

Dr Ali, Plastic Surgeon, Challenges Perceptions

We were all really excited that a plastic surgeon was going to give us a talk, with most of us big fans of relevant TV programs such as Nip Tuck and Greys' Anatomy, or just interested to see what this 'high end' job was like and if she fitted the stereotypical 'ruthless' surgeon character. However Dr Rozina Ali gave us one of the most engaging talks, not just because of the "gross" pictures of some surgical procedures that she has done but because of the way she talked us through so many of her cases and the patients she has had to deal with as well as her daily life. She told us of the often misunderstood difference between cosmetic and plastic surgery, admitting that cosmetic surgery does bring her more money, yet she finds plastic surgery more gratifying, emphasising that both can greatly change peoples' lives, both physically and mentally.



It was inspiring to see someone so determined and ambitious about her career, knowing that she wanted to be a surgeon from a young age, and making sure that that happened. Even those non-medics were driven to fulfil their own ambitions after the talk. Her career path has been adventurous with her being able to travel the world and meet world class experts as well as celebrities, highlighting that surgery is more than just "cutting up people". If you want more information about her, her website www.rozinaali.com is very helpful and quite clearly presents the determined surgeon that she is.

Prina Shah, Year 12

Asian Society Highlights

Being Head of Asian Society at CLSG during the past year has been one of the most enjoyable and rewarding experiences for me at City. Asian Society held various events and regular meetings throughout the academic year and provided the school with the chance to experience a taste of the culture and festivities of the Asian world. The cultural assembly held in October gave us the opportunity to display to the rest of the school some of the key areas in South Asian culture such as fashion, film, food and music. Following the success of this assembly and the enthusiasm displayed by the rest of the school as well as their desire to participate in cultural events, a bake sale was organised on the 26th and 27th of November by Asian Society to raise funds for our chosen charity UNICEF South Asia. We also launched the "Asian Soc Film Club" screening a variety of films from "Bend it like Beckham" to "Jab We Met".



We were particularly keen to raise funds for UNICEF South Asia and due to popular demand an accessories sale was held on 28th and 29th April. Pashmina shawls, bracelets and earrings were just some of the products on sale and the pashmina shawls in particular proved to be popular with staff and students alike. Asian Society is so pleased to have been able to raise £250 from the events held this academic year for UNICEF South Asia.

The experiences I have gained through Asian Society, particularly over the last year as Head, are memories I will always treasure. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Miss Ispahani and the rest of the Asian Society Head Team for all their support and enthusiasm throughout the year.

Vidya Nathan, Year 13

Mental Illness Talk Year 10

When we entered the room, we were asked to walk around the room and take in the words on brightly coloured card scattered around. Words like 'mad' and 'crazy' caught our eyes. We sat down in a large circle and were asked what we thought all the words had in common. "They're derogatory terms for people with mental illness" one girl explained. Others looked around guiltily. We had all used the words at least once to describe someone or something else. The woman running the session told us all about many famous people who had suffered with mental health issues, raising horrified cries like, "No! Not Johnny Depp!". But then we heard some of the other visitors talk about how they had dealt with their own mental problems, and we settled down, and listened to the hardships they had endured. We were not apprehensive of the visitors in the least, but in awe of how much they had withstood. We were told about different mental illnesses and their effects. We were also given a small quiz about mental health in the UK, and we found out that public assumptions like 'mental patients may harm others' were very misleading. Someone with a mental health issue is more likely to hurt themselves. I am glad to say that I'm now thinking more before I speak and I am no longer ignorant on the issues of mental health.

Natasha Warby, Year 10