Mulberry School for Girls is committed to working with parents and the local community. We recognise how important you are in the life of the school and the success of our students.

The purpose of our newsletter is to let you know about the Community activities which took place at Mulberry School between September and December 2011 and to give you information regarding the adult classes taking place from January 2012.

Adult Learning Activities
This autumn we had a number of classes for parents. These included ICT for Beginners, Keep Fit, Healthy Families and Zumba classes. A Literacy class also took place at St Paul's Primary school and a Maths class at Shapla. All of these courses were very successful and enjoyed by all. A very successful accredited Childcare course has ended where 9 parents have completed their Level 1.

The Future
The following Adult Learning classes will continue in the New Year in January 2012: ICT for Mothers and Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities. A new Volunteering in Your Child's School course will start after February half term and a new Interpreting course will start in January. All the courses will run at Mulberry. We will continue to offer courses at our partner schools such as Literacy at St Paul's Primary school. This is for parents who would like to develop their skills in English and Maths at Shapla. There will also be a 4 week Badminton for women course starting in February.

The Parent Support Group Meetings take place once per term but more frequently when issues arise such as fundraising for the new building. Please join us at the next parents meeting on 28th February 2012 at 9.30-11.00 am.

New Courses
Please complete the enclosed enrolment form if you would like to join any of the above courses. Forms should be returned to Mulberry School main reception as soon as possible.

Contact us
Please contact Sabina Khan
skhan@mulberry.towerhamlets.sch.uk
0783696730
penny@mulberry.towerhamlets.sch.uk
kstevenson@mulberry.towerhamlets.sch.uk
School:
020 7790 6327
Richard Street
Commercial Road
London E1 2JP

Kelda Stevenson Sabina Khan Penny Constantinou
Celebrating Mulberry with a Dinner and Dance Event

On Saturday 24th September we had a Fundraising Bollywood style dinner and dance event in order to raise money for the Mulberry and Bigland Green Centre. The money raised will be used to purchase laptops for the Adult and family learning classes.

This event helped to raise awareness of the new building and the aims of the Mulberry and Bigland Green Centre in our local community. We provided a rare opportunity which allowed the ladies of our community to enjoy themselves in a safe, relaxed environment and to have fun. Many friendships were made that night. It was rewarding to see so many of our mothers and members from the community enjoying themselves and interacting in a positive way.

Thank you to many local businesses who contributed by donating their services such as catering, publicity materials, table décor, crockery, cutlery and much more as well as garments and artwork which we used for our auction and as raffle prizes. Their generosity was very much appreciated. We raised £4300, surpassing our target. The event was a massive success.

Activities and Information Sessions

Year 7 Transition Meeting

Once again the new Autumn term welcomed our Year 7 parents to Mulberry. They attended a meeting where they were given opportunity to ask questions concerning their daughter’s education. We discussed issues such as the school day, student organisation, supporting their daughters with their education and who parents can contact at school. The session was lead by Sinead Spellman, Year Learning Coordinator for Year 7, Sue Rider, Penny Constantinou. Thank you to Runa and Ruhena who interpreted.

Year 10 GCSE

During September parents of Year 10 students were invited to a meeting in order to introduce them to the demands of the various GCSE courses that their daughters are following as well as how to access information through the Learning Gateway website. The purpose of the website is so that parents can access their daughter’s achievement data from home and can ensure that they are kept informed about their progress. It was a very successful week with many parents leaving with greater knowledge of the internet and its uses at school.

Year 11 GCSE Maths

The Maths department invited 40 parents to discuss how their daughters learn and how they themselves can help them improve their study time at home. Everyone who attended said how beneficial the session was. We look forward to celebrating the Year 11 students’ success in Maths.

Year 12 Media and Mulberry Films

The Media Department and Mulberry Films joined forces inviting the Year 12 and 13 parents to an after school meeting where the discussion was on the importance of films and the content of Media. Both parents and daughters took part enabling the parents to learn more about what their daughters are studying at A level and about films by female directors. The end result was that a group of parents have joined a special Film Project with film screenings once a month where they enjoy the film and have a workshop afterwards. Any parents who are interested in taking part, please contact Sabina.

Year 12 Social Sciences

On 1st December the Social Sciences department invited 66 Year 12 parents and their daughters to a meeting where they found out how to help their daughter achieve. The meeting helped them identify problems and gave them advice on how to succeed.

Adult Learning Activities

Parenting Course

A new Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities parenting course started in November. This is an extremely useful course as it provides opportunities for parents with teenagers to share ideas, experiences and identify ways of coping with difficulties that life brings. It also enables parents to develop supportive relationships with each other.

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