



# BRS Newsletter

Love - Respect - Hope - Kindness - Resilience

June 2023



## Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Parents and Carers

We finished off last week in style as we celebrated with our Year 11 students at Burton Albion Pirelli Stadium for the Leavers Prom. This was a fantastic evening, the students had a brilliant time and the Year 11 team really pulled out all of the stops to make it a wonderful evening.

A special thanks to Mrs Bannister for thinking of every little detail and making the evening such a memorable one. It was also great to see so many families at the start of the evening which helped make the evening so special for everyone involved.

I am delighted that the students enjoyed themselves, as they have worked incredibly hard this year and they have been an absolute credit to our school over the last five years. The students have been exemplary in their time with us and we are looking forward to seeing them again on the GCSE results day.

I do need to highlight that unfortunately there will be further Industrial Action taking place on Wednesday 5th July and Friday 7th July.

## Upcoming Events

W/C 03/07/23	Year 7 Charity Week
04.07.23	Year 6 Transition Parental Meeting
05/07/23	STRIKE DAY
05&06/07/23	Transition Days
06/07/23	Duke of Edinburgh Expedition
07/07/23	STRIKE DAY ONLY Y10 IN SCHOOL
10&11/07/23	Year 5 Taster Days
11/07/23	Year 8 We are Padel Trip to Derby
12-14/07/23	Year 7 Residential Trip to Mount Cook
18/07/23	Year 10 Geography Field Trip (Group 1)
19/07/23	Year 10 Geography Field Trip (Group 2)
19&20/07/23	Summer Variety Show Flair & Fantasy
21/07/23	Sports Day—Shobnall Leisure Complex
24/07/23	Reward Day on site for all students
25/07/23	SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 12.50PM Non-Uniform Day Achievement Assemblies

Last week you will have received a letter outlining details. However, I would like to take this opportunity to confirm that school will be open to Year 6 and Year 10 Food GCSE students on Wednesday 5th July and Year 10 on Friday 7th July.

Mock examinations have now finished for our Year 10 students who worked hard for these assessments. The students have shown a strong commitment to their studies which will inevitably place them in a good position for these mock examinations, which serve as key academic benchmarks.



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# School News



## Pastoral Update

For September the following arrangements will be in place:

- Year Leader for Y7 – Eliza Waters
- Year Leader for Y8 – Katie Meredith
- Year Leader for Y9 – Trish Harkin
- Year Leader for Y10 – Amanda McDowall
- Year Leader for Y11 – Jade Bannister

From November half term the following arrangements will be in place to cover Mrs Bannister's maternity leave:

- Year Leader for Y7 – Eliza Waters
- Year Leader for Y8 – Amy Gibson
- Year Leader for Y9 – Trish Harkin
- Year Leader for Y10 – Amanda McDowall
- Year Leader for Y11 – Katie Meredith



## School Lockers

Unfortunately, from September we will be unable to offer students the option of a school Locker. If your child currently has a locker, please can they return any keys to

Mrs Talbot by Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July at the latest. Due to the number of repairs being required, this facility is being removed over the summer holiday. On days where students have practical subjects, e.g. PE and Food Technology, alternative storage will be offered.

We are so proud to receive another certificate regarding our high school attendance.

Thank you to all our lovely Parents and Carers who support the students with this. Excellent attendance in school leads to higher achievements and good habits for life. I wish you all a safe, happy and healthy summer break.

**Mrs S Rowe (Attendance Manager).**



## Uniform Changes from September

### Uniform

Reminder: While it has been stated that students are not required to wear blazers during hot weather, it is important to note that jackets or hoodies should not be worn as an alternative to a blazer.

Starting from September, the following changes have been implemented to our Uniform Policy to help alleviate costs.

### Tie

Students transitioning from Key Stage 3 (Year 9) to Key Stage 4 (Year 10) will no longer need to purchase a new tie. 'We will become a one tie school.' The only tie available for purchase will be the Key Stage 4 tie, and there is no obligation for students with a Key Stage 3 tie to buy a new one.

### Blazer

In addition, we now offer the option to purchase a badge that can be sewn onto any black blazer. Alternatively, embroidered blazers are still available for purchase from our associated school uniform shops. It is important to note that all blazers must have the school badge.

### PE Kit

Due to cost considerations, we have decided to remove skorts from our PE kit, as they are more expensive compared to sports leggings or shorts. Similarly, the school rugby top has also been removed due to its lack of necessity. Students who already have skorts or the school rugby top can continue using them.

Additionally, we have upgraded our optional outer garment to a  $\frac{1}{4}$  zip sports top, which costs the same as the hoodie but is expected to be more durable. Students who already have school PE hoodies are allowed to continue using them.



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# School News

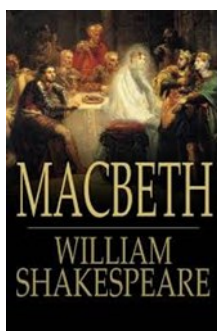


## From the English Classroom

Year 11 have now completed their examinations and I would like to take this opportunity to once again wish them all the very best for the future. They are the first cohort to complete the full GCSE course since the pandemic, and we are all very proud of them. Good luck Year 11!

### KS4 Update – Macbeth Trip

Exciting news! The current Year 10 will have the opportunity to watch Macbeth at the Globe theatre in London when we return in September. This is a rare opportunity and is not to be missed!



Watching a play is the best way to understand it and I would encourage all students to come along. At the time of writing tickets are still available and can be purchased via Parent Pay.

Information about the production can be found here: [Macbeth | Summer 2023 | What's On | Shakespeare's Globe \(shakespearesglobe.com\)](#)

### Remembering Cormac McCarthy

Cormac McCarthy, celebrated novelist and arguably America's finest modern writer, died this month at the age of 89. Many parents may be familiar with his novels *Blood Meridian*, *All the Pretty Horses* and *No Country*. If you aren't familiar with his work, now is an excellent time to discover this acclaimed author. Fellow author Stephen King called him "maybe the greatest American novelist of my time".

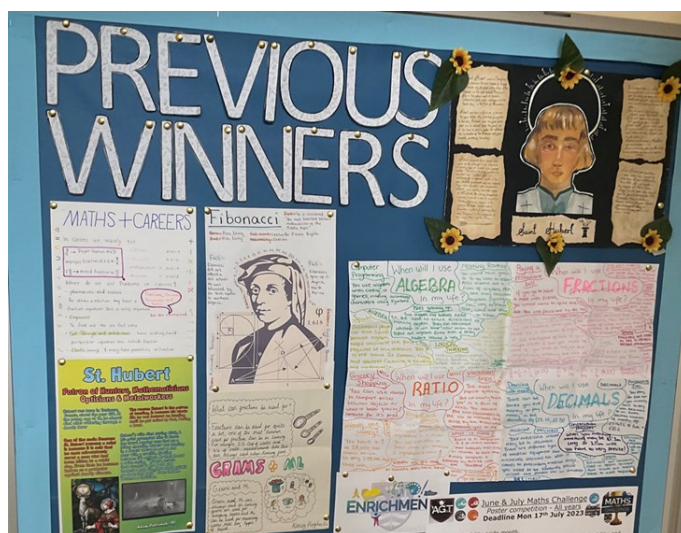
### Thank you

On a personal note, I have now been at Blessed Robert Sutton for almost a full academic year, and I would like to thank everyone for making me feel welcome and supporting me.

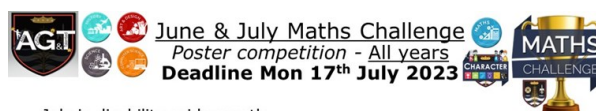
It truly is a great school to work at.

## From the Maths Classroom

Congratulations to Kamila and Oliver in Year 8 who participated in the UKMT Junior Kangaroo challenge on 14<sup>th</sup> June. They were invited to participate in the challenge after their high scores on the Junior Challenge in May. We are so proud of their hard work in getting through to the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of the competition. The last Monthly Maths challenge of the year is underway and it's another poster competition. We had some fantastic posters earlier this year in the November and February challenges. Here are some of the winning entries: All students who participate in the Monthly



Maths challenge will get achievement points and the winning posters will be displayed in the Maths department. Here are all the details of the competition:



July is disability pride month.

Create a poster about a mathematician who had a disability and their work

- For example, Stephen Hawking who was a Maths professor at Cambridge University with motor neuron disease and researched the theory of general relativity.
- Or Leonhard Euler who contributed to many areas of Mathematics, including geometry and number theory, and lost his sight in one eye when he was 31.
- Another example is Abraham Nemeth who was a blind professor of mathematics who invented the Nemeth Code - the system of writing Maths in Braille.

Posters will be judged on their content and the creativity of how the information is displayed.

Paper posters can be given to Miss Jones in A202 or digital posters emailed to [ejones@brs.srscmat.co.uk](mailto:ejones@brs.srscmat.co.uk).

Good luck!



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## From the Science Classroom

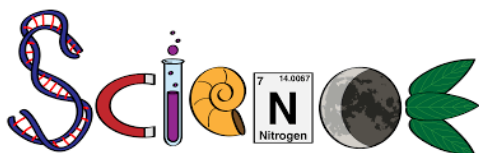
**Year 7** have been focussing their learning on how we hear sounds and how we see objects. The students have used a variety of practical equipment to investigate properties of light and sound. They have also been focussing on ecosystems. They have investigated food chains and food webs and considered how plants reproduce.

**Year 8** have been focussing on respiration and photosynthesis. They have been looking at which type of respiration is used most by certain athletes and the relationship between photosynthesis and respiration. Students have also been looking at uses of waves.

**Year 9** over the course of the year have been making links between KS3 and GCSE Science. The year group have been increasingly exposed to GCSE type questions. We have been really pleased with their progress. We look forward to them starting in Year 10.

**Year 10** have recently completed their mock exams. The team have been pleased with the way most students prepared for those mock examination. It is important that Year 10 retain their work from this academic year as they will need it for revision in Year 11.

In the new academic year we shall be offering revision guides to purchase for new Year 10 and 11s. We have also planned some external visits for next academic year. We are planning to take Year 11 (current Y10) to Rosliston Forestry Centre to complete some Science field work. We have also planned for Year 8 (current Year 7) to go to Think Tank. We shall also be offering a visit to Year 10 and 11 to GCSE Science Live.



## From the Art/Textiles Classroom

In the Textiles classrooms we have been focusing on developing students independence, through designing and making personal outcomes.



Year 7 have been exploring hand embroidery techniques and applique to create their own characters using Textiles. Some example of brilliant outcomes that showcase confident hand stitching skills!

Year 9 have continued this independent development, designing a final product using textiles techniques they have used across Year 7,8 and 9.

Some great examples of screen printing, applique and polyblock printing.



This month we said a final goodbye to our Year 11 Art students.

It has been such a pleasure to teach you all, and the final work you submitted really did shine.

Best of luck with all your next steps!



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## From the After School Art Club

The afterschool Art Club have spent the last few weeks being inspired by nature and have created a "Bee Positive" display in the art room.

This includes lots of different art techniques including linocut printing, drawing, watercolours and even some 3D clay bees.

I think you will agree that they have done a bee-autiful job!



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



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## From the PE Department

### Girls Rounders

This term we have had Rounders tournaments for the Year 7, 8 and 9 students. All teams had success, but most importantly lots of learning and laughter from all the students involved.

Rounders Club is on a Tuesday lunchtime with Mrs Goddard. We have several fixtures organised towards the end of the term, so please feel free to come along and have a go.



### Boys Cricket

Students have been enjoying cricket practice on a Thursday night and played a close fixture against Paget in beautiful conditions. The competitive fixture was played in an excellent spirit. Well done to all involved!"



## Careers & Aspirations (Mrs McAulay)

We have welcomed the following visitors to school this month:

- ◆ Dean Simpkins (parent and school governor) who talked to Year 7 about working in STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths). As an engineer with JET2 he had a wealth of experience to share.
- ◆ Ex-student Naomi came in to explain about her journey into becoming a solicitor. She had also acquired some experience in Criminology .
- ◆ Fran Galland (Careers Adviser) and Sian Wynne (Apprenticeship Tutor) spoke about what courses are on offer at Burton College. They explained to Year 9 about the various routes they could take right up to degree level.



Hairdressing skills, as part of the Princes Trust programme, take place weekly.



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# School News



## Messages from our Year Leaders

### Message from Head of Year 7—Miss Meredith



Year 7 you have started back after May half term so enthusiastically. I just wanted to remind you that you must ensure that you all have the correct uniform on.

If you and your family are struggling to get the correct uniform, then please let myself or your Form Tutors know, and we will be more than happy to help.

In recent weeks you have been writing letters to our new Year 7s informing them of what they can expect when they start their BRS journey in September. I must say you have all risen to the task and as Mr Gee stated “there has been some top-class letters written”, so well done to you all. I would also like to remind you that the first week of July is Year 7 Charity Week and I know you have all been planning with your Form Tutors the activities that you want to complete in order to raise money for our chosen charity (Burton Hope). Let's raise lots of money!!

Regarding the final few weeks of term, some of you are going to Mount Cook which will be an amazing experience. However, if you are staying in school, please don't worry that you will be missing out, as we will be doing some different activities in school too.

Also, Sports Day is coming up. Therefore, over the next few weeks I will be asking you to make banners and signs in order to support your Form groups. Your Form Tutors will be asking you to write down the events that you would like to take part in. Remember Sports Day is a team effort and everyone is encouraged to take part.

You are nearly at the end of your first year at BRS—so well done everyone!

### Message from Head of Year 8—Miss Harkin

Year 8 have had a productive term.



They have been busy in all areas of the school: the Prayer Garden, the School Production, and Athletic tournaments to name just a few.

They are excited to be involved with the Year 5 and Year 6 transition days and look forward to being mentors to our new students next year.

Their positive attitude is a credit to themselves, their families, and the school.

### Message from Head of Year 9—Mrs McDowall



I hope you have been enjoying the nice weather and have managed to get out and about in the sunshine.

Starting with some sporting congratulations for our very talented year group:

Harley Nevitt did amazingly in his Athletics this week—such a talent, really impressive! Perhaps we have a future Olympian!

Congratulations to the following students who were selected to represent East Staffordshire in the County Athletics Finals:

- ♦ Harley Nevitt—100m
- ♦ Deng Akol—High Jump
- ♦ Georgie Mole—Javelin
- ♦ Harriet Whetton—Shot Putt

Gabriella Bellafronte has also been picked up and spotted for her amazing running talents. This is both long distance and sprinting, so quite unusual.

I look forward to seeing all this amazing talent at Sports Day!



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# School News



## Message from Head of Year 9 (Continued)



Kindness award - lets face it we never forget people who have been kind and it is something we encourage each and every day. I would like to say a massive thank you for the following students who have been caught being kind this month.

- ♦ Josh Bale and Jake Balcombe for being so welcoming to a new student.
- ♦ Evie Rose Beacon for being a great friend and just an all-round kind personality.
- ♦ Jack Ross for treating all people with the same warm friendly personality he always has.



It is worth remembering that just a little bit of kindness can change not just someone else's day but your own.

In the world of Maths (or as I sometimes put it - the music of the universe), I want to say a really massive well done to Jack Freeman, Harriett Whetton, Makayla Whyman-Fox, Ffion Thompson, Chloe Littlemore and Harry Walsh. These students persevered with a difficult Maths challenge and cracked it.

The best mathematicians in the world are the ones that can solve problems and have the tenacity to keep going even when it seems hard.



One final shout out to Beth Jenkins for her amazing Art work. A very talented artist - I am just sad that on this occasion I do not have a sample to show you. However, her Art teacher Mrs Turner has been delighted with her Art this term.

Many of our Year 9 students are in the production of 'Flair and Fantasy' at the end of July. Tickets are for sale on ParentPay. Adults are £5.00. Children, concessions and OAPs are £2.50. This is yet another way we celebrate talent at BRS.

## Message from Head of Year 10—Miss Waters



Our Year 10 students have achieved remarkable success in their recent exams, showcasing their dedication to revision and excellent organisational skills.

As they enter their final year of GCSEs, this milestone marks a critical point in their academic journey. We applaud their achievements and recognise the hard work of students. With a nurturing environment and continued support from parents and carers, we are confident that our Year 10 students will excel in their final year and reach their full potential. Congratulations to our students on their outstanding results, and we look forward to their continued success in this important year of their schooling.

## Message from Mrs Bannister



On Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June we said farewell to our lovely Year 11 students, who have worked tirelessly over the past few weeks to complete their GCSE exams. The day was filled with emotions, as the students participated in shirt signing and had their final assembly.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Year 11 students for being excellent role models and peers to other students within the school and for filling the school with laughter and joy. Likewise, I would also like to thank all the families who have shown nothing but continued support to the school over the past five years.

Wishing all of our students and their families the best of luck and we cannot wait to see them at the Prom on the 30<sup>th</sup> June.



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