



# Sixth Form Newsletter

Spring 2017

## Year 12 Conference

Year 12 students attended a Philosophy and Ethics conference at Colston Hall in Bristol as part of their A level studies.

The event was led by internationally renowned philosopher Peter Vardy and featured a series of lectures and debates linked to the course specification.

Sessions included a debate on arguments for and against euthanasia and lectures on philosophical arguments for the existence of God and the problem of evil.

Students were given a booklet of notes and activities written by Peter Vardy.





## **Ex SBL student Professor Simon Hallsworth visits Academy**

We have hosted "Speakers for Schools" talks for the past 4 years and speakers have included the retail giant George Davies (Asda and Next) and Sir Christopher Hum, the UK Ambassador to China. On 22 February Professor Simon Hallsworth, professor of sociology and pro vice chancellor for the faculty of arts, business and applied social science at the University of Suffolk, spoke to all of Y12 and Y10 Psychology students.

Professor Hallsworth is an expert on urban violence and community safety issues and has advised the government on the subject over two decades. His most recent book is *The Gang and Beyond: Interpreting Violent Street Worlds*. Professor Hallsworth, who used to live in Wick, joined SBL in 1971 and was part of the first cohort to go through the new comprehensive school.



## Year 12 Public Services students



In February we had a visit from the South West Army Outreach team who were working with our year 12 Public Services students. The students took part in team building and leadership tasks as part of their assessment. The students were able to ask questions about what life is like in the British Armed Forces as well as gain first hand Army leadership and teamwork skills.





## History students visit Berlin

During February Post 16 history students travelled to Berlin as part of their A level studies visiting such places as the Brandenburg Gate, the DDR Museum, Check Point Charlie and they were taken below the U bahn station to a series of Second World War air raid shelters. They even found the site of the Fuhrer Bunker which is not in the guidebooks!

## Parliament Visit

Year 12 Public Service students had a fantastic day at Parliament on 26th January. They took part in a challenging making laws workshop which everyone found very engaging.

The students even had time to visit Buckingham Palace, guided tour of Westminster Palace and the National Gallery. All in a day!





## Futures Programme

Seven Year 12 students were able to visit Exeter University as part of the government funded 'Futures' programme, a scheme designed to support students in their progression to university. Five of these students will now be attending residential Easter schools at either Oxford or Cambridge University. They will be studying either Biology, Engineering, History, English and Land Economy. This is a really valuable opportunity to experience what life is like study at Britain's top universities. Some of these students have also attended a four day residential at either Oxford or Cambridge Universities





Two students have been successful in applying for internships during the summer holidays as part of their involvement with the 'Smart Futures' programme run by the EY Foundation. This will be an invaluable opportunity to develop their employability skills through high quality work experience as well as being paid. Two very happy students!

