



BRS Newsletter

Love - Respect - Hope - Kindness - Resilience

March 2023

Headteacher's Introduction



Dear Parents and Carers

Outstanding Ofsted Judgement

This half term we have been delighted to share the news with you that we have been judged by Ofsted to be an Outstanding school in all categories.

Inspectors said that pupils are extremely proud to be part of this "highly ambitious school" and that leaders have the highest expectations for pupils, who receive a "high quality" education.



The outcome of this inspection is testament to the efforts of our entire school community, especially the hard work and positive attitude of our students and the commitment and service of our staff team.

Given that the new inspection framework is much more rigorous and judgements harder to achieve, combined with the ongoing demands of the pandemic, it makes it even more pleasing that inspectors did not identify any areas for development.

Upcoming Events

18.04.23	Year 9 Booster Vaccinations
03.05.23	Year 8 HPV Vaccinations
04.05.23	Year 10 Exam Prep Evening-6pm
25.05.23	Parental Forum, 6pm-7pm

A copy of our full report can be read here - <https://www.robertsutton.srscmat.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2023/03/Ofsted-Report-2023-BRS.pdf>

Year 11

The Easter break is a very important time for our students in Year 11. It is important that students take the opportunity to rest and spend time with family and friends. However, this is an important period in which students should be revising ahead of their summer examinations. It is key that students find the right balance over this two week period. All students have been issued with revision checklists.

Return to School

We look forward to welcoming students back to our school community on Monday 17th April. Students will need to arrive in full school uniform ready for their morning roll call which starts at 8.25am.

Class Charts

Over the Easter break our Firefly site will be closing down. We will be launching our own Sutton VLE shortly. All parent/carer/pupil communication (including the setting of homework) will now take place through Class Charts.



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What is Class Charts?

Class Charts is a school management software system for teachers, students and parents/carers. Class Charts allow parents and students to:

- View achievements to celebrate the successes of your child
- View behaviours
- View detentions
- If your child is on report
- Attendance (including reporting an absence)
- Your Child's timetable
- Your child's classes
- Any 'Announcements' from the school (ie messages)

How do I access Class Charts?

There are two main ways that you can use Class Charts.

- Easiest and most convenient way is an App on either Android or Apple phones. Go to your store and search 'Class Charts'
- The second method is to login through www.classcharts.com

How do parents log-in to Class Charts?

You will have been sent a letter with a unique code to allow you to set up your account. If you have not received this, please contact the school and ask for your log in details.

How do students log-in to Class Charts?

Form tutors will have provided your son/daughter with a unique code to allow you to set up your account. If you have not received this, please ask for your form tutor for your log in details.

If you have any questions please do contact the school.

Finally

As always, thank you for all the hard work you are doing at home to continue to support your child. I wish you and your families a safe and happy break over the holiday period.

Easter Revision Sessions for Year 11



Monday 3rd April	10am—3pm	English
Tuesday 4th April	10am—3pm	PE
Tuesday 4th April	11am—1pm	Spanish
Tuesday 4th April	1pm—3pm	French
Wednesday 5th April	10am-12pm	Geography
Wednesday 5th April	10am—3pm	Art
Wednesday 5th April	12pm—2pm	History
Thursday 6th April	10am—3pm	Science

Follow us on Social Media

Please don't miss out on all the wonderful things that are happening at BRS!!!!



Blessed Robert Sutton
Catholic Voluntary Academy



@BRS_staffs



blessrobertsutton



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Messages from our Year Leaders

Message from Head of Y7—Miss Meredith



Well this term has been a very busy one. We got the amazing result from Ofsted that we are an Outstanding school! You showed the Ofsted inspectors that Robert Sutton is truly the best school in Burton, so well done !!

We also had two visitors into school. One talk from a visitor was about wheelchair rugby. I hope this talk inspired you to show resilience in everything you do, not only that but also to try a new sport like wheelchair rugby.

As we are now approaching the summer term, please make sure you bring your water bottles into school, so that you can stay hydrated. Enjoy the Easter break but don't eat too much chocolate!!

Message from Head of Y8 - Miss Harkin

Year 8 have had another action-packed term. Not only have they been busy excelling academically, but they have also been heavily involved in activities outside school where they have represented the school with pride and resilience. They have also actively participated in whole school assemblies and they continue volunteering to lead worship activities around the school.

They are looking forward to a well deserved break and their reward trip at the end of the year.

Message from Head of Y9—Mrs McDowall



I think we might be able to say tentatively that spring is here and I know we are all looking forward to some lighter evenings.

I would like to start with a few shout outs for Year 9 ... Kindness recognition: These pupils have been caught being kind to staff and/or their peers. A massive credit to themselves and their families: Patryk J and Aliyah W.

On 30th March one of our very talented performing artists has written a play which will be shown to the parents of the pupils performing. Ellie T has not only written the play but has also directed it too. A massive well done to Ellie.

On a lighter note, having run several dance workshops this week for the dance element of musical theatre that Year 9 are currently studying, I could not pass up the opportunity to comment on those students who definitely have a sense of rhythm.

Jak F	Deng A	Filip M
Max W	Keira B (brilliant)	Alfie S
Harriett W	Nadia W	Eva W
Edie S	Summer F	Sophie R
Noah S	Emilia K	

Finally, I would like to congratulate our top eight pupils in the year group in terms of achievement points. All of these pupils are so different and yet the one thing they have in common is that they are all lovely and try their hardest - clearly on their way to success. Fabulous role models for students to follow:

Harriett W	Harry W	Gabriella B	Evangelene P
Anna J	Alfie S	Jack F	Adam D

So, well done Year 9. Keep being kind as this is the most important thing and I wish you and you families a lovely Easter.



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Message from Head of Y10—Miss Waters



Happy Easter Year 10! What a fabulous term we have had at BRS. It is an absolute delight to say that you were all part of the amazing Ofsted inspection that saw us become an Outstanding school.

You should all be so proud of yourselves for the valuable contribution you make to our school on a daily basis and I am so glad that visitors get to see this.

Another thing that we have achieved this term is our successful charity week. Every Form worked so hard to come up with ideas to fundraise for the victims of the Turkish earthquake. You have shown that you are a generous and caring year group who put everything into helping others. I will let you know the final amount raised after the Easter holidays.

I have also spent a lot of time speaking with your subject teachers this term and hearing what fabulous results you are all achieving in your subjects. There have been so many really amazing results throughout the year group and that just goes to show the hard work and commitment that you all put in to your learning.

During these Easter holidays, make sure you take time to relax and spend time with friends and family. Enjoy eating lots of chocolate. Enjoy the spring sunshine (fingers crossed).

Some special shout outs for this term:

- Tom D and Daisy C for taking part in the Anti-Bullying Ambassador training.
- All the pupils who took part in the various sporting activities throughout the term.

Message from Head of Y11—Mrs Bannister



As we head into the Easter holidays, Year 11 have completed their final full term at Blessed Robert Sutton with only four weeks when they return before their first GCSE exam on Monday 15th May. Where has that time gone?

This half term we have seen the success of both the Parents' Evening and the Revision Shop, where all Year 11 students were provided with revision equipment and the resources to help them revise for their specific subjects. It is important that over the Easter holidays Year 11 are finding the right balance between resting and putting in the work ready for their exams. Revision over the Easter holidays will take the pressure off the students when they return and help with their confidence as they head into the summer exams.

It is imperative that Year 11 are attending school daily from now, until they finally leave Robert Sutton. Subject specialists are continually putting together targeted lessons and intervention in order for all of our students to thrive and flourish.

We have lots to celebrate with Year 11 and we will see the return of the Annual School Prom which will take place on Friday 30th June.

I am so proud of this year group and how far they have come and the support we have received from parents and carers too.

This is the final push now....



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Cashless Catering (Mrs Mills)



Thank you to all parents and students who have embraced the new Cashless Catering system, which helped the change over to run very smoothly.

If anyone is still having any issues or needs to discuss anything regarding the cashless catering, please contact me at:

cmills@brs.srscmat.co.uk

Careers (Mrs McAulay)



<https://careermap.co.uk/careermag-parents-carers-guardians/>

The National Citizen Service (NCS) came into school to present to Year 11 about their summer programme. With the choice of three residential opportunities.

This highly subsidised programme is only £95 but free to parents on benefits, free school meal students and pupil premium.

The following link will provide you with the presentation video:

[National Citizen Service | Ingeus](#)

Human Papillomavirus(HPV) Vaccination Programme – Dose 2

The School Age Immunisation Team will be visiting school to give the above vaccination, on **Tuesday 18th April 2023**

This vaccination will be the 2nd and final dose of HPV which you will have already completed an electronic consent form for this vaccination. However, should you not wish your child to receive this vaccination please contact the team on **0300 124 0366** to withdraw your consent.

If your young person has not already received the 1st dose of the HPV vaccine, and you now wish to give consent please contact the team on **0300 124 0366**.

Information regarding this vaccination can be found at –

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/nhs-vaccinations-and-when-to-have-them/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/hpv-vaccine-cervarix-gardasil-side-effects/>

If your young person has already received both doses of this immunisation via your G.P. or at one of our clinics then please contact us via the details above as it is not necessary for it to be given again.

Update to the Homework Policy (Mr Davies-Tagg)



From 17th April 2023, the Firefly VLE will no longer be used by the school for setting homework.



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Update to the Homework Policy (Continued)

Homework setting will remain the same and departments will continue to set homework on their relevant apps e.g. Pearsons, Dr Frost and Century where required. Some departments will be using Microsoft Teams in conjunction with Class Charts to set relevant assignments or quizzes. Pupils can access Microsoft Teams through their Office 365 accounts.

Homework remains one of the most impactful methods of supporting your child's progress. Sanctions for not completing homework will remain the same. If your child fails to complete the homework after an initial extension provided by the class teacher, they will complete an afterschool intervention session in Prep+. Any repeated offences will be given an afterschool.

Thank you for your ongoing support in ensuring that your child continues to know and remember more and make consistent progress.

Attendance (Mrs Rowe)

I would like to extend my thanks to all our parents/carers who have supported their children with coming into school regularly and in particular all of the lovely parents that I have met on either a Parent's Evening or the Attendance Clinics.



Attendance at BRS is consistently higher than many other schools. This means that your children can access all of their learning and get the most benefit from their classes. This, as we can see in the recent Ofsted report, shows that our students enjoy coming to school, building positive relationships with their peers and can ultimately achieve their full potential when they reach their exam stage in year 11. If you do have any concerns about your child's attendance, I can always be contacted by emailing attendance@brs.srscmat or telephone. I wish you all a happy and healthy Easter break.

Easter Fun! Free #HolidayActivities and Food (HAF)!

Keep your children entertained over the Easter holidays with #HAF2023



There will be lots of different holiday clubs offering Easter themed activities. Plus, the favourites including dodgeball, cooking, horse-riding, dance, football, swimming, bushcraft and lots more!!

They'll get a chance to socialise, have fun and be fed a healthy meal!

- ♦ FREE for eligible children aged 5-16 years in receipt of benefits related free school meals.
- ♦ Eligible children will get a code to register.
- ♦ Registration opens at 4pm on 17th March 2023.

Find out more on the Staffordshire County Council website:

bit.ly/3f1O7Hd



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In the English Classroom

Happy Easter from the English Department

Year 11 are now just weeks away from their first examinations. English Literature is early this year, with both Literature exams in the Pentecost Term. Students should be revising each day using either their revision ready class books, Century or the revision booklets provided.

Exam Dates

English Literature

17th May—Macbeth and Jekyll and Hyde

24th May—Modern text and Poetry

English Language

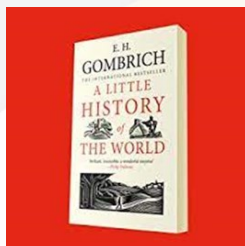
5th June—Paper One

12th June—Paper Two

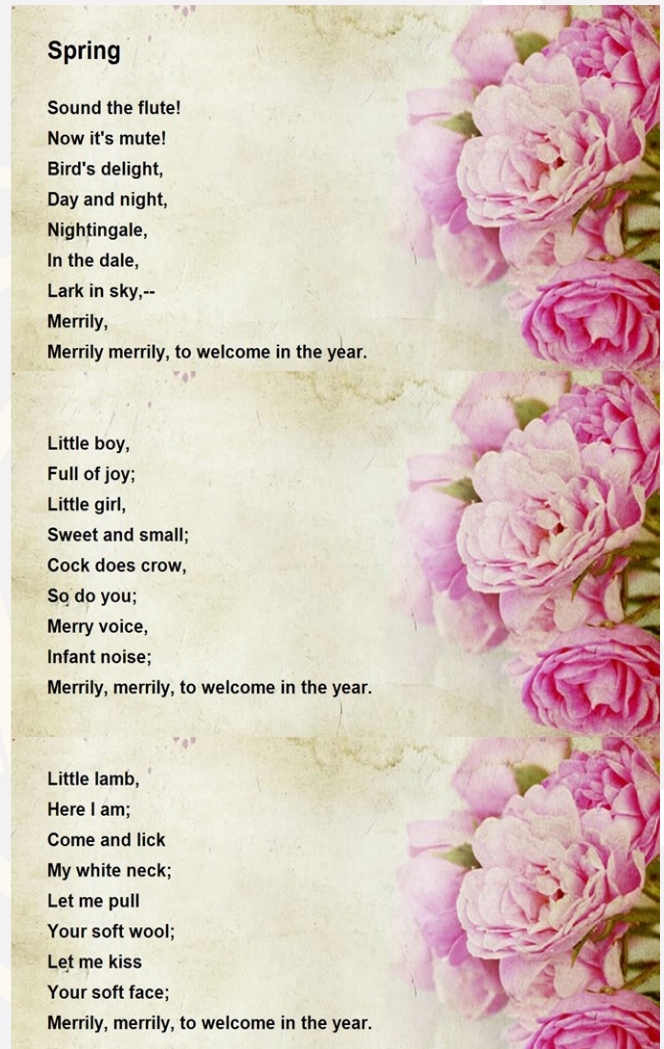
We are currently teaching Shakespeare across all year groups: Year 7 are studying *The Tempest*, Year 8 *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Year 9 *Much Ado About Nothing* and Year 10 are studying *Macbeth* for their GCSEs. It is so lovely to see our students engaged in these timeless plays and taking on characters to read and perform. Students can deepen their understanding of these plays by watching lots of different performances of them; there are many available online.

Book Recommendation by Mr Ratchford
A little History of the World by E.H. Gombrich

I had the pleasure to recently revisit this classic non-fiction text, and thoroughly enjoyed it. It is an ideal book for KS3 students to read and to widen their understanding of global history and their cultural capital. Highly recommended!



As Spring has finally arrived, here is a classic poem from William Blake to celebrate its return. William Blake is a key English poet that we study.



In the DT and Food Classroom

What an amazing half term it has been in school and the DT and Food classrooms!

Year 8 have been developing their designing and making skills in producing a sweet dispenser. The basic form of the dispenser were very similar and that's how the pupils have had to focus on their clients' needs and then personalise it in the design for them.



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In the DT and Food Classroom (Continued)

Y9 Pupils have been fully developing their designing skills, so that they can produce a pop-up book. They needed to make it a client focussed product aimed at 4-5 year olds, so that the products promotes reading. In the making section they developed their card engineering skills to allow for a variety of movements to be achieved.



Year 8 in Food and Nutrition have been securing their knowledge and understanding of Food Hygiene and safety in the kitchen and building on their practical skills. We have been focusing on environmental issues surrounding food looking at food miles, sustainability and seasonality.

KS3 have made some amazing dishes and demonstrated a range of technical skills whilst gaining the knowledge of the food science in each of the dishes.



KS4 in Food and Nutrition – Year 11 have been working hard on their NEA2 planning, preparing and cooking a range of dishes suitable for specific needs and have completed their practical exam. Year 10 have been extremely lucky to be taking part in the Fish Hero programme.



The school received Alaskan salmon for Year 10 to work with, developing their knowledge and

understanding of the nutritional value of salmon and the health benefits whilst looking at Alaskan seafood and the different types of seafood.



Year 10 pupils are beaver away through a variety of design and make tasks. At the start of the term they have pushed themselves in a creative direction. This was very much out of their comfort zones. The task was to design a form of seating that would be used in a public area. For this task they needed to consider the many different sizes of people, for both adults and children. Was it external or internal and what was the requirements of the specific task. They also had to balance these constraints with the creative style that their client have forced on them. Memphis is a 1980's style that promotes the 'form over function' trend.

Year 11 are coming towards the end of their NEA work (coursework) which will be worth 50% of their final grade. There are lots of creative and highly skilled products that fit into one of the three contexts that the exam board released. These being either, Learning from home, caring for an animal or a souvenir from a well-known place. To support their practical outcome the pupils have produced a design portfolio that includes an analysis of the problem and designs and developments of how the pupil intends to solve the problem.



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In the Art Classroom—Experimentation

Mrs Cawson's afterschool Art club have continued to learn about 'specialist crafts' experimenting with throwing a clay pot on the



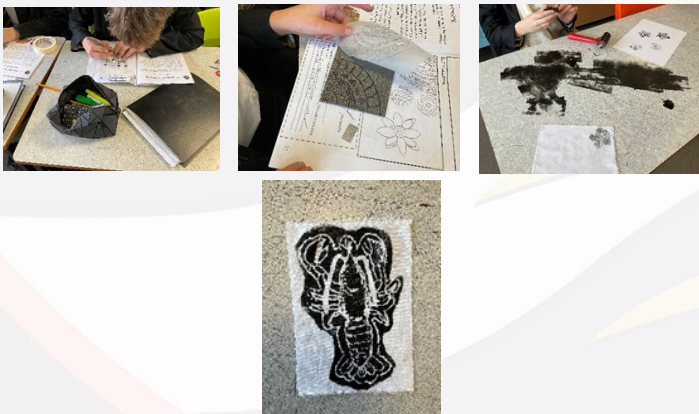
wheel, and recently trying some life drawing.

They have also been creating figurative sculptures inspired by Alberto Giacometti. They used wire techniques, tin foil and spray paints to recreate the style of his long-limbed bronzes.



It would be great to see some new faces. To join, come along after school on Thursday for 1 hour in Mrs Cawson's classroom.

Continuing the theme of experimentation year 9 Textiles students have been exploring a range of printmaking techniques. Designing, creating and printing with their own polyblock stamps onto fabric. Well done on your resilience and perseverance learning these new techniques!



Finally, a huge good luck to our year 11 Art students who will be sitting their 10 hour Art exam after Easter. You have all worked so hard to develop your own ideas and create a wide range of preparatory work for your sketchbooks, we know you are all going to do brilliantly in the final exam.

In the PE Classroom

We have had a fantastic half term with lots of students choosing to attend lunchtime and after-school clubs. The numbers are increasing each week!

We have also has lots of success within local fixtures and the CMAT competitions. It is great to see so many students involved. Well done to all participants of the St Ralph Sherwin Football tournament.

After the Easter break we look forward to Cricket, Rounders, Athletics and some sunshine!

Netball: Patrycja Z (Y7), Ruby M (Y8), Ashleigh M (Y8), Lily E (Y8), Esme S (Y8), Orla B (Y7) and Keari T (Y7)



Rugby: Nikola W (Y11), Caitlin S (Y11), Keeley G (Y10), Julia S (Y11), Kinga L (Y11), Viktorija J (Y11) and Daisy C (Y10).



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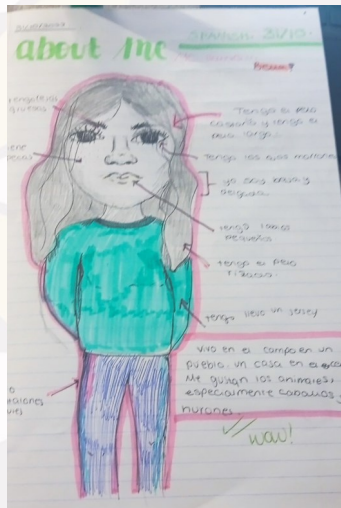
In the PE Classroom (Continued)

Year 10 boys won the East Midlands Handball finals and will progress to the Regional finals of the National Handball competition after half-term. Congratulations!!



In the Spanish Classroom

A beautiful piece of Spanish work.



In the Science Classroom

Since the last newsletter, all year groups have started new topics. Year 7 are currently exploring variation within a species; they will go to think about how new life is created.

Year 8 are thinking evolution and how we inherit our characteristics.

Year 9 are exploring changes which occur in chemical reactions, specifically energy changes.

Year 10 are building toward their mock exams in half term 6 (June), they are completing the final paper 1 units.

For Year 11, it is important that they are completing the past papers which they have been issued and completing



independent revision. Students have a wide range of tools available to them in order to make their revision active and purposeful. Intervention invitations have been given to students, all Year 11 can attend Thursday's between 15.00 and 16.00.

Year 10, students are working hard in the build up their mock exams. It is important that students take these assessments seriously. Students have received past papers to complete and have access to Century, knowledge organisers and focus in order to help prepare them.

Science WOW for KS3 currently will be relaunching this next half term – keep an eye for the letters.

In the Drama Classroom

Drama Homework: The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas written by Lottie B (Year 7).



In the clip Bruno's mother is displayed as a confused entity. She shows this behaviour when Bruno her son says, "my new friend is strange and so are the farmers." Her reaction and body language shows her wondering who my son has seen and why is he calling them strange.

The adjective strange suggests that they aren't the typical people her son is normally around, and she is questioning why there are farmers and children acting strange. That is until Bruno tells his mother, when a servant leaves the room, "I told you they were odd, they wear pyjamas."



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In the Drama Classroom (Continued)

Then a look of realisation of who her son has seen and can see through his window sends her expression into a look of panic, you can also see that through her change in body language for she becomes upright and worried. She immediately checks Bruno's window, in which she reveals to her son he can no longer talk to these people.

Subsequently she confronts his father about his work being so close to the home that his son has made friends with them. She states, "Ralph, you promised it was miles away and there was one of them in our kitchen." This shows the husband has evidently lied to his wife at his work, which has frustrated her. The verb promised means that he guaranteed that his work wasn't near the home, which also tells us watching by her reaction how bad the situation is that Bruno has met these people for it was a promise for it to be far away so what occurred wouldn't occur.

Drama Homework from Amelia H (Year 8)

Amelia has written this from the going over the top scene in War Horse. The task was to describe what the characters may be feeling/experiencing and how you know.



The characters expressed fear and desperation in the battle; this can be seen in the frantic movement of their fingers clasp anything they touch. Most especially, this is the case with the bomb set off at around the 01:16 minute mark. They clench their jaws, widen their eyes with alert and shake with uncertainty. They are feeling pressure, which is told to us as viewers by the rampant background noises and overstimulating surroundings whilst they fight. Upon noticing the scattered corpses, the tones of the characters' mindsets are made. All surroundings are put on pause for a moment, allowing us to peer into their inner turmoils, the lost expression laid out on Albert's face is one laden with disgusted confusion at the sight.

That, and whimpering breaths give the impression of uncertainty in the sense that they don't know where to go from then on.

Their expressions change drastically when the surprise and familiarity of seeing each other morph their thoughts into that of relief and reality setting in. The metaphorical gleam of eyes when stumbling upon Albert, coinciding with a pleased smile tell us of this. So does the shared embrace and a sobbed, choked out phrase from Albert. They are overwhelmed with conflicting emotions and we can tell of their momentary shared relief by the hesitation to advance position in battle and teary eyed exclamations, accompanied by a voice given by a closed throat sadness.

The ending twist of the scene brought with it a startled tragedy. Not yet having fully accepted his fate, he goes down with a pleading last word and planet-sized eyes. Their voice wobbles and the mouth from which they were spoken fell open as was the case for his newly anguished companion.

Competition Time (Mrs McDowall)

Our resident panto horse has help to raise £15,000 to build a total of 15 fresh water Wells in Africa with the help this year of Ashton, Max, Oskar and Sonnie from Year 9.



Many other pupils also went to extraordinary lengths to make this happen.

Cafod are delighted with the contribution this year which means they can get building another well for some of the poorest people on the planet. However I would quite like a name for our little (rather large) panto horse friend who usually lives in my attic.



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Any suggestions? the best one will win a prize.

To think our students have made such a difference is amazing and I am sure they will continue to do so as they grow into some amazing young men and women.



**Community water supply -
World gifts £750**



“Secrets are in the Dark” (written and directed by Ellie T (Year 9) and performed in front of the casts’ parents on Thursday 30th March.

Cast: Rezija G (Y11), Kacey H (Y8), Jak F (Y9), Grace C (Y8) and Orla M (Y7)



Georgia Gough

Hello, my name is Georgia, I am the new Partnership Officer for East Staffordshire.



I have previously worked in a range of Primary Schools in Burton Upon Trent teaching PE and Dance to KS1 and KS2 pupils.

My first term with the Partnership has been fantastic I have taken part in workshops, competitions, playground leaders and CPD training already! I am excited to see what the future brings with the Partnership!

Outside of work I own a dance school which has been open for the past 3 years. I opened the dance school after gaining a Certificate in Ballet Teaching Studies with the Royal Academy of Dance.

One of my biggest highlights was having the opportunity to dance for the Queen’s 90th birthday alongside famous ballerina Darcey Bussell!



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