

Your free guide to everything that's happening at Harrow College! Winter 2010/11

the choice

You're Hired!

Apprentice winner Lee McQueen joins the Harrow College team

Plus: Enterprise Passport • Alumni • Careers • Events

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Enterprise Passport goes a step further in Tanzania

Harrow College's partnership with Mikumi Vocational College in Tanzania proves a great success as both colleges are set to work on a new project.

The project to date has seen a successful pilot of the Enterprise Passport – both at Harrow and at Mikumi Vocational Training Centre. The Enterprise Passport is a document that focuses on improving students' enterprise skills. Students will examine the skills, qualities and attributes that relate to enterprise and entrepreneurship both in the UK and Tanzania.

Tanzania's Vocational Education Training Authority (VETA) is now considering rolling this tool out for all its centres across Tanzania by 2011. Along with the Enterprise Passport the colleges will write together a good practice guide for teachers.



Harrow College staff had the opportunity to visit the Mikumi Centre in October and were praised by the top management team from VETA.

Commenting on the visit to Harrow College, Director General of VETA, Zebadiah S. Moshi said, 'we saw good facilities here like the learning centres and the careers department. The teaching methodology is also something we could learn from. We liked the idea that the teacher becomes more of a facilitator within a group as it enables students to think and help one another.'

The Mikumi executives, on a full day programme, also went to visit the Whitefriars Training Centre. The main purpose of the visit was to learn from the practices here in the UK as the team finds ways to improve areas such as teacher development, capacity building and curriculum development in their country.

Building further links with China

Harrow College discussed delivery of Higher National Diploma (HND) qualifications at a conference in Beijing.

The provision of a Higher National Diploma (HND) in China and the UK was the focus of the Municipality Conference held in November 2010 in the Chinese Capital.

The conference participants were from the consortium of the UK colleges and schools partnering with education institutions in China. The One Plus One HND package, means Chinese students would study one year of their course



in China and one year in the UK, a possibility that was explored between the two countries.

Helena Mills, English and EFL Curriculum Leader, says that the one week conference definitely strengthened our ties with the Chinese college, Shang Mao: 'visits to China have put us on the international education map. The Principal, Mr Zhang, even described Harrow College as his family. We were made to feel really welcome at Shang Mao. I take our visit as really positive for the College's international presence.'

Lee McQueen, Harrow College's Business Enterprise Ambassador

'If I can do it, you can do it,' Lee's message to Harrow College's students is loud and clear. Having come from a similar background - he was raised in Middlesex and worked in the Harrow area - Lee is very positive about the influence he can have on Harrow College students. Through the College's Enterprise and Employability project, Lee and his new Raw Talent organisation will aim to help young people realise their potential in the business world. The project forms a key component of the College's employability strategy.

'Lee McQueen is an ideal candidate for the role of Business Enterprise Ambassador as he has highly successful experience of working with people in business and more recently with younger adults in sales recruitment. Lee is someone who understands our learners thanks to his own experience and background. He will help them gain the employability skills needed to be competitive in today's world,' says Harrow College Principal Tony Medhurst.

'I'm passionate about giving my real life experience back to the College and its students. When you leave Further Education,



you need to understand the fundamentals of business, no matter what qualifications you do; it's about how we can influence Harrow College students to think about what they could do after they finish studying,' says Lee. Lee will be working with selected groups of students and their tutors. He will be providing motivational workshops for groups of young students in the coming months, with the aim of supporting the students to promote themselves to prospective employers and also for self employment opportunities.



From left: Tony Medhurst, Pat Carvalho, Mizla Manandhar, Lee McQueen

Mizla Manandhar, an A Level Media student who interviewed Lee for a video to promote the project is excited at the prospect of learning from this business guru. Mizla is truly inspired by Lee's work, 'It's really encouraging to know how he managed to turn his life around. It shows us all that it's up to us to improve our lives. With the kind of facilities and opportunities we have here at Harrow College, we can easily achieve our goals.'



Another student, Gentian Lee, is also looking forward to taking part in this project. Like Lee, he also studied a BTEC in IT and is now doing a BTEC Level 3 in Media. Gentian thinks it's a great opportunity for students like him, 'He's someone we look up to. I think getting students involved and motivating them on a one to one basis would keep them focused. I consider myself lucky to have this kind of education. It leads you to make something of yourself. I think it's going to keep lots of students focused and motivate them to work and succeed in future.'

Students participate in Maths challenges

AS and A Level Maths students succeed in the West London Senior Team Maths Challenge.

A team of four students from the two Further Maths groups took part in the West London heat of the Senior Team Maths Challenge. The four students who made up the team were Adam Batchelor, Sajan Dangol, Marek Kaminski and Lanping Ruan, although other students also contributed by joining in with practice sessions. The competition took place at Imperial College London and the activities included a cross number and a mathematical relay race. This is the third time that the College has entered this competition and we have always been placed in the upper half of the competing schools and colleges.

Some students also took part in the UK Senior Mathematical Challenge, which is an individual competition. It is a nationwide event, in the form of an exam paper, with interesting and unusual questions. Two students, Adam Batchelor and Godwin Christy - Dela, scored highly enough to be awarded silver certificates, and Said Ahmed was awarded a bronze certificate.



IOD Challenge

BTEC Year 2 National Diploma (Business) students submitted their business idea for the Enterprise Challenge Competition at the Institute of Directors (IOD) and were successful in making it to the finals.

Our students came up with an original business plan called Rent-a-look, a small on-line business devoted to hiring casual and formal outfits to young people aged 15 to 24. The students had worked very hard, often late into the evening, to ensure they addressed every aspect of their business. They were also aware of their competitors through conducting competitor analysis and had a number of suitable strategies for challenging the competition.

The students were then invited to meet the directors and present their business idea, in October, at the Enterprise Challenge Event at the exclusive IOD offices in Pall Mall. Lorraine Adepoju, Harrow College business lecturer said, 'they met with mentors and judges who literally grilled them on each aspect of their business and the students rose to the challenge. They were pleased to be amongst the 20 finalists, it also gave them the opportunity to meet with IOD directors and young entrepreneurs from a range of industries who had successfully turned their dreams into business realities.'

Students' observations from the trip were very positive. They commented 'you have to be determined if you want to succeed in the business world' and 'you can achieve anything if you put your mind to it'.



Alumni: Stephanie Hinden

Stephanie Hinden, a former part-time adult student, says that the Harrow College Dressmaking course was a key to her success.



A dressmaker, interior decorator and furniture designer - Stephanie has many titles under her belt. She uses all these qualities to run her new business that she says wouldn't have been possible without Harrow College. She became aware of Harrow College part time courses when her daughter Amanda started to come to a Learning Links course at the College. She joined various courses that included Dressmaking and Interior Decoration. Already an accomplished dressmaker, Stephanie says the courses made her more confident and knowledgeable about fabric and furnishing: 'The courses gave me the qualifications required in the real world. As soon as I completed my course in 2003, I designed my business card and distributed it everywhere. When I received the first phone call, it gave me a huge amount of confidence.'

A year later and with the much needed qualifications and the confidence that came with it, Stephanie decided to start a business with her husband, an IT manager: 'We thought we could blend our skills. We wanted to combine technology with creativity, so we started a company that focused on interior design and furnishing using computer technology. We also install audio visual equipment in both private houses and larger organisations.'

Now running for more than 5 years, the company is doing well and they have clients from all over London. Stephanie says: 'The College gave me the ability to take myself seriously, giving me a background in professionalism. The course allowed me to take small steps to improve my skills and take me to the next level. I also learnt how to research independently and now, I'm learning 3D Design technology by myself.'

Student Focus

A career in childcare can provide a great deal of satisfaction and with a growing need for well qualified and experienced child carers in the UK both Maddelena and Tanya are well placed to start their careers.



Royal Academy Musician swaps cello for children

Most of us would love to experience Maddelena's early career, but after practising and performing music for 12 years she swapped the cello for a career with children.

'I spent the last 12 years of my life practising music and did my MA in Solo Performist (Cello) at Royal Academy of Music. My life was concerts, practising from 7 to 10 hours a day with no birthdays or New Year celebrations for me. A musician's life is hard; you need to be technically perfect and it's very competitive.

'It is a solitary life spent practising on your own and there is very little interaction with other people.

There is pleasure in performing in front of other people but I guess I am not the kind to get a thrill out of showmanship. I actually missed the interaction and social connection you have in other jobs and that was driving me crazy.

'All those years, I knew I was missing something inside me and I realised my real vocation was to work with children, as I also teach music at a primary school. To study childcare was definitely a big step for me and it took months of decision making, but I haven't looked back.'



Passionate about childcare

For as long as she can remember Tanya Njeim has wanted to work with children.

'I love working with children and my dream is to teach.'

Tanya is attending the Childcare Level 3 programme having previously taken a Level 2 qualification at a different college. Tanya is delighted to be studying here as she says that Harrow College teachers and student services are much better in comparison.

She says, 'I'm working four days a week in a nursery and attending college for one day a week. The best experience is gaining practical knowledge alongside your lessons. College has helped me overcome difficult situations but it doesn't give you ready made answers to cope with unpredictable situations; it helps you think for yourself.'

'I have a very good bond with my teachers and learning is fun and sociable. I am taking this qualification as applying for jobs requires better and higher qualifications. I hope to be a primary school teacher in the future.'

College football team outshines the rest

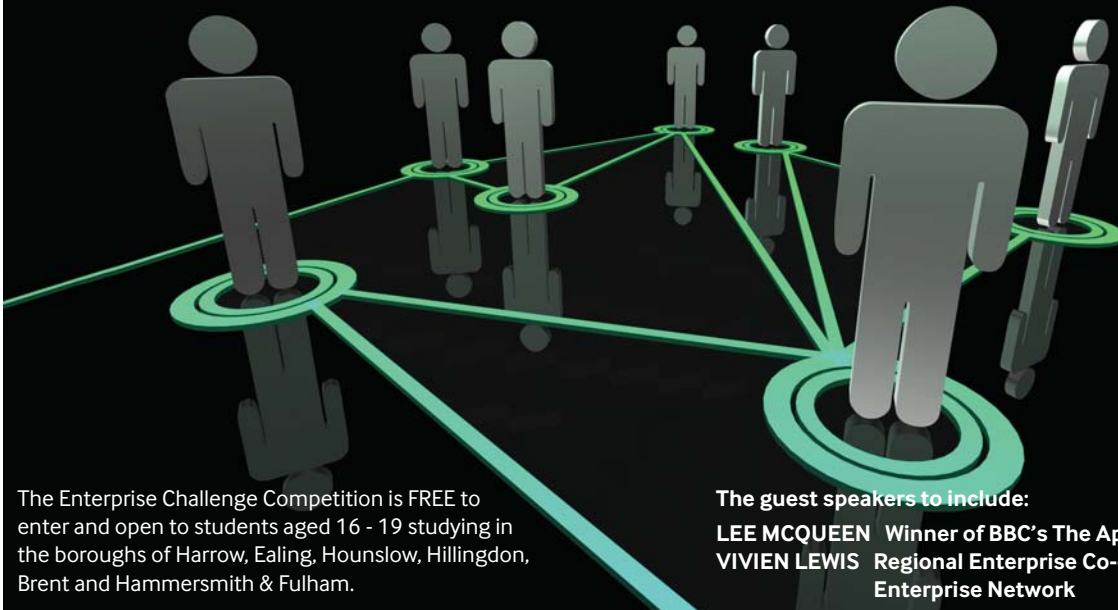
Outdoing other colleges in various matches, our football team is set to be the best.

This year, the team has shown excellent effort with eight successive victories over Christ's College, Greig City, West London Academy (twice), St Dominic's, East Barnet (twice) and Southgate College.

The team defined their sporting prowess with a 6-2 victory over Southgate College. The deadlock was broken early in the first half with a determined run from Stephen Bwanga. The continual passing and team ethics provided many more chances for the team to assert their dominance. Consequently, further goals from Ruben Vieira (2), Ali Abdallah, Stephen Bwanga and Yassin Fehmi - Gil, provided a clear indication of the potential of the Harrow College football team.



Inspiring enterprise challenge at a London venue TBC 9.30am - 4.00pm Wed 16th February 2011



The Enterprise Challenge Competition is FREE to enter and open to students aged 16 - 19 studying in the boroughs of Harrow, Ealing, Hounslow, Hillingdon, Brent and Hammersmith & Fulham.

The guest speakers to include:

LEE MCQUEEN Winner of BBC's The Apprentice
VIVIEN LEWIS Regional Enterprise Co-ordinator,
Enterprise Network

The theme of the competition is the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympics Games and the competition aims to develop student's enterprise and transferable skills and support them to develop their creativity and entrepreneurial ideas.

Students will participate in teams of 5 and a total of 30 teams will take part.

Student teams will engage in a series of enterprise tasks which will give them the opportunity to develop their enterprise ideas, the tasks will be judged and the top 6 teams will go through to the final at the end of the day.

To register a team or for more information email Mike Howley on mhowley@harrow.ac.uk by Friday 14th January 2011

The winning team will receive a trophy and £250 to start up there own enterprise

Enterprise Village
www.enterprisevillage.org.uk



New courses at Whitefriars Training Centre

With brand new facilities and resources we have exciting new courses for adults, starting in the New Year at Whitefriars Training Centre.

All workshops and other teaching areas have been carefully designed and fitted with equipment that reflect the very best of industry standards, creating an outstanding setting for people to begin learning a trade or to develop their professional skills. Teaching officers are certified trainers.

The Whitefriars Training Centre is located in a newly refurbished warehouse, on the **Whitefriars Trading Estate, Tudor Road, Wealdstone**. It incorporates the very latest facilities available for teaching plumbing and electrical trades.

Electrical

17th Edition Wiring Regulations C&G 2382-10

This qualification is intended primarily for qualified and practising electricians. It will ensure that you are familiar with the layout, content and use of the regulations.

Start dates: 12th Apr 2011

Duration: 12 weeks

Time: 6.30pm to 9pm

Energy Efficiency/Awareness

BPEC Level 3 Part L Energy Efficiency

The BPEC Part L Energy Efficiency qualification is primarily for the professional heating installer who works in domestic properties.

Start date: 16th Mar 2011

Duration: 1 Day

Time: 9am to 6pm

Plumbing

BPEC Water Regulations Training

This water regulations course is intended to help plumbers update their knowledge of the Water Supply (Water Fitting) Regulations 1999. It is intended primarily for practising plumbers who already have knowledge of hot and cold water systems.

Start dates: 9th Feb 2011, 30th Mar 2011

Duration: 1 Day

Time: 9am to 6pm

Renewable Energy Awareness

This course is aimed at those who wish to know more about existing and emerging renewable energy technologies.

Start dates: 2nd Feb 2011,
4th May 2011

Duration: 4 weeks

Time: 6.30pm to 9pm

Portable Appliance Testing C&G 2377

This course will make you competent to carry out Portable Appliance Testing on all types of non-fixed equipment.

Start dates: Sat 19th Feb 2011,
Sat 14th May 2011

Duration: 1 Day

College hosts an electrics employability event

Harrow College's Whitefriars Training Centre hosted an energy efficiency event with Schneider Electrics.

Two representatives from Schneider Electrics, a global electrics company, spoke to our students from Harrow Skills Centre and Whitefriars Training Centre. The students were particularly interested in the new lighting systems demonstrated by the Schneider staff. Schneider also kindly donated £2000 worth of electrical consumables for students to use at the Whitefriars Training Centre.

Duncan Barnes, Curriculum Leader for Whitefriars said: 'We had the opportunity to ask the local company representatives to

establish employability links and work placement links for our electrical students. A raffle was run throughout the evening with prizes donated from Harrow College & Schneider Electrics.'

The overall event was productive for both Harrow College & Schneider Electrics and Schneider are keen to support Harrow College by repeating the event next year.

Our students went away with an early Christmas present - a set of allen keys for their tool boxes.

Harrow College joins Career Academies UK



Career Academies UK

Working towards affiliation in 2010

employee volunteers contribute time and skills to the careers academy programme.

Career Academies UK is a not-for-profit organisation that adopts a model of bringing employers, schools and colleges together to raise student aspirations and to prepare 16-19 year olds for their futures. In the UK 3000

At Harrow College we are searching for employers to join our Local Advisory Board, mentor students, speak to groups of students and provide internship placements. Employers may offer different levels of support; some offer one volunteer for just a couple of hours a year, while others may embed the programme company-wide.

If you or your organisation is interested in finding out more we would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact Helen Sabonjian, Career Academy Coordinator on 020 8909 6393 hsabonjian@harrow.ac.uk. You can also find information on the Career Academies website at www.careeracademies.org.uk.

Coming soon: a brand new website for Serenity Salon

The College is launching a website for the Serenity Salon to promote the services that we offer to the local community. The new website will publicise any events, special offers or services that we have on offer. Our experienced Level 3 hairdressers and beauticians will be helping you transform your look. What's more, this summer, the hairdressing salon, based at Harrow on the Hill Campus, had a total makeover.

So come along and try us out. Hairdressing appointments are available.

Mondays:

09.45 am for all treatments
11.00 am for cut and blow dry
01.45 pm for all treatments
02.00 pm for cuts.

And on Wednesdays:

09.15 am for all services
11.00 am for cut and blow drying

As Deborah Hollingworth puts it; 'our experienced Level 3 students will be helping you get the perfect styling you need!'

Appointments can be made by phoning Serenity reception on ex 6550 Mon - Fri 9.30am - 4.30pm

Check out www.serenity.harrow.ac.uk

Dates for your diary

January

Spring term begins | **Tuesday 4th January 2011**

Parents evening for one year courses at HW | **Wednesday 12th January 2011**

Parents evening for one year courses at HH | **Thursday 13th January 2011**

February

Half term | **Monday 21st February – Friday 25th February 2011**

April

Spring term ends | **Saturday 9th April 2011**

Easter break | **Monday 11th April - Tuesday 26th April 2011**

Summer term begins | **Tuesday 26th April 2011**

Bank holiday | **Friday 29th April 2011**

May

Bank holiday | **Monday 2nd May 2011**

Higher education fairs | **Tuesday 3rd May - Friday 6th May 2011**

the choice

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