

Burlington Danes Academy Sixth Form's

**BDA**  
SIXTH FORM

# SIXTH SENSE

AN **ark** SCHOOL [www.burlingtondanes.org](http://www.burlingtondanes.org)

11<sup>th</sup> March 2014

## A golden year already for BDA athlete

In the very first edition of Sixth Sense, we reported on the recent success of a special BDA athlete who had just received a Jack Petchey award in recognition of her achievements.

Since then Lia Stephenson has continued on her path to sporting stardom, winning her first international call up having jumped to glory at the Indoor National Championships a week ago.

The U20s triple jumper, competing with athletes two years her senior, smashed her personal best with a leap of 12.52m – the fifth best distance recorded in UK history by an athlete her age – while securing a silver medal at the championships in Sheffield. She also picked up the award for best performer at the event.

As a result Lia was selected to represent England in a Welsh U20 International held in Cardiff on May 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. She went on to win the competition with yet another startling jump of 12.52m.

Lia is currently ranked first in London and second in



the UK, and hopes to attend the World Junior Championships in Eugene as part of the Great Britain team in the summer. Her major target this year is to jump 13.20m.

Supported by Track Academy, she has also been involved in a groundbreaking new scheme that sees young athletes studying during breaks in competition, under the guidance of a specialist tutor.

Track Academy say: "This unique combination of study and high quality performance with a squad of athletes whilst at a National Championships has never been achieved before."

Lia also secured first place at the South of England AA Indoor Championships in January and again at the London U20 and U23 Senior Games the same month. We can't wait to hear more!



**A former stockbroker and drug dealer, who wound up behind bars in the notorious Arizona prison system, has been speaking at BDA about his experiences.**

Business-graduate Shaun Attwood, who featured in the Banged Up Abroad episode 'Raving Arizona', moved to the U.S. in 1991 with plans to make it rich. He led a double life, trading both stocks and ecstasy, before his arrest in 2002.

In 2004 the millionaire broker was sentenced to nine and a half years for money laundering and drug offences, serving just fewer than six.

"When I was in the jail I saw the horrors of what drugs can do to people because 90% of the guys were shooting up heroin and crystal meth," Shaun said. "Some had aids, two thirds of them had hepatitis C, which is the one that kills you, and it made me ashamed of what I had done."

In jail he started the popular blog [Jon's Jail Journal](#) to share shocking true stories from the inside and raise awareness of prisoners' rights.

Since his release in 2007, he has written four books and made it his business to educate young people about the destructive power of drugs and the horrors of incarceration.



"I realised I couldn't change my past, but I resolved to go out and share my story with people in the hope they wouldn't make my mistakes."

In his talk at BDA, Shaun touched on drugs, violence, gang culture and cockroach-infested cells, offering a stark warning about the repercussions of crime.

Ms Hartnett, who organised the event, said: "The students really enjoyed the talk. Not only was it really positive in terms of promoting reading, but they came away with a greater understanding of the realities of prison and the consequences of drugs."

Comparing his previous life to his current occupation, Attwood said: "I wake up with a smile on my face. I don't have much materially but there are no dead rats in my food, there are no cockroaches crawling on me in my bed. You don't appreciate life until you have everything taken away from you."



**WOMEN'S RIGHTS TALK ON SOUTHBANK:** A group of Years 10 and 13 students headed to the South Bank on Tuesday to hear Secretary of State for Development Justine Greening speak about gender inequality issues both in the UK and around the world.

On invite from the British Council and accompanied by Miss Stone, Miss Carlidge and Miss Grainger, the group listened as Ms Greening and an expert panel addressed topics such as forced marriage, violence and FGM.

Sara Elkateep, Year 13, took up the opportunity to challenge the minister on the role of men in the process of reform.



## **NEW WEBSITE**

Burlington Danes Academy has launched a new, more dynamic and user-friendly website. Be sure to visit and explore the new site for a view inside our school.

[www.burlingtondanes.org](http://www.burlingtondanes.org)



# WORLD BOOK DAY AT BDA



With three weeks to go until the March Mocks and six weeks in the Academy before your actual AS exams begin you need to be preparing yourself. Have you missed lessons but not caught up on the notes? Are you attending all the intervention sessions that are being offered? Have you organised group revision session with classmates in your free periods?

With the upcoming exams, work experience and UCAS applications still to come you need to make sure you use the next few "stress free" weeks effectively.



The BDA House Competition took a step into the academic arena this week, testing the general knowledge of staff and students in the aptly difficult **House University Challenge**.

Hosted by Mr Preston, doing his best Jeremy Paxman impression, the quiz got off to competitive start. The Colossians, led by Ms Bridger, were looking particularly good, but it was the Romans who stormed into an early lead.

With passions running high and teams falling by the wayside as the rounds progressed, the Galatians, comprising Umar, Aham and Mr Lawrence, found themselves in a head to head with the Philippians team of Adekunle, Madena and Ms Williamson.

Despite a valiant effort from the latter, it was the Galatians who emerged victorious. Well done all on what was an impressive display of knowledge.

Full results were as follows: 1st – Galatians, 2nd – Philippians, 3rd – Colossians, 4th – Romans, 5th – Corinthians, 6th - Ephesians



Hello Year 13. With just a matter of weeks to go until your final exams it is vital you maintain the highest levels of commitment to your studies. You have worked hard these past two years and you are very much into the final phase of your A levels. To make the most use of our Monday afternoon and Wednesday morning exam practice, attend these sessions demonstrating your pro-activity.

I have provided lots of exam papers for you, but speak to your teachers about getting other exam papers. Your teachers are all very busy, but if you are polite and deserving, they will happily find the time to look over the work you have done. Thank you and have a nice week. Mr Fenn

# History of Art Club: Peter Blake

The most recent History of Art Club session saw Len Jack Suzuki deliver an interesting talk about English pop artist Peter Blake.

Best known for designing the famous album artwork for the Beatles' masterpiece, Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band, but with a diverse and expansive portfolio beyond this, Blake shot to stardom in the 1950s.

Len looked at how the artist's early work was influenced by popular culture at that time, and how figures like Elvis Presley, for better or worse, were burrowing into both a public and private consciousness. Len raised interesting questions about how Blake, as a bit of a fanboy himself, was affected personally and aesthetically by the rise of celebrity culture, and how he differed from his emerging pop art contemporaries.

Len also touched on form and national identity, and we were lucky enough to get a sneak peek at some of his own impressive work. Well done on an exceptionally well-prepared presentation.



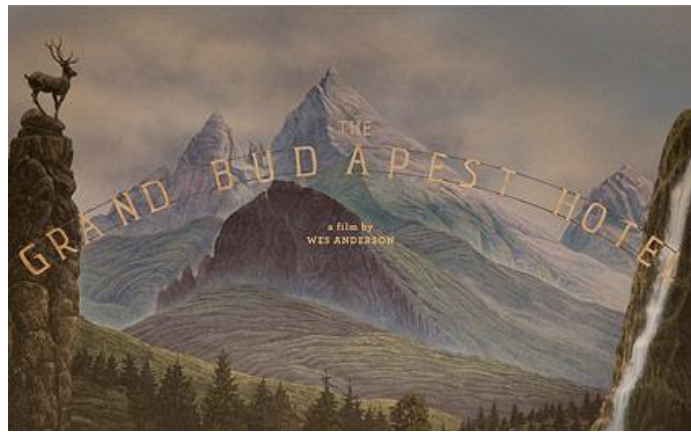
## THE GRAND BUDAPEST HOTEL

The Grand Budapest Hotel is the latest episode in Wes Anderson's absurd universe of crisp tones, distinct symmetry and razor-sharp wit. The master of quirk has taken his precise aesthetics and slick, pinpoint dialogue to the top of a central-European mountain, where a thriving pre-war world is hanging on the cusp of decline.

The film begins in the present day and descends quickly through 1985 and 1968 to 1932, via various modes of storytelling. It skips from a young girl reading in a cemetery to two brief glimpses at her book's writer, who is responsible for canonising the Grand's legacy. It's during said writer's sixties' visit to the decaying hotel that he stumbles upon a bizarre tale of love, art and murder.

Whilst relaxing in the thermal bathing room, the pleasant and inquisitive author meets the aged Zero Moustafa – current proprietor, former lobby boy and once trusted confidant of the famous concierge, Monsieur Gustave. Zero invites the intrigued guest to the sparse dining hall, where he relays the miraculous story of how he arrived at his current station.

A proud tourist hotspot in thirties Zubriowka – a fictional republic where a Nazi-like military presence is creeping into prominence – the spa resort is at its



peak. Playing host to the cream of society, the staff of the towering toy-like premises efficiently tend to each and every need of its high-class clientele.

Pulling the strings is Gustave H, a passionate servant and dedicated friend who is complicated by greed. About to inherit a priceless painting from an eighty-four-year-old friend – whose family vehemently refute the terms of the will – Gustave takes the promising Zero under his wing and embroils him in a spiralling journey of entrapment and espionage.

Anderson's films give off the strange impression that every scene is born in his mind just as it appears onscreen; it's as if he simply dreams the obscure narratives into existence, realising each idiosyncratic notion with unmistakable attention to detail. This latest venture is as delicious looking and richly textured as the luxurious deserts so finely crafted in Mendl's bakery by Zero's love interest.