

Committee(s) Education Board	Dated: 24/04/2023
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 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. Chess Tournament

This year's annual Chess Tournament, in collaboration with Chess in Schools and Communities (CSC), took place at Guildhall on Wednesday 8 March. Primary, Secondary and Sixth Form schools from within our Family of Schools were invited to enter a team of up to 15 players each. 10 schools, approximately 120 pupils, took up the offer. The morning of the event consisted of coaching sessions and other chess activities delivered by CSC tutors. The tournament then commenced from midday where every competitor played six games of chess. Trophies were awarded to the

highest scoring team and medals for the pupils with the highest individual scores were distributed.

The majority of pupils provided positive feedback that playing chess is a good use of their brain and it helps them with schoolwork. 100% said, if given the opportunity, they would return next year.

4. Wren 300 Project – Phase 1-2

To celebrate the 300th anniversary of the death of Sir Christopher Wren, a year-long project has been launched in collaboration with City of London Corporation, Diocese of London, City of London School and St Paul's Cathedral. This project involves music, visual art and creative writing, bringing together pupils from across the Family of Schools (and extended) to sing a new composition inspired by Wren's architecture and his achievements.

Phase 1 of the project 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 pupils would experience during the project. Phase 2 delivered with full day workshops at St Stephen Walbrook & St James Garlickhythe on Monday 13 and 20 March. 8 schools, approximately 200 pupils, travelled between both sites for sessions of singing as part of a choir, creating paper-cuttings of the Walbrook dome and writing poetry inspired by the Garlickhythe architecture.

The feedback from the pupils was they found the church architecture interesting and inspirational. They learn new facts about Sir Christopher Wren, enjoyed the workshops and would try to visit St Paul's Cathedral with their families.

Upcoming

5. Education Board Dinner

On Tuesday 9 May, the Chair of Education Board is hosting a dinner at Guildhall to celebrate the extraordinary achievements of educators and pupils across the City of London and beyond. Special arrangements have also been made to mark the coronation of King Charles III, including performances from schools and a coronation theme running through the dinner. Attendees include Members, Masters from relevant Livery Companies, cultural partners, academics, MPs, Headteachers, pupils and Chairs of Governors from the Family of Schools, and City staff.

6. Harry Kane receiving Freedom of the City of London

On Thursday 25 May, England Football Captain Harry Kane will be awarded the Freedom of the City of London at a special ceremony. Our Family of Schools will be given the opportunity to invite 2 pupils per school to attend the reception after the ceremony from 4-5pm in the Crypts at Guildhall to share in his celebration.

7. Wren 300 Project – Phase 3

Phase 3 will begin on Monday 19 June when 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.

8. 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

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