



BRS Newsletter

Love - Respect - Hope - Kindness - Resilience

July 2023

Headteacher's Introduction



This term has concluded with a whole school celebration of Mass, a magnificent Sports Day event, which showcased the efforts of the entire school community and with our students enjoying the 'It's a knock out' assault course. It served as a perfect ending to yet another outstanding week at BRS. Additionally, our Year 10 students engaged in a Geography fieldtrip.

This week holds much excitement as students and staff embark on enrichment activities. We are fortunate to have 'It's a Knockout' in school included in our itinerary. On Tuesday 25th July at 12.25pm school will close for the summer holiday. However, I would like to bring to your attention that following what I hope will be a splendid summer break, the first day back to school for our new Year students is scheduled for Tuesday 5 September. On Wednesday, September 6. All other Year groups are expected to arrive at school by 8.25 am.

Lastly, I want to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a safe and joyful summer break when it arrives. May you thoroughly enjoy this well-deserved time off.

Thank you so much for your continued support.

Upcoming Events

05.09.23	Y7 ONLY in school today
06.09.23	All Year Groups in school today
08.09.23	School Photos—Y7 & Y11
11.09.23	Y11 Science Trip—Rosliston
14.09.23	Y10/11 English Trip—The Globe
20.09.23	LGB Meeting @ 18:00
21.09.23	SCHOOL CLOSURES at 12:25
21.09.23	Y6 Annual Open Evening @ 17:00
28.09.23	Y7 Welcome Disco
03.10.23	Y7 Meet the Form Tutors and Service of Blessings @ 18:00
04.10.23	Y11 Parents' Information Evening
11.10.23	Y11 Geography Trip—Birmingham
12.10.23	Y11 Geography Trip—Birmingham
12.10.23	Parental Forum @ 18:00—19:00
23.10.23	Y11 HSC Coursework Day
24.10.23	School Photos—Y7 & Y11
26.10.23	Y11 Food NEA1
26.10.23	Y8 Parents' Evening
27.10.23	Y11 Food NEA1
27.10.23	Quiz Night @ 19:00
27.10.23	Break up for Half Term—back to School on Monday 6th November



Year 11 students
can pick up their
exam results on
....

Thursday 24th August from 08:30-11:00

If you have any enquiries about the collection of results, please email:
examinations@brs.srscmat.co.uk



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Cashless Catering (Mrs Mills)

New Year 7 parents will receive their ParentPay login details before the end of term. Fingerprints will be taken for all new students on the first day in school in September.

Thank you to all parents who have made the cashless catering system work so well, by ensuring your child's account has been kept in credit. Please remember to check their account before they return in September.

Medication (Mrs Mills)

If your child is on any medication, please make sure you send us a completed Medical Health Care Plan which can be found here: <https://www.robertsutton.srscmat.co.uk/parents/school-life/>

Attendance (Mrs Rowe)

We are excited to announce that school is raising its expectations on attendance to 100% , a significant increase from the previous 97%.



From September we will be implementing an additional function on Class Charts which allows parents to conveniently report absences through the Class Charts app—more information about how this can be done will be shared in September. All reported absences will receive a follow-up phone call to ensure the safety, wellbeing and support of our students.

To reinforce the importance of regular attendance, we will be making alterations to the attendance policy, authorising only up to 5 days of absence (cumulatively) without medical evidence.

Please note that holding fining, as mandated by the government, will continue. We want to emphasise that we will not be granting leave of absence retrospectively; a formal absence request form must be completed and approved by the Headteacher—leave will be granted for extenuating circumstances.

As part of our commitment to improving attendance, we have been assigned additional Education Welfare (EW) support, aimed at assisting persistently absent students and addressing those who are frequently late to school. The EWOs, who carry legal weight in matters of school attendance, play a crucial role in ensuring families receive the necessary support.

We urge all parents and students to understand the utmost importance of regular school attendance, in ensuring academic progress and success for all. Together, we can create a thriving educational community.

As we come to the end of this academic year, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our students and parents who have consistently ensured timely school attendance throughout the last 12 months. Your commitment to regular attendance has undoubtedly contributed to the success and growth of your child.

As the summer holiday approaches, I wish each one of you a delightful and rejuvenating break.

Have a wonderful summer holiday.

Attendance Matters!



Every Student, Every School, Every Day



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Messages from our Year Leaders

Message from Head of Year 7



Year 7 you have made it to the end of your first school year at BRS. You have all over come so many challenges this year and you should be so proud of yourselves.

Recently you have all taken part in Year 7 Charity Week and raised lots of money for a local charity called 'Burton Hope'. I am so proud of how you have all been so proactive in raising so much money for such a good cause.

Some of you have also taken part in the Mount Cook trip where you all learnt new team building skills.

This year you have all shown the BRS virtues and become a true part of the Robert Sutton family.

Well done, Year 7 on fantastic year and I look forward to seeing you all in September.

Message from Head of Year 8

Year 8 have had an incredible year. They have been heavily involved in all aspects of the school community and continue to do so until the end of term.

Quite a few Years 8 students are involved in the end of school play, not only in front of the stage but in the background also.

And of course, the competition is onwho will be this year's champion of sports day? Will 8.3 retain their title?

Year 8 thoroughly deserve their Achievement Assembly and Rewards Day. We look forward to seeing them return refreshed and re-energised for Year 9.



Message from Head of Year 9



I cannot believe another year has gone and that our amazing year group, who just started with us such a short time ago, have chosen their options and are going into Year 10. This cannot be!!!!!!

I could not wish to work with such a lovely bunch of students and it has been amazing to see their talents develop over the years. Here are some achievements from our year I still find hard to believe.

Sophie and Josh—it only took me twelve months in Year 7 to come to the realisation you were twins. It should not have been hard given that you have the same surname and share that amazing kind nature not seen often enough in humans.

Ruby—you were quiet when you came, now you are playing a sassy teenager in the school production!

Jake Balcombe—you have become the technician for all sounds effects. I don't think there is anything you cannot do.

Sonnie—I had no idea you could play the guitar to that standard until a couple of weeks ago.

George—who would have thought you would become the height that all heights are measured against. How many times this year have I heard "hang on, he needs to measure against George."

Adam and George—who would have thought in Year 7 that the entire running of the school production would be in your hands.



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Message from Head of Y9 (*Continued*) ...

Patryk—you have the biggest hair ever!

Harriett—you could organise the world quite easily. I would very, very much like it if you could take over as Prime Minister right now!

Jak—please reconsider next time you decide to take a flying leap off the stage to land on a crash mat several metres away.

Evangelene—you have done your first year of A Level Maths!!!!

Harley N and Gabriella—who would have thought you have the incredible running skills you possess.

Maciej—I have footage of you dancing away to a Christmas hit and I have to say you do have great rhythm.

I am sure you will appreciate that I could go on forever but I had better close it there.

Thank you for a great 12 months Year 9 and I look forward to you starting the next exciting stage of your journey. Have a great holiday and come back ready to continue to shine in Year 10.

Message from Head of Year 10



Year 10 have had another successful year. They have been working hard and focusing on their mock exams taking the exam procedures into their stride.

Year 10 now need to prepare for their final and most important year, where students will continue to get ready for their GCSE exams.

As Year 10 return in September as our new Year 11 students, they should be continuing to meet our high expectations in regard to uniform,

behaviour and attendance all the way through until the end of the year.

A number of interventions and support packages will be put into place to ensure Year 10 are getting the very best deal, ensuring they can continue to strive for their goals.

Finally, as we celebrate the continued success of our students we have a number of things to look forward for the remainder of this half term, which include Sports Day and 'It's a Knockout' Reward Day.

Wishing all of Year 10 and their families a lovely summer break.



At this time of year we say goodbye to valued colleagues who, for various reasons, are leaving the school.

Whilst these members of staff will be missed, we also feel excited about the calibre of new staff joining the school in September.

A special mention must go to those colleagues who have served the school so well and we wish them all the very best for the future: Mrs Talbot and Mrs Kupczak.



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Message from the English Classroom

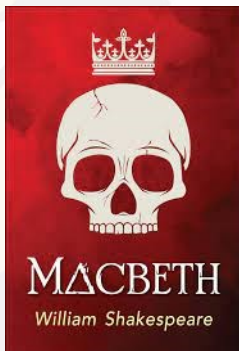
Summer term

As this term saw the opening of our Eco Prayer Garden, it was lovely to take our classes outside to develop their creative writing skills. For Year 7 in particular, who have been studying Romantic poetry, they got to understand and experience the sublime power of the natural world.

Transition

It was wonderful to meet both Year 6 and Year 5 this term, who visited as part of their transition. We created descriptions of our holiday experiences and shared many exciting stories. We look forward to seeing you again in the autumn.

Reminder: Macbeth Trip in September



Year 11 will be visiting the Globe Theatre in London when we return in September to watch Macbeth. Staff and students alike are eagerly anticipating this unique opportunity to experience Shakespeare in an authentic setting.

It has already had rave previews and stars Max Bennet as Macbeth, who parents may recognise from the Freddie Mercury biopic Bohemian Rhapsody and Poldark on the BBC.

Summer Reading Recommendation

Having a book to read on holiday is always a special part of any vacation. This summer I'm looking forward to read *The Blue Book of Nebo*, written and translated by Manon Steffan Ros, which has won this year's Carnegie



Medal. It is the first time that a book in translation has won the Carnegie Medal. Told through the dual narrative of a mother and son in post-apocalyptic Nebo, this "compelling, conceivable" story explores Welsh identity and culture, and offers a beautiful appreciation of language.

A Poem for Summer

To celebrate summer, here is a poem from Romantic poet, John Keats.

On the Grasshopper and Cricket



The Poetry of earth is never dead:
When all the birds are faint with the hot sun,
And hide in cooling trees, a voice will run
From hedge to hedge about the new-mown
mead;
That is the Grasshopper's—he takes the lead
In summer luxury,—he has never done
With his delights; for when tired out with fun
He rests at ease beneath some pleasant weed.
The poetry of earth is ceasing never:
On a lone winter evening, when the frost
Has wrought a silence, from the stove there
shrills
The Cricket's song, in warmth increasing ever,
And seems to one in drowsiness half lost,
The Grasshopper's among some grassy hills.



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In the DT and Food Classroom

What an amazing year it has been in school and the work that has been produced in DT and Food has been fantastic! Well done to all our students for their hard work and creative thinking.

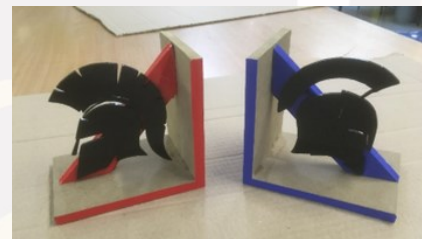
This month has seen the Mock practical day for the Year 10 Food students who produced a range challenging dishes demonstrating high skills and planning. Here is a flavour of some of the dishes that were made over the 2 days!



Y10 Skills Mock

The Year 10 DT pupils we set a skills test. This was a set timed task in which they needed to perform standard manufacturing tasks of measuring and fabricating. Quality control measures were applied throughout. They also had to think on their feet for the structural centre piece. This was designed 'on the hoof', which is called iterative design. They needed to think about what materials would be the most appropriate and these ranged from standard hand tools and skills through to CAD and use of

the laser cutter. Finally, they needed to present their products to a shop quality.



Y9 Jewellery Boxes



The Y9 pupils have constructed their jewellery boxes from a sustainable wood. They have developed their understanding in this area.

The jewellery boxes have then been personalised for their client or target markets, who they have based the design around.



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In the MFL Classroom

Next year We will be running MFL challenges each term for you to get involved in. We will be running an MFL challenge over the summer to give you a little taste of this if you would like to get involved.

The challenge is simple - Do/Make something to do with French/Spanish to bring to show your teacher after the summer.

You could make a recipe that would be eaten in a French/Spanish country. Write the recipe and include a picture of your finished product (<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/spanish-omelette> for example)

You could watch a Spanish/French film with English subtitles and write a review in the target language and in English (<https://www.netflix.com/gb/> have many foreign films or you can change the language of a film you know)

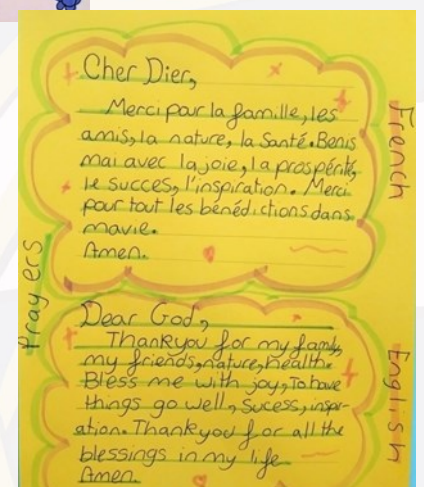
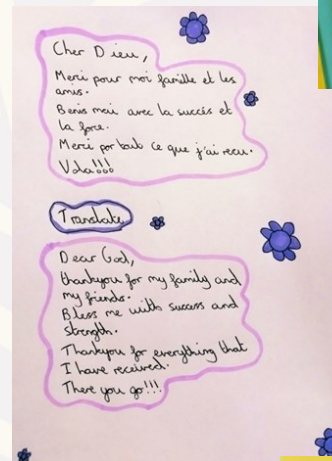
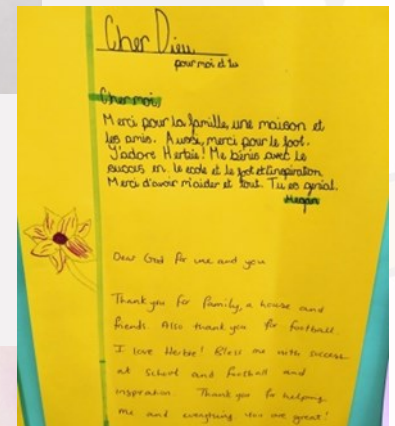
You could make a famous monument from France/Spain out of cardboard/paper mache (like this one [creative French monument](#))

You could create a poster on a French/Spanish speaking country/town - it could be somewhere you went on holiday!

These are just a few ideas - talk to your teacher if you have your own idea.

After summer - all projects brought in will receive an achievement point and the best one will get a prize! Have fun!

Also year 7 have been writing prayers in french and produced some beautiful work ...



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[illegible]

MOUNT COOK 2023

A photograph showing three students engaged in a field study. One student is in a stream, using a long-handled net to collect samples. Two other students stand on the grassy bank, observing and holding a clipboard. The stream is surrounded by dense green trees and vegetation, and a small bridge is visible in the background.

School News



Kind Donations

Lots of well-loved books have been donated to an overseas charity for less privileged school children.



Also, lots of classical LPs from the Music department have been donated to the Su Ryder shop in Swadlincote.



Clients lining up waiting for their new hair styles in the Hair and Beauty Club every Tuesday!



ello.

Ellodave a marketing company did some work for Burton and South Derbyshire College and asked a number of our Year 10 students to be part of their focus group.

The students enjoyed giving their opinions on what worked in advertising and what didn't grab their attention. The company found their opinions really informative.

Careers and Aspirations (Mrs McAulay)

From 3rd July up to 19th July, I have been meeting with Year 10 in preparation for September. This is when applications will begin to other establishments at the end of the year. During the meetings, students have been given a booklet which they should use as their toolkit when planning their future.

Any students who missed their appointments will need to rebook with myself. Parents are also invited to email or arrange a meeting if they have any queries about their child's future career plans: jmcaulay@brs.srscmat.co.uk



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School News



Looking back at the 2022/23 Academic Year

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2022

NOVEMBER 2022



Evangelene went into Year 9 having gained an A* in Further Maths whilst in Year 8!

Further Maths is a qualification above GCSE!



Keari in Year 7 abseiled down Derby Cathedral and raised over £590 towards Rainbow's Children's Hospice in Loughborough.

Mrs Miller and Mrs Bird completed the Great North Run!



Remembrance

Every Year 7 student created a paper poppy in their Art lesson, and the Thursday after school Art Club put them all together to create a Poppy Cross that was displayed during their 2 minutes silence.



Each Year 7 student created their own clay poppy, which was then displayed at Stanton Manor Care Home, for residents and visitors. Not only a beautiful display of their hard work, but also a powerful visual commemoration.



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Looking back at the 2022/23 Academic Year *(Continued ...)*

NOVEMBER 2022



Naomi in Y8 was a finalist at the weekend for NATD Theatrical Scholarships. She was a finalist in 2 categories - Ballet and Contemporary. Naomi was awarded with Runner Up in Contemporary out of 21 other dancers.

JANUARY 2023



In January, Georgia Gough became the Partnership Officer for the East Staffordshire Sports Partnership, which is based in school.

One of Georgia's biggest highlights was having the opportunity to dance for the late Queen's 90th birthday, alongside famous ballerina Darcey Bussell!!



On 18th and 19th January we had our Ofsted inspection. We are extremely proud to have been graded as 'Outstanding' in all areas by Ofsted.

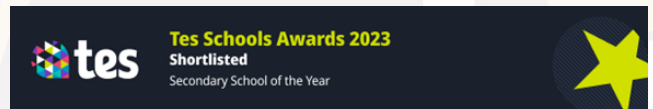
FEBRUARY 2023

In February we had a visit from ex-student Nathan Dawe (English DJ and Producer). He presented the school with a Gold Disc and an exclusive shirt. A truly inspirational young man.



MARCH 2023

BRS was shortlisted for the Tes Secondary School of the Year Awards 2023.



BRS also achieved the CAFOD Live Simply Award.



JUNE 2023

On Monday 26th June, Bishop Patrick and Fr Neil opened our ECO Prayer Garden.

