

Burlington Danes Academy Sixth Form's



# SIXTH SENSE

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

18<sup>th</sup> March 2014

## BDA Sixth Form R.E. Day: The conflict in Syria

**Mr Whitlock:** On Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March we hosted our second RE Day with BDA Sixth Form. The morning began in the Potter Theatre with a presentation from the Home Office on the Syrian conflict, outlining the political context to the situation. This was followed by Anjum Khan, a representative of Cambridge University's Psychology Faculty, who outlined the theological context by looking at Peace and Fitna.

After this, students were split into two large groups, one acting as political stakeholders and the other as the community of stakeholders. These groups were then divided into four subgroups. Students took to the task of answering difficult questions on the crisis, relating it to the agenda they were given. Heated discussion and debate ensued in various groups and finally all students came together for a short presentation of each position.



Students showed just how ready they are for university life, being able to engage with a lecture and move on to seminar-based group work with presentations as an outcome. This understanding and perspective on a world issue is the kind of broad diversity students will be expected to employ in different contexts whatever their degree course.

## ARK BURSARY APPLICATIONS

Congratulations to those students who have successfully progressed through the first stage of the application process for ARK's bursary scheme.

They were chosen from a large and strong field of applicants from other ARK sixth forms and have been invited to attend interviews on the 25<sup>th</sup> of this month, with a chance of securing a significant sum to go towards their university living expenses.

They have all done very well to get through and we wish them the very best of luck for next week.

Well done Fred, Yvan, Almas, Adekunle, Adonay,



Zainab, Gianina, Lia, Giorgi, Jemma, Muna and Chantell.

# Uni Review: Brunel University London

Named after the revolutionary Victorian engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel, Brunel University lays claim to a little innovation of its own. Collaborating closely with successful businesses and key figures of industry, it boasts groundbreaking research in disciplines such as IT, public health, screen media and sustainability.

Known for an imaginative approach to education, it has climbed the university rankings in recent years and has a particularly strong reputation for engineering and design courses. Unlike most other London universities, its 15,000 students share a single campus, lending to a community spirit that is perhaps harder to come by in the capital than elsewhere.

Located just 20 minutes from Uxbridge town centre, the university, which has invested £250m in sporting facilities, social teaching and accommodation, is home to more than 2,500 international students from over 100 countries, contributing to a diverse and vibrant uni experience. And let's not forget, it's just a



short trip from the hustle and bustle of central London in one direction, with the quiet solace of the Home Counties in the other – the perfect balance.

## DAME SALLY VISITS DOWNING ST

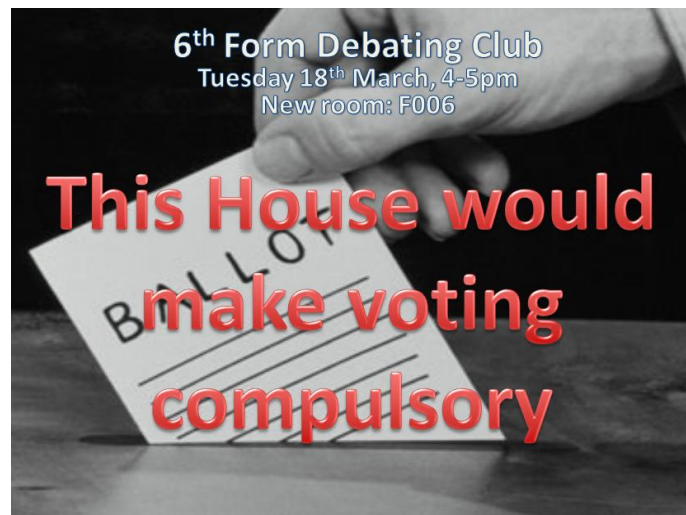


Dame Sally was among a party of inspirational women invited to a reception at Downing Street last week, in celebration of International Women's Day.

Part of a star-studded guest list, including Erin O'Conner, Helena Bonham-Carter, Cherie Blair, Joan Collins and Theresa May, Dame Sally had the chance to speak with Prime Minister David Cameron, who has famously heaped praise on Burlington Danes Academy.

Recognising the social, political and economic achievements of women worldwide, International Women's Day also shines a light on issues still in desperate need of attention.

The theme of this year's event was *inspiring change*.



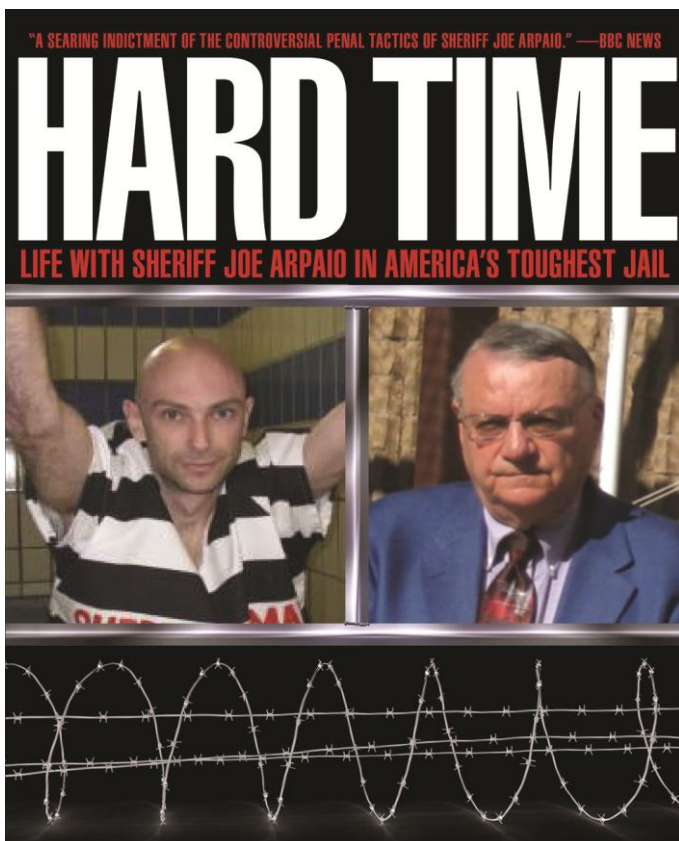
A new photography exhibition entitled Made In Wales opened on Friday night. This image by Gareth Phillips is one of a series exploring the Welsh word Hiraeth, which has no direct English translation.



# Library Review: Hard Time, by Shaun Attwood

**Ms Gardner:** Most of you got to hear Shaun Attwood's story when he came to BDA to talk during Book Week, so you should be familiar with his story. Parts of it were pretty gruesome, so a lot of you might think you've heard enough! However, if you really want to know more about what happened to Shaun, and the realities of life in prison, this book is a great way to find out.

There's so much more in this book than Shaun had time to talk about during his talk, whether you want to know more about something he mentioned, or want to find out about other things that he didn't have time to go into at all. He talks more about what happened leading up to his arrest, and how he was caught, and about what happened in 'the horseshoe', the holding place where people who have been arrested are kept before they're moved into the jail itself, where he found out the extent of his charges and the amount of bail he would have to pay. Once the story has moved to the jail, he goes into a lot more detail about what it was like there, and tells more stories about the other inmates and what had happened to them.



This book is not for the faint hearted, it's definitely aimed at adults, and touches on some very difficult subjects, but is well worth reading if you like well written, fast paced fiction that's rooted in reality.



**Mr Jennings:** As I explained in our assembly I applied to 72 schools to get a teaching placement and I heard back from 3! Luckily one of those (BDA) agreed to help me train me and here I am.

You need to be resilient whilst you are seeking out work experience placements. Prepare to be rejected, prepare to be ignored, prepare to write huge amounts of emails and make even more calls. The benefits of work experience are massive so keep going.

Remember: If at first you don't succeed, try and try and try again (or in my case try another 68 times).



## FILM FOR THE WEEKEND: THE SELFISH GIANT

Set in the corrupt fringes of a bleak industrial landscape, *The Selfish Giant* – loosely based on Oscar Wilde's short story of the same name – is an abrasively real drama following two young scrap collectors as they set about earning some fast cash.

Arbor, a young rogue with a mouth like a chainsaw, and his comparatively gentle best friend, Swifty, have been excluded from school and are keen to embark on a life of dangerous petit crime. Already on the social scrapheap, with families struggling deep below the poverty line, the boys' lives soon spiral out of control.

This is powerful British film-making at its honest best – Well worth watching if you can find the time. See Mr Cooke if you'd like to borrow a copy.

# NOTICES AND OPPORTUNITIES

See Mr Whitlock for more details



are you in year 12?

interested in social sciences?

thinking about going to university?

**LSE CHOICE**

Come and study at the world's leading dedicated social science institution

**Year 12 Summer School. Deadline:** Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March. See Mr Whitlock for details.



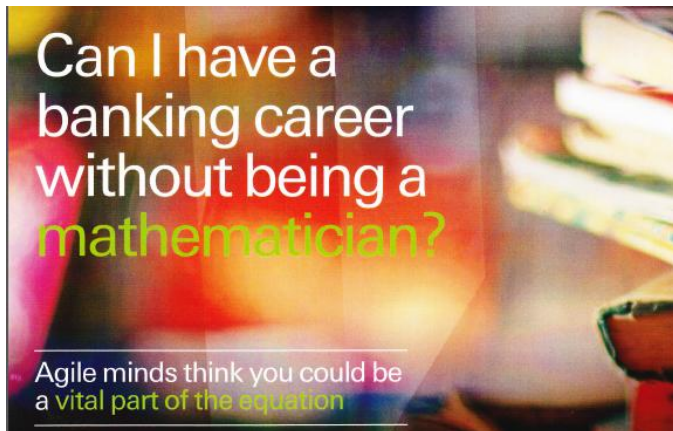
Nuffield Foundation

**Year 12 Research Placement. Deadline:** Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March. Experience Science in action during a 4-6 week Summer placement. Visit [www.nuffieldfoundation.org/nlp](http://www.nuffieldfoundation.org/nlp)



Bank of America

**Year 12/13 two days banking experience with BAML. Deadline:** Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March. Visit <http://www.purepotential.org/events/baml-banking-uncovered/>



Can I have a banking career without being a mathematician?

Agile minds think you could be a vital part of the equation

**Year 13 Summer Programme. Deadline:** Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March. See Mr Whitlock for details.



AIM FOR THE BEST

**JOB FAIR**

at the Wharf Rooms, Imperial Wharf, Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March, 11 – 4pm

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**Discover new opportunities at the Imperial Wharf Job Fair – 20<sup>th</sup> March 2014, 11-4pm.**

Please call 02074714444 for further details.

[www.imperialwharf.com/jobfair](http://www.imperialwharf.com/jobfair)