



Welcome to the second Performing Arts newsletter. I'm Olivia Long and I am a Performing Arts ambassador in Year 8. Being a Performing Arts ambassador is such a good role as we get to work with students from across the different year groups to promote and share our love of Performing Arts.

It has been through working with older students that I have really developed as a performer this term. I love dancing and acting and have been so lucky to be part of 2 winning performances this term. The first was 'Now Festival' which I particularly enjoyed because we got to promote a really good message to lots of people and allow people who may be struggling with mental health to see there are people and places that can help. The second was 'The Great Big Dance Off' were I performed with 15 other students competing against lots of other schools. We were so proud to make it through to the final and I can't wait to go to Cheltenham and show off our brand new routine. I'm lucky that my Mum comes to watch me in everything and every time she cries!

Being part of these events have been great for me as I have made new friends who also love performing. I have been able to develop these friendships as we work towards our final performance of the year, our whole school production. This year we are putting on an original musical so it's a big task but all the cast are having fun and learning lots of new skills. So, what's next? Apart from production, this term we have 35 students jetting off to New York, Year 7 will be completing their Arts Award project, we have singing exams, dance finals and a drama showcase to name but a few. We really know how to get the most out of every day in Performing Arts and have fun in the process!

Olivia Long



The St. Julie's Community cheered from our living rooms as Steve Coogan announced that one of our former students has earned one of the highest accolades in British Television and Film - the Bafta Leading actress award! Jodie Comer earned the award for her performance in the smash hit 'Killing Eve', having been previously nominated by Bafta for her work in the drama 'Thirteen'. We are immensely proud of her achievement, and being universally praised for her warm and natural personality, Jodie maintains her position as an inspiring role model for our students to aspire to emulate. With Jodie in pre-production on a new film with Ryan Reynolds, we're looking forward to seeing her on the big screen too!



Award Winning Performances at Now Festival!

Last term was action packed for our Now Festival performers promoting their messages of mental health. This year's festival was based on adverse childhood experiences, ACEs, and explored how experience during childhood can have a lasting and negative effect on a person if the correct support is not in place. Students performed for leading education, children and medical professionals and were highly praised by audience members

including Mr Steve Reddy, Director of Children's Services and Councillor Barbara Murray, Cabinet Member for Education, our girls got to put forward their questions about how support and awareness of mental health can be developed. After an evening of real talent, the judges awarded St Julie's 'Best Acting' and 'Best Overall Performance' making them the winners of the night. It's was a wonderful week of talent and we couldn't be more proud of our girls sharing such an important message.

Celebrating the New Year

Performing Arts students took to the Liverpool Playhouse stage to perform as part of the Chinese New Year Spring Festival. Performing an original script and choreography, performers maintained such confidence and control as they performed to hundreds in the crowds. The students were able to watch some traditional Chinese dance, musicians and actors perform and had an opportunity to ask question about the celebrations of Chinese New Year.



European Champion!

Congratulations to former student Katarina Johnson-Thompson who has taken gold in the Pentathlon at the European Indoor Games in Glasgow. After a stellar morning session that saw Kat throw a lifetime personal best in the shot, expectations were high that she may be able to break the world record. It wasn't to be this time, with Kat just a few points short of the record, but this did nothing to take the shine from a fantastic result. Well done Kat!





Performing Arts on Tour at Disneyland!

This Easter, 30 Year 8 and 9 Performing Arts students set off for Disneyland Paris for four fun-filled days.

The pupils had the amazing opportunity to complete musical theatre workshops with Disney cast members, learn about the gruelling audition process and participate in a well-known Disney dance routine to 'Be Our Guest'. And as if that wasn't enough, St Julie's students were wowed as they had the opportunity to meet former student, Megan Wade who has recently started her

performance contract at Disney. Megan spent time with the students answering their questions and advising many of our future stars about the industry. They even got to see her in role as she danced her way down Main Street during the not to be missed Disney parade.

Of course there was also some time to take in a few rides, whether that be dropping from great heights on The Tower of Terror, rocking out to Aerosmith on Rock'n'Rollercoaster or singing along on 'It's a Small World', it's fair to say the fun never stopped.



Dot Art

Well done to our artists, Chloe, Marie-Eva and Rachel for being shortlisted in the Dot Art competition. They have produced beautiful work and beat some tough competition to get through to this stage of the competition.



The History of Music

GCSE Music students have been lucky to spend some time exploring the history of British music this term. They took part in a workshop looking at how music has developed through the decades and the impact of it on British culture. They then went on to explore the incredible museum of music memorabilia from some of the most iconic British artists including Queen, The Beatles and the Spice Girls. Students then got the opportunity to show off their talents on the instruments, in the recording studio and even in a dance studio. It was a great opportunity for students to understand the development in music and apply this to their current studies.



The Great Big Dance Off

KS3 dancers have had a busy term as they entered The Great Big Dance Off for the first time. After a brilliant performance the students came second out of a lot of tough competition. There was only two marks between ourselves at the first placed school with the judge's giving the piece a whopping 193 out of 200. We wish our student good luck for the final round and we will keep you updated!



Winning Honours at the Wirral Festival

St. Julie's performers had a fantastic weekend at the Wirral Music Festival this term with both group and individual wins. The day started with an early cheer as Katie in Year 8 took 4th place in the piano solos category against a field of many older students.

Anna and Evie took the first win of the day in the vocal duet category with their performance of Delibes' 'Flower Duet'. Anna won the musical theatre category in a field of 18 entrants, singing 'Pulled' from the Addams Family musical. The joint choir then placed third in the open choir category with only 2 points separating the top three places. The senior choir came first in the chamber choir category with a score of 86 points. Ellen in Year 8 and Evie in Year 7 competed in the pop vocals category, receiving some excellent feedback from the adjudicator. Isobel took 4th place in the open musical theatre category against a giant field of 35. Our songwriters also performed strongly with Amber, Grace and Taylor taking 2nd, 3rd and 4th places respectively in the song writing category. Congratulations to all of the performers for such fantastic achievements.

Grace in Year 9 has composed and recorded an original song that hits Spotify this month.

Look out for 'Crystal' - a song based on positive well-being and looking after your mind.



Flashmob!

Monday, 29th April was International Day of Dance and our amazing Performing Arts students surprised us all with a spectacular flashmob in the Peace Garden! Everything at break was happening as normal with students chatting in groups, catching up on the morning's events, when suddenly, out of the crowd stepped over 70 students from Years 7 to 12 to perform Raise You Up from the musical Kinky Boots. It was a joyous, uninhibited celebration of dance which received a huge round of applause from the crowd of over 500 who witnessed it. It was a very fitting way to celebrate International Day of Dance.



Blood Brothers Workshop

This term Year 9 GCSE Drama students have been able to enjoy a 'Blood Brothers' acting workshop with a West End actor.

Michael Southern has appeared as 'Sammy' in the touring production of the musical and will return to the West End next week to reprise his role. The students gained a valuable insight into the tricks of the trade and how to pursue a career in the acting industry, along with creating an ensemble performance that really demonstrated their talents!



Spreading the Word

Our year 9 mental health ambassadors have been continuing to spread the important message about the various mental health illnesses people face. They have been visiting local Primary Schools to deliver a performance including Drama and Dance with many important messages. Well done to our students for playing their part in raising awareness and to help the people in our community!