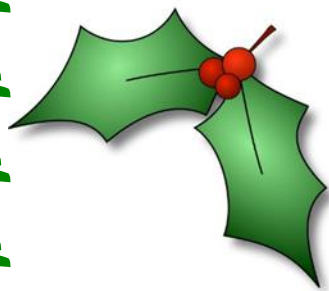


# **Blackfen School for Girls**

**December 2023**

## **Careers Newsletter**



All opportunities are available by registering on the link attached to each article. Please check the closing dates as some are within the next few days.

I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and I look forward to working with students in the New Year.

### **Careers Ambassadors**

We say goodbye to our current Careers Ambassadors this month and would like to thank them for their time as a Careers Ambassador.

**Ruby Purple 7, Year 8**

**Temilayo Yellow 2, Year 8**

**Blessing Yellow 5, Year 9**

**Blaise Purple 9, Year 10**

**Gabby Purple 9, Year 10**

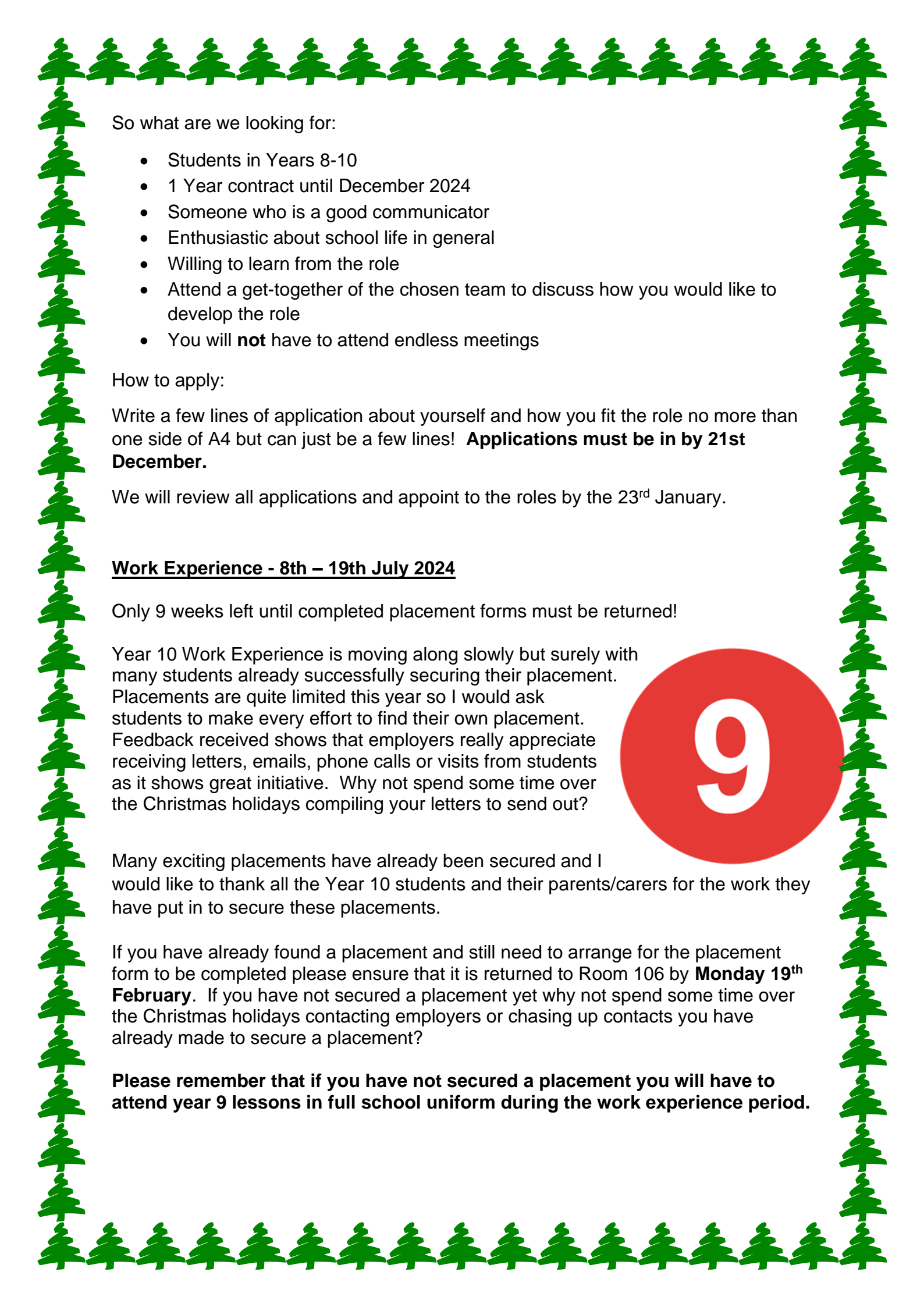
**Kiera Red 4, Year 10**

**Madiha Blue 1, Year 10**

We are now advertising for the Careers Ambassador role to begin from January 2024 – December 2024. If students are interested then please apply as follows:

### **Careers Ambassador Role**

- Unique Opportunity to become a Careers Ambassador
- We are looking for a team of Careers Ambassadors to promote and develop careers education and learning here at Blackfen
- It's a great achievement to be recognised in this role
- Fantastic opportunity to be involved and will added value to your C.V., Sixth Form application, part-time work and Uni applications
- Careers Education is very high profile at the moment and this gives you the opportunity to give your input and make change



So what are we looking for:

- Students in Years 8-10
- 1 Year contract until December 2024
- Someone who is a good communicator
- Enthusiastic about school life in general
- Willing to learn from the role
- Attend a get-together of the chosen team to discuss how you would like to develop the role
- You will **not** have to attend endless meetings

How to apply:

Write a few lines of application about yourself and how you fit the role no more than one side of A4 but can just be a few lines! **Applications must be in by 21st December.**

We will review all applications and appoint to the roles by the 23<sup>rd</sup> January.

### **Work Experience - 8th – 19th July 2024**

Only 9 weeks left until completed placement forms must be returned!

Year 10 Work Experience is moving along slowly but surely with many students already successfully securing their placement. Placements are quite limited this year so I would ask students to make every effort to find their own placement. Feedback received shows that employers really appreciate receiving letters, emails, phone calls or visits from students as it shows great initiative. Why not spend some time over the Christmas holidays compiling your letters to send out?

Many exciting placements have already been secured and I would like to thank all the Year 10 students and their parents/carers for the work they have put in to secure these placements.

If you have already found a placement and still need to arrange for the placement form to be completed please ensure that it is returned to Room 106 by **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February**. If you have not secured a placement yet why not spend some time over the Christmas holidays contacting employers or chasing up contacts you have already made to secure a placement?

**Please remember that if you have not secured a placement you will have to attend year 9 lessons in full school uniform during the work experience period.**



### Careers and Work Experience 2023

The 2023 Work Experience fortnight in July was a great success with students a credit to themselves and to Blackfen. I hope that the students found their Work Experience beneficial and can build upon the skills that they learned.

All students that complete Work Experience receive a certificate which is presented at an achievement assembly. It was a difficult decision deciding on whom to award prizes to for outstanding Work Experience as many of our students received excellent feedback from their employers. The following students that received excellent feedback in all employability areas such as problem solving, team working, communication, business awareness and self-management were awarded a commendation certificate and earned community points:

Ruby-Rose	Y9	Ray	Y8	Ruby	R5
Saniya	Y4	Aaliyah	P6		
Phoebe	R8	Kajana	B7		
Mia	G6	Isabel	G8		
Ellie	G3	Lacey	G9		
Jessica	P4	Ellie Rose	G7		
Millicent	R7	Aicha	Y9		
Millicent	Y3	Maya	Y5		
Amber	P1	Gabriela	G7		
Annie	R2	Mariya	B4		
Lok Hei Andrea	P5	Verity	Y1		
Mia	Y1	Lucy	B4		
Charanpreet	Y2	Sara	B1		
Lea	R1	Harleen	P8		
Emma	P2	Poppy	Y2		
Ava	Y1	Lily Rose	R6		
Ava	Y1	Meda	P7		
Gabriella	Y9	Sukran	Y4		
Millie	G6	Layla	Y9		
Lara	P6	Jessica	Y7		
Ruby	G7	Kimberley	B6		
Maiya	R2	Kimberley	B6		
Alexandra	Y2	Anna	B5		
Talia	R4	Maisie	G4		
Leila	R9	Paige	B1		
Phoebe	G9	Poppy	G6		
Ella	R9	Hope	B7		
Madison	P5	Amber	G1		
Holly	B2	Amy	P9		
Tianne	G5	Lacey	R6		



The standard of Work Experience feedback was extremely high this year but after careful consideration I am delighted to announce that the winner of outstanding completion of Work Experience was **Ava in Yellow 1**. Ava completed 2 separate one week placements as a journalist at a Press Agency and at a local primary school. During her placement at the Press Agency one of Ava's tasks was to write articles for national newspapers and she was lucky enough to have one of them published in a daily tabloid!

Ava received excellent feedback in all 13 areas of the employer's feedback form and comments included *'The staff lucky enough to work with Ava were bowled over at her efficiency, dedication and proactiveness, all staff were thoroughly impressed.'*

**Well done Ava!**

We also have three runners up awards this year; they are **Annie in Red 2, Kiera in Red 4 and Phoebe in Red 8**.

**Congratulations to them and well done all our students who completed their Work Experience!**



### **Year 9 Careers Interviews**

As part of the Year 9 KS4 options process all Year 9 students will be invited to attend a small group interview with Liz Wynn-Owen our Careers Advisor from CER Services.



These informal interviews will take place throughout January – March. It will be very beneficial for your child to attend their interview as it will give them the opportunity to discuss their future career options thus enabling them to make the right choices.

Your child was issued with the 'Year 9 preparation for Key Stage Course Selection booklet' during a community session in December. The booklet will help them to reflect and think through the selection process, with sections of the booklet to be completed together with your child. The booklet should be completed at home and community time and your child should bring it to their small group careers interview and their final Key Stage 4 course selection meeting with Blackfen School's Leadership Team on Wednesday 13th March.

The Key Stage 4 course selection is a guided process of which family support is essential and to ensure that your child has the best possible choice of training, study and employment at the end of Year 11 we ask you to take time with your child to complete pages 2-10 and page 21 of the booklet. Once you have completed these pages please sign to confirm on page 1 of the booklet.

**Save the date! Annual Careers Forum Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

We will be holding our Annual Careers Forum on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March from 4.30pm until 7.00pm. We would like to see as many students attend as we expect this evening to be interesting and informative with many representatives attending. Further details to follow.



More information on Careers and Work Experience, including the school Careers Policy, is available on the school website under Policies and Curriculum.



**The British Army: Apprenticeships & Scholarships**

This webinar provides valuable insights into the apprenticeship and scholarship opportunities available from the British Army. Come along to hear about how you can support young people in making informed decisions about their futures, helping them explore diverse pathways, gain financial assistance, and develop skills that will benefit their military career and beyond.

**On:** 16 January 2024 at 6.30 - 7.30 pm

**For:** Parents, Carers, Teachers and Careers Leaders

**[Sign up here!](#)**



# SEE WHO WE ARE AT MORGAN STANLEY.

EXPLORE THE OPPORTUNITIES.

WE ARE  
Morgan Stanley

## Step In, Step Up: Women's Insight to Banking February Programme

*This programme comprises of divisional overviews, panel sessions and interactive workshops. Participants will also have the opportunity to network with employees at all stages of their careers. Meet our inspiring individuals and discover your passion for Finance.*

**Who:** Year 12 & 13 Female Students

**Programme Dates:** 14th & 15th February 2024

**Location:** London Canary Wharf

**Deadline for applications:** Applications must be completed and submitted by 23:59pm on 7th January 2024

[Apply here](#)

## Medicine and Dentistry Lecture Series 2024

An exciting opportunity for students interested in studying medicine and dentistry. Applications for our **free, online,** and national [King's College London Medicine and Dentistry Lecture Series 2024](#) are now open!

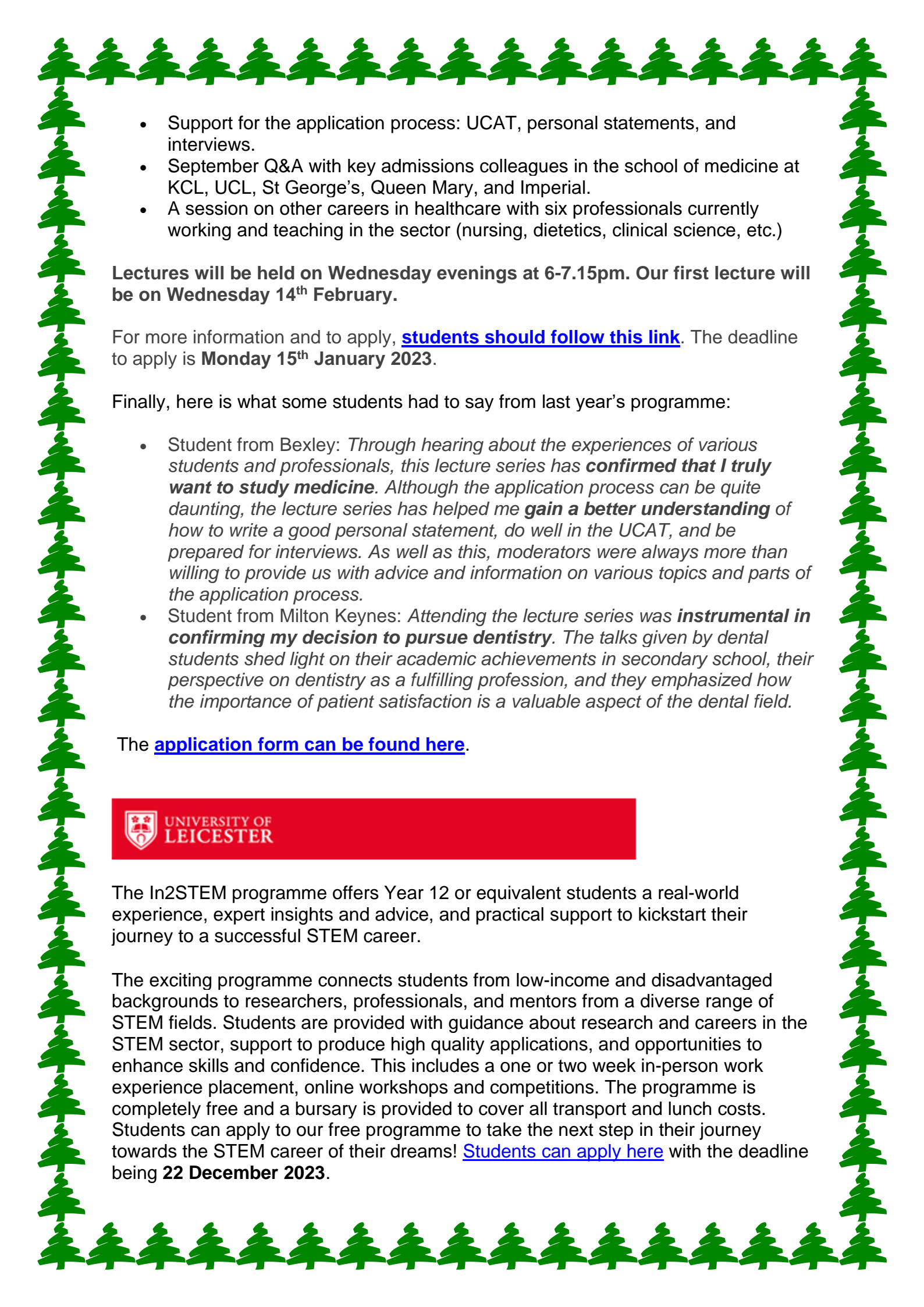


KING'S  
College  
LONDON

This programme is for students **across the UK** in **Year 11, 12, and 13**, who have only attended non-selective state schools since age 11 and are interested in becoming a **doctor** or **dentist**.

For over three years this online programme has supported students in accessing the hyper-competitive medical and dental degrees by acting as a **hub of support** for their questions and queries. Over the course of the lecture programme students will hear from a variety of speakers to help them make the best application to medicine or dentistry possible! Last year's lectures included the following:

- Medical and dental specialities: paediatrics, prosthodontics, renal transplant, maxillofacial and many more!
- Q&A's each week with current medical and dental students.

- 
- Support for the application process: UCAT, personal statements, and interviews.
  - September Q&A with key admissions colleagues in the school of medicine at KCL, UCL, St George's, Queen Mary, and Imperial.
  - A session on other careers in healthcare with six professionals currently working and teaching in the sector (nursing, dietetics, clinical science, etc.)

Lectures will be held on Wednesday evenings at 6-7.15pm. Our first lecture will be on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February.

For more information and to apply, [students should follow this link](#). The deadline to apply is **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023**.

Finally, here is what some students had to say from last year's programme:

- Student from Bexley: *Through hearing about the experiences of various students and professionals, this lecture series has **confirmed that I truly want to study medicine**. Although the application process can be quite daunting, the lecture series has helped me **gain a better understanding** of how to write a good personal statement, do well in the UCAT, and be prepared for interviews. As well as this, moderators were always more than willing to provide us with advice and information on various topics and parts of the application process.*
- Student from Milton Keynes: *Attending the lecture series was **instrumental in confirming my decision to pursue dentistry**. The talks given by dental students shed light on their academic achievements in secondary school, their perspective on dentistry as a fulfilling profession, and they emphasized how the importance of patient satisfaction is a valuable aspect of the dental field.*

The [application form can be found here](#).



The In2STEM programme offers Year 12 or equivalent students a real-world experience, expert insights and advice, and practical support to kickstart their journey to a successful STEM career.

The exciting programme connects students from low-income and disadvantaged backgrounds to researchers, professionals, and mentors from a diverse range of STEM fields. Students are provided with guidance about research and careers in the STEM sector, support to produce high quality applications, and opportunities to enhance skills and confidence. This includes a one or two week in-person work experience placement, online workshops and competitions. The programme is completely free and a bursary is provided to cover all transport and lunch costs. Students can apply to our free programme to take the next step in their journey towards the STEM career of their dreams! [Students can apply here](#) with the deadline being **22 December 2023**.