

## Year 12 Duke of Edinburgh Award – Final Expedition Success

Many young people find achieving a DofE Award life-changing. A fun adventure and a major challenge, three progressive Award levels (Bronze, Silver and Gold) and a wide range of activities offer endless possibilities to anyone aged 14 – 24. Millions of young people in the UK have already taken part in the world's leading youth achievement award – pushing personal boundaries, gaining new skills and enhancing their CV's and future college/university/job applications.

Stormont House Year 12 students took the challenge, got involved and have gone the extra mile. A number of Year 12 students took part in the qualifying expedition as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award, Ms Thackaberry, Ms Christie, Ms K Kaur and Mr McDonnell accompanied the expedition to observe the students skills in practice. The students had to carry their team equipment, travel for approximately 5 hours each day, pitch their tents, cook their own dinner and display good camp craft, team work and determination.

The students started at The Royal Epping Forest Golf Club and spent 5 hours walking through muddy terrain and forest vegetation as two separate teams. They had to plan their walking route, decide when to stop for lunch, re-orientate/change routes, help each other through the mud - team work was key in all of these activities. The students were able to pitch their tents, cook dinner, make hot drinks and relax as the light slowly faded on their day.

It was an early start for some students, waking at 05:15 to see the mist that covered the campsite. As all of the students woke up, they continued to work together to make breakfast and lunch for their journey ahead. After another 5 hours walking and navigating through the forest, everyone made it back to the start and shared stories about getting stuck in the mud, slipping over and eating a lot of food.

The expedition was a success with all student passing their qualifying expedition unit. Students are still working towards achieving their skills and volunteering units and should achieve this by June 2016.

Mr McDonnell commented 'I can hardly believe the huge improvement in the students' skills, confidence and team-working between the practice expedition in September and now. I am very proud of each and every one of them. Many thanks to all the staff who have made this possible'.

Well done Year 12, you all displayed a fantastic level of hard work, strength and determination to succeed.



## Time to Shine 2016

The following pupils took part in the 'Time to Shine' event from 4-7 April at Stoke Mandeville Stadium – Sandra, Victoria, D'yah, Bobbi-May, Joe S, Timothy, Lorell and Marco. The students represented Hackney borough at the event.

'Time to Shine', is part of the East London post-Paralympic legacy programme, Motivate East. It is an annual pan-disability residential event which takes place at Stoke Mandeville Stadium. Time to Shine provides an opportunity for over 100 young disabled students from across East London to participate in a broad range of sports activities. Students from the following East London boroughs sent teams to compete; Barking & Dagenham, Greenwich, Hackney, Newham, Redbridge, Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest.

All of the students had an amazing time at the event playing boccia, fencing, archery, judo, street dance, tennis, inclusive cycling, swimming, wheelchair basketball and wheelchair slalom. One of the highlights of the event was the disco on the final evening. Hackney borough won the multi sport competition. Well done to everyone who took part.

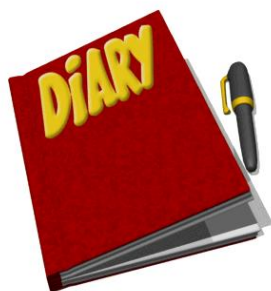


## ELATT Connected Learning – College Placement Provider – TES Awards

On Friday ELATT (East London Advanced Technology Training) won 3 TES Awards, including Overall FE Provider of the Year / Training Provider of the Year and Employer Engagement. A number of our Year 12 students are carrying out their college placement at ELATT and as such we are happy to be working with the team at ELATT in the future.

ELATT was rated as outstanding by Ofsted and they beat local FE colleges to the award as overall FE Provider, it is a testament to their work with the community and it is recognition of the work they do to go beyond outstanding in their teaching and learning. ELATT recognises that their achievement would not have been possible without the work they have done with Hackney Learning Trust over the past year, engaging with more young people and agencies in the borough.

## Dates for Your Diary



### Summer Term

04/05/16

06/05/16

09 – 13/05/16

13/05/16

18 – 20/05/16

16/05/16

24/05/16

**30/5/16 to 03/06/16 – HALF TERM**

24/06/16

Inter-Borough Athletics Championships Dagenham

Y9 Trip Canal Museum – Kings Cross

Edale Residential Year 9

Y7 London Transport Museum

Woodrow High House Residential Year 7

NO Cricket Club

London Youth Games Football – Hackney Marshes

INSET Day (School is closed to students)