



New Building News!

اخبار المبنى الجديد

The students and staff at St Alban's are finally getting used to their new state-of-the-art surroundings. There's so much to appreciate and be thankful for!

Did you know...?

The new 7,946 sq ft, purpose built academy took three years to build and includes the best facilities in the city for design technology and engineering.

The building has exceptional specialist accommodation for science, art, music, ICT and physical education.

As an inclusive Church of England school, the academy also hosts a new prayer room equipped for multi-faith worship with washing facilities suitable for Muslim prayer.

How fortunate we are!

Warar laxiriira dhismaha cusub,
Dhismahaan waa ka qalab iyo tayo wanaagsan yahay kii hore islamarkaana
ka muuqaal fiican yahay hadaba aan ka faaiideysanno.



Principal's Easter Message

"I don't mind if I have to sit on the floor at school. All I want is education. And I am afraid of no one." (Malala Yousafzai)

As Christmas is celebrating the birth of Jesus, Easter is celebrating his victory over death and mankind's hope for eternal life. It is a time when we pray for peace and reconciliation throughout the world.

On March 8 we celebrated International Women's Day. On this occasion I reminded students of Malala Yousafzai's brave campaign for girls' education. I told our girls how much we need them to succeed academically and in their careers, to create wealth, drive forward the economy and help make the world a better place.

Malala's proud father has said:

"In many countries, fathers and mothers are usually known by their sons. I feel proud to be one of the few fathers who is known for their daughter..."

My Easter message to parents is this. Your children are all very talented. They are our future. You should be proud. In particular please:

Be proud of your daughters!



Birmingham Winter Secondary School Games 2013



Birmingham School Games reflect the spirit of the Olympics on a city level, offering school children the fantastic opportunity to take part in an inspiring event that brings sport, the arts and culture together in celebration of excellence. The Games are intended to motivate and lead young people in the benefits of competitive sport, and increased participation for the long-term. As part of the School Games, there are various sporting competitions

held throughout the year. The winners of these competitions get to compete in the Winter/Summer Secondary School Games Finals. Earlier this year, the Year 9 Boys' and Year 10 Girls' rowing teams competed in an indoor rowing competition. Both teams achieved 1st place and qualified for the Birmingham Winter Secondary Schools Games Finals. Teams were made up of 4 students who had to row a total distance of 2500m as quickly as possible. The team with

the quickest time won. Both teams did extremely well, with the Year 9 Boys' team coming 1st place and the Year 10 Girls' teams coming 2nd and 4th place. They were determined to win and all the students really pushed themselves to give their best performance. It was a great result for St Alban's and well done to all those involved. Year 9 Boys' Team: Khayrul Islam, Majid Khan, Mustafa Khobaib, Bilal Hamaamin.

Year 10 Girls' Team: Nyala White, Kayleigh Clewer, Shayna Mills, Chyna Jeffers, Jade Pennant, Kirstie Chamberlain, Ellesha Nelson, Phoebe Gibbs, Sharun Kaur.

A message from the Director of Sixth Form:

Our recent Open Evening for the Sixth Form was a great success with almost 100 students coming from our academy and other schools. We also had a number of ex-students coming back to see the new building and several have applied to the Sixth Form since then. Applications are very strong and we are heading for an excellent start in September. Those Year 11 who have not yet applied are encouraged to fill in the form as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. Details are to be found on the academy website.

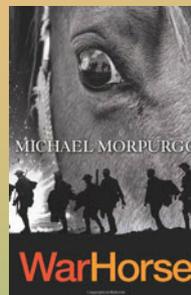
Year 11 students will have induction days for the Sixth Form on Monday 24th, Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th of June in the academy. These days are essential in preparing students to be successful in our Sixth Form. In addition, our enrolment for courses will take place on GCSE results day which is Thursday 22nd of August.

Recommended Read

'War Horse' by Michael Morpurgo

"At the outbreak of World War One, Joey, young Albert's beloved horse, is sold to the cavalry and shipped to France. He's soon caught up in enemy fire, and fate takes him on an extraordinary adventure, serving on both sides..."

This moving story shows both the violence and compassion that is part of conflict. The book has been made into both a play and a film and I recommend that you read this book to see why it is so successful; if you have already seen the film read it to see how well it keeps to the original story.



Mrs. Butler

Year 11 Storm the World of Work

The manager of the gym at the University College Birmingham said that our student looked totally at home in the environment: "he was someone special and wonderful to work with, epitomising what work experience is all about!"

Staff at Pioneers Leading the Way described our two boys as "Simply awesome: they gave 100% all week and did so much work it was unbelievable. They were smart, punctual and worked extra hours to finish a job."

The supervisor at Jaguar Landrover was delighted with our student who came up with some really good improvement ideas. He said "I would have no hesitation in putting him forward for an apprenticeship."

Team Leaders at The Ambulance Service said all their staff were thrilled to have one of our students working with them as he was so polite and courteous!

Monday 21st January saw our Year 11 students leap into the 'World of Work' as they embarked on their one week Work Experience placements, a daunting prospect for some of our young people who have never worked before.

Our students travelled around the city to a wide variety of places including: a hairdresser's salon, schools, universities and colleges, hospitals, offices, garages, shops, hotels, restaurants and cafes, nurseries, gyms, banks, The Nature Centre, engineering companies (including Jaguar Landrover), accountancy firms and many more!

As reports from employers came flooding in, it became clear that not only do our wonderful students learn a great deal but they also contribute to the organisations in which they are working. Look at what the employers said about our students...

South & City College gave placements to five of our students who all did well but one was described as the star of the group. "He was very willing and enthusiastic about the carpentry trade, and followed instructions well." On the strength of his performance they have offered him a place on their carpentry course.

The supervisor at The Hippodrome was very pleased with the young person who was exactly what she was looking for in a work experience student. She was described as "...a credit to the school as she was polite, courteous and made our admin system for storing data more time efficient!"

The manager of The Royal Bank of Scotland said our student was "...more smartly dressed than some of our own employees" and that "...each team the student worked with gave him an excellent report -- it was a pleasure to work with him!"



This is just the tip of the iceberg and we are very proud of our young people and all they have achieved.
Well done Year 11!

Did You Know...?

Our new Academy building is very much part of the local community and, as such, we receive many requests to use our fabulous new facilities. Community groups such as Local Leagues Football Club, Midland Opera, Ashfield Cricket Club and the Neighbourhood Police are all regularly making use of the academy.

In the last term we let the facilities to Community First, a group of small local businesses, who showcased their recent achievements.

Please contact the academy if you would like more information on booking our facilities for community use.

Monthly Maths Puzzle

Aunt Tabitha is extremely touchy about her age. When an impudent nephew was brave to ask her, she cunningly replied that she was 35 years old, not counting Saturdays and Sundays. So how old is she?



Engineer of the Month

Alexander Graham Bell was professor of vocal physiology in Edinburgh and educated there as well as in London. His father and grandfather were both authorities on elocution and at the age of 16 Bell himself began researching the mechanics of speech.

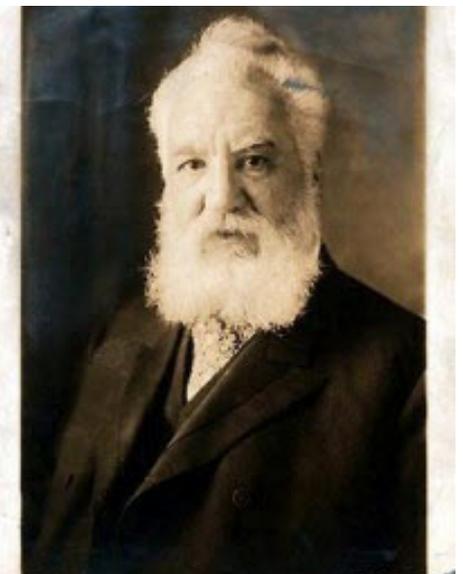
In 1870, Bell emigrated with his family to Canada, and the following year he moved to the United States to teach. There he pioneered a system called visible speech, developed by his father, to teach deaf-mute children. In 1872 Bell founded a school in Boston to train teachers of the deaf. The school subsequently became part of Boston University, where Bell was appointed

Bell had long been fascinated by the idea of transmitting speech, and by 1875 had come up with a simple receiver that could turn electricity into sound. Bell was granted a patent for the telephone on 7 March 1876 and it developed quickly. Within a year the first telephone exchange was built in Connecticut and the Bell Telephone Company was created in 1877. Bell became the owner of a third of the shares, quickly making him a wealthy man. In 1880, Bell was awarded the French Volta Prize for his invention and with the money founded the Volta Laboratory in Washington, where he

continued experiments in communication, in medical research and in techniques for teaching speech to the deaf, working with Helen Keller among others. Bell died on 2 August 1922 at his home in Nova Scotia.

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Dates for your diary

Academy closed - Friday 29th March

Target Setting Day for Years 7 to 10 - Monday 15th April

Sixth form induction dates - 24th, 25th and 26th June

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