

It's the end of term! Only two weeks since my last blog but what a busy two weeks!

The highlight of the half-term from the Acting Pathway has been the Year 11 production of 'One Man, Two Governors'. This was played over three nights and a matinee with a talented cast bringing the furious pace of farce to life with hilarious results.



The pathway has also worked closely with Birmingham School of Acting over the last few weeks with Year 10 seeing performances from the Applied Theatre course to inspire them for their Community Arts unit. Year 13 have had workshops on 'Punk Rock' and also attended performances of this play at the Crescent Theatre.

With the casts recently announced for the Year 13 Final Major Projects, the cohort are underway on the Literally Dramatic season for performance next May. We are working with the Warhorse education company and the RSC on these productions.

Year 12 students will be seeing 'The Taming of the Shrew' at the Globe Theatre in the New Year, and should also be congratulated for the intensity of their practical work in recent show backs on group and duologue pieces.

Year 13 Musical Theatre students hot on the heels of the amazing 'Sweeney Todd' gave us a particularly flamboyant showcase. All performances are always facilitated by Technical Theatre Arts students who do an amazing job.



Spanish students took part in masterclasses at the University of Birmingham on "Spanish Language & Culture" – This challenged them to put their best Spanish into practice.

Games and New Media students completed a 3-day “Game Jam” event where students gathered together over three extended after school slots to design and build a game concept from scratch. Students tied the design into the production of “Wind in the Willows” at the Old Rep Theatre and created a playable level themed around “Taking back Toad Hall”. The player controls Toad and jumps, leaps and uses his tongue to navigate hazards and avoid the dastardly weasels who occupy his home. This whole playable demo was completed in just three evenings and the students are to be commended on their enthusiasm and energy.



Broadcast pathway students have been enjoying some new investment this term in the form of a DJI Ronin image stabilisation system and a Black Magic URSA mini 4K camera. We have also purchased several new Canon DSLR’s and are looking forward to seeing what our students create with this refresh to our digital estate.

Music has also had a busy couple of weeks. Year 12 and 13 Choir performed at St Mark’s in the Bullring. On Thursday 10 students auditioned to be vocal soloists for the CBSO’s Project Remix 2017. The CBSO staff were bowled over by the standard and thrilled to have heard so many fantastic performers. Year 12 Choir also gave us some lovely performances in the Atrium.

Year 13 Art Students went to the Birmingham Museum Art Gallery to see “The Night in the Museum” exhibition.

And finally all Houses have been raising money for Barnardos this term, after collectively choosing this as a worthy charity in support of children over the Christmas period. Students have collected money through raffles, caroling, games and even a Santa’s Grotto, ably manned by Assistant Principal Mr. Pitt! We will have an update early next term on how much money we have managed to raise for donation. Thanks to all students for their generous contributions!

Last chance to see ‘The Wind in the Willows’ – buy your tickets here:

<http://www.boa-academy.co.uk/events-calendar.php?event=136>



Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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