

# THE BYTE

SUMMERISSUE #4 | 20.07.17

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL...

Each member of our Learning Family is an individual, each of you have brought something unique to this organisation over the course of this academic year – thank you. In turn the staff, sponsors and governors are passionate that each of you not just have access to equal opportunities, but rather to every opportunity.

It has been wonderful to see over the year how students “can-do” approach has developed. This mindset is so important and is the best springboard for curiosity and creativity. Since opening in 2014 we have had many visitors and inspections, this cumulated in our first Ofsted Inspection this year. It was hugely encouraging that our strengths and the exceptional experiences we offer our students were recognised. We are now in a great position to build on this success.

There is a myth that families become less important to teenagers. I don’t believe this, each student needs their family and the support it offers as much as they did when they were younger. This year we continued to work closely with families and build on our shared desire to ensure that students have the best learning experience possible. Thank you Parents for being so willing to work with us and we look forward to this continuing during the next academic year.

None of what we achieved this year would have been possible without the commitment and determination of the WUTC Staff. As Principal, I feel honoured and humbled each and every day to work with such a terrific, talented group of people.

Though we await with, baited breath, for our exam results I hope you all take time to enjoy the summer.

This students is a time you will remember as being one of the best times of your life, a time of expanding horizons when the world feels full of possibility. Continue to grab those precious opportunities with both hands. Remember to get the little things right: be on time, be respectful towards others and work hard. Everything else will fall into place.

See you in August!



## STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM 2017/2018

We are extremely excited to introduce you to our new Student Leadership Team for the 2017-2018 Academic Year! Our Year 12 students experienced a voting process where the top eight students were invited to interview with a student panel.

Those who were shortlisted from this were then invited to a final interview with the Principal.

We are very proud of how our students presented themselves throughout the election process and how mature all of our candidates were in their interviews.

Our new team consists of:

### Lead Students

Tom Lish & Jordan Barber

### Deputy Lead Students

Christabel Boahen

Salis Akhtar

James Smithson

Congratulations to all of you - we wish you the best of luck within your new roles at the Watford UTC!



# SUMMERTERM2017

## OFSTED

It's official! Watford UTC has been rated 'Good' by OFSTED. We were visited in the early part of our Spring term for two days.

The report held large amounts of praise for the Watford UTC, such as:

"The overall quality of teaching, learning and assessment is very effective."

"Students are prepared for future employment or self-employment exceptionally well. There are many opportunities for students to engage with employers and businesses."



## ACCESS ASPIRATIONS WORKSHOP

Our Year 12 students took part in the Access Aspirations workshop, where they developed their employability skills. They focused on what employers look for and how to present yourself. Each student also had a mock interview experience.



## HIGH SHERIFF'S TEA

Our students were invited to provide Hospitality at the prolofic High Sheriff's Tea party in Rickmansworth. It was fantastic experience for the students, who were able to work with chefs to prepare food for the guests. Students were responsible for serving food and drinks to a large amount of guests and they were an absolute credit to the Watford UTC.



## THE GROVE REWARDS VISIT

Some students were rewarded for their 100% attendance and punctuality with afternoon tea at The Grove! Well done to Cian, Tom, Louis, Sam, Aaron, Kemi, Nadia, James, Christabel and Charlie.



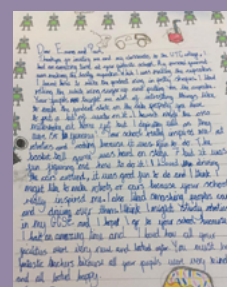
## TASTE OF THE PAST

Our Year 12 Hospitality students put on a show for our final event of this academic year. They took guests on a trip to the past by hosting a 60s, 70s and 80s themed event. Guests dressed up in appropriate costumes, took part in karaoke and dancing and enjoyed our retro photobooth. There were also a variety of retro sweets and drinks on offer. Money raised from the event went to the New Hope charity. Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the event!



## ST JOHN'S AND SHEPHERD'S HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL COLLABORATION

We have been working very closely with St John's Primary School this year. Some of our Year 10 students paid a visit to the primary school to help build work benches for the students. We have also had students from Shepherd's Hill visit us at the Watford UTC to experience our specialisms. They spent time playing with robots, making milkshakes and coding with our Computing students. As a lovely surprise we received letters from the students, outlining their gratuity and explaining how much fun they had at the UTC. We very much look forward to working with more primary schools in the future and hope that there will be more opportunities for our students to mentor and act as role models for younger students in our local area.



## THEM VISIT JURY'S INN

Our Year 10 THEM students paid a visit to Jury's Inn this term. They were shown what it takes to run a successful hotel and what different job roles there are within a hotel. Students were given a masterclass by Jack Bartley, HR Manager at Jury's Inn, where they were able to ask questions about hospitality and events management. A lovely afternoon was had by all the students, thank you to everyone at Jury's Inn for having us!



## INDUCTION DAY

We welcomed some of our new students for an Induction Day. Students had a session with Action Jackson, where they got to know each other a little bit more, whilst thinking about what makes them amazing. We look forward to officially welcoming these students to be part of our Learning Family in September!





## OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

### SHOWCASE

On Thursday 29th June we had our Watford UTC Showcase event. Staff and students worked together to demonstrate to existing parents and perspective new students and parents what we do on a daily basis at the Watford UTC.

We had lots of activities for guests to observe and take part in such as, robot demonstrations, mocktail making, maths games, real time editing in the Mac Suite, Science experiments and many more!

Thank you to everybody who attended and to all the students for helping make it such a success.



### YEAR 13 LEAVERS

We also said goodbye to our amazing Year 13 students at the start of July. Students and their parents were invited for an evening of reminiscing, drinks and canapes. Our head students, David Teper and Sophie Richards, delivered heartfelt goodbye speeches to their peers and students were given a Watford UTC keepsake, awarded to them by Jack Bartley from Jury's Inn. Students also had lots of fun taking some lovely photos with their peers and teachers, using props from our photobooth.

We will miss you all very much and wish you the best for the future - whatever your path is. We look forward to seeing you all on A Level results day, Thursday 17th August, from 10am to 12pm.



### YEAR 11 LEAVERS

We said goodbye to our wonderful Year 11 students in June. Students and their parents were invited for a final assembly, where they each received a keepsake from the Watford UTC. Students also had lots of fun getting involved with our photobooth, creating lots of lovely memories with other students and staff.

It's been a very eventful two years but we would like to wish everybody in Year 11 the best of luck for the future, whether they are continuing their learning journey with the Watford UTC or are starting a new chapter in their life. We will see you all on GCSE results day, Thursday 24th August between 10am and 12.00pm.



## STAFF PROFILES



**Name: Lisa Williams**

I have been a teacher now for 19 years and during this time I have led my own department and had many roles within the pastoral structure of a school.

My current role is as an Assistant Director and my main responsibilities lie with leading the sixth form at the UTC.

I oversee the UCAS application process, the careers programme and provide advice and guidance for students wishing to pursue an Apprenticeship.

I lead on the well-being programme for our students and am a teacher of THEM.



**Name: Sophie Matthews**

Sophie Matthews has 17 years commercial experience, mainly bi-lingual English/French with blue chip international companies, in London and Paris.

Previous teaching experience includes successfully running her own business teaching French to children in schools, nurseries and in her own centre in Watford.

A French native speaker, educated in Paris with a gold medal award at La Sorbonne, Sophie has been teaching French GCSE and A-Level, at Watford UTC since its founding in 2014 as well as coordinating the Extended Project Qualification.

# WOSCARS2017

We had our annual WOSCARS event to mark the end of the academic year. It was a fantastic and successful event where we celebrated the achievements of our Year 10 and Year 12 students throughout the year. Awards were presented by Action Jackson and our Senior Leadership Team.

Students and their guests then enjoyed canapes and drinks to end the wonderful evening.

Congratulations to everybody who was presented with an award, keep up the good work!



## CREDITALLY

Since September 2016 we have awarded:

**6,472 credits!**

Congratulations to the following students, who are in the top ten for most credits within their year group.

Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
1. LauraJane	1. Kyle	1. Jack M	1. Dominic
2. Liam	2. Nathan E	2. Cian	2. Fabrizio
3. Munashe	3. Daniel	3. Adil	3. Hamzah
4. Marcus	4. Joe	4. Jack G	4. Steph
5. Kirsty	5. Duaa	5. James S	5. Charles
6. Antonio B	6. Apurva	6. Nadia	6. Kira
7. Florin	7. Daya	7. Louis	7. Lewis
8. Dimeji	8. Max	8. Christabel	8. Jade
9. Nathan	9. Harry	9. Charlie K	9. Josh
10. Monika	10. Ryan	10. Salis	10. Jacob

## KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Wednesday 6th September

Year 10 & 12 Induction  
(8:45am start)

### Thursday 7th September

Start of term for all students  
(8:45am start)

### 17th-20th September

Year 13 CERN Trip

### 26th September, 11:15-12:15

Naga Munchetty Q&A  
BBC Presenter and 'Strictly Comes Dancing' Contestant



### 27th September, 11-12

Alex Bellos Maths Masterclass  
"Adventure through Numberland"



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Aspire to achieve excellence; Be energetic and innovative"**