



The Oasis Hub Update

Summer 2009

Welcome to the summer Hub update!

We hope you enjoy reading about all that has been happening within the Oasis family since the last update - it has certainly been a busy few months!

Global

Zimbabwe Day at Oasis Academy Coulsdon

The Global Team took part in a Year 10 Zimbabwe Day at Oasis Academy Coulsdon. Michelle Briers (Global Projects Team Leader) invited along Andy Johnson (who worked with Oasis Zimbabwe until January 2009) to share his personal experiences of living there and working at the projects. The students really enjoyed handling the Zimbabwean Dollars that Andy brought with him and couldn't believe that his large wad of 10 million dollars was not enough to buy a loaf of bread!



Design a Christmas Card Competition



The 6th July deadline is fast-approaching for the first Inter-Academy 'Design a Christmas Card' competition, where the winning design will be produced by our Jacobs Well project in Oasis India. Some entries have already been received and the judging panel are eagerly awaiting the rest. If these early arrivals are anything to go by, the competition is going to be very hard to judge!

Ethos & Hub

Jill Rowe has been delivering ethos input in Oasis Academy Bristol's transition programme for all Year 6 students in partner primary schools.

At Wintringham, Jill and Dan Nolloth delivered an Ethos Extravaganza to the soon-to-be new Year 7's during the Grand Opening event and involved over 100 students. Jill also worked closely with the Academy to help deliver the Building Dedication event which took place at St James' Church in the centre of Grimsby.

An Oasis Hub 'Pilot' Training Day was held at Oasis Academy Lord's Hill on 25th June. The Wider Oasis Team from Oasis UK delivered the training day to participants from Oasis Academies Bristol, Mayfield and Lord's Hill. The day considered what an Oasis Hub looks like and how we can work effectively together as a full Oasis team to deliver this. Feedback was positive and encouraging and we are now looking to deliver it across the other Academies.

College

Successful Outcomes and Exceeding Expectations

In the past few months Oasis College has gone through the successful accreditation of three new courses: BA (Hons) Youth Work and Ministry (which also comes with a JNC professional qualification validated through The National Youth Agency), BA (Hons) Family Support Work and Ministry, and BA (Hons) Children's Work and Ministry. The College have been commended by Staffordshire University and the National Youth Agency for the highly vocational set of awards, the quality of working relationships between employer, student and college, and the calibre of students.

2009 Student Intake

The first year intake for September 2009 for the London Centre is almost full. For the first time ever the College are having to consider closing to new applications as they are approaching their 30 student limit!

Housing

A group of current and ex residents are being trained to be Peer Mentors. The group ran a session in a local youth group on the realities of homelessness and will now be going in to schools to work as Peer Mentors, and in to youth groups to run sessions on homelessness.

No. 3

No. 3 have started a virtual babies course! Residents are invited to attend six workshops on topics such as parenting, relationships and sexual health. Following their attendance at the workshops, they will be given the opportunity to look after a virtual baby for a few days and will then be given feedback on how they did.

The Foyer

The Foyer Manager, Susie Walker, has had a baby boy called Freddy. Esther Emanuel has started as her maternity cover replacement. The Foyer UK online centre has over 30 people attending classes each week, and the Foyer football team starts its summer league this month.

Fundraising & Marketing

conquer
kilimanjaro!

Take on the world's tallest free-standing mountain for some of the UK's most marginalised young people



Now's your chance to take up this exhilarating challenge. The ten day trek will take you through Tanzania's farmlands, lush rainforests, alpine meadows and above the clouds to the barren lunar landscape of the upper mountain, before your final push to Kilimanjaro's snow-capped summit.

To climb Mount Kilimanjaro all you need to do is raise the minimum sponsorship which will support Oasis UK's work with homeless, marginalised and hurting young people - that's it! Flights, accommodation, food and your training is all provided for you.

Have the adventure of a lifetime and raise money for a great cause at the same time!

For more info, call now on 020 7921 4296
or e-mail rachel.gomez@oasisuk.org

Oasis
for people & community

Youth, Community & Volunteering

Youth & Community

- All the Youth and Community (Y&C) Managers from the Hubs are meeting bi-monthly to share resources and best practice
- Many of the Hubs will be holding 'transition to Year 7' summer activities, and 3 Hubs are running summer radio stations this year.
- Y&C teams are supporting the Academies' satellite projects and community houses
- The Enfield Y&C team are now providing activities every evening of the week and at weekends, and they recently took 18 young people away on a residential holiday. Oasis has also partnered with the Police to set up a Youth Engagement Panel with over 30 young people, providing weekly drop-ins in every school in Enfield.
- The Y&C team delivered Oasis Esteem (Sex and Relationship Education) to all Year 8's in our Academies

Volunteering

- From September there will be 20 Oasis Threesixty gap year students, hopefully serving MediaCityUK, Wintringham, Immingham, Enfield, Hadley, Bristol, Brightstowe, Coulsdon and Waterloo.

Faithworks & Charities Parliament

Faithworks

17 Christian community projects were honoured at the Faithworks Awards ceremony at the House of Commons on 8th June. The event, hosted by the Rt Hon Alun Michael MP with keynote speaker Rt Hon Stephen Timms MP, was an inspiring celebration of the committed and tireless work of Christian projects serving communities around the UK. The awards programme had 3 categories and the recipient project in each category received £5,000. Shortlisted projects were awarded between £100-500.



Charities Parliament

On 3rd June, the Rt Hon Iain Duncan Smith MP spoke on the topic 'Breakthrough Britain: The role of faith inspired and voluntary agencies in mending broken Britain' and answered questions from sector leaders and activists. On 22nd June, a further 'Question Time' style event was held in response to the present media frenzy and the depth of public concern over the issue of MPs' expenses. The event was called 'Finding Hope: Restoring trust in Politics and national life' and had the following panel members: Andy Reed MP (Labour), Alistair Burt MP (Conservative), Rt Rev Michael Nazir-Ali (Bishop of Rochester & member of the House of Lords), Ruth Gledhill (Religion Correspondent for The Times) and Dr David Landrum (Senior Parliamentary Officer for the Bible Society).



STOP THE TRAFFIK

Do you realise that two children are trafficked every minute?
And do you realise that you have the power to help stop this?

STOP THE TRAFFIK's brand new START FREEDOM campaign will bring together young people around the world. It will highlight the issues around human trafficking and how those who are vulnerable can stay safe.

START FREEDOM will be the first movement of its kind, created specifically for young people to empower them to make a difference. Whether you're a student, teacher, parent/carer, youth leader, club or society member, you can be part of this unique campaign. Simply sign up at www.startfreedom.org.



The four phases of the START FREEDOM campaign will be:

July 2009 onwards

Sign up at www.startfreedom.org

14th October 2009 – START FREEDOM launch film

To celebrate the launch of START FREEDOM, STOP THE TRAFFIK will be broadcasting an exclusive film in collaboration with the United Nations HQ, New York.

October 2009 – March 2010

Those registered will be granted privileged access to specialised educational resources and activities that will enable young people to learn about, and engage with, this complex issue. The materials will be available in 6 languages. Young people will be encouraged to express their responses to the global crime of human trafficking however they see fit – whether that's film, drama, music, writing, art etc.

March 2010 – GLOBAL START FREEDOM WEEK

Young people from all over the world will have the opportunity to share the different and creative ways in which they've marked their objection to trafficking via the START FREEDOM website.

Half of all trafficking victims are under 18.

We want young people all over the world to; THINK about it. LEARN about it. HELP STOP IT.

Sign up and be part of START FREEDOM.

Lord's Hill

Channel 4 Sporting Documentary

On 20th May, the Olympic Athlete Iwan Thomas visited the Academy. Iwan is the current UK and Commonwealth record holder in the 400m. His goal was to find and train six Year 10 students to become a 4 x 100m relay squad for a Channel 4 documentary on finding hidden sporting talent in Southampton. The six boys he chose will train with Iwan every Monday and Wednesday in preparation for an athletics competition in Birmingham, competing against other schools around the country. The programme will be televised from 26th July and will run for 6 - 12 weeks.



Circus

In association with the YMCA, the Academy arranged for a travelling schools Circus to visit for 9 days and perform a variety of acts including jugglers, clowns, contortionists and high wire performers. Over the duration, 4 public and 2 Academy performances were given and 13 Circus Skills workshops were held which included participation by all the partner primary schools and all Year 7 and 8 students. Everyone had a fantastic time learning new skills and the Circus have been booked again for next summer to combine with the Academy's first Community Day.

MediaCityUK

Headteacher of the Year 2009!

The Academy are proud to announce that Dave Terry, Principal of Oasis Academy MediaCityUK, has been awarded the Royal Air Force Award for Headteacher of the Year in a Secondary School! Judges said: "Dave Terry is a truly remarkable Head. He has totally transformed his school and created hope for the future where previously there was despair, showing courage and commitment." Dave will go on to the National Finals in October, which will be shown on BBC2.



Regional and National Ward-Henry Photography Winner

Year 9 student, Ryan Gresty, is the Northern Regional Winner in the Ward-Henry Photography Competition run by the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust. He won an Olympus digital compact camera, memory card and case, and the Academy has received a Ward-Henry Photography storyboard project including a range of visual display boards to be located around the Academy. Competition was very high and Ryan's photographs will now be featured in an exhibition at the Annual Academies Conference as well as printed in the conference programme. He will also be entered into the National Finals.

Wintringham

Youth Sport Trust

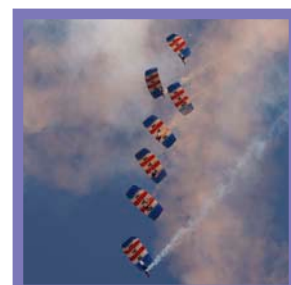
The Academy had a pre-Ofsted inspection of the Sport Department by the Youth Sport Trust. They said the standard, behaviour, participation and kit of students was excellent and all staff were highly praised.

Rowing the Atlantic

All students took part in an inter-community 'Rowing across the Atlantic' competition, as a means of engaging and motivating the Academy Communities. Community Co-ordinators engendered huge loyalty and every single student took part with posters, encouragement and cheerleading. They didn't quite make it across the Atlantic but will try again next year!

Grand Opening

On 24th June, the Academy celebrated the official opening of their new building. The RAF Falcons Parachute Display Team opened the event in a spectacular way, and the numerous student performances and the release of 24 white doves as the finale made the day hugely memorable for all who attended.



Brightstowe



Fairtrade Fondue

Brightstowe held a Fairtrade chocolate fondue event to say 'thank-you' to staff for their support during the GCSE period and to raise awareness of the STOP THE TRAFFIK campaign. A short film was screened in the staffroom, showing the impact of illegal people trafficking and staff were given information about the work being done by Oasis to combat this illegal trade.

Brightstowe Boys at Wembley

Students spent the Whitsun Bank Holiday weekend at Wembley Stadium as ball-boys in the Coca-Cola Final League Play-Offs. Fifteen Year 8 and 9 students, many of whom had never been to Wembley before, were invited to be ball-boys in three matches over the weekend. They attended an introductory session with match officials where they learnt about their ball-boy duties and were kitted out in Wembley tracksuits and caps, ready for the matches. Stationed around the edges of the pitch, they collected and returned balls that went out of play during the game, as well as having a fantastic view of all the action.



Coulsdon

Zimbabwe Day

The Zimbabwe Day (featured in the Global section on page 1) involved 100 students – split into 4 groups – looking at the work done by Oasis Global, the history and geography of Zimbabwe and the Zimbabwean political system, as well as enterprising ideas on fundraising for the cause. A great day was had by all and the students learnt a lot about the country.



ITV Filming

On 18th June, ITV went to Coulsdon to film some students, John Murphy and Steve Chalke. The footage will be used in a programme focusing on Academies; how they are different from state comprehensive schools and the impact they make on academic achievement, curriculum and behaviour. Five Year 10 students were interviewed individually and although they confessed their nervousness throughout the experience, they were outstanding ambassadors for the Academy!

Mayfield

Olympic Day Fun Run

The Academy held an Olympic Day on 23rd June, in order to involve students in the excitement and inspiration of the upcoming Olympic Games. The day was designed as an Academy-wide event, emphasising co-operation, participation and fair-play, and introducing the 7 values of London 2012.

Making Sweet Music!

The Academy's Steel Pan Ensemble played in the City Centre on 6th June as part of Enviro Day – a City Council Recycling Awareness event. The Pans performed twice in the morning to an appreciative audience who were wowed by their talent, and as a result there were several enquiries to perform at other City events! They also performed at the Woolston Infant School Carnival on 12th June and will play at the Academy's Community Fun Day on Saturday 18th July.



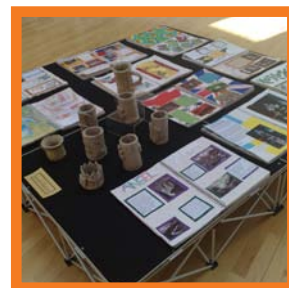
Summer Sun

The Academy is saying goodbye to Summer Sun, a visiting teacher from China, who they have been very fortunate to host for the past year. Summer has taught Mandarin to classes in Years 7 and 8, which has been an amazing opportunity and one that fits well with the specialism of Global Communication.

Enfield

Art Exhibition

The Academy held their first art exhibition in the Academy market place to celebrate all the work done by Year 7 and 8 artists. Highlights included a group of landscape paintings, two large installations of ceramic tiles, and a gigantic mural. A number of local primary schools also submitted their work for show which added a colourful and exciting dimension to the exhibition.



Sports Day

The morning saw all students fighting it out to be the strongest Learning Home in the Tug of War competition. In Year 7 Amethyst were victorious and in Year 8 Topaz demonstrated that their strength and teamwork could help them to beat Ruby! In the afternoon the whole Academy went to Lee Valley Athletics Track to participate in the track and field events where they witnessed determination from students to help their Learning Home and Village achieve success.

Waste

Four Year 8 classes were set the challenge – by the Science Museum Outreach Team – to reduce the amount of rubbish they produce. The teams competed in a 'Dump or No Dump' Game Show, and the winner saved lots of rubbish going to landfill.

Immingham

Brian Dixon

Brian Dixon has stepped down from his role as Principal of Oasis Academy Immingham in order to spend more time with his family, who he has lived away from for the past two and a half years. Brian has overseen the transformation of the old school into the new building, and has also seen huge improvements in student attendance and discipline. Steve Chalke said: "Brian is an inspirational man whose impact will be sadly missed, not only by the Academy but by the whole community of Immingham. I am, however, very pleased that Brian has agreed to continue working as part of Oasis' Academies team."



Pilgrim's Progress Parade

The people of Immingham turned out in force for the 2009 Parade. The overall winner of the 'Award for Best in the Parade' went to Oasis Academy Immingham. Shane Linford, the Academy's Youth and Community Manager said, "There is a lot of interest in this event and it's been great for the students to get involved with the community. To win the award was lovely after the students had put a great deal of time and effort into making the float look so nice. The event also helps to build good relationships with all those living and working in the community."

Bristol

Newbuild Update

Construction of the new Academy building is progressing rapidly. The 'foot-print', ground floor slabs, supporting columns and first floor level have all been completed. The block-work around the main building and the steel structure of the sports hall have started taking shape and the four stairwells and lift shafts are also going up.



Year 11 Boys Win County Cup!

The Year 11 Boys Football Team have set an Academy record by winning a cup title every year they have played together. The boys have recently won the Under 16's County Cup for Bristol and South Gloucestershire making that the fifth cup title they have won since forming as a team in Year 7.

Explorer Dome

Year 9 students were treated to an out-of-this-world experience when they learnt about outer space in a mobile planetarium, to help them with their first GCSE module: 'Space and Its Mysteries'. They were led through an interactive session in the inflatable dome, which used a state-of-the-art projector to introduce them to the origin and evolution of space and give them a tour of the stars and constellations.

