



## REPORT OF THE STATIONERS' GOVERNORS –Autumn Term 2015

We are pleased to report increasing engagement between SCWA and the Company, as we learn how best we can work together to achieve our key objective of being recognised by Ofsted as an 'Outstanding' academy and embed the digital curriculum, which is so central to our ambitions for improving the life outcomes for all our students.

In September we hosted the annual Prize Giving Evening for the first time and it was a delight to welcome successful students, parents and staff to our Hall. The Foundation sponsored a number of Book Tokens as tangible prizes for the students together with the James Wilkes Award for the student who had made the most outstanding contribution to academy life. The first winner of this award was Jasmine Chelali. It was a very moving occasion, presided over by the Master, and the venue was greatly appreciated by our guests.

SCWA participated in our presentation at the Lord Mayor's Show in November and in spite of poor weather, greatly enjoyed the experience showcasing our support for education.

In December we welcomed the Academy Gospel Choir as the entertainers at the Court Christmas Lunch, where their emotional singing and rhythm gave enormous pleasure.

Also in December SCWA was honoured by a visit of the Master and Baroness Neville-Rolfe DBE CMG, the UK Minister for Intellectual Property, Our students have been chosen to represent the views of young people in Europe at the UN Digital Media Content Conference, to be held in Geneva in April. Masterminded by Liveryman Kevin Fitzgerald and supported by the Master, the students have made a video on IP which will be presented to UN Ambassadors! A wonderful accolade.

In July 2016, our inspirational Principal, Michael Murphy, retires. We will be much engaged this term in the process of appointing his successor. The continuing success of SCWA is very dependent on finding someone of Michael's calibre to fill his shoes.

Specific matters of note are detailed below:

**1. Governance** At the Governors' meeting in November we welcomed to the governing body, Professor Linda Drew the Chief Executive of Ravensbourne, with whom we wish to work more closely in developing our digital curriculum, and Clive Efford, our local MP, who will help with our community links. We appointed further Stationers to serve as Associate Governors across all four school committees. They are Philip Walters, Charles Fillingham, Martin Randall, David Rosewell, Phillip Allan and Peter Allan. Kevin has attended a LAT Board and various other meetings concerning Trust matters. Sue also sits on the LAT Academic Standards Committee. Kit, Sue and Trevor, who each Chair one of the four 'Small School' committees, have made separate visits to their schools to increase their understanding, support the Heads of School and to monitor progress on improvement matters.

**2. Mentoring** This activity is highly valued by the staff and students and 32 Stationer mentors are now engaged with supporting students. Extra students will join the programme this coming term and

we have sufficient volunteers to meet this need. Thank you to all who volunteered and to Sir Jeremy Elwes for his management of this support.

**3. Curriculum Development** Two new subjects, Photography and Film Studies at GCSE level, were introduced in September. Equipment to support these subjects was provided by the Stationers' Foundation and the equipment is in daily use. We will progressively finalise the digital curriculum during the next six months, ready to roll out across the Academy in September 2016.

**4. Industry Links** Tony Mash as Chairman of the Industry Links Sub Committee is continuing to build the vitally important database of companies and individuals willing to offer their support for digital curriculum and career development. This work will be the key to our success in establishing a successful digital curriculum and in particular the Digital Media Centre. Plans are afoot to support a careers seminar in June to help the 14/15 year old students to decide on subjects at GCSE and A level. This is a great opportunity for our members to engage the attention of the students in selected subjects that could lead to careers in their trades, industries or professions. Please let Tony Mash know if you would like to participate.

Tony is supported in this work by Jani Levänen who arranged for four careers talks in the autumn term and is planning six in the coming term. There are each on a single industry or Company and if you would like to hold one for mutual benefit please contact Jani.

**5. New Digital Media Centre** It is a pleasure and delight to report that the necessary agreements with LAT (2 committees), G4S (on behalf of the PFI owners), the Governing Board and the vital support of the Foundation were all finally completed on 25 November. This will be financed by a £300,000 donation from the Foundation - money that has been raised by the generosity of our members and others.

Huge congratulations and thanks must go to Sue Pandit, supported by her committee, in piloting this through. The real work starts now in turning our plans into reality but with a fair wind we hope to be able to open the DMC on 4 July. Full use by SCWA will then take place from the beginning of the autumn term. We are looking for a key sponsor for the centre, or parts of it, who could have naming rights and become involved with its final creation.

**6. Academic Progress** There is little to report at this stage in the academic year except to say that our monitored results are on track for improved outcomes this July. A key target is to improve to 70% the number of students passing GCSE in 5 subjects including English and Maths from last year's 64%. The 2015 national figure for 5 GCSE passes, grades A\*- C, including English and Maths, is 56%.

Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to offer your help to support this fantastic school, either practically or financially, or perhaps even both?

Kevin Dewey  
Trevor Fenwick

Sue Pandit  
Kit van Tulleken

3 January 2016