

## CAREERS EVENTS OF THE SCHOOL YEAR 2019 – 2020

During this unprecedented time many of the careers events planned for this year had to be cancelled, including work experience programmes, The Medical Conference, Summer School, work shadowing, visiting speakers, a royal navy day and careers matching tests. During the lockdown period from March until the end of the summer virtual events, work experience, university taster courses and open days, Mooc courses and Morrisby online tests were offered to students online. Employers and universities were helpful in offering online opportunities which many of our students took up. As an example the Brighton and Sussex Medical School work experience was listened to by most of our medical school applicants and Speakers for Schools introduced Virtual Work Experience to continue to provide a range of opportunities to help ensure young people gain crucial early experiences of work during this time and beyond.

### **Universities and Apprenticeships Opportunities held at Parmiter's**

#### **Universities and Apprenticeships Fair**

Students in Years 10 – 13 were invited to attend and speak to representatives from the universities, further education colleges and organisations offering apprenticeships to help with their future career planning. Students prepared for the fair beforehand by researching the list of universities and organisations attending and preparing questions to ask. The day included an Oxbridge talk for students who were considering Oxford or Cambridge courses.

*Lancaster* - Thank you very much for inviting us, the students at Parmiter's were fantastic, we ran out of prospectuses in the process. A couple of students I spoke to also attended the open day the Saturday just gone, so I hope they enjoyed it!

*Liverpool* - They were very much clued up on what to ask and what they wanted to do so it made for a really good visit.

*Exeter* - our student ambassadors, Chris and Sophie, offered glowing feedback about their experience at the Parmiter's Fair, and praised the positive attitudes of the students to whom they spoke.

#### **Mock Interviews**

Once again we were delighted to welcome professionals, who included governors of the school, parents and old Parmiterians, to conduct mock interviews and advice to Year 13 students preparing for their Oxbridge, apprenticeship and university interviews. The process is invaluable to our students and we are always grateful for the time and input given by the volunteer interviewees.

#### **Alumni Coffee Morning**

We welcomed ex Parmiterians back to the school who came to talk to students in Years 11, 12 and 13 about their different career paths and the choices they made after leaving Parmiter's. It was a great opportunity for students to hear about their experiences and put questions to them informally. Subject areas included Veterinary Medicine, Economics & Finance, Engineering, Teacher Training, Art, History, Accountancy, Equine and Fashion Photography, Actuarial Maths, English Language and Literature, Computer Science, Law, PPE, Medicine, Sports Science.

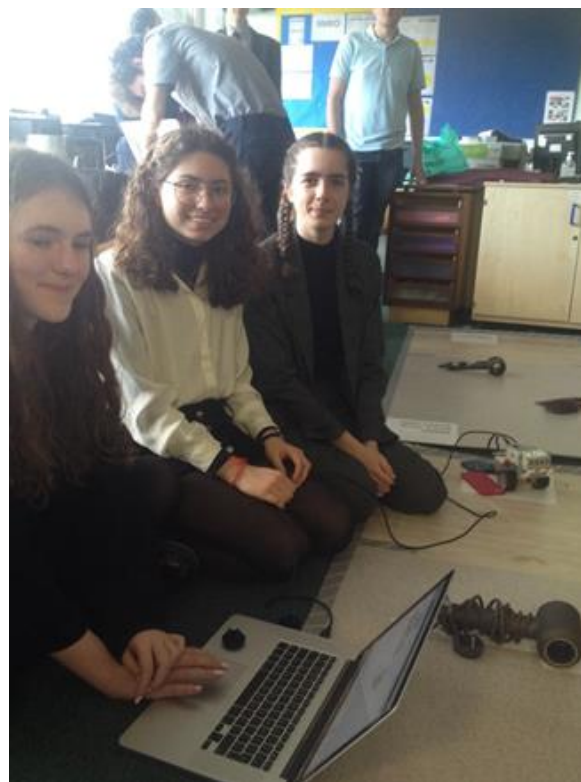
**PwC interactive session** run by business ambassadors who had recently joined PwC on a graduate or school leaver programme. It included recruitment processes and employability skills advice; coaching and an introduction to PwC and the profession as well as information on the work experience and school leaver opportunities, including apprenticeships and degree programmes.

#### **Lloyds Banking Group**

An ex Parmiterian and other senior managers from Lloyds delivered a session which included goalsetting, a team enterprise session, the creation of an app and a presentation from the students. It provided essential meaningful time spent with an employer as well as providing essential employability and life skills.

#### **Dyson Workshop**

An ex Parmiterian and a colleague of his on the Dyson apprenticeship scheme came in to deliver the workshop to Year 12 STEM students which included a talk about Dyson and an introduction to the Dyson Institute of Engineering



and Technology (DIET). They then experienced robot programming using Lego Mindstorm where students were tasked in programming a prototype and adapting this to fit specific criteria.

### **Parents Apprenticeship Evening**

This event provided the opportunity for parents and students to find out more about Apprenticeships, from Traineeships to Higher Apprenticeship. Presentations were given from an expert from the Apprenticeship Support and Knowledge for Schools Programme (ASK), an employer from Gas Mark 1 who employs apprenticeships and ex Parmiterians following foundation and higher degree apprenticeships. Parents were able to find out how apprenticeships work and were given advice on how students can apply for apprenticeships. It was a well-attended evening with excellent feedback:

“Both my wife and I found this extremely useful and learnt some very valuable tips” “this was well worth attending”

“ One of the most useful and informative evenings I’ve been to at Parmiters”

“It filled in lots of gaps for me around apprenticeships and I thought you had a great mix of presentations to cover the many opportunities”

### **Women in Economics Day at Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge**

A Level Economics students from Parmiter’s were able to attend this day for the fifth year running. This year explored how women made the West rich and discussed some of the big questions facing economists. Leading feminist and Caius Economist Dr Victoria Bateman introduced her new book, *The Sex Factor: How Women made the West Rich*, and Dr Sara Reis, Research and Policy Officer from the Women’s Budget Group discussed the organisation’s role in scrutinising government policy. Kate Bell, from the Trades Union Congress (TUC) also spoke and Dr Laura Harvey, from the University of East Anglia, introduced her own research on income inequality and gender. The girls were also able to hear from current students at Caius, who discussed their experiences of studying economics at university and the types of opportunities it has opened up.

### **Other career events at Parmiter’s**

#### **ARMY DAY**

Year 10 were given the opportunity to take part in an elite skills army day. They faced mental and physical challenges in small groups with the purpose of developing their leadership, teamwork, confidence and communication skills. They were instructed by lance corporals who all had different roles in the army, and gave them advice and discussed army life with them. It was a very good day and feedback from students showed they



had enjoyed it. Comments included the benefit of meeting army personnel in real life and not just having the impression of the Army given on screen and through the media.

### **Year 11 Employability Workshops**

Delivered by IGD Employability Programmes Team, students in Year 11 were able to choose two one hour workshops to attend from Finance, Marketing and IT. Student feedback after the session showed unanimously they all felt more prepared for the world of work, had developed their employability skills and wanted to know more about routes into the industries.

### **Dragon's Apprentice Team Fundraising 2019 - 2020**

#### **Team Peace**

*Money Raised for the Peace Hospice: £3,048.75*

*Main Events: Cultural Fashion Show, Valentine's Gifts, Curry Night, Breaktime Sales, Craft Fair Stalls*  
Rory Head, Asu Cetin, Fortune Isoka-Onwordi, Arianne Beers, Mee-Ji Abigail Hong, Tiana Sung, Connie Smith, Josie England, Aimahnosi Laezoh, Tito Banjo-Onasanya

#### **Team Apex**

*Monday Raised for Charlie's Gift: £3,298.43*

*Main Events: Quiz Night, Valentine's Disco, Hot Chocolate Fridays, Craft Fair Stalls*

Toluwanimi Osiyemi, Scott Ovenden, Samali Ratnaweera, Thomas Cox, Yasmin Ysung, Charlotte Clark, Alex Pratt, Zainab Shehzadi, Francesca Miles, Esme Jeffery-Thompson

"It all started long, long time ago on a dreary October morning when Corona was just a second-rate beer. It was then that Team Apex met for the first time in a small meeting room belonging to Mrs Green.

Anticipation filled the air, the first order of business; establishing a hierarchy. Samali took the position as head of finance, Charlotte became the team's administrator and Scott became the team leader. We first decided our strategy; the best way to raise money was to hold multiple small events so we could raise funds to spend on two big events at the end. For this, we served hot chocolate every Friday at breaktime for five months. It was extremely rewarding but also tiring; Esme's Thursday nights consisted of trips to Costco for the much loved donuts we sold; they were so loved in fact, it is said they are the foundations on which this school was built. Alex, Tom and Francesca kindly spent their free second period expertly creating the hot chocolate and so it shouldn't have been a surprise when we realised how much money that alone had raised. We then worked a stall at the Christmas craft fair selling candy canes and personalised tags, this is where it became apparent that our team in no way lacked artistic talent, with Yasmin, Toluwa and Zainab producing tags and calligraphy that could've made even the coldest of hearts weep. What was our first big event? I hear you ask, filled with enthusiasm. It was a year 7 disco of course. Alex and Samali worked as the DJs after banning Charlotte for trying to play country music (that hurt by the way) and Toby kindly spent his night helping us with the equipment. Our last big event was the quiz night which was extremely popular and

ended up with us having to set up extra tables in the main hall. By the time this event rolled around we were a well-oiled machine and worked to perfection in the setting-up, running and tidying away of the event. Overall our team raised £3298.43 for the charity Charlie's Gift which works to lend a financial helping hand to children whose lives are touched by adversity. A big thank you to all the staff who helped us; Mrs Green and Mrs Zanetti especially." Charlotte Clark 13JEV

## **Assemblies and Lunchtime Talks**

### **General Careers Information**

Targeted assemblies were given to every year group to introduce the students to careers education and guidance. They were given tips on how to plan and manage their progression through school and into work. Areas covered included Labour Market Information (LMI), job research, personal qualities, skills and talents, different career paths and further and higher education routes.

**West Herts, Oaklands and Elstree Screen Arts Academy** gave talks on their institutions and the courses and extracurricular opportunities offered at each one on them

### **Engineering: Creativity, Fulfilment and Making Life Better** **Why there has never been a better time to do it**

David Horton left Parmiters in 2002 to do a degree in Mechanical Engineering at Imperial College and is now Chief Engineer of the UK's only homegrown, high-tech, green train technology company. He gave a wonderful talk about why there has never been a better time to choose Engineering as a career, how it is fundamentally a creative occupation, pays very well, gives you a job for life, you can make a real difference to people's lives, and you don't need to be a genius at maths either. He spoke about his company Vivarail, and their focus on applying 'green' technology to rolling stock in order to meet the decarbonisation 'challenge'. He described their current work in producing battery trains and hybrid trains to replace diesel trains, and their aspirations to develop a hydrogen-powered train and even a steam train! The talk was brilliantly received by our students who were inspired by his enthusiasm and knowledge of the industry.

### **Warner Brothers**

Students from Years 8 – 13 were given the chance to attend a very visual talk about Warner Bros and opportunities at the studio. Three of their Education Facilities team brought in props & costumes which brought the presentation to life. The students went away with a general knowledge of the creative industries and subjects and jobs relating to these as well as an insight into the Warner Bros Studio and job opportunities there.

### **Ambulance Service**

David Tamarro, Operational Ambulance Officer for South Bedfordshire gave a talk to upper school students about apprenticeship opportunities within the emergency care and other pathways to a career in the ambulance service.

### **External Careers Events offered to students**

Law Insight Day for Potential Law Students

Healthcare Insight Day for Potential Medical Students

Allied Health Professionals Open Day

The Watford Get Ahead Skills Session

The Ada Lovelace Day Live at The IET

What Career Live Exhibition

KPMG - Apprentice Get Ahead Session

STEM Insight Event at GSK Stockley Park

Your Heart Hospital 2019 Patients & Public Event

M & G Savings & Investment Company Insight Events Evening

The Cambridge Festival of Ideas will be running this year from 14 to 27 October 2019.

Business and Engineering Apprenticeship Open Day at MBDA, the European missile manufacturer

UK University & Apprenticeship Search Fair at Arsenal FC's Emirates Stadium

Coding De-Coded, at Goldman Sachs London office

Grunberg trainee workshop

Birmingham University - Explore Operating Department Practice day

**The Subject Matters Days for Years 10 & 11 at Cambridge** - *The post-16 subject choices students make in Year 11 can have a major impact on their course and university options. Selective universities such as the University of Cambridge often consider not only the individual subjects, but also the combination of subjects because they prepare students more effectively for those courses.*

**Girton College, Cambridge Taster Day** - A day for Years 10 and 11 to encourage studying Geography at A Level and university.

### **The Young Reporter Scheme**

This schools programme which four of our students joined gave them an opportunity to write for a real live online newspaper. Various opportunities are offered along the way, such as attendance at productions and events. At the end of the scheme students were judged on the articles they had submitted throughout the year and were awarded a certificate for their achievements. Please see the article 'Crafting in Quarantine' written by Esme and published on *This is Local London* in April, on the Design & Technology page of this magazine.

### **External Trips**

#### **Insight day at Skanska**

The insight day gave students excellent information about careers with Skanska and the wider industry (construction, civil engineering).

**Hilton Watford Careers Fair** – This was part of Hilton's ongoing global commitment to impact upon at least one million young people by 2020, helping them to reach their full potential. The focus of the event was the multiple career paths within the hospitality sector and Hilton as a business, focusing mainly around corporate functions, which could include everything from architecture and finance to marketing and legal. There were also some skills workshops and exercises to help prepare them for the journey into the working world, such as CV and interview advice.

#### **Year 9 trip to Balliol College, Oxford**



Students were offered the opportunity to visit the college for a tour of the campus, a Shakespeare Workshop and lunch in the dining hall, followed by a presentation on Higher Education and Oxplore.

Reports from the students:

*"it was a great opportunity to look at old books that we may not have been able to see anywhere else and to cover topics we don't really look at in school. It was great to meet people who could tell us about life in such a prestigious university"*

*"we first participated in a fascinating Shakespeare workshop, studying the history of the book covers and title page designs used in the period, and how Shakespeare used a bold new design on his folios - such as The Complete Works - to stand out from the crowd. After a hearty lunch, our questions on the prestigious college were answered, and we were given a fascinating insight into life, be it work or play, at the University. We found out about the large range of clubs available for students, and arrangements in place regarding student life and financing an Oxford course.*

*We learnt about the range of courses and unique teaching styles offered by the college. We discovered how the University is not just teaching the next generation, but a workplace where experts who are conducting pioneering research in their field. Lastly, we had a tour of the facilities at the college, including the on-campus library with its huge collection of books, old and new, and the vast dining hall. The day had flown by, and all too soon we had to bid the college farewell. It was a momentous occasion for all those involved, and we are very grateful to Balliol for opening their doors to us, and providing such a brilliant opportunity to see inside the University with so much history, and so great a reputation”.*

**Real work experience placements completed by students during the year:**

AECOM, Leonardo, OFCOM, Financial Reporting Council (FRC), PWC, KPMG, GlaxoSmithKline, BSI Group, Transport for London (TFL), Watford General, Cisco, the House of Lords