

MOULSFORD AWARDS – BACK AND EVEN BETTER!

New Platinum Award arrives as activities kick off once again

By George M, Daniel W and Oscar C

There is a real buzz around the school as boys dive into a fresh set of activities for the Moultsford Awards. As usual, pupils can participate in a wide range of tasks to work towards their award – Bronze for Years 3 and 4, Silver for Years 5 and 6, and Gold for Years 7 and 8.

However, the pinnacle of challenges has been set to test our senior students – the brand-new Platinum Award! To earn this prestigious honour, pupils must really move out of their comfort zone and excel in *all* activities undertaken.

There are five different areas of interest available to our boys: Adventure; Self-Development; Community Service; Performance and the Arts; and Healthy Living.

FLIPS AND TRICKS

Under the umbrella of 'Adventure', one of the available activities is Parkour. This is an extremely popular and well-attended club with over 15 participants challenging themselves to master ever more complex flips, tricks and jumps.

Parkour is an athletic training discipline in which practitioners attempt to get from point A to point B in the fastest and most efficient way possible, including flipping, running, climbing, swinging, vaulting, jumping, plyometrics or rolling – whatever is suitable for the given situation.

Year 7's Sebby Y is a big fan. He stated that, "It will improve my sporting abilities and my performances." He also said, "It's a fun activity that I can do with my friends." Jaxson M added that his favourite jump is, "the side flip because I get to spin and it's really cool."

Moving into Performance and the Arts, potential Drama scholars have been working this term to hone their acting skills with their mentor, Mr Edwards.

Mr Edwards stated that he loved having pupils in the room who are so passionate about acting and drama. The pupils are also glad to be taught by Mr Edwards; "Mr Edwards is my favourite actor because he teaches us," stated Toby, one of the budding performers.

CREATIVE FUN

In the same category, prospective Art scholars can polish their creative skills at Miss Cummings' Art extension group. To get into it, Max L claimed that, "you have to be selected by Miss Cummings as a skilled artist." He added that trying hard is also really important.

Luke D says that the point of it is, "to prepare people for art scholarships, and to give people extra time to work on their creations."

In the area of Healthy Living, pupils have been learning Mental Health First Aid with matron. Exploring mindfulness and wellness, the pupils

involved love the club, and it was stated by one pupil that he felt it helped both his mental health and learning.

KEEP MOULSFORD TIDY

In Community Service, the School Tidiness Warriors are on a mission to keep the school and classrooms tidy. They have a couple of top tips to help keep the classrooms tidy:

1. Tidy up as you go along
2. Be responsible with your stuff

Group member Gilby B added, "It's so sad to see a lot of rubbish in places that aren't regularly used as much as others."

Another popular club has been Table-Tennis in the Self-Development category, where pupils have been playing week by week in a round-robin tournament to try and secure ranking points and finish as highly as possible.

Mr Brown explained that all of the players have benefited from playing against well-matched opponents and have improved significantly in a competitive environment, but still had fun and played matches in the right spirit.

As long as the pupils continue to have fun, develop new skills and get a sense of achievement from what they do, the Moultsford Awards will remain an important and popular part of extra-curricular life at Moultsford.