball teams had a number of fixtures this term in the Medway Schools Basketball League. Both teams performed well and had some very pleasing results against our local rivals. Our Year 9 & 10 team finished second in their

league and our Year 7 & 8 team finished third. Great work from all the students who represented and played for the school.

Football

Term 4 marked the return of our scheduled football season with matches against our local schools in Medway. We had years 7, 8, 9 and 10 finishing off their league games over the course of term 4 and cup competitions kicking off as well. Congratulations to our year 10 football team who have progressed to the quarterfinals of their year group's cup competition.

With some fixtures still to be played we hope for some favourable results before the end of the season. Well done to all the students who have represented the school this season.

Netball

Netball has been a revelation this year at The Victory Academy. We have had multiple games against other local schools and years 7, 9 and 10 have been entered into the league for the first time.

We have been proud to see the effort of all our students who have committed to netball training and matches. Well done to the year 7 team who finished 3rd in their league. We are really looking forward to what the future will bring with our netball programme.

Ophelia B, year 7 netball captain: "On 27th February we played a game against Walderslade School. Even though it ended 0-0 our shooters worked really hard. Alice L was a shooter for the entire game and made some really close shots. Isla, our goal keeper, blocked multiple shots from the opposition. Overall we played really well and I personally believe it was our best performance so far".



PE

Fitness

The Fitness Suite is one of our most popular sports clubs here at The Victory Academy. We open it to our students every lunchtime and after school on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Our students are encouraged to workout with a partner and set their own personal fitness goals, supported by the member of the PE department who takes the club. As a department we are very proud of the students who have shown such commitment to their own personal fitness and we hope this continues into the summer terms.

Rugby

With the weather improving, the Rugby Club is back and the students are really enjoying the extra coaching. Many students have been able to work on their rugby fundamentals during their PE lessons and have been able to apply them in a game situation.

Boxing

The number of students working with our boxing coach, Kristian, on a Thursday has steadily increased this year. Students have been able to work on their boxing skills under the guidance of a professional coach and have shown outstanding techniques.

Badminton

Badminton Club has been really popular over the last term with many students from different year groups participating in our ladder tournaments every Friday after school. Students have made great progress since the start of term 4.

Duke of Edinburgh

Our year 9 Duke of Edinburgh students continue to gather pace as they approach our practice weekends in preparation for their expedition at the end of June. Our students have been amazing at uploading lots of evidence onto eDofE, showing all the amazing activities they are working on for each of their sections of Volunteering, Physical and Skill.

Students need to keep committed to their course and they will be able to achieve the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award by the end of the year. Well done to all the students who have been working so hard!

Curriculum

With the weather improving our outdoor provision has increased to see many year groups enjoying more topics in term 4, including basketball, netball, rugby, fitness, volleyball, badminton and football. The number of students with the correct PE kit has been on the rise, which helps make the lesson more enjoyable for all. Many students have achieved the MVP from their PE teachers and are on their way to winning the MVP of the year for their year group. These results will be out by the end of term 6.

Summer Term

During term 5 we are looking forward to starting our athletics unit of work in preparation for the Medway Athletics competition and our annual Sports Day. In term 6, students will be participating in Striking and Fielding sports which includes rounders, softball, quick cricket, tennis and pickleball.

MFL

Upcoming France Trip

In Term 6 the Modern Foreign Languages department are hoping to organise a trip to Calais and Boulogne-Sur-Mer. Information will be shared soon and students can speak to Mr Pugsley and Mrs Ramnarine for more details.





Science

IET Faraday Challenge

Six Year 8 students were selected to attend and compete in an IET Faraday Challenge Day, where they became Engineers for the day! They were given a brief based on sustainability and the idea that the UK needs to be net carbon zero by 2050. They had to build a novel prototype and our team decided to create a teddy bear which allowed mute children to communicate with their carer through a button which turned on a light as a signal.



They fashioned the circuits from scratch using a solar panel and items they could 'purchase' from the shop, using money they had been given. Careful budgeting was needed alongside keeping a balance sheet of costs.

Once the prototype was created, they presented this to the judge and other teams in the competition. Each student spoke very well and answered all questions the judge had for them. We are incredibly proud of these students for their perseverance on their project and being true Victory Scientists. Each student has received a certificate from the Institute of Engineering and Technology for taking part in the day.



Primary School Outreach

To celebrate Science week Miss Constable and Mrs Wade visited the three year 5 classes at Cedar Children's Academy to allow them to experience what it is like to be a Victory Scientist. The students learned the difference between soluble and insoluble compounds and the process of Chromatography. By the end of each class session students had completed their booklets, determined out of two pens which is soluble, identified the colours that create black ink, and created trolls with crazy chromatography hair!



Professional Development Sessions for External Visitors

The Science department were pleased to host a Microscale Chemistry CPD event in March, led by our Lead Science Technician Mrs Wade and funded by the Royal Society of Chemistry. In attendance were Science teachers and technicians at various stages in their careers from schools across the Trust and other schools across the south east. The event was well attended with participants saying they enjoyed the sessions and learning about different practical activities they could take back to their own schools.



Science

Port Lympne Safari Park Trip

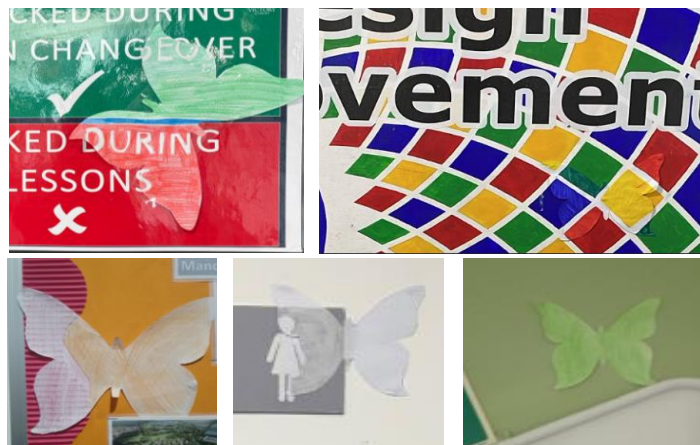
On Friday 28th March our year 8 Victory Scientists visited Port Lympne Safari Park. The students had a talk on habitats and adaptations just outside the tiger enclosure, as well as a very fun and rocky safari truck ride through extra areas of the park. All students were very well behaved, even with lots of walking on steep terrain – we really did feel like we were in the wild! It was great to see the work Port Lympne are doing to help re-wild animals and protect them from the many issues they face.



Science Week Activities

Every year group had an assembly on this year's theme 'Change and Adapt' and how this relates to us on a personal level and globally. They took part in a mini quiz with facts about organisms and the issues they face.

There was a competition held for students where they had to find camouflaged butterflies hidden throughout the school, drawn by the Science department. Well done to our three winners who will receive prizes for their great observational skills: Ayomiposi A (year 7), Esther A (year 8) and Mark T (year 8).



Victory Scientists



#VictoryScientist



Well done to our year 10 students Oscar P, Edward C, Isabelle G, Tatiana C and Emily D, who utilised their knowledge of anaerobic respiration to create bread and cinnamon buns at home.

Well done to Dalal H (year 12) for getting an A* in her term 3 mock exam.



The Science department have adopted a flock of penguins in Antarctica with WWF. We received a cuddly penguin toy which can be found in Miss Constable's 'Penguin Corner'. In classes throughout Science Week students voted on what they wanted to name the penguin,

based on information given to us from WWF on penguins in the flock. Our students have decided to call him Pickles! So, welcome Pickles to the Victory Scientists team!

Science

STEAM Club

We have been working away in STEAM Club to create murals for women and girls in science, which will be displayed in the science classrooms. We have been collaging, painting, sewing, drawing and more to create these works of art – encompassing Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics! The club takes place in F126 every Friday after school until 4.05pm and is open to all students.



Thank you for reading this edition of The Victory Academy Newsletter. Our next issue will be published at the end of term 6. On behalf of everyone at Victory we would like to wish you a Happy Easter!

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