

CAMPUS ROUND-UP



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Ex-Spurs captain Ledley King (front row, centre) with Waltham Forest College learners



CREATING
OPPORTUNITIES
THAT
CHANGE LIVES

HOT SPURS

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PRAISES FOOD COOKED BY LEARNERS
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RADICAL POET BENJAMIN ZEPHANIAH
TALKS POLITICS
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Tongues will be wagging...

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FINALIST



Welcome to CAMPUS ROUND-UP edition 29



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Hello, my name is Sam Hogbin and I am the guest editor for this week's edition of Campus

Round-Up digital magazine.

I am a 23-year old English and media studies graduate and recently completed an NCTJ diploma in journalism at Brighton Journalist Works.

This is my second week as a paid intern at FE Week and I have found the experience thoroughly insightful, giving me a good grasp of life working at a specialist newspaper.

During my time here I have chased-up press officers for information, uploaded articles to the FE Week website and Twitter page, helped compile news lists and plan the magazine.

The experience has made me realise that there is a limit to what an aspiring journalist can

learn in a classroom, compared to experiencing in a newsroom first-hand. Working as an intern helped me develop a number of practical reporting skills including interviewing, fact-checking, shorthand and concise and accurate writing.

Highlights of this edition include articles on Great British Bake Off competitor Chetna Makan praising food served to her by East Kent College students and London Mayor Boris Johnson officially opening a new £20m campus for Bexley College. We also covered poet and playwright Benjamin Zephaniah's visit to West Cheshire College and Black History Month celebrations at The College of North West London.

FE Week runs a paid internship scheme for journalism students.

Each of them are guest editors of Campus Round-Up for two working weeks, under the guidance of our training manager.

We are now accepting applications for the autumn term. Email paul.offord@feweek.co.uk for more details.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Mayor Boris officially opens £20m college campus

London Mayor Boris Johnson officially opened a new £20m campus for Bexley College.

The Tory politician unveiled a commemorative plaque before taking a tour of the new facilities including a media studio, ICT suites, hair and beauty training salons, gym and coffee shop.

The new teaching block in Erith, Kent, replaced the college's old campus in nearby Belvedere which opened in 1971 and closed over the summer. Around 3,000 students will be based at the site in Erith and an existing campus in Holly Hill.

Mr Johnson said: "This fantastic campus offers students state of the art facilities and practical qualifications and will no doubt deliver thousands of highly qualified graduates for the growing job market in the capital."

Principal Danny Ridgeway said: "I am delighted to be part of this exciting development and would like to thank the Mayor for officially opening the new building."



London Mayor Boris Johnson sharing a joke with level three photography students at the new campus

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EDITION 29

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Campus Round-Up is a sister publication of the weekly newspaper FE Week — the only newspaper dedicated to further education and skills.

FE Week offers a two-week paid internship for people who want to be journalists. Interns will be guest editors for two editions of the Campus Round-Up magazine, under the guidance of training manager Paul Offord. E-mail us at campus@feweek.co.uk to find out more.

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Footballer King meets students earning their 'Spurs'



Waltham Forest College principal Robin Jones and ex-Spurs captain Ledley King with students on the training programme

Former Premier League football club captain Ledley King scored with students during a visit to celebrate the third anniversary of a training partnership between Tottenham Hotspur and Waltham Forest College.

The club and college set up a programme three years ago,

combining study towards level one, two and three BTEC sport and coaching qualifications with football training, for 50 students at risk of drifting away from education and training after leaving school.

That programme has now trebled in size, with nearly 150 students registering from

September. Mr King, who played for Tottenham from 1999 to 2012, unveiled a plaque at the college to mark the anniversary and spoke with learners.

The former central defender, who won 21 caps for England, told them: "In my career I saw plenty of good players fall by the wayside because they did

not work hard enough. My advice would be to work hard and follow your dream."

Amy Lewington, aged 18, who is studying on the programme, said: "I was studying A-levels at school but it wasn't for me. I want to get into coaching and teaching and this course is brilliant."



From left: Student liaison officer Andrew Charlton, IT student James Bonsar, aged 17, and Police Community Support Officer Vicky Fearnley

Cycle security boost

Students tightened up on cycle security by having their bikes security-marked by visiting police community support officers (PCSOs).

More than 50 student pedal bikes were registered for the national scheme and branded with the police mark, a visible deterrent to bike thieves which makes it easy for officers to trace the rightful owners if they are stolen.

Andrew Charlton, a student liaison officer who organised the session, said: "We are very grateful to the PCSOs who came into college to deliver the bike marking service. There was a very good uptake from students and they were also given some useful information about the steps they can take to stop their bike being stolen."

South Cheshire College received a 'Smarter Ways to Travel' award in September, from Cheshire East Council and the South Cheshire Chamber of Commerce, for encouraging sustainable travel among its staff and students. There is a secure bike shelter on its campus and changing facilities for walkers and cyclists.

PCSO Vicky Fearnley, one of the officers who marked-up the bikes, said: "We had a good response from students. Hopefully the sessions have helped raise awareness across the college."

Bake Off Chetna's 'sweet' tweet praises college food

Great British Bake-Off contestant Chetna Makan took to Twitter to praise the "amazing" lunch served for her at East Kent College.

The fashion designer, who lives near the college, enjoyed a smoked salmon nicoise salad.

She then tried a selection of chocolate-based desserts, including profiterroles made with choux pastry which she baked on the show, at the college restaurant, which is open to the public.

After finishing her meal

Chetna, who came fourth in the BBC series judged by Mary Berry and Paul Hollywood, tweeted: "Amazing lunch today at @EastKentCollege!! Had a brilliant time!"

Natalie Stone, restaurant team leader, said: "The students were very excited about cooking for and serving Chetna. She was very happy to chat and have her picture taken with them after she had finished her food. It was really sweet of her to say nice things about the restaurant too on Twitter."



Chetna Makan (third from left) with learners in the college restaurant



Chetna Makan in the Great British Bake Off



Above: Paul Hollywood and Mary Berry



African dance theatre company ADANTA

African market for Black History Month

The College of North West London hosted an 'African market' to celebrate Black History Month.

Students watched a performance and drumming workshop by African dance and theatre company ADANTA and tried out jewellery and mask making, head wrapping and hair braiding. The learners also played traditional African board game mancala.

Level two applied science learner Najma Abdinoor, who comes from Somalia, said: "It's been great fun being involved with all these activities but the African drumming and dance were the best. It's so important

to celebrate our culture and Black History Month allows us the opportunity to share it with others from different backgrounds and cultures."

The college will also mark Black History Month, which ends on October 31, through workshops by African-Caribbean author and genealogist Paul Crooks and by screening Oscar-winning movie 12 Years a Slave about a free-born African-American man who was kidnapped and sold into slavery.

Principal Andy Cole said: "The UK is home to such a rich range of cultural influences and events like Black History Month are a way to help students get a glimpse of these."



From Left: Sister E from Catlabash Hub, who showed students African head ties, with learners Shanique Brown, aged 17, Tejae Brown, 16, Michelle Ayo, 17, and Najma Abdinoor, 16

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Award will help domestic violence survivor train to be a social worker



From left: Charlotte Davies and City of Bath College principal Matt Atkinson

A dyslexic single mum-of-two who suffered at the hands of an abusive ex-partner before returning to education to pursue her dream of becoming a social worker has won a £1,500 Helena Kennedy Foundation bursary, writes Paul Offord.

Big-hearted Charlotte Davies always feared she was “too stupid” to train to be a social worker.

The experiences of losing her five-month-old sister Nicolette in cot death when she was six years old and domestic violence as a younger woman left her with an instinctive urge to help others.

But the 31-year-old single mum-of-two wrongly assumed for many years that she was not intelligent enough to pursue her dream of becoming a social worker.

It was only after she plucked up the courage to enrol on an access to higher education diploma at City of Bath College in September 2013, which she completed in June, that she was diagnosed with dyslexia and realised that had been the cause of her

struggles with studying.

Charlotte has now started a BSc in social work at Wiltshire College and has been awarded £1,500 by the Helena Kennedy Foundation, which helps disadvantaged students who have overcome significant barriers to continue their education.

She said: “Losing my sister gave me a lot of empathy towards bereaved families. My parents responded positively by raising a lot of money for the National Cot Death Society. The help I received from social workers to escape domestic violence also inspired me.”

She added: “When I started at City of Bath College I had very little self-confidence and self-belief, but I’ve achieved things academically that I never even thought were possible.

“I was able to pass level two maths and level three English through the access to higher education course, which allowed me to apply for my degree. It also developed my academic skills, for example with research and essay writing.”

Charlotte was nominated for the award

by her Bath City College access to higher education tutor Larissa Perry.

Larissa said: “Charlotte has overcome significant personal and social barriers to restart her education. This is a young woman who has not only turned her own life around but also made it her mission to improve the lives of others.”

Charlotte started working as a care worker for the Action on Hearing Loss in her early 20s.

She helped launch a drama group for local people with special needs, through the charity in 2010, which she still volunteers for.

Charlotte and other local parents also launched a social group for children in her road in Bath, called The Chandler Rangers, in 2012.

She said: “We encourage the children to look after the environment and have respect for elderly people.

“They do gardening at the local community centre and recently won the Bath in Bloom award for creating the best communal garden.

“I also help run a social group for our local elderly people. Our overall aim is to bridge the gap between old and young people in our community. I want our elderly people to feel happy, not frightened, walking down the street if they pass young people.”

Charlotte is managing to balance studying three days a-week with caring for her children Kenzie, aged seven, and Honey, five, working part-time for Action on Hearing Loss and helping out with the community groups.

She said: “It is a tough juggling act but it’s working out well. My son was actually under-achieving in school but going to college helped me to help him more with his maths and English homework.

“He even won an end-of-year prize in June for making the best progress in his class.”

Dr Ann Limb, chair and founder for the Helena Kennedy Foundation, said: “We were delighted to offer Charlotte the bursary, as she is an intelligent, determined and resilient woman.”



Charlotte Davies with her classmates at City of Bath College



From left: Charlotte, aged six, with her sisters Juliette and Nicolette

Students talk politics with radical poet



From left: Clare Owens, college head of English for Speakers of Other Languages, Jacque Stainburn student adviser, Benjamin Zephaniah and students Peter Marnell, aged 20, Dominic John, 21, and Stephen Boyle, 16. Inset: Mr Zephaniah meeting Nelson Mandela

World-famous novelist, performance poet, playwright and political activist Benjamin Zephaniah spoke to students from West Cheshire College.

He talked about his new novel *Terror Kid*, which tells how a Romany boy called Rico fights back against injustices in the world, and took part in a current affairs debate with learners.

Extended diploma in performing arts student Stephen Boyle said: "I studied Benjamin's poetry for GCSE so I know a lot of his work. I love the way he expresses his views on everything. Even his funny poems have a serious message behind them."

The Birmingham-born writer gained international recognition through his 1982 album *Rasta*, which featured The Wailers' first recording since the death of Bob Marley and a tribute to Nelson Mandela.

Mr Zephaniah said: "I love political debates so I really enjoyed my time at the college. My advice to students is that everybody has the potential to be a writer as we all have our own individual stories we can tell people."

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Exclusively Education

ROUND-UP IN BRIEF

Book challenge bronze award

Walsall College has been awarded by the Reading Agency charity for encouraging more than 50 students to take part in its six-book challenge.

The scheme involves challenging people who do not normally enjoy reading to complete six books and write comments on them over an academic year.

The college was given a bronze award after 52 students took part in 2013/14.

Jodie Hewitt, assistant learning spaces manager, said: "The bar has been set. Hopefully we can achieve the silver award over the next year by getting more than 100 entries."

Environmental award winner

East Riding College was awarded at an Investors in the Environment Awards ceremony in York.

It was granted 'green status' for a second year running in recognition of its efforts to boost staff and student awareness of environmental issues, increase recycling and encourage car sharing for journeys to and from the college.

David Jackson, safety, health and environment manager, said: "We were very proud. We have clear environmental management and sustainability strategies to cut waste, increase recycling and educate both students and staff about reducing our environmental impact."

Ceramic poppies Great War tribute

Art and media students from Walford and North Shropshire College visited a First World War exhibition at the Cambrian Heritage Railways museum in preparation for a project that will involve them creating 53 ceramic poppies.

They will form an art installation in the college grounds representing 53 men from the Cambrian Railways Company who died in the conflict.

Kate Smallwood, art and design lecturer, said: "The project is a fantastic opportunity to get students involved in the commemorative celebration of the war's centenary year."



Left: Abbie Gartland. Above: Royal Albert Edward Infirmary hospital

Abbie writes work experience leaflet

An A-level student will have a work experience advice leaflet published on an NHS Trust website after impressing staff during her own placement at a Wigan hospital.

Abbie Gartland, aged 17, who hopes to study medicine at university after completing maths, biology and chemistry A-levels at Wigan-based Winstanley College, completed a week's work experience at Royal Albert Edward Infirmary hospital shadowing cardiac consultant Dr Sanjay Ayra.

She was asked for her views on the work experience application process during her placement and Dr Ayra was so impressed with her honest feedback that she

was asked to produce an online guide.

She said: "My work experience coordinator at Winstanley College helped me to find the placement at Wigan hospital but the application process was quite complicated. I explained this to Dr Ayra at the hospital and we decided it would be useful to have a guide summarising the process for applicants."

"I'm delighted the hospital is going to make use of my work."

The leaflet, which will soon be published on the by Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Trust website, also explains how students should present themselves for placements and what to expect.

