

Day 14 sees us half way through the Reach program (for the school groups and newbie supervisors like myself) and how time has flown!! Despite some stormy summer weather, today was another fun-filled (albeit soggy) day.

The students attended morning lessons followed by 'corridor lunch' - a weekly highly anticipated event whereby supervisors take their corridors to a restaurant of their choice for lunch! As supervisor of a school group rather than a corridor, I was lucky enough to join Gemma's corridor to Byron for a feast of (not so) skinny burgers and courgette fries (surprisingly tasty!). It was a great opportunity for me to get to know some of the individuals better.

Afternoon lessons for the biotechnology students involved an exciting practical during which they isolated green fluorescent proteins from the bacteria that produces them and looked at their findings under UV light in order to trace the proteins. Some students were very successful, seeing lots in their final solutions, some less so as is always the case with practical experiments but a prize goes to supervisor Billy for being the most enthusiastic participant!

Without a doubt, the highlight of today was the Charity Auction. Students had been collecting items from local businesses and shops and signing up throughout the week resulting in a huge variety of promises, gifts and services being auctioned off from staff and students alike. The auction was for the very worthwhile charity The Sabre Trust and a gigantic total in the region of £1,500 was raised. Highlights include lots such as a makeover of senior staff Lewis and Luke, a 'mocktail' making lesson, a staff 5-a-side football match, a fancy dress punting session and lessons in Bollywood dancing, songwriting and Hindu. We will update you on how they all turn out!

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