



BRS Newsletter

Love - Respect - Hope - Kindness - Resilience

September 2022

Headteacher's Introduction



It with the greatest sadness and deepest sorrow that I write to you today following the news that our Queen, Queen Elizabeth II has passed. I have been struck by the

overwhelming feeling of loss that this news has presented and share the feelings that I know many of you and your families will have.

Queen Elizabeth has been a reassuring constant throughout our lives. She ascended to the throne on the 6th February 1952 making her the longest reigning monarch in British history. Over the past 70 years Her Majesty has been dedicated to the service of our country and the Commonwealth, demonstrating an enormous sense of duty and commitment.

Her grace, loyalty and sense of duty will be discussed by future generations as an exemplar on how to live and will inspire leadership around the globe. She has led at all times with a quiet determination and selfless devotion and has been all that is the very best in us. She was a remarkable and inspirational monarch.

For all of the children and young people within our school we will be ensuring that resources are available for discussion and support in line with the government guidance. As a school our thoughts are very much with the Royal Family at this time, as the country comes together to pay tribute and remember our Queen, Queen Elizabeth II.

Upcoming Events

14.09.22	Y7 & Y11 School Photos
19.09.22	Bank Holiday - school will be closed for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II state funeral
22.09.22	Early Closure at 12.50pm for Year 6 Annual Open Evening 6pm-8pm
07.10.22	CAFOD Fast Day
20.10.22	Y7 Parents' Evening (VIRTUAL)
21.10.22	Y7 & Y11 Group School Photos
21.10.22	Last Day of Half Term
24.10.22	Half Term Holiday



NOTICE

Monday 19th September

Bank Holiday for the State Funeral of Queen Elizabeth II

School will be closed on
Monday 19th September.

This will be a bank holiday to coincide with Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's State Funeral.



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Headteacher's Introduction


I hope everyone had a safe, restful and enjoyable summer. It was really good to welcome all our students back on Wednesday and I am pleased to say that we have had a very positive first few days. I particularly enjoyed delivering assemblies on the first day, reminding students of how proud we are of all they have achieved so far on their BRS Journey and encouraging them to aim high and aspire to be the very best they can. We referenced inspirational figures both from history and across society and were also able to focus closer to home and celebrate all that Year 11 achieved in the summer, both individually and collectively, stressing how proud we are of their efforts. This is the start of my fourth year leading the school and I am as excited as ever about the opportunities the coming months will present. We talk at length about our commitment to John 10:10 and ensuring that all students have the opportunity to flourish, not just academically, but in their wider personal development.

As part of our ongoing commitment to pastoral care of the highest quality the next few pages of this newsletter includes:

- Information about each year group as well as some of what students can expect from the BRS Journey in each year group.
- Information about our wider pastoral team that is in place to support students.
- Information about who to contact if you have a concern you would like to discuss.

Our Curriculum—

No year is wasted at BRS and at each point, we believe students are undertaking a different aspect of their personal development. No two students' journeys will be the same. However, our students can share similar experiences and opportunities in order to shape who they are and what they believe. Throughout a student's time at school we provide them with opportunities to reflect upon who they are as a person, what their aspirations are, what they want to do and change and ensure they have all the skills to become the person they want to be.



BRS CURRICULUM JOURNEY

'Academic excellence, spiritual development and social awareness through Christ.'

Art & Design

Inspiring creative expression: through the development of Art techniques, skills & knowledge.

Art Textiles

Developing practical skills & knowledge, through the application of a range of textile techniques & concepts.

Computer Science

Giving students the opportunity to be part of the digital revolution.

English

Developing the ability to read & comprehend ideas presented in texts, as well as express their personal views & opinions effectively.

Design & Technology

Developing practical skills & an understanding of how products & materials can shape our environment.

Food Preparation & Nutrition

Developing life skills alongside a love for food & discovering the links to a healthy & fruitful life.

Performing Arts

Developing confident students who are able to express views through Music & Theatre performance.

Maths

Supporting students to develop fluency in the fundamentals of mathematics & prepare them for everyday life.

Character

Helping you to develop personally & socially, tackling many of the moral, social & cultural issues that are part of today's society.

History

Developing a knowledge-rich understanding of the past, to enable students to critique, analyse & evaluate the present.

Health & Social Care

Creating students who can make informed decisions about their lifestyle choices & the impact they have on health & wellbeing.

Geography

Developing citizens who are conscious of global issues & are able to interpret, analyse & evaluate the world around them.

French

Providing an opportunity to experience the francophone culture through different perspectives.

Physical Education

Developing practical skills, the motivation to improve them & learn how this benefits them to achieve a healthy & active lifestyle.

Religious Education

Providing you with a theological, moral, philosophical & ethical understanding of the world around you.

Science

Developing curious students who have a thirst to explore, question and investigate the world in which they live.

Spanish

Discovering hispanic culture & embedding the love of a world wide spoken language.

Reading to Succeed

Cultivating a love of reading, allowing students to explore a wide range of genres to help grow as individuals & scholars.

Lexia

Personalised literacy support for word study, grammar & comprehension. Progressing to Beyond Lexia to become a proficient reader with a love for reading.

Catholic Life

A community of love and hope providing you with opportunities to develop in virtue through prayer, worship & enrichment.

Our Themed Days

Motivational Monday
Challenge Tuesday
Wellness & Wednesday
Thoughtful Thursday
Feel Good Friday


Sutton Experience


Providing students with experiences & opportunities outside of the academic classroom


THE SUTTON EXPERIENCE


College Apprenticeship Sixth Form


A curriculum that prepares our students for a successful future

 Love

 Respect

 Hope

 Kindness

 Resilience



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SEPTEMBER 2022

Message from Mrs Wilson (Assistant Headteacher) Parental Support

We know that the rise in energy prices that are due this winter, will affect some families. As a school we are here to help and support. On our website we have a dedicated Parental Support section with links and information to the following:

- Free School Meals application & information
- Educational Support Fund Policy
- Information about local food banks

This link will take you straight to the page:

<https://www.robertsutton.srscmat.co.uk/parents/parental-support/>

If you would like to discuss your worries or concerns with a member of staff who will be able to point you in the right direction, please contact Laura Wilson (Assistant Headteacher) in confidence at: lwilson@brs.srscmat.co.uk

We would also advised parents to check if their child is eligible for Free School Meals: <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Educational-awards-benefits/FreeSchoolMeals/Apply-online.aspx>

Message from Mr Heath (Assistant Headteacher)

May I first take this opportunity to congratulate students upon their excellent return to school. On the whole, students' uniforms have been impeccable and I thank parents/carers for supporting us in ensuring the highest of expectations. A reminder to those students choosing to wear skirts, that they need to be of an appropriate length (to the knee or slightly above) and should be non-figure hugging.



Over the coming weeks, several opportunities will be granted to our students through The Sutton Experience. This will include the attendance of our extra-curricular activities and clubs, the timetable for which can be found below. As part of the enhancement of rewards, students will also have the opportunity to receive prizes through Sutton Experience Loyalty cards.

In addition to extra-curricular clubs, our Student Leadership programme will

begin next week. This programme is a fantastic opportunity for students to gain experience and skills in areas of leadership, that wouldn't ordinarily be covered within normal lessons. The leadership team's first task will be to support our annual school **Open Evening on Thursday 22nd September 2022, 6.00pm-8.00pm.**

Any students interested in helping out, please speak to Mr Heath or email: jheath@brs.srscmat.co.uk



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THE SUTTON EXPERIENCE

Monday THE SUTTON EXPERIENCE **Motivational Monday**

Lunchtime

- KS4 French Club AC
- Yr7 & Yr8 Book Club RA/SD
- Yr10 & Yr11 Further Maths AMD
- All Years Silent Study A105
- All Years Basketball Sports Hall
- All Years Dance Gym
- Yr 7, 8, & 9 Trampoline Gym

Tuesday THE SUTTON EXPERIENCE **Challenge Tuesday**

Lunchtime

- All Years Chess Club WG
- All Years Computing In A1
- All Years Work Experience JM
- All Years Silent Study A105
- Yr 10 & 11 Trampoline Gym
- All Years Dog Club HB

Afterschool

- All Years Drama Club AMD
- Yr7 - Yr10 Football SD
- PREP+plus
- LEXIA

Wednesday THE SUTTON EXPERIENCE **Wellness Wednesday**

Lunchtime

- All Years Craft Club DW
- All Years Careers Club Hair & Beauty
- All Years DT Club AB
- All Years Silent Study A105
- All Years Table Tennis JD

Afterschool

- DE All Years D of E HW
- All Years Boxercise JAS
- PREP+plus
- LEXIA
- Yr10 & Yr11 Netball Sports Hall

Thursday THE SUTTON EXPERIENCE **Thoughtful Thursday**

Lunchtime

- All Years Drama WH
- Yr9, 10, & 11 Book Club RA/SD
- Yr 7, 8 & 9 Netball EG
- All Years Silent Study A105

Afterschool

- All Years Science WOW Room
- GCSE Art Intervention HT
- PREP+plus
- LEXIA
- All Years Art Club JC
- All Years Debate Club AG

Friday THE SUTTON EXPERIENCE **Feel Good Friday**

Lunchtime

- All Years Board Games PLH
- All Years Silent Study A105
- All Years Dog Club JT
- All Years Multi Skills Gym

Afterschool

- PREP+plus
- LEXIA



01283 749450



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Message from Mrs Wilson (Assistant Headteacher)

lwilson@brs.srscmat.co.uk

As Assistant Headteacher, I have different roles linked to the support and wellbeing of students. I lead the Learning Support team to ensure all students with additional needs have the right support through interventions, reasonable adjustments and in lessons assistance, thus ensuring that all students regardless of need have access to a fully inclusive and high-quality education. We are also able to support students where further investigation or diagnosis is required, as well as working with external agencies.

At BRS we value the need to ensure that all students have access to emotional wellbeing support, as both part of their daily curriculum but also as additional support where needed. As part of my role, I work with the pastoral, teaching assistant and support teams to ensure that all students have access to a termly wellbeing conversation, as well as more in depth 6-week programmes of emotional wellbeing and mental health support. We are also lucky to work alongside the Mental Health Support Team for Schools which allows us to access external mental health support when required.

Along with my SEN and Wellbeing roles, I am also the Safeguarding Lead for the school. This comprises of ensuring that students are safeguarded throughout their time with us. The Safeguarding team support a number of students and families who require a range of different interventions, including support from external agencies.

If you have any concerns linked to safeguarding please use the dedicated email address:

safeguarding@brs.srscmat.co.uk

Message from the New

Curriculum Leader for English—

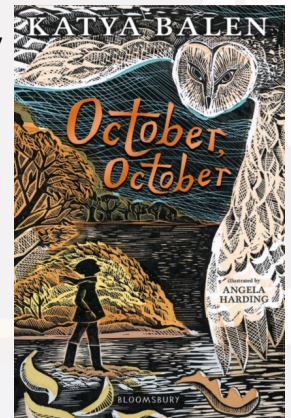
Mr M Ratchford



It has been an absolute delight to join the school during this time as it celebrates its most successful results. I would like to thank the students and the staff for making me feel very welcome and helping me to settle in. I am looking forward to getting to know the school and community better over the coming months.

As the nights are beginning to draw in, it is a perfect time to settle down with a good book. This term's recommended read is ***October, October* by Katya Balen**, winner of the Carnegie Medal 2022.

"October and her dad live in the woods. They know the trees and the rocks and the lake and stars like best friends. They live in the woods and they are wild. And that's the way it is. Until the year October turns eleven."



That's the year October rescues a baby owl. It's the year Dad falls out of the biggest tree in their woods. The year the woman who calls herself October's mother comes back. The year everything changes.

Written in Katya Balen's heart-stoppingly beautiful style, this book is a feast for the senses, filled with the woodsmoke smell of crisp autumn mornings and the sound of wellies squelching in river mud. And, as October fights to find the space to be wild in the whirling chaos of the world beyond the woods, it is also a feast for the soul."



01283 749450



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St Ralph
Sherwin
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

School News



To support your child on their journey through school they will have a Form Tutor and a Pastoral Year Team who will be there to support. On the following pages you will find information about your child's Form Tutor and Pastoral Team.

Introducing our Pastoral Team -

Message from Miss Meredith - Head of Year 7

kmeredith@brs.srscmat.co.uk

My role, alongside the Year 7 team, is to make sure your child is happy, settled and confident. Personally, I aim to ensure that every child enjoys their first year here, but also that their transition is as smooth as possible, meaning the start to their BRS Journey sets out the stepping stones for a successful path. As a pastoral team, we will help your child to feel secure and to make new friends within their class and across the year group. We will also guide your child and solve any problems they encounter. This is an important time in your child's life and we will strive to ensure it is positive and memorable. I teach History as well as my role in the Pastoral team



Celebrating success, cementing positive relationships and supporting our students in making good choices are priorities. After Christmas Year 9 will start the options process—selecting their GCSE choices ready for the start of Year 10.

Message from Miss Waters - Head of Year 10

ewaters@brs.srscmat.co.uk

I have loved getting to know our year group this year and I am thoroughly excited to see them progress in Year 10, they are all lovely young people and I can't wait to see their growth on their schooling journeys, they have already had such a successful Year 9! In particular I look forward to them discovering who they are as young people as well as their GCSEs and I will support them in making the right decisions.



Message from Miss Scott - Head of Year 11

jscott@brs.srscmat.co.uk

I am delighted to be taking the students through into Year 11 and continuing to see their development on the BRS Journey. Working together with the rest of the pastoral team, my role is to ensure that students have the sufficient amount of pastoral and academic support to achieve to the best of their ability in their GCSE exams.

The Year 11 Journey focuses around the idea of 'Next Steps' and the opportunities the students have following the completion of their GCSEs. The main message to students will be about the importance of working hard towards their GCSEs as this will provide them with the greatest range of opportunities following the completion of their GCSEs.

Across the academic year the students will have access to additional sessions, to help them revise or catch up with any missed work from Year 10. Students will also have the opportunity to have a careers appointment with our qualified Careers Advisor, in order to receive independent advice and guidance on their future options. Throughout the year students will have support with their applications for their chosen next steps from the Year 11 pastoral team. Year 11 will present its challenges, but the students will also have access to rewards for their efforts and hard



Message from Miss Harkin - Head of Year 8

pharkin@brs.srscmat.co.uk

My role next part will be supporting Year 8 to make the most out of the 'Opportunities' at BRS. This is the year where students step out of the persona of being 'the youngest' and begin to grow in confidence and become role models to new Year 7 students. Students continue to get to know their year team and permanent Form tutors that they will keep (in most cases) until the end of Year 11. Rewards will be a huge focus for Year 8 and students will be given lots of opportunity to be individually recognised. As well as Rewards, students in Year 8 will also be given further leadership opportunities around school, including opportunities to mentor younger students, taking part in the Student Leadership Team and leading Acts of Collective Worship.

Message from Mrs McDowall - Head of Year 9

amcdowall@brs.srscmat.co.uk

I am already immensely proud of this year group and am looking forward to continuing to watch the year group continue to grow, mature and be successful through Year 9.



School News



work. The Year 11 Prom will be a wonderful occasion where students can mark the end of their journey with a party looking extremely smart and glamorous!

I'm excited for the opportunities that Year 11 will bring to students and can't wait to see all their hard work rewarded through excellent GCSE results.

[Mrs Smith—Keyworker](#)

ssmith@brs.srscmat.co.uk

I have one of the best jobs in school. My role is to offer bespoke support to children who need it, this can be for a variety of reasons and can be short or long term. I am available every day in school for students and parents should they wish to speak with me. I work closely with all involved to remove any barriers that may prevent a student attending school and achieving their full potential.

[Mrs Rowe—Attendance Officer](#)

srowe@brs.srscmat.co.uk

I am the school's Attendance Officer. I am the first point of contact for discussing all things attendance and work closely with the rest of the pastoral team.

[Mrs Tarry —Pastoral Support](#)

ltarry@brs.srscmat.co.uk

My role is to support students on a day-to-day basis and keep communication with parents efficient and purposeful. I get to know both students and parents, as a first point of contact throughout the day and work closely with the wider pastoral network in school.

Who should I talk to if I have a concern?

All appointments must be pre-arranged as our staff have their own classes to teach and we are unable to meet parents who arrive in reception without prior notice.

General enquiries:

You can either

- Use the planner to communicate with your child's Form Tutor
- Email office@brs.srscmat.co.uk
- Phone 01283 749450, leaving a message (please leave your child's name and form group) We try really hard to reply within 24 working hours.

Attendance You can:

- Email attendance@brs.srscmat.co.uk
- Phone 01283 749466, leaving a message (please leave your child's name and form group)

If you are unhappy with the Year teams response, you can ask to speak to a member of the Senior Management Team:

- Mr Davies-Tagg (Associate Assistant Headteacher): Quality of Teaching and Learning
edaviestagg@brs.srscmat.co.uk
- Mr Heath (Assistant Headteacher): Behaviour and Attitudes / Pastoral Care
jheath@brs.srscmat.co.uk
- Mrs Langston (Associate Assistant Headteacher): Intervention
jangston@brs.srscmat.co.uk
- Mrs Milligan (Data Manager): Curriculum and Assessment
smilligan@brs.srscmat.co.uk
- Mrs Wilson (Assistant Headteacher): Safeguarding and Support
lwilson@brs.srscmat.co.uk



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