

## Year 7 Science Museum Visit

Yesterday, we were visited by Sophie and Steve, from the Science Museum. After introducing themselves, we had an amazing time, filled with laughter and excitement as we learnt about electricity. They showed us ways to protect ourselves from lightning, the effects of electricity and how it was discovered and used. We watched in awe as Sophie created "baby lightning", powered a torch without a battery, and many more mind-blowing experiments.

After lunch, we took part in some activities about science in general. We found out that if the air pressure is not equal both inside and outside of your body, it will cause your ears to pop. Sophie then

demonstrated what would happen if you took your helmet off in space, with her trusty assistant, Mr Potato Head. She removed all the air from a small container, and Mr P's insides exploded, and came out through his ears! We were then given cards with experiment instructions on them. After trying them out, we were given more information about them, and then told to present it to the class. But first, Steve explained to us, how to give an awesome presentation. He told us to have "pizazz" and to interact with the audience, as well as beginning and ending with a bang. But above all, he told us just to have fun. We learned loads about hydrogel, and where it is used, philosophical bubbles, and many more. I really enjoyed this whole experience, and I hope that they can come again soon.

*Isabelle Monteza Kwokova 7G*



## Year 11 China Trip

This year 20 students from Year 11 had the opportunity to fly to the far east of Asia and enjoy a 7 day holiday in China and I was fortunate to be a part of this experience . I

believe I am able to speak on behalf on everyone who attended when I say the trip was a unique experience for all , and one which we will remember for the rest of our lives. The trip consisted of sightseeing, for instance the Beijing Olympic Bird Nest Stadium, The Great Wall of China, Temple Of Heaven and the Liumingying Village and eating strange delicacies such as Chicken Feet which I have to say was tantalising. To conclude the trip was a great experience to not only enjoy being with your friends for 7 days but to relax and unwind exploring the joys of China.

*Sami Johns 11S*



## Bank of America

I was selected with 20 other Year 8 girls to go to the offices of the Bank of America for a documentary screening of STEMETTES. STEM is an acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Currently there are only 14% of females employed in these key industries. The aim of the trip was to inspire us to pursue careers into these industries.

We left school at 2.00pm and got the underground to St Pauls, Mr Merrigan took one wrong turn but eventually we found the impressive building. we were seated in the grand hall and the documentary started. It was about a group of young girls aged 14-22 who worked together to come up with STEM ideas. They produced apps and products and generally showed that Science and Maths are not just for boys and I found it inspiring to see girls my age having a focus on their futures. The film ended and we had a Q and A session with 5 females who either hold roles in STEM industries or are studying at great universities. Their message was that we need to have more of us studying and working in these industries and they shared their experiences of working in STEM jobs. We finished with networking over Pizza. We had an opportunity to talk to Bank of America workers and the presenters before making our way back to College. We were buzzing with ideas! I have always been interested in Maths and Science, I definitely want to work in STEM industries now.

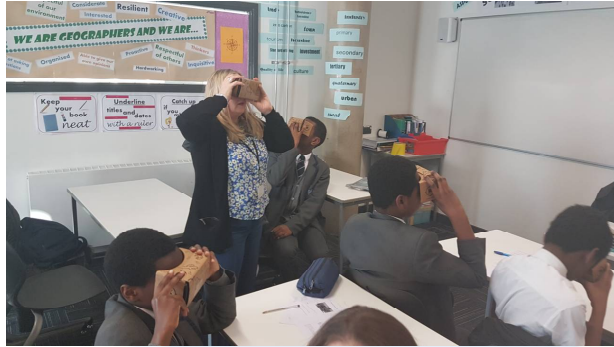
*Lauren Stewart - 8GI*



## Geography and History Visits

7S visit the Tower - We were split into groups and either did a Geography lesson with Ms Folan or a History lesson with Mr Walker and Mr Hutchinson. In Geography, we drew our surroundings and took pictures. We examined the area and used our sense of sound to mark noises down. We also sat down opposite the river and did a field sketch of the landscape. In History we learnt new information like the murder holes where burning oil and urine was thrown out to defend the castle! We later looked at ways to get into the castle such as rowing across the moat and climbing over the wall using a ladder.

*Poppy, Donnell and Paul - 7S*



Google - Geography went on a Google Expedition! The classes used Google Cardboard VR glasses. We looked at lots of great landscapes and place such as Rio De Janeiro, Sierra Leone, Bwindi National Park and outer space! Lots of classes got the chance to visit these amazing places including 8O and Year 13.

On Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February, a group of Year 9 students went to the Royal Geographical Society for the Year 9 'Going Places' day. There were three



sessions which included discussing the impacts of climate change and land use planning, considering careers in Geography and learning about how GIS (Geographical Information Systems) are used in university level field work. The photos show different groups working out where to put their services before the effects of climate change mean their towns get flooded! Find out more about the RGS here [www.rgs.org](http://www.rgs.org)

*Ms Folan - Head of Geography*

## Chaplain's Corner



Lent is the period of 40 days which comes before Easter in the Christian calendar. Beginning on Ash Wednesday, Lent is a season of reflection and preparation before the celebrations of Easter. By observing the 40 days of Lent, Christians replicate Jesus Christ's sacrifice and withdrawal into the desert for 40 days. Lent is marked by fasting, both from food and festivities.

Whereas Easter celebrates the resurrection of Jesus after his death on the cross, Lent recalls the events leading up to and including Jesus' crucifixion by Rome. This is believed to have taken place in Roman occupied Jerusalem.

The Christian churches that observe Lent in the 21st century (and not all do significantly) use it as a time for prayer and penance. Only a small number of people today fast for the whole of Lent, although some maintain the practice on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. It is more common these days for believers to surrender a particular vice such as favourite foods or smoking. Whatever the sacrifice it is a reflection of Jesus' deprivation in the wilderness and a test of self-discipline.

## Road Safety Project

Myself and eight other Year 9 students went to a Youth Travel Ambassadors' Campaign event at the TFL Headquarters last week to pitch our road safety project, i.e. Improving Behaviour on Buses. We presented in front of four judges from Transport for London. It was quite scary at first but we delivered our presentation with confidence. It was a great experience. We won the top prize of £250 to finance our project!

*Sarah Dadzie - 9GO*



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