



BRS Newsletter

Love - Respect - Hope - Kindness - Resilience

February 2023

Headteacher's Introduction



Dear Parents and Carers

Earlier this half term we welcomed Ofsted into school. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and carers for their support and to let you know that your sons and daughters were an absolute credit to our school throughout the inspection, displaying the school values and a positive attitude to learning in all they did. I am extremely proud of the collective efforts of both staff and students and the way they represented our school during the inspection.

For information, the inspectors provided initial feedback to senior staff, governors and our CEO, but this has to remain confidential until the final report is published by Ofsted. We are expecting the report at some point after half term. Until then, we are not allowed to share likely outcomes with families. I very much look forward to sharing the full report and final judgements with families as soon as possible.

Finally, I would like to wish you and your families a restful break over half term. Thank you so much for your continued support.



Upcoming Events

17.02.23	SCHOOL CLOSED—INSET
27.02.23	SCHOOL CLOSED—INSET
09.03.23	Year 11 Parents' Evening (Virtual)
27.03.23	Year 10 Charity Week
31.03.23	Non-Uniform Day

Messages from our Year Leaders

Message from Head of Y7—Miss Meredith



I cannot believe it is now five months since you started your Blessed Robert Sutton Journey. All of you are now building in confidence and showing those key values that

we hold so dear as a school, such as Resilience, Hope, Love and Kindness. You must all remember that these are our core values here at Blessed Robert Sutton and you must use these values every day. If you are worried about anything, please inform me or your Form Tutor and we will help. We also had visitors in school this half term and you all showed these visitors what an amazing year group you are, and I am very proud of you all.

As half term is approaching, it is important that you check you still have everything you need for school and that you are ready to learn. Therefore, have a spring clean and check your pencil cases and uniform to see if any items need replacing. Remember if you need any help, please just ask. Have a lovely break.



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Message from Head of Y8—Miss Harkin

It has been wonderful to watch Year 8 develop in confidence over the last term.

They have produced some excellent practical work in D&T and have made some very tasty Pizzas in cookery also. They have also been amazing ambassadors for the school during our recent Ofsted visit. Their behaviour was a credit to their own sense of pride they have in the school and they were so enthusiastic in expressing their ideas and thoughts about life for them at BRS to the Ofsted team.

Year 8 remain actively engaged in our lunchtime clubs and have recently engaged with interviews for our new school Chaplain. They are looking forward to a well-deserved rest during half term.

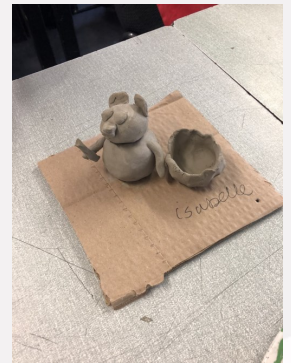
Message from Head of Y9—Mrs McDowall

Always my favourite part of the newsletter is to report who has been caught being kind. What is lovely is that mostly the students don't remember or are surprised that we have noticed. This must of course mean that they go around being lovely all of the time and don't even realise. This month I would like to say a special thanks to: **Toby B** and **Elizabeth S**. Thank you for being amazing students.

Equally one of the things I am often privileged to see is students that are not always as vocal as some of our mega confident students pulling off a great performance in Drama. This month I would like to nominate **Noah S**— great voice projection and brilliant representation of a rather annoyed teacher in the musical 'Everyone's talking about Jamie.' We are lucky enough to have a performance coming up on 17th March led and directed by one of our amazing Year 9 students, Ellie T. I look forward to seeing this and all the other Year 9 students who are involved.



Work wise on a wander round I found this little chap made by **Izzie Starmer**. I loved him straight away. She hadn't given him a name but I think we should call him Bert. Although I have to say it looks as though Bert means business.



To all our lovely Year 9 who are about to choose their options. Choose wisely, look at whether you need the subject for a future career choice, whether you enjoy it and whether you are good at it. Then you will have a very enjoyable future two years studying the subjects that you have picked.

Message from Head of Y10—Miss Waters

Well done Year 10, another successful term.

This term we saw our school go through the process of an Ofsted inspection and your behaviour and hard work have made me very proud. We have also had a visit from Nathan Dawe which saw a big buzz around school! You were the lucky year group who had the opportunity to listen to him speak and to understand what inspired him to become so successful.

As we enter the spring term, it gives us a chance to refresh and reset. While you spend half term at home, you might want to think about how to refresh your routine to make yourself more productive when completing homework. You might even want to start thinking about a plan for revision for subjects.

At school, it might mean thinking about subjects that you need to work harder in and put more focus in to in order to be successful in your GCSE's.



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Message from Head of Y10 (Continued)

As we move into the next term, it is important to remain focused and positive. Make sure you rest during half term and come back fresh and ready to work hard.



You must prune to bloom...
When you prune what's not
working in your life, you make
the space and place for renewal
to happen and for new growth
to spring forth.

Susan C. Young

Message from Head of Y11—Mrs Bannister

Since returning from the Christmas break Year 11 have had a positive attitude and have been working incredibly hard during their mock examinations.



Year 11 have engaged well with the exam routines and have been entering the hall impeccably, which leads the students in good stead for their GCSE exams in May.

I am incredibly proud of the year group as a collective and feel they have been incredibly supportive towards one another during this time.

As we continue with the lead up to exams, if you are worried about anything please do not hesitate to contact me directly, so as a school we can look to further support Year 11 during an important time in their school life.

"THE BEAUTIFUL THING ABOUT
LEARNING IS THAT NO ONE CAN
TAKE IT AWAY FROM YOU."

- B.B. King



Visit from Nathan Dawes (Mrs Bird)

Nathan spoke about his time here at Robert Sutton. Nathan did a lot of volunteer work as a DJ in town and on Hospital Radio before he got his big break

He went to Zante and DJ'd in a nightclub that he has now purchased. Nathan has opened a restaurant in Burton called Isabel's which he named this after his grandmother who passed away during COVID and sadly he was unable to visit her.

He presented us with a Gold disc and exclusive shirt. A truly inspirational young man. He is going to send his chef into school to the Cookery department to give a presentation.

Nathan works with Prince William and Kate as they are ambassadors for Aston Villa football club.



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Attendance (Mrs Rowe)

We are so pleased and proud to get the Attendance Certificate for being in the top 10% of similar FFT Secondary schools in England. A wonderful achievement for our students and their parents and carers.



Careers (Mrs McAulay)

It has been an exciting start to the year with the recent Year 9 options interviews. It has been great to get to know Year 9 and hear about their aspirations for the future.

Visitors this term to the school include Severn Trent to talk about careers and all things flushable.

John Taylor Free School came to talk to Year 10 about languages and their new Sixth Form.

Mr Joseph Bird an ex -student who is now flying high as a Pilot enthralled Year 9 with his inspirational stories.

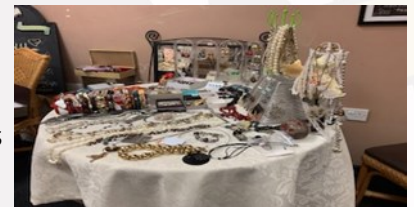
Local celebrity, Nathan Dawe (National DJ and Restaurant owner) was welcomed last week by Year 10.

This week Year 11 will be hearing from Keele University about how to make the right choices for Year 12.

Careers Clubs, including hair and beauty and Café Club, continue to thrive on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.



Students have also made their own little shop where they buy and sell jewellery items and accessories.



If anyone wishes to speak to me regarding careers please email:

jmcaulay@brs.srscmat.co.uk

Our Drama Group (Mrs Harper)

We meet every Thursday; promptly at lunch, We rehearse and perform, we are a lovely bunch! This term we have had the exciting opportunity to perform a play written by our lovely and talented member Ellie (Y9) who has written her own play 'Secrets in the Dark.'

It has been a great experience for Ellie to not only cast the play but also to direct.

I, as Drama coach, have seen Ellie develop her skills in all areas, whilst the play has evolved.

The performance evening on 17th March will be for family members to see what we, as a group, have been up to at all those late rehearsals after school.

Tickets will be on sale for £2 each, just to cover refreshments.



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In the Art Classroom

It has been an exciting start to 2023 in the BRS Art classrooms.

Year 9 have been transforming their creativity into 3D forms, exploring clay as a new media and learning the basic techniques of construction.



Inspired by their current project theme of 'Everyday Objects' students designed and

made some really imaginative and unique outcomes.

Our Year 10 and 11 Art students have continued producing impressive creations towards their Art GCSE.

Year 10 have shown great enthusiasm towards their new project theme 'The Body', photographing hearts and skulls and transforming them into beautiful paintings, drawings and photoshop responses.



From the PE Department

This term the PE department's focus is opportunities for all, in extracurricular clubs. We offer a variety of clubs that are open to all students. It is the perfect opportunity to get together to play and socialise with their friends.



A particular success has been our Multi Skills club on a Wednesday lunchtime for Year 7&8 girls.

The girls have been fully engaged in a variety of sessions, such as quidditch, bocchia, dance and parachute games.

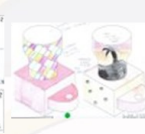
Cross Country Success

Congratulations to Haydn in Year 11 and Megan in Year 7 who were both selected to represent East Staffordshire in the County Cross Country Competition in February.

In the DT and Food Classroom

What an amazing start to 2023 in the DT and Food classrooms! Year 7 in DT have been developing their designing and communication skills to create solutions for their hoop games.

Year 7 in Food and Nutrition have been gaining a secure understanding of Food Hygiene and safety in the kitchen and started to develop practical skills such as use of the bridge and claw, weighing and measuring liquids and solids.



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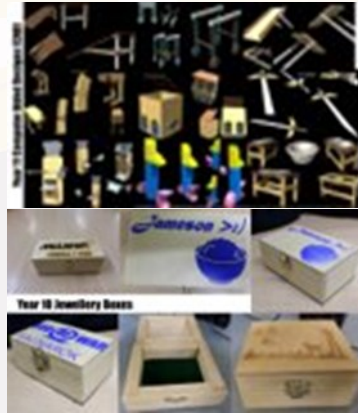
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In the DT and Food Classroom (Continued)

KS4 in DT – Year 10 have taken their base knowledge to a high level and investigated the appropriateness of materials and construction techniques while designing and making a product for a specific client.



Year 11 continue to produce high levels of NEA work to support their final GCSE.



KS4 in Food and Nutrition – Year 10 have been developing their knowledge Macro and Micronutrients in the diet,

their sources, function and know the effect of an excess or deficiency in the diet. For each key nutrient a dish has been made to develop skills and enable links to be made between nutrition and specific key ingredients whilst developing technically challenging dishes.



Year 11 continue to work hard on their NEA 2 planning, preparing and cooking a range of dishes suitable for specific needs.

In the Science Classroom

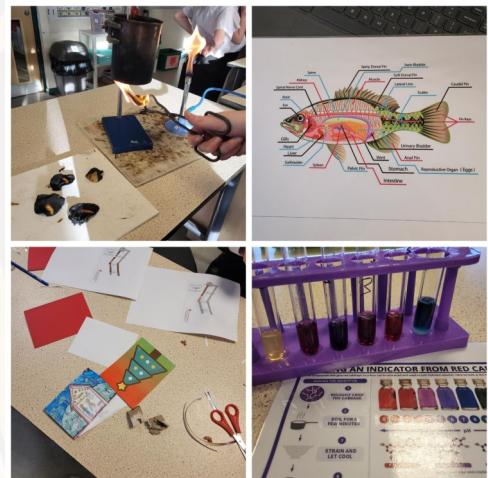
Science Wow Sessions

As part of The Sutton Experience, the Science department has been running fortnightly Science Wow session for students in Years 7 and 8. Students have had the chance to carry out some practicals that extend their learning of our Science curriculum.

Chemistry work has included making their own indicator (from red cabbage) and universal indicator, and testing them on substances with a known pH value.

Physics work has included making a simple circuit in a Christmas card so that it lights up.

Biology work has included dissecting fish heads to have a look at how the gills of a fish differ to the lungs of a mammal.



Students have been very enthusiastic for all the practicals, and they have been a wonderful group of students to work with. Arlen in Year 8 says "We combine the brains and wit of Science with the fun and crazy of our young minds. We have burnt things, wired circuits and even dissected creatures that we have been provided with!"

Science Wow takes a break while we support Year 11 with their exams, but will return later in the school year.



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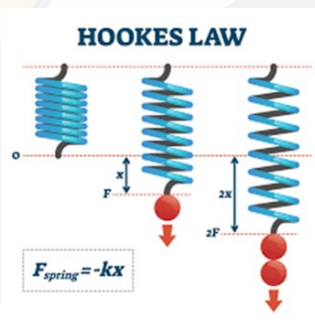
In the Science Classroom (Continued)

The departments KS4 clinic has been well attended by Year 11 students. The students have been working hard to cement previous knowledge. If you want to come along it is open to all Year 11 on a Thursday in B208. Year 11 have been focussing on their mock exams. In lessons the students are finishing the remaining bits of content then the lessons will focus on revision.

As a reminder, all Year 11 received a revision pack at the start of half term 2, containing a revision guide, checklists, workbook and key terminology lists. Students should be working through these resources and Century.



Year 10 are currently working on the second part of the year curriculum. The students are working toward a Paper 1 mock, which will take place at the end of year. The students have access to knowledge organisers for all the units which have been completed. They need to start to use these to help them revise for their mock exam. More details will follow.

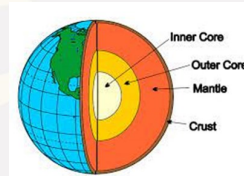


The students have been enjoying completing required practical's for Hooke's Law, specific heat capacity, making salt, insulation, endothermic & exothermic reactions.

It has been a pleasure to see them getting stuck in and enjoying the practical elements of the course.

Year 9 are working hard to bridge the gaps between KS3 and GCSE. The students are working on fundamental topics which they need a good grounding in to achieve at GCSE. They students are enjoying both theory and practical lessons.

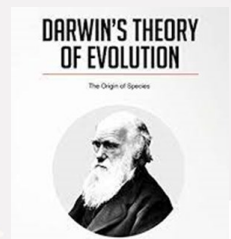
At KS3 the students continue to be challenged with a wide range of topics. Next half term students will be focusing on the Earth and Genetics.



In Year 7 the students will be looking at the structure of the Earth, rock cycle and the universe.

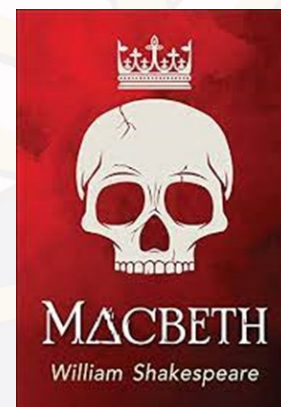
They will also be focussing on why we are all different despite all being humans, fertilisation and development stages of a foetus.

In Year 8 the students will be looking at the climate and the impact of human activity, they will also focus on Darwin and the theory of evolution.



We have been very pleased with the way that Year 7 have settled in to Science. They are certainly very keen to get involved and they love to complete the practical elements.

In the English Classroom



A warm greeting from the English Department. This half term has been a busy month for Year 11, who have now finished studying Shakespeare's Macbeth and completed two mock examinations.



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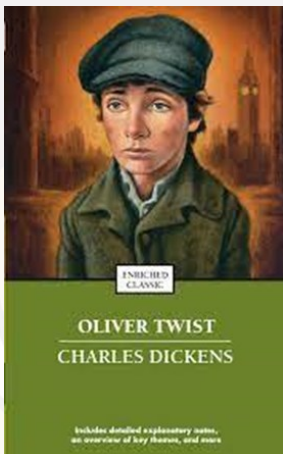
Year 11 should now be busy revising at home: they have all been given numerous revisions booklets and should be using Century.



THE BIG LENT WALK

BRS are getting ready to join the BIG LENT WALK to help fight Global poverty this Lent.

We will be launching the walk week commencing 27th February in school.



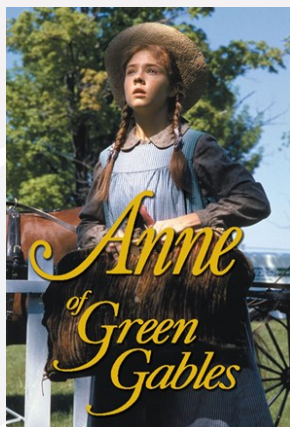
Year 10 have now completed studying their modern texts; Year 9 have now finished reading Dickens' Oliver Twist; Year 7 and 8 have just completed reading their modern novels.

After the holiday Year 7-10 will all be studying Shakespeare.

We hope to have exciting news coming regarding trips and other activities soon.

Recommended Read ...

Our recommended read this month is Anne of Green Gables by L.M. Montgomery which tells the tale of when Marilla Cuthbert's brother, Matthew, returns home to Green Gables with a chatty redheaded orphan girl, Marilla exclaims, "But we asked for a boy. We have no use for a girl." It's not long, though, before the Cuthberts can't imagine how they could ever do without young Anne of Green Gables.



Please don't miss out on any of the exciting things happening in school. Start following us on social media

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