



# The Forest Academy Newsletter



*Summer Term  
July 2026*

*Front page  
photo:  
Year 9 and 10  
SEND Careers  
Fair, June 2026*

## Interim Principal's Welcome

As we come to the end of another academic year, I am delighted to reflect on what has been a term filled with achievements, success and memorable experiences for our students, staff and wider community.

This summer term has truly showcased the very best of TFA. Our students have embraced a wealth of opportunities, attending a variety of educational and enrichment trips that have broadened their horizons and created lasting memories. Students recently participated in our Careers Fair, gaining valuable insights into future pathways and aspirations.

One of the highlights of the term was welcoming our incoming Year 6 students for their Transition Day. It was wonderful to see them spending time with their new teachers and peers, exploring the school and taking part in a fun-filled day of activities.

The excitement and enthusiasm shown by our future Year 7 cohort was a pleasure to witness, and we look forward to officially welcoming them to the TFA family in September.

We have also celebrated significant sporting success across the school. Our Year 9 football team were crowned Redbridge Cup Winners, while our Year 10 team achieved the fantastic accomplishment of finishing as runners-up. In athletics, students across Key Stages 3 and 4 demonstrated incredible determination and talent, securing an impressive collection of bronze, silver and gold medals.

We were delighted to round off the year with our whole-school Sports Day, which proved to be a resounding success and a fantastic way to conclude the academic year. For the first time in some years, students from across the school came together to take part in a full Sports Day, creating a real sense of community, school spirit and healthy competition. The PE team did a fantastic job.

Throughout the day, we witnessed excellent teamwork, outstanding sportsmanship and some truly impressive performances across a range of events. What stood out most, however, was the exceptional behaviour and positive attitudes displayed by our students, who encouraged one another, demonstrated resilience and represented the school with pride. Their enthusiasm and commitment helped make the day a memorable occasion for all involved.

The performing arts have also shone brightly this term. Our production of Alice in Wonderland Jr. was a tremendous success, showcasing the exceptional talent, confidence and dedication of students across all year groups. The performances were outstanding and reflected months of commitment from both students and staff. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the staff whose hard work, creativity and dedication behind the scenes enabled our students to perform with such confidence and success.

Our school community also came together for a fantastic Summer Fair, welcoming neighbours, friends and families from across the local community. With student and staff stalls, entertainment and plenty of activities, it was a wonderful day of fun in the sunshine. Most importantly, the event raised valuable funds for the Redbridge Food Bank, demonstrating the generosity and community spirit that make TFA such a special place.

We are also incredibly proud of our Year 11 and Year 13 students, who have completed their final examinations. Their hard work, resilience and determination throughout the year have been commendable, and we could not be prouder of all they have achieved. We now look forward to celebrating with them once again on Results Days in August.

This newsletter provides just a snapshot of the many successes, experiences and accomplishments that have taken place this term. There have been so many wonderful events that it would be impossible to mention them all here. We hope that the highlights shared throughout this newsletter capture the spirit, energy and achievements of what has been an exceptional term and a fantastic way to conclude the academic year.

**I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our students, staff and TFA families for the warm welcome and support you have shown me during my time as Interim Principal. I can honestly say that I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at TFA. It is a wonderful school with an exceptional community, and it will always hold a special place in my heart. I wish our students, staff and families every success and happiness in the new academic year, and I look forward to seeing TFA continue to flourish in the years ahead.**

**Mrs C Fernandes-Bates  
Interim Principal**



***Year 12 Visit to Amazon***



***Year 10 Sports Leaders  
at Manford Primary  
Schools Sports Day***



***Year 12 First Give Final***

# Academic Excellence

Congratulations to all our students for the hard work, determination and resilience they have shown during this term's assessments and examinations.

Our Year 7 and Year 8 students successfully completed their end-of-year assessments in lessons, while Year 9 students took Progress Tests in English, Mathematics and Science to measure the excellent progress they have made this year.

Our Year 10 and Year 12 students also completed their first GCSE and A Level mock examinations. These important exams provide valuable experience and help prepare students for the challenges of Year 11 and Year 13. We were particularly proud of the mature, focused and respectful way students approached this important examination period.

Finally, we would like to congratulate our Year 11 and Year 13 students, who have worked incredibly hard throughout the year in preparation for their final examinations. Their commitment in lessons, after-school intervention sessions and holiday revision has been outstanding, and we wish every student the very best for Results Day.

**A Level Results Day:** Thursday 13 August 2026

**GCSE Results Day:** Thursday 20 August 2026



## Poetry: Young Writer Competition Winner

Congratulations to Asma (Year 7) whose poem has been selected for publication in the Young Writers anthology, I Have A Dream 2026 – Belief in Words.

The national competition celebrates creativity and encourages young people across the UK to develop a love of writing. Asma's poem was chosen for publication and will appear alongside the work of other talented young writers from across the country. A copy of the anthology will also be archived in the British Library, making this a truly special achievement.

Well done, Asma, on this fantastic accomplishment. We are incredibly proud of your creativity and success!



# My Journey To Passion

By Asma (Aged 11)

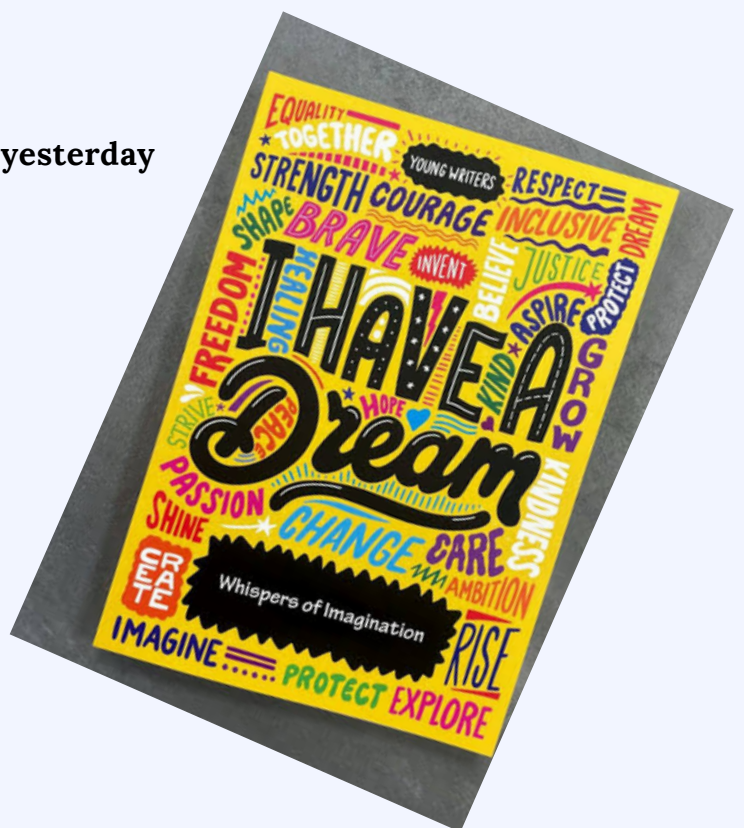
What's a dream? What's mine?  
Does it bring you up just to let you down?  
A dream is a fantasy you follow  
Like the pigeons in the dark, stormy sky  
Heading north, their feathers pierced the polluted air,  
That brushed softly against your skin.  
Passing through the clouds that reek of desperation.  
I have a dream.  
I had one.

But below the surface lies a great mischief...  
My dream was to be a ruler. A queen.  
The fairest in the world. One of a kind.  
I dreamt endlessly about my delusion.  
Blinded by hope, I fell into a lifeless abyss.  
A void that drained what I held in heart.  
A pit of darkness filled my chest,  
Where my flame of hope was supposed to crackle and shine.

It opened my eyes, welcomed me into the greed that ruled the world.  
I learned not to trust blindly  
To always think about the future.  
I yearn to guide young minds to grow, not hide.  
To flourish beyond darkness and despair.

I want to help.  
Like the help I never received.  
I'll protect that spark of innocence  
The small part of me that still longs for yesterday  
I had a dream.  
I have a dream.

Asma (Aged 11)



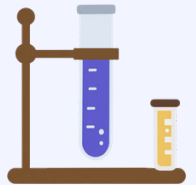
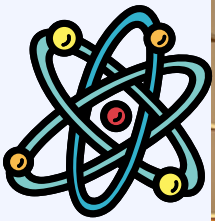
# Learning Beyond The Classroom

## Science Museum - Year 8

In June our Year 8 students enjoyed an exciting visit to the Science Museum. Throughout the day, they explored a range of interactive exhibitions, made valuable links to their science curriculum and met professionals working in a variety of scientific careers.

Many students also enjoyed a hands-on workshop where they had the opportunity to create DNA models, bringing their classroom learning to life.

A big thank you to our Science Department for organising such a fantastic experience, and well done to all of our Year 8 students, who represented The Forest Academy brilliantly and were a real credit to the school.



## Year 9 and 10 SEND Careers Fair

In June, a group of Year 9 and 10 students attended a SEND Careers Fair at Waltham Forest College. The visit gave students the opportunity to explore the exciting pathways available after secondary school and to learn more about further education and future careers.

Students met with employers and college staff to discover the wide range of accessible courses and opportunities on offer. The morning concluded with a guided tour of the college, where students asked thoughtful questions about college life. A visit to the mechanics workshop proved to be a particular highlight for many!

Thank you to the staff who organised this valuable experience, and well done to our students for representing The Forest Academy so positively throughout the visit.



# The Forest Academy Careers Fair



On Tuesday 7th July, we were delighted to welcome representatives from 20 different organisations to The Forest Academy Careers Fair. The event gave students the opportunity to explore a wide range of career pathways and learn more about the many routes into further education, training and employment.

Students met professionals from universities, colleges, businesses and public services, including UCL Medical Faculty, the University of Hertfordshire, the Ministry of Defence, Redbridge Services and the NHS, to name just a few.

The day was filled with meaningful careers conversations, interactive activities and opportunities for students to explore different professions. One of the highlights was the chance for students to try on specialist uniforms and equipment, helping to bring a variety of careers to life.

A huge thank you to all of the organisations that supported the event and inspired our students to think ambitiously about their futures.

## Woodwind Quartet Performance

In June, our Year 8 students enjoyed a fantastic live performance from the Redbridge Music Service Woodwind Quartet. The musicians showcased a wide variety of musical styles and gave students the opportunity to experience live instrumental music up close.

The performance was also attended by our Year 10 GCSE Music students, who were highly engaged throughout the session. They asked thoughtful questions about the instruments, performance techniques and what it is like to work as a professional musician.

A huge thank you to the Redbridge Music Service for delivering such an inspiring performance and helping to bring music to life for our students.



# Year 12 Career Progression Week

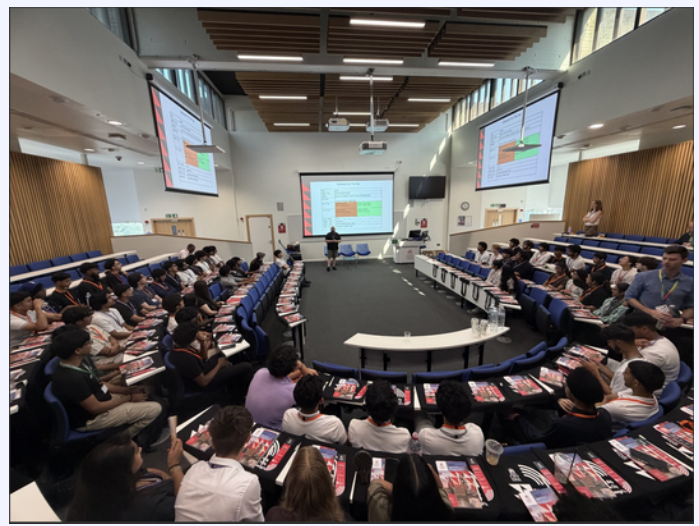
From 22nd to 26th June, students from Beal Sixth Form at The Forest Academy took part in an exciting and purposeful Progression Week, designed to help them prepare for their next steps after sixth form.

The week began with a Careers Fair, where students met employers, universities and training providers to explore a wide range of career opportunities and pathways.

Students also visited Queen Mary University of London or City St George's, University of London (for those following STEM pathways), giving them the opportunity to experience university life, explore campus facilities and gain a better understanding of higher education.

Throughout the week, students took part in UCAS application workshops, completed work experience placements and attended individual Information, Advice and Guidance meetings with the sixth form pastoral team. These experiences helped students develop their career plans, strengthen their university applications and prepare confidently for Year 13.

Progression Week was a valuable opportunity for students to explore their ambitions, develop key skills and take important steps towards their future education and careers.



*"Visiting university and meeting employers helped me feel excited about my next steps."  
– Year 12 Student*



**CITY**  
**ST GEORGE'S**  
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON



**Queen Mary**  
**University of London**

# Amazon Diversity Day

Ten students from Beal Sixth Form at The Forest Academy attended Amazon's Diversity Day at the company's London headquarters, providing an inspiring opportunity to explore careers in the technology sector.

During the visit, students gained an insight into life at one of the world's leading technology companies, learning about Amazon's workplace culture and the wide range of careers available across the organisation.

Students also took part in networking sessions with professionals from a variety of backgrounds, where they explored different routes into the industry and learned about the skills and qualities needed for success. The experience encouraged students to think ambitiously about their future and broadened their understanding of the exciting opportunities available within the technology sector.

A huge thank you to Amazon for hosting such an inspiring and informative day for our students.

## School Games Mark Silver Award



We are proud to announce that The Forest Academy has been awarded the School Games Silver Award in recognition of our commitment to high-quality physical education, school sport and active lifestyles.

This national award celebrates schools that provide inclusive sporting opportunities and encourage all students to participate, develop new skills and enjoy being active.

Throughout the year, our students have represented the school with pride, taken part in a wide range of sporting activities and competitions, and demonstrated outstanding teamwork, resilience and determination.

A huge thank you to our PE Department, staff, parents and, most importantly, our fantastic students for helping us achieve this wonderful recognition.

We now look forward to building on this success as we work towards the School Games Gold Award.

# Summer Fair Spectacular

Our second Forest Academy Summer Fair was a fantastic success and brought together students, families, staff and the local community for a wonderful afternoon of summer time fun.

There was something for everyone to enjoy, including a traditional bouncy castle, a World Cup-style penalty shootout, the ever-popular Ninja Warrior Wall, Tombola, Spin to Win, Lucky Dip, Tumble Toss and Guess the Sweets in the Jar and much much more.

Visitors also enjoyed a fantastic selection of food and refreshments, from wood-fired pizza and delicious Asian and Caribbean cuisine to ice cream, popcorn and candy floss.

One of the highlights of the day was seeing our students design, organise and run their own stalls. They demonstrated outstanding leadership, teamwork, creativity and enterprise throughout the event. Our Student and Staff Art Auction was a particular success and helped raise funds for a very worthwhile cause.

A huge thank you to our parents and local Manford Way and New North Road businesses who generously donated prizes, and to everyone who supported the event by volunteering, running stalls or simply coming along to enjoy the day. We were also delighted to welcome the Councillor for Hainault, who joined us in celebrating our school community.

Together, we raised over £700 for the Redbridge Food Bank. Thank you to our wonderful families for your continued support, our dedicated staff for giving their time and energy, and our amazing students whose enthusiasm, leadership and teamwork made the day such a memorable success.

Together Fostering Achievement.



# Year Group Highlights

## Year 11

Congratulations to our Year 11 students on successfully completing their GCSE examinations. Throughout the year they have shown outstanding commitment, resilience and determination, making us incredibly proud.

We would also like to thank our dedicated staff and supportive families for encouraging our students every step of the way.

We wish the Class of 2026 every success and look forward to celebrating with them on GCSE Results Day – Thursday 20th August.

## Year 10

Year 10 reached an important milestone this term by successfully completing their first GCSE mock examination series. The experience provided valuable preparation for Year 11 and helped students develop confidence and resilience ahead of their final year. Our Year 10 Sports Leaders also represented The Forest Academy brilliantly by supporting Sports Day. at our feeder primary schools. They demonstrated outstanding leadership, enthusiasm and professionalism throughout the day, receiving excellent praise from staff for the positive example they set for younger pupils.

Congratulations also to Max Reeves, who won a Bronze Medal in the Javelin at the Redbridge Borough Athletics Championships.

## Year 9

Congratulations to our Year 9 Boys' Football Team, who won the Redbridge Borough Plate Final with an impressive 3–1 victory.

Students also completed their English, Mathematics and Science Progress Tests, alongside their end-of-year Science assessments, demonstrating excellent commitment throughout the examination period.

## Year 8

Year 8 have enjoyed a fantastic year, demonstrating excellent commitment to learning, positive attitudes and high levels of participation across school life. A particular highlight has been the year group's outstanding achievement of over 27,000 achievement points, reflecting their hard work, resilience and positive contribution to our school community.

Students also took part in a range of exciting opportunities throughout the year, including educational visits and enrichment activities that supported both their learning and personal development.

## **Year 7**

**Congratulations to Asma whose poem was selected for publication in the Young Writers anthology I Have A Dream 2026 – Belief in Words—a fantastic achievement.**

**Well done also to Alexia who won a Bronze Medal in the Javelin at the Redbridge Borough Athletics Championships.**

**Thirty students also enjoyed an inspiring visit to the Science Museum, taking part in hands-on STEM activities and meeting professionals working in science and engineering.**

## **Sports Day Triumph**



# Sports Day Triumph



Watch our Sports Day highlights here:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0T5nicWjxNk>

**School Updates, Important Information for Parents, or Policy Updates near the end of the newsletter, just before Uniform and First Day of the Autumn Term.**



### **Important Update: Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)**

Revised statutory guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) about Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Policy:

In July 2025, the Department for Education published updated statutory guidance on Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education. The new guidance comes into effect on 1 September 2026 and is [here](#).

To ensure our curriculum long term plans match these national updates, we have conducted our statutory review of the BMAT RSE Policy. As a Trust, our schools proactively keep up to date with modern safeguarding trends, and we know our active curriculum and the support we provide our students already fully meet all the new requirements.

Our approach is unchanged as we continue to deliver RSE through the Personal Development and the Science curriculum, taught by staff who know your children. The updated BMAT RSE Policy is available to view on our websites and a link is [here](#).

## **Stay Safe this Summer**



### **Keeping Children Safe This Summer**

As we head into the summer holidays, we encourage all families to continue talking to their children about staying safe, both online and out in the community.

#### **Remember to:**

- ✓ Know where your child is, who they are with and when they will be home.
- ✓ Talk regularly about social media, online gaming and staying safe online.
- ✓ Remind children never to share personal information or meet someone they only know online.
- ✓ Encourage safe choices around water, alcohol, vaping and drugs.
- ✓ Keep communication open and encourage your child to speak to a trusted adult if they are worried about themselves or a friend.

If you need advice or support, please visit Childline, NSPCC or CEOP. In an emergency, always call 999.

We wish all of our families a safe, happy and enjoyable summer and look forward to welcoming students back on Monday 7th September at 8.25am.

# Ready for September

 **First Day of Term**

**Monday 7th September**

**School starts: 8:25am**

**Uniform Pop-up Shop**

The Forest Academy Main Hall

- Monday 20 July | 11:00am–3:00pm
- Thursday 30 July | 11:00am–3:00pm
- Friday 14 August | 11:00am–3:00pm



## **Remember**

Full school uniform from the first day

- School blazer with The Forest Academy badge
- School tie and white shirt (or The Forest Academy summer polo shirt until October half-term)
- Plain black tailored trousers or a knee-length school skirt
- Plain black school shoes
- A school bag large enough for A4 books
- Essential equipment: black pen, pencil, ruler, eraser, scientific calculator and a reading book

Together Fostering Achievement