



# THE BRIDGE



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

SUMMER  
2021

### ***Looking ahead...***

We have a lot to look forward to in September. To begin with, we hope to return to a school without bubbles, holding zones, facemasks and staggered starts and finishes. More importantly, we hope to return with a different approach to self-isolation of close contacts. But above all, we hope to return to some normality!

When we come back in September, we have targeted a number of things. The first is around addressing gaps in learning that might have developed because of lockdown and self-isolation. I can assure you that considerable work has been undertaken and I am confident that we will make significant progress in these areas.

It is also the case that we need to remind everyone of what it is like to be a fully functional school environment, underpinned by the values of respect, understanding and tolerance. With this in mind, we think it is timely to revisit some key concepts linked to Equality and Diversity and we will be rolling out a year-long programme with governors, staff, students and parents so we can better understand where we collectively stand regarding these

important matters. One strand of this will be our pursuit of the Rainbow Flag Award. The Rainbow Flag Award encourages a whole organisation approach to LGBT and inclusion, as well as developing strategies to effectively challenge and combat LGBT-phobic bullying.

Another strand will be a year-long programme that we will deliver alongside Equaliteach, a sector leader in Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Training. Their focus is to help school embed “a culture of acceptance and understanding, ensuring the whole school community can enjoy an environment where they are valued and can achieve their full potential.” We know how well our students engage with these wider issues and are very excited to embark on this school-wide activity.

So now it just remains for me to thank you all for your support, encouragement and patience during what had been a challenging year, but a year that has also brought out the best in so many people.

*Tim Long, Principal*

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## WELLBEING



A few weeks ago, we covered Nature and Mental Health with some of our pupils and one of the tasks was for students to share their experiences of nature and how being in that place helped their mental state. This lovely picture was taken by Baylee in Year 9. Thanks Baylee!

### Mrs. Ward's Top Stress-busting tips

- Get plenty of sleep. Sleep is really important for our physical and mental health but aim to get up in the morning at a reasonable hour such as 8.00am or earlier! Be aware that the 90 minute period before midnight is the most powerful time for sleeping, when the body is most effectively replenished.
- Eat healthily and at regular times
- Get plenty of sunlight / fresh air. Nature is out there and costs nothing! Rediscover the beauty of your own locality!
- Take part in activity and exercise. A brisk walk works wonders!
- Do something you enjoy, whether it's something creative, sporty, quiet, solo or group-based
- Connect with others and be sociable. This can be via social-media if you are self-isolating
- Make lists of what you need to do and prioritise these, ticking them off as you complete them
- When anxiety strikes, practise breathing slowly through the nose and out of the mouth, prolonging the breaths by counting slowly to 4 or 5 each time.

# YEAR 8 DRAMA CLUB

Year 8 drama club has been up and running since restrictions were relaxed earlier in the term. There have been up to 20 members who have attended the fun workshops run by Mr Coleman and Mrs Antell on a Wednesday after school. Year 8 students have taken part in spontaneous improvisations, prepared role plays and even acted out some of Roald Dahl's "revolting rhymes" stories.

Hopefully, many of the group will take part in a full production next year and show off their many and varied talents!!



# Enterprise



With the easing of lockdown in June, we were able to invite two local businesses into school to help our students examine different local enterprises and so develop their knowledge and understanding of the characteristics of enterprises and the skills needed by entrepreneurs.

Students were able to interview business owners David Fryer (Groobars) and Josh Walton (Halloumination) in depth to help them develop their own knowledge and understanding of the different types of enterprises and their ownership, looking at the characteristics of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and entrepreneurs with reasons for levels of success.

Through their investigations, our students were able to develop a sound understanding of the importance of customer focus for a business and the importance of meeting their customers' needs. Students also learnt how some businesses have thrived during the pandemic whilst others struggled, thus bringing the real world into the classroom.

We are really keen to help our students put into practice the theory they are learning in the classroom and are looking for opportunities to work with our local community and develop the home and school partnership even further.

If you are able to support our Faculty and would like to be involved in similar projects, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact Head of Faculty Mrs Antrobus [e.antrobus@bridgewaterhigh.com](mailto:e.antrobus@bridgewaterhigh.com)





## BTEC Musical Theatre- Lion King in the Summer Term

BTEC Musical Theatre has always kept us as a class on our toes, and the curtain call is finally ringing on our final performance of *The Lion King*.

For the summer term, we have been focusing on preparing for our production of *The Lion King*. This has involved many hours of rehearsals and various restrictions on what we can do. Due to various factors that have affected the production, including the constraints of time and Covid-safe producing, we needed to find ways to put it together. In order to prepare for the upcoming show, as a class we have all committed to extra-curricular rehearsals on a fortnightly Tuesday for two hours, which gave us more opportunities to run the performance on our full set in the hall.

This production has been in the running since September, when everyone was given their own script, and it has been so much fun to watch each scene, song and dance develop into a flowing musical. Each student has been dedicated to their parts and ensemble features; everyone has had so much to do and it is extremely rare for one of us to be just sat watching for very long!

We have each become more comfortable in performing both to each other and to an audience. In lessons and rehearsals, we are our own directors, and everyone contributes their ideas. *The Lion King* started as an easy icebreaker for the class, and we are now finishing with a bang for our final performance at the end of July. However stressful and tiresome it can be, everyone works hard and performs their best, no matter how old and repetitive the songs may get!

Ellen (Year 10 BTEC )

## WORLD MATHS DAY

The World's Largest Online  
Maths Competition is back for 2021!

Join millions of students across the globe on the  
5th of May, as they celebrate World Maths Day

May the best Mathlete win!

World Maths Day was held on the 7th of May this year and involved millions of children from around the globe competing against each other in maths quizzes.

Several Bridgewater students took part in WORLD MATHS DAY. Two students in year 7 reached the top 3% in the world and are listed on the world maths day website!!!

Well done!

The students who participated are:

### Year 7

Masataka

Harrison

Isaac

Giles

Roxana

Joe

Rishika

Oscar

Benjamin

Shelan

Martin



World Maths Day participants  
Pictured with their certificates.

**Year 8**

Kyra  
Liana  
Benjamin  
Harry



**Year 9**

Samuel  
Harvey  
James



## TANZANIAN ART PROJECT

This is a project based on the Tanzanian patterns of East Africa, inspired by the artist Katanu Kay. Pupils in Year 7 each created an individual piece of wax-resist artwork which was later collated into a whole class final piece. We're sure you'll agree that the results are spectacular!







Parents' evenings, simplified

### School Cloud Parents' Evenings

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, parents' evenings this year have taken place via video-conference. Despite some initial trepidations on the part of both parents and teachers, the response to these events has been overwhelmingly positive. 89% of parents said they would like to continue with video-conferenced parents' evenings and 90% of parents rated it 4 or 5 out of 5. We surveyed parents and carers after each event and have received highly positive feedback, as recorded at the end of this article and evident in this account, provided by one of our parents...

*Parents evening is one of those things that you really want to do but also dread. As a parent of three, I have sat through what feels like hundreds of parents' evenings. There is always a familiar format involving waiting in the queue for the 'Important' subjects or the subjects where your child thinks they will get the best report and then curiously having gaps in the subject list where the conversation might not go in your little cherub's favour... The process is far from perfect in any school across the country but as parents of course, we want to be informed of where our children are up to and how we can support them at home.*

*So, 2020 was a game-changer in the parents evening arena! Online parents' evenings! Who knew what a breath of fresh air they would be? Firstly, they offered me such flexibility there was no sense of rushing. I didn't have to dash home from work, cook, get changed and then head out again into the traffic and chaos. I simply made myself a cup of tea, located reluctant child number 2 and switched on the laptop. I was able to select a suitable time that fitted in with our evening.*

*The process of booking appointments was really easy. I received the email from school and then just followed the link, clicked on the appropriate teacher/time and that was it until the date of the parents evening. On the evening, I logged in and then each appointment ran seamlessly from one into the other. There is no getting up and moving around to find teachers, no big queues as mentioned, just one 5-minute conversation after the other. I also liked the countdown indicators at 1 minute and 10 seconds indicating the appointment was coming to a close. On one or two occasions, I did feel there was more to be said, as did the teacher, but she told me she would drop me an email to agree a time to contact me to discuss the particular point further, which she did.*

*All in all I think online parents evenings are the way forward. Why would we want to scramble for a parking space, sit in a crowded hall and take up a good few hours of our evening? Online parents evening gets the job done in half an hour!*

### Verbal feedback from parents' survey

- *Less stressful. Preferred this format to face to face.*
- *Very smooth from booking the appointments to video conferencing. Well done to all, great experience. Thank you.*
- *Fixed times for chats are great.*
- *Efficient and saved having to queue for teachers... Overall a very positive experience.*
- *Much more comfortable and convenient than traditional Parents Evenings. Very time efficient.*
- *This is an infinitely better system, it felt more controlled than the face to face environment in*

school, and also more private.

- Amazing! Sincerely hope this form of parents' evening continues. Many thanks.
- I thought this was extremely well organised and it ran incredibly smoothly, considering this was the first time it had been rolled out! Such a great idea and saved lots of time.
- I felt like I could talk more privately and ask more questions than I have done in previous parent's evenings. Well done Bridgewater staff; I thought it was a great success.
- That was the best parents evening ever. It was swift and to-the-point but safe. There was no waste of time with traffic and wait.
- Well done Bridgewater! A really efficient way to run a parents evening - loved it.
- This is far more efficient and enjoyable than the school hall experience. More private too.
- Superb, very smooth and well managed. All involved, including the teachers, should be congratulated on a very impressive set-up.
- Excellent format which I would like to use again in future. Particularly convenient for families like ours who do not live close to the school.

## THE BLUE PETER MUSIC BADGE

It has been great to see pupils starting to attain their music *Blue Peter* badge. This is a new initiative from Blue Peter in which pupils can receive this very eye-catching new badge.

Below is a photo of one of the badges as attained by one of our pupils (alongside a standard Blue Peter badge).

All pupils need to do is complete a simple form to say what their involvement is with music (e.g. do you play an instrument?), and add a few notes on "Musical Memories" and favourite songs. A photo is needed also showing some musical activity.



Why not give it a go if you are a keen musician? A Blue Peter Badge gives you free entry into over 200 attractions, including theme parks, zoos and castles around the country.

Here is the link: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/joinin/bp-music-badge>

## Art News



Above: Following public voting, we are proud to present Bridge-water's winning entry to this year's dot-art schools competition. This is by Ruby in Year 9. Her work was exhibited alongside all the other public vote school winners from across the Liverpool city region and its neighbours, at the iconic Port of Liverpool building in June.

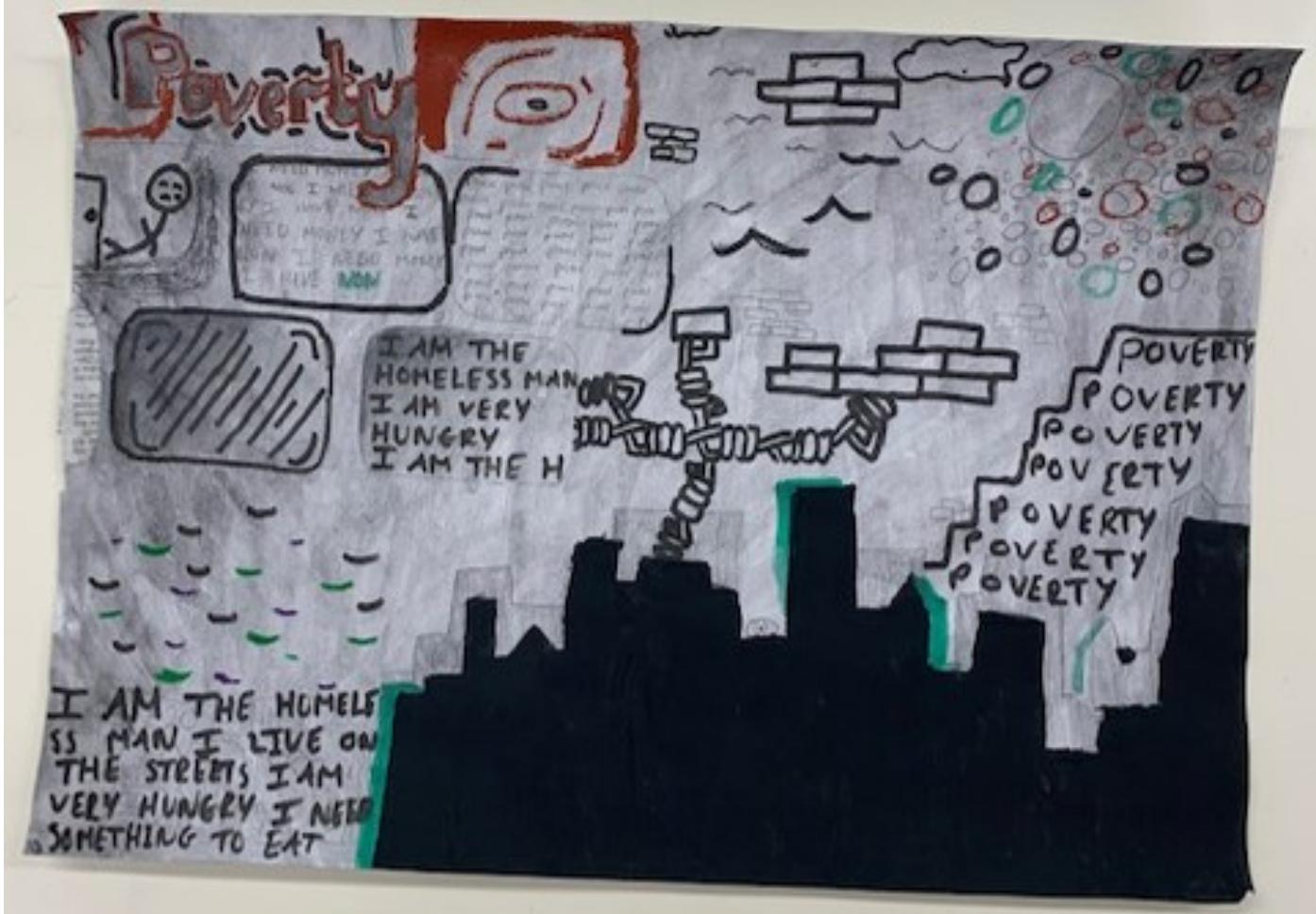


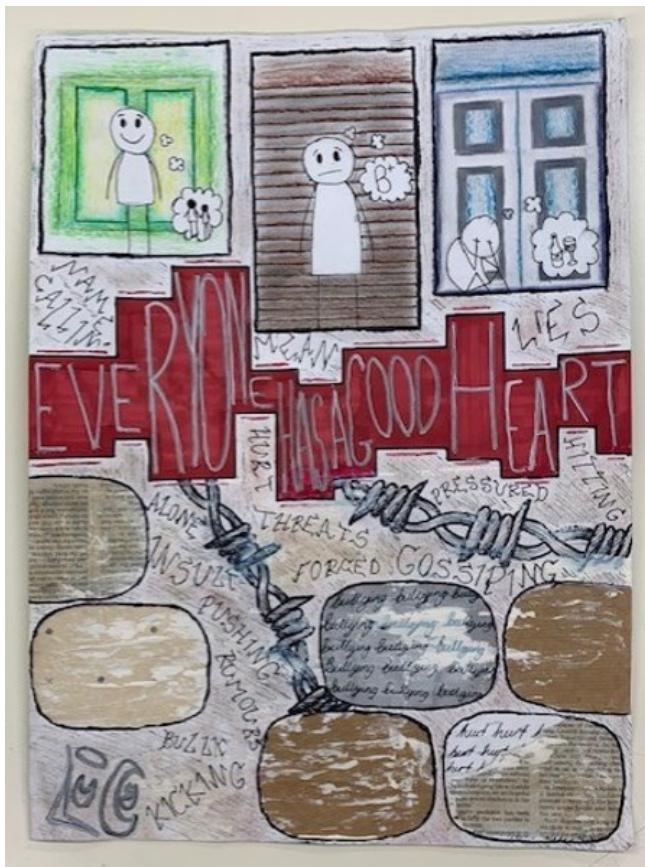
Fantastical Architecture— year 8 students have been busy making and painting clay tower tops, inspired by the architect Antoni Gaudí and artist and architect Hundertwasser.



Here is a selection of the wonderful Year 8 work that was exhibited for the Celebrating Diversity online event which the River Reeves foundation organised together with the Sir Thomas Boteler School.

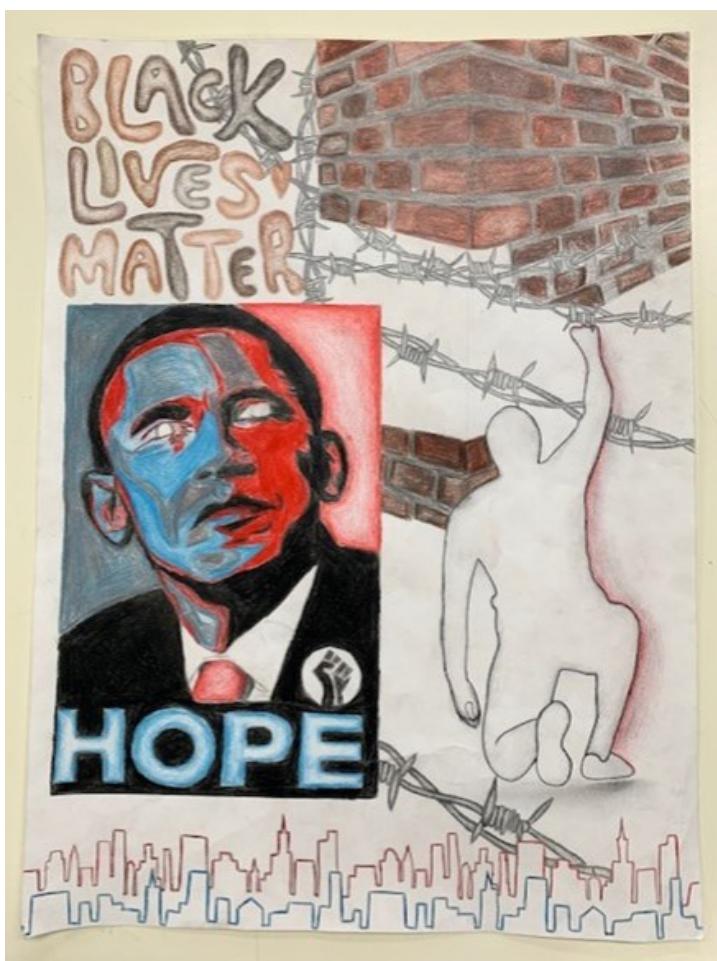






Examples of some of the striking work that Y9 pupils have been creating for their Urban Art project which they also use for the BEE Award. Pupils create work in their chosen EPA subject areas that must link to a common theme of their choice. e.g. poverty, fame, teenage life, hope, love, loss. The BEE Award involves Year 9 responding to a stimulus and creating performance pieces that included all of the art forms that they study.

Even though not all pupils were able to perform due to self-isolation, it was clear to the teachers who examined them, that they had worked well in very difficult circumstances. All pupils will receive a certificate for this project in Year 10.



## I'm going to make you an offer

Year 10 BTEC Enterprise students have spent their time learning about Enterprise and Entrepreneurship and understanding on a practical level what it takes to succeed as an entrepreneur or as an innovator in business.

All students following the BTEC Enterprise course investigated and researched different business ideas, planned how they were going to put their ideas into practice and this culminated in a professional business pitch to an audience with the aim of securing start-up funding. Whilst the situation was hypothetical, the quality of the presentations and ideas was nothing short of professional. Students demonstrated their entrepreneurial characteristics, qualities and skills. The exercise took most students out of their comfort zones and encouraged them to develop their resilience. It is hoped that in the future we will be able to invite local businesses into school to participate as audience members.

### Oxplore

On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July a group of Year 10 students took part in an Oxplore session via zoom, learning about the history of medicine and stem cells from Oxford University researchers.

The session began with a quick warm-up activity in the form of catchphrase which our students excelled at. Once warmed up, our students learnt about the history of medicine and had an activity to put different medical advances in chronological order, ranging from bloodletting to using stem cells. Using Slido, students were then able to collaborate with pupils from Penketh High School and Sir Thomas Boteler about key ideas in medicine, looking at what medicines are and how new treatments are created.

After a brief lecture about stem cells and a quick Kahoot quiz to check their knowledge, students had an opportunity to think about the ethics of stem cell treatments. Students learnt about Henrietta Lacks who sadly died of cervical cancer. Before her death, doctors took a sample of her cervical cancer cells without her or her family's permission. These cells, now called HeLa cells, have been used in research and are still extensively used today. Pupils were given the book 'The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks' to further read about her life and the struggles her family faced when they realised what had happened. The session finished with a mini-lecture about creating an experiment that would help create a new drug for Alzheimer's.

The morning was both informative and interesting, and helped support the work pupils cover in GCSE Biology. This group of students has been involved in the Oxplore project from the very beginning, starting when they were in Year 8. Sadly, this is likely to be their last session. The students involved have been a credit to the school and I wish them all the luck for the future.

Mrs. Gavin

## BTEC ACTING COURSE

Over the past two years I have had the pleasure of being part of the first cohort of the BTEC Acting course. During the course we had the opportunity to study several different plays including *Blood Brothers*, *Teechers* and *Lord of the Flies*, whilst focusing on the playwrights in more detail and looking at different practitioners and how they choose to show various issues. During the first year of the course, we were given the chance to perform our production of *Lord of the Flies* at Priestley College. This was an amazing experience as we were able to create a full-scale performance of the show. We were extremely fortunate to be able to perform this when we did, as one week later we began our first week of home learning due to the Covid-19 pandemic. We quickly had to adjust to virtual learning to make sure we could continue with the written part of the course as we were no longer able to take part in interactive practical work.

When we eventually returned to school, we started focusing on the more analytical side of the course, spending time looking at how and why certain choices were made concerning characters, costume and set design, as well as how these affected the overall outcome of the plays. This gave us all a new perspective on drama and what goes into making a performance perfect.

We used the skills learnt during the previous terms to help devise pieces based on various stimuli which included vantage point, community safety and equality.

If drama is your passion, this course looks at the subject from so many perspectives and I would say it is a great lead into further drama studies.

Abby, Year 10





## Summer Term: BHS Dance

As we look back at what has felt like a very challenging term for many, we have still been able to dance, perform and celebrate our students' work.

In May, we said a very heartfelt goodbye to our Year 11s who have shown resilience beyond measure. Prior to them leaving, we were able to set up a performance space for them to share their choreography exam work. Some chose to share this with the BTEC Acting and Musical Theatre cohorts in a Year 11 Bubble informal performance.

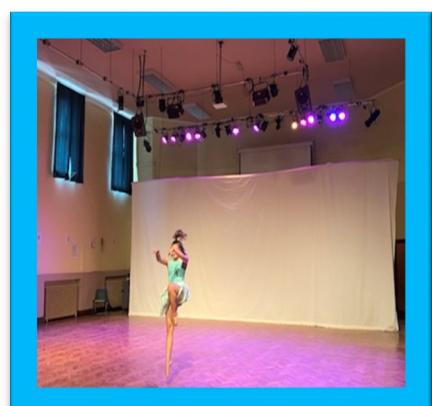
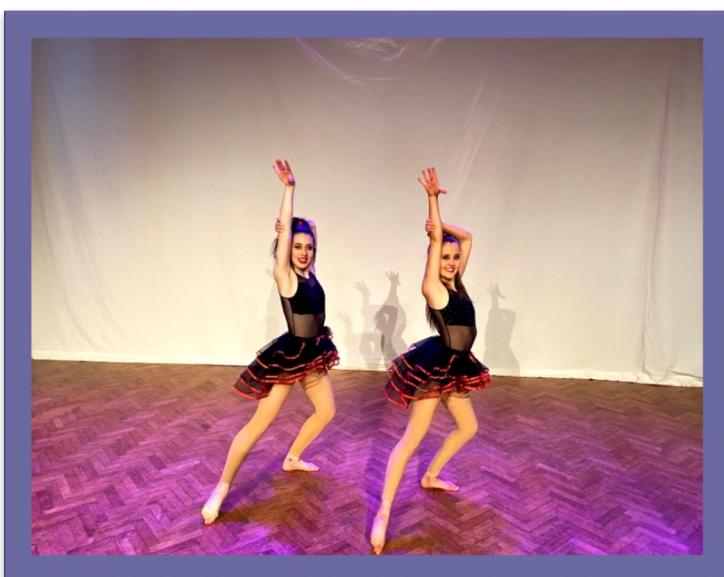
There has also been a lot of work online for students who are self isolating and we would like to congratulate them all on participating in practical work from their homes.



We provide regular updates of what the Dance department is up to on our Twitter and Instagram pages so be sure to check us out @bwatertdance

Have a wonderful summer everyone. We are very much looking forward to dancing, performing, and taking part in countless shows soon!

**Miss N Hughes**





Our talented  
Bridgewater  
dancers



## **The EPA “Virtual” Lion King Experience – Year 7**



During non-pandemic times, our Year 7 families would have visited upper site in October to watch their child perform in *The Lion King* Experience as part of their Expressive and Performing Arts assessment in Drama, Dance, Music and Art.

Unfortunately this could not take place. Instead we filmed some of their work and this is available for them to watch over the summer holidays.

Some pupils were self-isolating so not everyone has been present when the filming was took place, but staff and pupils have done their best to include as many people as possible.

The EPA Faculty is very much looking forward to *The Lion King* Experience being ‘live’ again in the next academic year. In the meantime, we are confident that our Year 7 families will enjoy the ‘virtual’ show!

This year it has been a little bit different but it has definitely been an “experience” to remember.

M. Plummer

Head of EPA



Like the rest of the theatre world, Bridgewater's Drama department has overcome many challenges this year! Having been forced to cancel our annual school production due to on-going restrictions, we were determined to try and carry on where we were able!

### Year 10 BTEC Acting

Our Year 10 classes have certainly faced huge challenges this year! Firstly, being forced to pause work on their production of *Teechers* by John Godber due to the post-Christmas lockdown, to then suffering the devastating blow of losing cast members due to isolations the day before their final exam! Despite everything being thrown at them, they held their heads high and came together as a cast to work their way through everything. As a department, we are beyond proud of everything these students have achieved during a year of uncertainty and isolations. In addition, I would like to thank my staff for going above and beyond to ensure this final exam could go ahead as planned.



### Year 9 Drama Club

A small, but dedicated selection of our forthcoming BTEC Acting and Musical Theatre students met weekly on a Monday afternoon to explore the world of 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. Learning scripted scenes and developing characters, they worked together to create a mini showcase that was shown within the final session. Despite so many being forced to isolate over the ensuing weeks, they persevered and stuck with us! For that, we are most grateful!

Miss Plimmer

## 'Candice Roberts' Drama Award

In honour of a former performing arts student, this award is typically presented on the final night of the school production. As this was unable to go ahead this year, we chose a dedicated Year 9 student to receive this. With so many wonderful students to choose from, this was a very difficult decision! However, we chose a student who has remained loyal and hardworking throughout past school productions as well as creating mature, thought provoking drama within lessons. This year, we were proud to present **Alex** with the award. Well done!

## Year 8 Drama Club

Wednesday afternoon saw a collection of Year 8 students dedicating time to deepen their drama skills. Working collaboratively, they devised scenes using a variety of themes and had fun in the process! Again, hit by isolations, the students were steadfast and hard working. Excellent work everyone!

**We look forward to September 2021 bringing us the fresh start we are all desperate for. We cannot wait to welcome audiences through the door again to watch our productions. Until then, keep smiling—we'll see you soon!**

#TheShowMustGoOn

**Mrs Swaffield**

## CHILDREN WITH CANCER UK

*On Friday 25th June, Year 10 students took part in a charity fundraising day to raise money for Children with Cancer UK, in memory of Katie, a member of the year group who sadly passed away in July 2020.*

*It was a non-uniform day for Year 10 students, with the students being asked to donate £1. We also ran a tuckshop at break and lunch time which was a roaring success. All items for sale were donated by staff and students and sold for 50p, with the tuckshop itself raising over £200.*

*At the end of the day, the year group gathered on the school yard to remember Katie. (See pictures on following page.)*

*Katie's mum, also came into school to speak to the year group and thank them for their efforts.*

*In total, Year 10 have raised £800 for Children with Cancer UK.*



# Prom at last!

The sun shone on the righteous this week as 250 of our Year 11 students attended the Pavilion Suite at Chester Racecourse for their long-anticipated prom. After three cancellations due to Covid restrictions, the opportunity to catch up with friends was all the more special and our young people looked amazing in their prom-dresses and suits. The venue itself was beautifully decorated, complete with red carpet to match the glamour of the occasion. Students were greeted with mocktails on arrival, followed by a delicious three-course meal. It was wonderful to see our students enjoying themselves after all their hard work during this most difficult year, with all its frustrations and disappointments. Students took full advantage of the dance floor and the photo booth and photo studio were put to good use capturing this special night for posterity. Thanks to Ms. Mitchell and Miss Magee for their organisation.









## The NHS Big Tea:

The 'NHSBigTea' was held on 5th July, the NHS's birthday. It was a national celebration of our NHS staff – and a time to give our thanks and help to raise funds to support our NHS champions.

At Bridgewater, the staff came together to host their own NHSBigTea events and to raise funds. Two events were held.

### Event 1

INSET day is a day when many colleagues come together for staff training purposes and so on Friday 2nd July, our Catering Academy staff provided tea/coffee and freshly baked cakes at both sites for colleagues to enjoy, with the proceeds going towards NHS.

### Event 2 The NHS's Birthday

For the week commencing 5th July, colleagues could pre-order a cream tea from our Catering Academy staff to enjoy. Again, proceeds went to NHS charities.

Both events were a huge success and raised £612!



# Year 8 Unlock Cyber Challenge



OPENING FUTURES IN CYBER SECURITY



The Unlock Cyber Challenge ran for the second time here at Bridgewater High School on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2020, organised by Miss Price. This is a competition targeted specifically at Year 8 pupils, to give students opportunities for further development in Computer Science before making GCSE choices in Year 9. Students this year worked through a series of four labs which all take the perspective of either an attacker, the victim, or an investigator during a cyber-attack. Throughout the series, students completed various exercises and the topics covered included: open source investigation techniques, understanding of malicious documents that contain harmful links, knowledge of windows registry keys, network packet capture analysis, windows event log analysis, knowledge of scripts and programs such as Python and Bash, ethical hacking principles, malicious documents and vulnerabilities in LibreOffice, knowledge of executing malicious code using mshta.exe and building a malicious document using all combined knowledge of the above.

This is a very popular competition which is run once a year and powered by Immersive Labs. Year 8 students are given scenarios to read through and the development of the solution is entirely up to them. It is a very challenging competition in which students are exposed to new topics and activities relating to cyber security. Students are able to use any computing methods to come up with a solution, but with the warning that they were always on a timer. The competition lasted for around two hours and the students participating this year worked incredibly hard throughout the competition.

This year has already been incredibly challenging and difficult for us all. Supervising this competition allowed me to see just how much students enjoy the subject and thrive when given further opportunities to learn. I would like to say a huge well done to Jacob, Himasha, Sophie, Jacob, Benjamin, Jake, Ava and Niamh for their outstanding efforts this year in the Unlock Cyber Challenge! It was a fantastic effort from everyone involved, showing great perseverance, commitment and dedication to problem solving.

Well done everyone!

Miss. Price

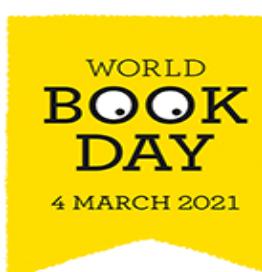
## The Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Expedition

Over the last few weeks, 54 students from year 10 have completed their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze expedition. This involved a day's training in Delamere Forest and then a qualifying expedition, hiking from Bishop Heber school in Malpas to the Morris Dancer public house in Kelsall, approximately 25km in distance (some ending up doing closer to 30km).

All the students approached the expedition with an excellent attitude and commitment, completing the distance with a smile, some even with a swagger. They took everything in their stride, from saving dormice to coping with the hale and torrential rain. I hope they look back on the trip with some great memories and a real sense of achievement in a year which has had more than its fair share of ups and downs.



Mr. Gifford



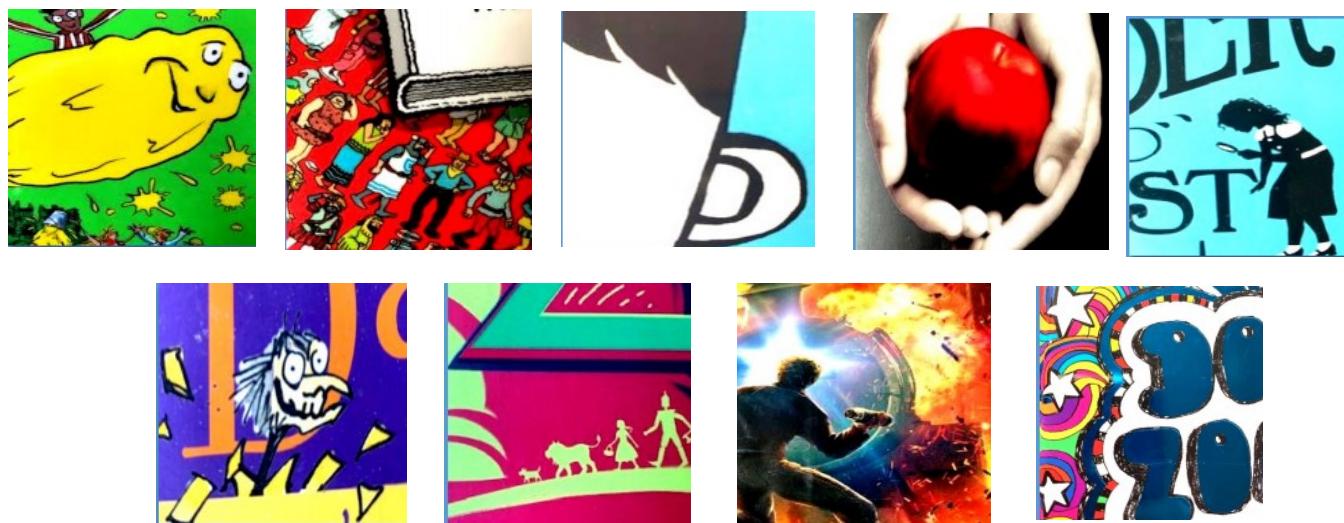
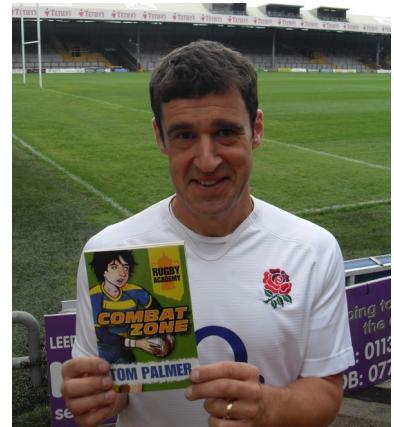
# WORLD BOOK DAY 2021



World Book Day was created by UNESCO on 23rd April 1995 as a worldwide celebration of books, reading, authors and illustrators, and is marked in over 100 countries around the world. As this year we were unable to hold our usual competitions and events in the Library, Bridgewater celebrated its first digital World Book Day! The £1 tokens that we normally hand out to every pupil were digital vouchers this year, downloadable from a link. The choice of books that you could use your £1 voucher for included ***Little Badman and the Radioactive Samosa***, ***Skulduggery Pleasant***, ***Planet Omar Operation Kind***, ***Football School***, ***Kill Joy***, a murder mystery, ***Sky-steppers***, ***The River Whale*** and a book about how to protect the planet!

As part of the celebrations, we hosted a **virtual author visit** from Tom Palmer. Tom Palmer is an award-winning children's/young people's author who writes fiction about football, rugby and history. We have many of his books in the Library. His video, which was specially recorded for Bridgewater Lower School, was shown to pupils in their English lesson. In his video, Tom talked about where he gets inspiration for his stories (camping in empty football stadiums, fell-running and canoeing in the Lake District), how he became interested in reading through his love of football, to how he collects photographs and memorabilia in scrapbooks as research for his books.

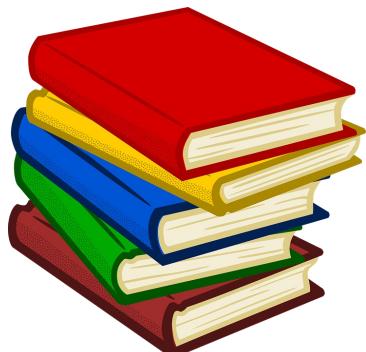
The WBD Competition for Lower School pupils this year was 'Guess the Book!' where pupils had to identify a book by looking at a piece of it's cover. See if **you** can guess the books from the details shown below! (Answers are on the next page...)



Winners of the competition were Alex (7CZC), Amelie (7KJ), Paige (8RLT) and Josh (8OG), who all received a £10 Amazon gift voucher!

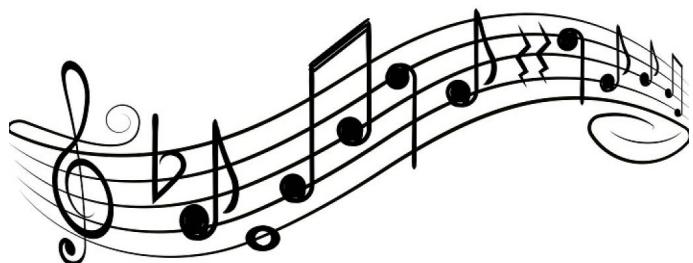
Teachers also shared their favourite book as part of World Book Day ‘Share a Story’. Many thanks to all those who took part. We look forward to a more normal World Book Day in 2022!

Finally, some of Bridgewater’s teachers shared their favourite book as part of ‘Share a Story’. Many thanks to all teachers who took part!



**Answers:** *Slime; Where's Wally?; Wonder; Twilight; Murder Most Unladylike; George's Marvellous Medicine; The Wizard of Oz; Never Say Die (Alex Rider); Dogzombies (Tom Gates)*

## Spotlight ON



Congratulations to Harvey in Year 9, who has now completed his grade 8 keyboard exam. This has been a huge journey over the last 5 years and Harvey has achieved every grade, 1-8. It was his goal to finish by the time he was 14 years old so well done Harvey. We are all immensely proud of your achievement.

## GOODBYE MRS P!

This summer, we are sadly saying goodbye to Mrs. Carol Pickering, who has run our Personal Development Centre for the past 13 years. Mrs. Pickering (or Mrs. P, as she is often known!) is a well-loved colleague who has helped many of our youngsters through the tricky years of being a teenager. She has been a calm, smiling face to those desperately in need of reassurance at life's difficult moments and has helped set many of our young people back on their feet when they have stumbled. We caught up with her to tell her how much we would all miss her and to gain a bit of insight into the person behind the calm, cheerful smile...

### What are your proudest moments at Bridgewater?

The Prom has to be one of those moments; the pupils look amazing, they mature so much in their final school year. To see them having a good time together finishes the school year perfectly.

There's the GCSE results day. Watching a pupil's reaction when they realise they have achieved the GCSEs they need to move onto their chosen college or apprenticeship, it's a wonderful feeling.

Also having updates from ex-pupils. Knowing they are happy, hearing about their achievements, their plans for the future. These are all proud moments.

### What 3 pieces of advice would you offer to our young people today?

Manners – they cost nothing and mean everything to others.

Respect - treat others as you would like to be treated yourself.

Try to think before you speak, it's not as easy as it sounds but can save a lot of upset!

### What aspects of your job will you miss the most?

Definitely working with the KS4 pupils every day. When I mention to people (outside of a school environment) that I work with teenagers I often get a look of dismay. I honestly don't understand it. I really enjoy working with Year 10 and 11 pupils, through their ups and downs while they are learning to cope with the challenges of growing up. Alt-

ough, I'm not going to lie, there are times when they drive me crazy, but I am really going to miss them.

Also, it goes without saying, I'll miss ALL of my Bridgewater colleagues. I'm not going to mention them by name/department as the list would be too long! Their daily support has a massive impact on the resources I can put in place for the pupils. Whenever I ask for their help they go above and beyond and I can't thank them enough. I'll especially miss being part of the Pastoral team, I feel very lucky to have worked with them all over my time at Bridgewater.

### Any bits you definitely WON'T miss?

Year group zones, bubbles and restrictions!

### Can you tell us something about you that nobody here knows?

I've always wanted a red Triumph Stag car. I asked my dad for one as my 21<sup>st</sup> birthday present (it didn't materialise!) Ironically if it had what an investment it would have been as they're classics now! I'll keep dreaming!

### What are you looking forward to next?

I have my next few months planned...My priority is to catch up with my family and friends and to go on the holidays that have been postponed and moved numerous times! I've booked to go on Velocity 2, the zipwire in Wales, I've been on it before and it's so much fun, a little bit scary too! Also, a walking experience with Alpacas, a spa day, kayaking, and hopefully my application for an allotment will be successful. If all goes to plan I should be on my way to Lisbon on the day everyone returns to school, I'll be thinking of you all :-)



## The Future of our Student Leadership Team

Hello everyone, my name is Amelia. I am currently in Year 9 at Bridgewater and earlier this year I was elected Vice-Chair of the Student Leaders. In this role, I work alongside Ruby (Communications Manager), Lois (Chair), Joseph (Assistant Community Manager), Sebastian (Finance Manager) and the other Student Leaders to create an environment within school in which the pupils feel that their voices are being heard.

So far, we have run an event that contributed towards food bank donations, worked on improving the range of food in the canteen at Lower Site, are working on ways that our school can be even more environmentally friendly and have been meeting with Mr Roberts to develop a new Leadership scheme.

The Bridge to Leadership Award has been our main project this year, with other plans, such as charity events, being restricted and cancelled by COVID. This award will be a chance for the new Year 7's to enter into Leadership Roles when they arrive at our school and make themselves known amongst the senior staff members for positive reasons. It consists of a series of tasks centred around our "sense of" curriculum, which they will be shown in their Form Time lessons, that are presented in levels of increasing difficulty.

The first level, Bronze, is made up of tasks that can be easily completed as long as the student has the motivation to do so, but will still offer a sense of achievement once done. To achieve this level, the student must put together a portfolio where they present their 18 chosen and completed tasks, 3 for each of the 6 "sense of" points. This portfolio will then be checked by either myself or one of the other Student Leaders who will give the Year 7 feedback on the work.

Then, if they wish to do so, that student can go away and complete another 3 tasks for each point which will be checked again. If the additional 18 points are passed through, then the child will have achieved the next level of difficulty: Silver. By completing the remaining 3 left on the list of tasks for each point, that have been specially selected in Student Leadership meetings, they will have achieved Gold.

This is a very important achievement as those who make it to Gold are the ones who will become the next generation of Bridgewater's Student Leaders, and will have the opportunities to make those changes that they feel need to happen.

We have also been putting guidelines in place so that those who do make it to being a Student Leader have an idea as to what it is they are expected to do. Unfortunately, the Coronavirus pandemic hit us at full force just when my Student Leadership journey was starting, which meant that due to restrictions we could not split off into the areas that we signed up for jobs in.

However, this will not be a problem in the future, meaning that there will be several areas within our team, looking at mental health, community work, etc... Having diversity like this within the group will ensure that every problem, no matter what it is about or how large it is, will be handled correctly. But most importantly, it will be handled by the students for the students, and existing in a world where that can work and it can work well is our main aim!

We were also working on putting together a series of events that would have raised money for local Cancer charities, and although these plans had to be put on hold, our hopes are that it is only temporary and this time next year we will have had great success with our new student leaders and will have raised a more than generous amount of money for all sorts of charities!

Thank you very much for reading this,  
Amelia

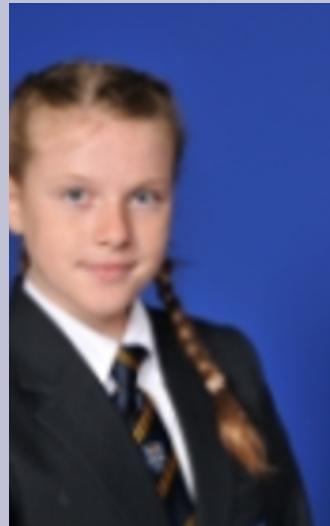
Pictured, left to right, are members of the Student Leadership Team,: Jospeh, Amelia, Seb, Lois and Ruby.



## **Abigail in Year 9, tells about her role in Warrington's Youth Parliament**

### **WHAT IS IT?**

It is an organisation run *by* young people *for* young people and it allows people to have a voice in their community



### **HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED?**

Via elections, first by as a Youth ambassador and then internally as leader of Warrington youth voice

### **WHAT IS YOUR ROLE?**

I chair the meetings for Constitution involving the officers and Youth Ambassadors. We discuss and vote on issues and projects. In the pipeline we are looking to get solar panels in schools as we feel it will help climate change. We look for grants and funding and seek advice on where we need to go. We carried out a survey recently that identified the top 3 factors in South and North Warrington schools which students felt were the biggest issues. Findings were identical. Number one was safety of young people, number 2 was climate change and number 3 was Misuse and Abuse of drugs and alcohol. The group will focus on these issues and the other issues they decide on as a constitution.

### **HOW LONG DOES THIS LAST FOR?**

The role lasts for a year and then I would hope to be re-elected.



## Safeguarding

Summer holidays can be a wonderful time of year. Many families will be enjoying the extra time together but it can also bring about additional financial strains and household tensions (particularly due to economic stress and fears about Covid). Please find below some services and resources that you may find useful to help keep you and your family safe and well during the long summer holiday.

### Online Safety

Here are some ideas to ensure your child is able to enjoy all the internet can offer whilst keeping safe.

Set parental security and privacy settings on their device (most stores will do this for you)

Regularly have open and honest conversations with your child about staying safe online

Report any online concerns to CEOP at [www.thinkyouknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkyouknow.co.uk)

### Emotional well-being

We recognise mental health doesn't take time off for summer and it is very important we all care for our emotional wellbeing. Encourage your child to:

Keep Active

Stay in touch with friends and family (even if this can't be in person)

Always ask for help

[www.happyokssad.warrington.gov.uk](http://www.happyokssad.warrington.gov.uk) has lots of local and national resources to support young people, adults and their families.

[www.kooth.co.uk](http://www.kooth.co.uk) offers free online counselling to young people aged 11-18

If situation is more urgent contact **CAMHS on 01925 575 904**, visit your GP or contact the mental health crisis line on **0800 051 1508**.

### Domestic Abuse

If you need any further support or advice regarding domestic abuse you can contact the 24 hour **Domestic Abuse helpline on 0808 2000 247** or visit [www.nationalhelpline.org.uk](http://www.nationalhelpline.org.uk) or [www.safelives.org.uk-staying-safe-during-covid-19](http://www.safelives.org.uk-staying-safe-during-covid-19)

For local services and support, visit;

[www.opentheodoorcheshire.org.uk](http://www.opentheodoorcheshire.org.uk)

Evidence has also highlighted a recent increase in reporting of violence by teenagers towards parents & carers. If you have been affected by this or want further information and support contact **Family Lives** on **0808 800 2222** or

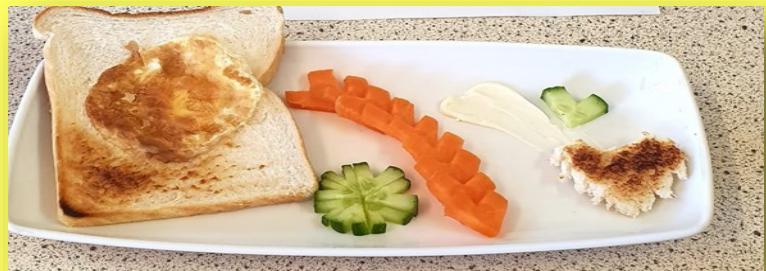
Email – [askus@familylives.org.uk](mailto:askus@familylives.org.uk)

Website – [www.familylives.org.uk/advice/teenagers/behaviour/teen-violence-at-home/](http://www.familylives.org.uk/advice/teenagers/behaviour/teen-violence-at-home/)

[www.mylifewarrington.gov.uk](http://www.mylifewarrington.gov.uk) also offers lots of local information about services available to support you and your family.

If you have a safeguarding concern regarding a child, contact MASH on 01925 443322

## YEAR 11 FOOD TECHNOLOGY



As part of their coursework in Year 11 students will complete a three-hour practical exam. Some of the marks will be gained through their presentation of the dishes. For their QMA this term, Year 10 students were set the 'Egg Challenge' to practise their presentation skills in preparation for their coursework next year. They were given a range of very basic ingredients, which included, one egg, one piece of bread, one or two vegetables and different sauces. Students had only one hour to cook a dish from these ingredients and present them in any way they liked. They only had 5 minutes to plan their dish. The key was to be creative and show that even if the ingredients aren't fancy, they can still look fantastic!!! You can see some of the brilliant results achieved.

Mrs. Callaway



## What is Happening in CAREERS at Bridgewater High?



1. Brand new version of our Careers Package - "Start" as of September.

You can access as a guest via <https://careers.startprofile.com/page/home-page>

2. Our students will be clustered in "Career Interest Groups"

You can see the information the students/parents were given to help them make their choice at:  
<https://cw.startprofile.com/page/explore-jobs-by-interests>

The Groups the students could choose from are in:

<https://forms.office.com/r/hiK5F0r4Km>

3. "Career Interest Groups" will be placed into Teams and then Teams can receive regular updates about forthcoming events /activities etc and then this can be recorded in "Start" in students "Personal Locker" building a record of achievements for their C.V's.

4. Career Guidance Interview Process Explained

Each student has a One to One Career Guidance Interview during their time in school with Dr Fortune , our Careers Connect Advisor. This process is usually started in Year 10 and completed by Christmas in Year 11. Timed to ensure 300+ pupils have had theirs prior to making applications in January to college etc.

Year 9 Pupil Premium students have a Career Guidance Interview prior to making their options also. Prior to the interview each parent/guardian is informed of the forthcoming One to One and the process is explained to ensure they are aware and more importantly involved. A form for the student to complete is sent home prior to the appointment so that each student has an opportunity to consider what they need from their session in advance of their appointment.

After every One to One Guidance interview a report is sent home and to the student which includes what was discussed and an action plan for that student. We also attach a copy to the Students Start Locker building up evidence that can be useful for the future.

Any student who would like to discuss careers can make an appointment to talk with Mrs Winstanley about careers by emailing [m.winstanley@bridgewaterhigh.com](mailto:m.winstanley@bridgewaterhigh.com)

5. Careers Sessions during Tutor Time

Careers have been given slightly more slots to enable us to make more use of START and Career topics/research can have more of an impact upon the students. Some of the Progress sessions have been re-allocated and also the students may be asked to complete part of the session as homework if not completed because of time constraints. There is a complete series of new materials moving forward for next year!

6. The Careers Framework that all schools have to follow involves 8 "Gatsby Benchmarks", eg by incorporating some labour market information (from START) in lessons this will bring Careers to Life for our students eg around 13,110 Art Officers, Producers, Directors are expected to be needed by 2024 with an annual salary of around £43K. There are lots of different examples in START.

A stable career programme.

Learning from career and labour market information.

Addressing the needs of each pupil.

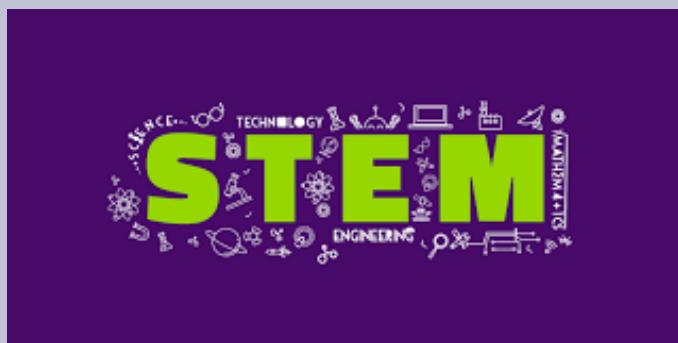
Linking curriculum learning to careers.

Encounters with employers and employees.

Experiences of workplaces.

Encounters with further and higher education.

Personal guidance.



## Bridgewater pupils have lunch on Mars and design cities for the future

As the year concludes, Bridgewater students have continued to excel in their endeavours with extra-curricular STEM activities. One particularly exciting project which we completed was the GALOM (growing life on Mars) project, in which pupils researched the conditions of Mars and investigated the question of food and how food could be grown on the red planet were humans to colonise it.

Pupils constructed some ingenious Martian allotments, with various potential crop plants and different growing mediums. Soil of course was not an available resource as there is no soil on Mars. Instead, pupils had to research other possibilities such as growing their plants using hydroponic systems or other mineral substances like vermiculite. Pupils were also given monitoring equipment to measure the conditions of their plants and considered various other factors such as protection from radiation.

As with our other previous 'Mars projects,' this one was funded by Higher Horizons, from Keele University and guided by some experts on space travel and plant science in the Space industry who carried out several interactive webinars with the group. The project was a great success and, to my happy surprise I was nominated by Higher Horizons as the Outreach Hub Teacher or Advisor of the Year Award 2021, though I believe that the pupils are much worthier of commendation than I am!

Using these contacts in the space industry, we also organised some recent interactive webinars for year 7 students, some of whom watched them in school, and many more at home as it happened when many were isolating. The two webinars featured were 'women in space' and 'returning to the moon: why NASA needs more than astronauts.'

In addition to our Space projects, two pupils, Matt (year 7) and Isaac (year 9) submitted an entry each to the Bright Ideas project, organised by Shell, which involved designing a future city centred on safety and sustainability. Matt would produce his own website detailing information about the city, which was incredibly well designed and aesthetically pleasing, whilst Isaac designed a presentation full of innovative and novel ideas. Though we did not manage to win this award (it is a national event, available for pupils up to year 10), their projects were commended and described as 'very strong.' Both pupils are young enough to have another go next year, when I anticipate lots more Bridgewater entries.

On the subject of next year, I am already excited by the STEM prospects that await us. It is my intention to integrate some of the Mars project based work we have done, into our regular Science lessons, so that more pupils can experience this, as well as other bespoke extracurricular projects. We will also be continuing with the United Utilities competition which puts us in competition with the other TCAT schools, as well as the Unilever project amongst others. It is certainly an exciting time to be in charge of STEM, and to be a pupil interested in STEM subjects and opportunities.

Mr. Shaikh

## Spotlight on... WILL SUTTON

What an incredible month of football! Most of us have made memories to last through a lifetime. But did you know the football dream lives on, albeit much closer to home?

I would like to introduce you to Will Sutton, a former pupil who left Bridgewater in 2019. Then, Will was awarded a professional contract at Oldham Athletics. He made his debut for the club in November 2020 against Bradford City in the EFL Trophy.

“Promising impact”, “resolute performance”, “grown in stature”. These are the phrases a journalist used to describe Will’s impressive debut.

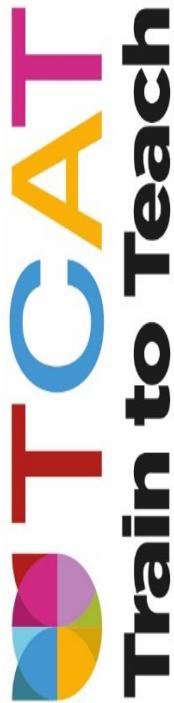


But there is more you need to know. Will is a kind, modest, hardworking young man who deserves this success. He is credit to his family and was a much-loved member of the school community here at Bridgewater. Will’s mum adds “He was also accepted by Loughborough Uni, which we will defer for now whilst he lives his dream.”

Who knows where this dream will take him? My money is on Paris-Saint Germain, where his French GCSE will come handy!

I wish him all the best in his football career

**Mrs Harris**



## Initial Teacher Training

Twenty five Associate Teachers began their teaching careers with TCAT in September, having enrolled on our School Direct Initial Teacher Training course based at Bridgewater High School. As part of their course, the students teach in 2 placement schools with 14 currently being mentored at Bridgewater and 11 currently placed and mentored in Beamont Collegiate Academy, Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School and Penketh High School. All our students return to Bridgewater every Friday for lecture sessions and all are proving to be highly effective classroom teachers. They completed their first PGCE assignment in November and have until the end of January in their current schools before experiencing a second TCAT school to complete their training. We are proud of how they have risen to the challenge of training to teach in these exceptional circumstances and would like to congratulate them on the progress they have made over the term.

If anyone would like to know more about the School Direct ITT course here at Bridgewater High School, please email [j.hodgson@bridgewaterhigh.com](mailto:j.hodgson@bridgewaterhigh.com) for more details. There is information on our website but we are always happy to talk about the TCAT course and the opportunities we can offer.



## TCAT Collaboration with Oxford University



This term, the TCAT Oxplore collaboration has delivered sessions to our Year 5 pupils in TCAT Primary Schools as students focus on the big questions of “Can we end disease?” and “Should we all speak the same language?” The project aims to raise pupil aspirations during their time in school. For MFL, each school worked with the language they learn in school (French, German or Spanish) and took part in activities linked to an imaginary trip abroad. They had chance to practise speaking in the target language as well as learning new holiday vocabulary. In Science, the pupils conducted an experiment, gathered data and produced graphs in school and were then encouraged to run an experiment at home with their families.



Our Secondary School delivery days will take place in the Spring term and Year 10 STEM and MFL students from Bridgewater and other TCAT Secondaries will be involved in sessions led remotely by Oxford University researchers and TCAT teachers. These sessions will support our students with valuable skills that will be useful for their GCSE studies. We are also planning to extend the project to our Year 7 and Year 8 students in the new year.



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## SPORTS NEWS

### Road to Wimbledon

#### Year 7

Harrison  
Joe  
Caden  
Daniel  
Guy  
Charlie

Adam  
Noah  
Max  
Lily  
Sophy

#### Year 8

Alexa  
Lucy  
Joseph



Year 7 & 8 pupils entered the annual school round of the Road to Wimbledon in May. The tournament was a round robin in the preliminary stages, followed by a knockout tournament in the latter stages. In the girl's competition Lucy (y8) was the overall winner and Joe (Y8) in the boys. Both winners went onto compete at the County finals at Widnes Tennis Academy. At the county round both Lucy and Joe made it through to the second round of the county finals.

LEFT Road to Wimbledon Champions 2021, Joe and Lucy

## SPORTS NEWS

### **Team Tennis**

#### Under 13's Team Tennis

##### **Year 7**

Joe  
Guy

##### **Year 8**

Joe  
Adam



The boys U13 team have been very impressive in all of their matches. They won all of their matches against Altrincham Boys, Lymm, Calday HS. They narrowly lost to The Grange on a tie break shoot out.

We are awaiting the results from the other schools in the league to see who goes through to the finals in September.

#### U15's Team Tennis

##### **Year 9**

Sam

##### **Year 10**

Adam  
Owain  
Thomas  
Ben  
Jack



The boys U15 team were impressive too, winning 3 out of their 4 matches. They won matches against Lymm, Calday and Altrincham High School. We are still awaiting to hear about our final finishing position in the league.

## SPORTS NEWS

### Interform Rounders

**7 Appleton**

**1<sup>st</sup> GM**

**7 Stockton**

**1<sup>st</sup> KHA**

**8 Stockton**

**1<sup>ST</sup> NXH**



**8 Appleton**

**1<sup>ST</sup> RGD**

### Rugby Enrichment

There was a great turn out by the girls from Years 7-10 at the Rugby enrichment club. The girls have been coached this term by Sale Sharks Rugby Club. Well done to a number of pupils that have gone onto develop their rugby further at Winnington RFC.

### Athletics

Well done to the Year 7/ 8 & 9 girls that have regularly attended the Athletics enrichment club this term. They have worked especially hard on the track practising and improving their personal bests in sprints, middle distance and relays. Unfortunately, all of the competitions that they were training so hard for got cancelled due to the current restrictions. The PE department can't wait to see the pupils enjoying athletics and competing next year.

### Y7 Girls Football Enrichment

In what has been a testing year for all, the uptake on the Bridgewater Girls Y7 Football has been exceptional over 30 girls attended the extra-curricular offer. It has been such a great opportunity for myself to get to know the girls. The dedication and commitment and passion these girls have for the game is amazing. It is great to see the increase in number of girls that play outside at club level. I will look forward to the next season, where we will have the exciting opportunity to play against opposition and schools within the local area competitively and represent Bridgewater Girls.

Miss Aspinall

## SPORTS NEWS

### Y8 Girls Football Enrichment

It has been an exciting time for Bridgewater extra-curricular offer after Covid dramatically affecting the sporting offer. Since this has been back up and running I have been proud of the strong representation of our Y8 Football for the girls. The cohesion and independence has been exceptional to see these qualities. As I am looking forward to the next season, it is an exciting time for Girls Football and cannot wait to get those football boots on and shinnies ready for the season ahead. I know it is going to be an exciting season ahead with representation for Bridgewater. I would like to pass my congratulations on to our two within the squad who are representing U14 Girls Cheshire Football.

### Cheshire Girls Football Squad

Bridgewater PE would like to congratulate the following for being selected for Cheshire Girls U14/ U16 Football squad. They went for trials and successfully made the squad for the 21/22 season. Well done.

#### U14

Izabela  
Caitlin

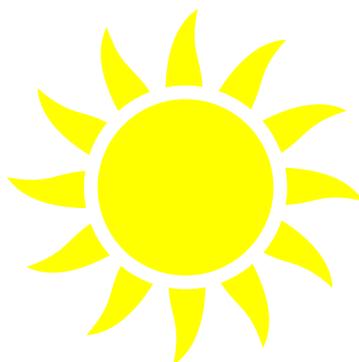
#### U16

Claudia

Miss Aspinall



*The Principal, Staff and Governors would like to take this opportunity to wish all our students, parents, carers and friends, a safe and happy Summer.*



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PART OF THE CHALLENGE ACADEMY TRUST | NURTURE | CHALLENGE | ACHIEVE

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**Principal**

Tim Long BA (Oxon)  
MA Ed, P.G.C.E, N.P.Q.H

**Headteacher Lower School**

Tracey Hatton  
BA Hons, P.G.C.E, N.P.Q.H

**Headteacher Upper School**

Keiron Powell  
BA Hons, QTS

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