

Enriching the Curriculum

In our Trust schools, we believe that the curriculum offer that our pupils receive is broad, balanced and fit for purpose. We maintain the full range of subjects, including the Arts, Drama and Technology until pupils select their GCSE specialisms, and we have extended the range of subjects that our students study at Key Stage 4, both in terms of examined subjects and additional courses focused on life skills. Our very positive and continually improving exam results demonstrate the benefits of this approach, and the positive attitudes and excellent behavior of our students also indicates that they are receiving a stimulating and challenging curriculum offer.

However, we also know that the timetabled subjects that take place are only part of the picture, and that so much more happens either outside the school day, or when we take our students off timetable for a visit or special event. Regular readers of the Newsletter will know the huge range of activities that take place every week in our schools, and I wrote not long ago about the range of clubs and activities that we run. However, I wanted to draw attention to the remarkable work that happens outside the formal curriculum and the impact it has, and pick out just one example from this week for each school and the 6th Form.

6th Form: This week is the third annual 6th Form visit to China, where up to 20 students visit Shanghai, Beijing and Nottingham's sister city of Ningbo. I know many of you will have been following the visit on our social media - they are having an amazing experience, not just seeing the sights, but visiting our partner school, taking part in lessons, and getting to know students from a school on the other side of the world. In preparation for the visit, they have all taken extra lessons in Mandarin,

which they can now put into practice. The experience of the last couple of years has shown us what an unforgettable visit it will be.

Alderman White School: Many of you will know that Beeston hosts the annual Oxjam music festival this Saturday, one of the most successful local festivals in the UK. One of the highlights will be the performance by representatives of the Alderman White Swing Band (6pm The British Legion). Our Swing Band is a remarkable institution – begun some years ago by Claire Franklin, and now run by Cameron Wedgeworth, we currently have over 60 pupils, including many of our Year 7 pupils, playing the full range of instruments, performing a wide repertoire from pop to classics. If you have never heard them, I would recommend it – they are without doubt, one of the most accomplished school orchestras I have heard.



Bramcote College: On Wednesday this week, we were visited by staff from East Midland Ambulance Service who trained all of our pupils in Years 8,9 and 10 to do CPR, as part of national Restart a Heart Day. As ever, the students took part brilliantly, were enthusiastic and engaged, and came away having learnt a vital skill. Obviously, we hope that the majority of them never have to use it, but it's very possible that the skill and technique they learnt could save someone's life one day.

This is just a small snapshot of the additional experience that our students have. In their very different ways, each of these can be life-changing for our young people, and will help develop their social conscience and cultural capital. We encourage all of our students to extend their school experience outside the classroom, and we make sure that there is something suited to every student.

> Paul Heery Executive Principal

Dates for your Diary

| October | TRUST AWS BC BC6F |
|------------------|--|
| 21st | Half Term Holiday Begins |
| November | |
| 4th | Schools Re-open |
| 5th | Year 7 Photographs |
| 7th | Year 11 Parents' Evening |
| 20th | Parents' Forum 19:00 - 20:00 |
| 20th | Y12 / Y13 Parents' Evening 16:00 - 18:30 |
| 21st | PTA Meeting 18:00 |
| 22nd | PTA Christmas Fayre 18:00 - 20:00 |
| 26th | BC6F Open Evening 18:00 - 20:30 |
| 28th -1st Dec | Trip to Cologne Christmas Markets and Phantasialand |

Please see the My Ed app or our websites for a full calendar of upcoming events and important dates.



Reduced Alderman White Swing Band at Oxjam Beeston, Saturday 19th October

Come along and support this group of musicians from Alderman White School performing a set at the **British** Legion, Hall Croft, Beeston at 6pm this Saturday 19th October.

You'll need a wristband to enter (£10 if you buy in advance, available <u>online</u> or at the Beeston Oxfam Books & Music Store. £12 on the day, U18/NUS discounts available) which will give you access to over one hundred artists across different venues over a fantastic evening in Beeston. There will also be lots of great performances during the day which you can access completely free.

To find out more, just Google 'Oxjam Beeston' or see oxjambeeston.org.

We hope to see you there!

Mr C Wedgeworth

Bramcote College Year 7 enjoy the outdoors

While lots of Year 7 have been out this week at Walesby camp, those in school have enjoyed a range of activities on the theme of "Enjoy the Outdoors" including making bird feeders, a woodland walk and artwork, orienteering games and a forest school session at Long Eaton Community Garden. This was a great experience and students enjoyed making dens, woodland crafts, climbing trees and much more. We hope to give many more students the chance to take part in forest school activities over the coming year.

I would like to thank all the staff who supported these activities and praise the Year 7s for their positive attitude during the activity days.

Mrs J Read

Supporting your Child with Apprenticeships

Over the last few years apprenticeships have changed dramatically, with some amazing opportunities being available for the right candidate. If you want to find out more about apprenticeships and help your child to become the 'right candidate' then a great place to start is by downloading and reading the October Parent Pack produced by the National Apprenticeship Service.

vcl.whptrust.org/data/uploads/documents/parent-pack-october-2019.pdf

Ms C Welch

BC6F Open Evening

The staff and students of BC6F would like to invite you to our Open Evening on Tuesday, 26th November. The evening will be an opportunity to meet staff and current students, discuss Post-16 subject and career choices, see the work students complete in their time with us, see our facilities, and hear about future plans.

We offer a full range of A Level subjects as well as Level 3 applied and vocational options across multiple subject areas to meet the learning needs of a variety of student profiles. We pride ourselves in knowing every student as an individual as well

as the importance we place on inclusion through our robust pastoral system.

Results last year on our A Level courses showed a pass rate of over 96%, with 43% of all grades being A*- B and 77% A*- C. Our Average Points Score rose by over 20% and our destinations continue to be a source of pride with over 85% securing their first choice option. We maintained strong links with local and national apprenticeship schemes, too, with students going on to accept places at Rolls Royce, Boots and the police. Enrichment is also a key focus with our KS5 students and we run a full variety of extra-curricular opportunities. We are proud of the efforts of our staff and students who make BC6F a fantastic place to be a part of.

Mrs F Parker Dennis





Purchase forms available from AW reception.



Bramcote College Year 7 Walesby Residential

What a fantastic time we had this year on the Walesby residential. We arrived on the first day, tent allocations were shared with the students before they made their beds for the night and got familiar with the surroundings for sleeping outdoors.

We then had lunch and went off to undertake our afternoon of activities, including rifle shooting, archery, crate stacking & climbing.

After the activities we had our evening meal in the catering barn, where all pupils were fed and watered. For our evening activities the Walesby team led the pupils in a action packed song filled session at the indoor camp fire (due to the weather) to test their co-ordination skills and singing ability, and even some of the staff took part at the front!

On the second day it was time for the water activities, and the weather was being kinder to us. Most of the pupils went into the lake of their own accord to test out the temperature of the water. As you can see there are some smiling faces despite the cold!

Following the activities and the evening meal it was time to put on our dancing shoes on for the Walesby disco, and before bedtime we gave out some achievement awards.

Waking up to a glorious dry day, even though it was a little nippy in the night, we ate breakfast and had another morning packed full of activities.

We had some awards for the cleanest tents, but sadly later on Wednesday our time at Walesby was over. All of the pupils packed their kit into the bags they brought it in, some of these were now over flowing and needed additional bin liners.

I would like to thank the 77 pupils from Bramcote College for their outstanding behaviour and positive attitude in trying new adventures, whether this was food, sleeping outdoors, activities or making new friends. I would also like to thank the staff for their lack of sleep, organisational skills and team leading duties.

Mr D Ramsden

Sixth Form China Trip

The 2019 Sixth Form Trip to China has had an action packed week since arriving safely in Ningbo, visiting the University of Nottingham Ningbo Campus, the 20km² Dongqian Lake. They visited the Ningbo International school, where students attended a business lesson and a Mandarin lesson before painting some opera masks and continuing onto the Zhoushan Middle School, meeting a science teacher who has been credited with a number of inventions and honoured by his country. The school was incredibly welcoming, and the group were humbled by the effort that they had put in to make the visit very special. They tried some traditional Kung-Fu with swords, calligraphy, and were treated to several traditional Chinese performances and a tour of the school.



Follow the BC6F Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts for updates and photos as we receive them.

Bramcote College Sixth Form









Haven visit to Canaan Trust

One of the charities that the Alderman White School's Haven chose to support this half term was the Canaan Trust. Staff and students in the Haven tutor group all contributed food and personal hygiene products to this worthy cause. On Monday 14th October 2019, Mrs Neal along with Mrs Orchard-Robson, Lucy R (Year 11) and James K (Year 8) delivered our hamper of food and toiletries to Jordan House in Long Eaton. Here we met with Kate, the manager, and handed over our donations.



It's important to look after those less fortunate, as we ourselves are only ever two wage packets away from being in a similar situation.

Lucy

Reminder: School Photographs at Bramcote College

Year 7 school photographs at Bramcote College will take place on Tuesday 5th November.

There will also be an opportunity for those in Year 11 who were out on work experience and missed their session to have their photographs taken.

Mrs J Read

Vacancies

We currently have a number of exciting career opportunities available within the Trust:



Teacher of Maths

Full time, from January 2020.

Closing Date - 10:00 am on Wednesday, 6th November 2019



Teacher of Social Science

Full time, from January 2020.

Closing Date - 10:00 am on Wednesday, 6th November 2019



Technician (Design Technology / Art) 37 hours per week, term time only. Closing Date - 10:00 am on Friday, 8th November 2019



Maternity Cover (3 Posts: Teacher of English | Teacher of MFL | Teacher of Drama) Full time, from January 2020 until July 2020 Closing Date - 10:00 am on Monday, 18th November 2019



Maternity Cover: Teacher of RE (Social Sciences and Humanities) From January 2020 Closing Date - 10:00 am on Monday, 4th November

Please see <u>whptrust/vacancies</u> for more information and application details.









sixth form

DONATION SUGGESTIONS

