

Committee(s) Education Board	Dated: 06/02/2023
Subject: Education, Cultural and Creative Learning and Skills Update	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	3, 8, 9 & 10
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N/A
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of: Director of Community and Children's Services	For Information
Report author(s): Vasima Patel, Events Officer	

Summary

1. This report updates Members on recent events and activities delivered across the three strategies overseen by the Education Board: Education, Cultural and Creative Learning, and Skills. A calendar of meetings, forums, and events for the 2022-23 academic year is included in **Appendix 1**.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Note the update on Autumn events and activities across the three strategy areas.
- Note the calendar of forums and events over the 2022-23 academic year in **Appendix 1**.

Main Report

Background

2. The Education Board has oversight of three strategies: Education, Cultural and Creative Learning, and Skills (2019-23).

Current Position

3. Harry Kane receiving Freedom of the City of London

On Thursday 26 January, England Captain Harry Kane was awarded the Freedom of the City of London at a special ceremony. Our Family of Schools were given the exciting opportunity to invite 2 pupils per school to attend the reception after the ceremony from 4-5pm in the Crypts at Guildhall. 6 schools took up the offer with 12 pupils in attendance.

Upcoming

4. Creative Poetry Translation Day

On Friday 3 February, in collaboration with Christ Hospital and the Stephen Spender Trust, Year 5 pupils from all over London are being invited to Guildhall for a Creative Poetry Translation Day. Pupils will have the opportunity to explore and experiment with both Ukrainian and French to create their own versions/translations of poems. The day will be run by Christ Hospital's Head of English, Stephen Walsh, plus translation specialists. The aims for the Year 5 pupils will be:

- To develop an understanding of how language and literature provide a window into other cultures.
- Raise the profile of community languages within schools
- Improve creative writing skills.

5. Franklin Lecture

The Chair of Education Board and Master Educator, Caroline Haines, has kindly invited Sixth Form pupils from within our Family of Schools to the 2023 Franklin Lecture, taking place on Thursday 9 February. It will be hosted by The Worshipful Company of Educators at Mansion House with distinguished guest speaker, Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli. He will use the Franklin Lecture to explore new technology challenges from neuroscience to the 'persistent' Metaverse. He will share his thoughts on where radical institutions could overcome 'the establishment' and, how the establishment could reform its own economics to deliver superior performance for society and its own benefit. Places for the pupils are fully funded where they can attend the lecture, followed by a drinks reception.

6. Maths Challenge

On Wednesday 1 March, in collaboration with Christ Hospital, Year 5 pupils from all over London are being invited to Guildhall for a morning of challenging maths. The young mathematicians will participate in different mathematical tasks gaining points as they go along. At each of the stations, they could be solving puzzles using calculators, pentominoes, playing cards, tangrams, dominoes. The final round brings all the mathematicians together where they are tasked with lateral thinking questions which brings the event to an exciting conclusion.

7. Chess Tournament

This year's annual Chess Tournament, in collaboration with Chess in Schools and Communities (CSC), will take place at Guildhall on Thursday 2 March. Primary, Secondary and Sixth Form schools from within our Family of Schools are invited to enter a team of up to 15 players. The tournament is aimed at those pupils who are new to competitive chess but have an enthusiasm to improve and play against new players.

CSC will kindly provide ChessKid accounts for each participant - an online platform that allows children to learn through instructional videos, interactive lessons, and by playing other children from across the world. The system is designed for use by children of KS2 and early KS3 and has many features to ensure online safety.

The morning of the event will consist of coaching sessions and other chess activities delivered by CSC tutors. The tournament will then kick off from midday where every

competitor will play six games of chess. There will be trophies for the schools with the highest team scores and medals for the pupils with the highest individual scores.

8. Commonwealth Day

To mark Commonwealth Day 2023, The Royal Commonwealth Society have very kindly offered the Family of Schools the opportunity to attend and take part in this prestigious event. To be held on Commonwealth Day, Monday 13 March 2023, the event at Westminster Abbey is the largest annual celebration of the Commonwealth in the UK. The event typically takes place in the presence of His Majesty The King, Head of the Commonwealth, Her Majesty The Queen Consort, Senior Members of the Royal Family, UK and Commonwealth political leaders and diplomatic representatives and hundreds of school children from throughout the UK.

Students will also be invited to take part in The Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition (QCEC) - the world's oldest international writing competition for schools which seeks to foster an empathetic and open-minded world view in the next generation of Commonwealth leaders. Each year, young people write on a theme that explores the Commonwealth's values and principles, with recent themes including the environment, inclusion, the role of youth leadership, and gender equality. Annually, winners travel to the United Kingdom for a week of educational and cultural activities, which culminates in a special Awards Ceremony, usually held at Buckingham Palace. Past winners have gone on to become prominent leaders, including the Prime Minister of Singapore, Mr Lee Hsien Loong, Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Mei Fong, and the renowned author, Elspeth Huxley. In 2023, the competition will launch during Commonwealth Week (w/c 13th March 2023) and will close at the end of June.

9. Wren 300 Project

To celebrate the 300th death anniversary of Sir Christopher Wren, a year-long project has been launched in collaboration with City of London Corporation, Diocese, City of London School and St Paul's Cathedral. This project will involve music, visual art and creative writing, bringing together pupils from across the City of London Family of Schools (and extended) to sing a new composition inspired by the wonder of Wren's architecture and his achievements. Pupils will also visit various inspirational and representative churches, logging their reactions in word, art papercuttings and attending singing workshops. Phase 1 of the project already took place on Wednesday 28 September where teachers were invited to St Stephen Walbrook church to officially launch the project and give them a flavour of what the students would experience during the project. Phase 2 will begin soon with full day workshop at St Stephen Walbrook & St James Garlickhythe on Monday 13 and 20 March. The participating schools will travel between both sites for a day of choir, poetry and art. Phase 3 will begin on Monday 19 June where all pupils will come back to St Stephen Walbrook church for a morning of singing rehearsals. This will be followed by a trip to St Paul's Cathedral where they will be given a fully guided tour of the prestigious venue. Students will also be given the opportunity to showcase their final artwork pieces at Barbican Library in July. Finally, Phase 4 will involve further rehearsals and a concert at Guildhall on Thursday 21 September.

16. The calendar of forums and events over the 2022-23 academic year is included in **Appendix 1**.

Options

N/A

Key Data

N/A

Corporate & Strategic Implications

N/A. This report is for information only.

Conclusion

Members of the Education Board have been updated on recent events and activities across their three strategy areas as well as upcoming events and activities over the 2022-23 academic year

Appendix 1 – Calendar of Forums and Events over the 2022-23 Academic Year**Vasima Patel****Events Officer**

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