



BROOKFIELD NEWS

HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME

Another incredible year draws to a close. Once again students in Year 11 and 13 have been denied the opportunity to sit actual GCSE and A Level examinations. School endured another period of lockdown. Remote learning replaced real lessons. COVID rules ruled.

The year is wonderfully captured in the poem 'Isolation Rows', written by Mr Davey, which you can read on Page 7.

We have been pleased that much of what makes Brookfield special has started to return in recent months, and I am sure this newsletter gives a real flavour of the range of activities that have been taking place this term. We have recently held Proms for Years 11 and 13, and Year 6 students have spent a valuable full week of transition at here Brookfield, something last year's Year 6 did not have the opportunity to experience.

There may still be bumps in the road. But look carefully and there is the unmistakable prospect of a return to normal life from September. It is with this unshakeable sense of optimism that everyone at school looks forward to next year.

From everyone at Brookfield, we wish you all a very restful summer break, and we look forward to seeing you in September.

Mr Keith Hirst, Headteacher



DUKE OF EDINBURGH GOLD AWARD

The 2019-20 Duke of Edinburgh's Award Gold cohort has been massively disrupted by the impact of COVID-19. Now in Year 13, and having just left school, only one team gathered to undertake both their Gold Practice and Qualifying expeditions back-to-back. Full use was made of the DofE's central guidance regarding the mitigations allowed for COVID.

The Practice Expedition was done from school covering two large loops, one extending northwards towards Millthorpe, the other extending south towards Wingerworth. Weather on both days was nothing short of glorious. Bright blue sky, warm sunshine resulting in splendid views of the wonderful local countryside.

With a brief weekend respite, the following week commenced with the Gold Qualifying Expedition. This time it was out to the Dark Peak to tackle the southern edge of Kinder Plateau and hit the high spot of Kinder Scout itself, before heading around the head of the valley via Brown Knoll. The weather was mixed with low cloud and rain afternoon sun following later.

In improving weather the second day saw a tour of the Edale valley, traversing both the Great Ridge above Castleton and the lower slopes of the Southern Edges in a 25Km+ day. Whilst day three saw the teams move from Edale in the White Peak and tackle both Shatton Moor and Lose Hill, before coming back to Edale. Again, the sun shone and all did well. The final day was testing the new, proposed Five Edges route to compliment the new house system with the team traversing Birchin, Gardom's, Baslow, Curbar and Froggatt Edges.

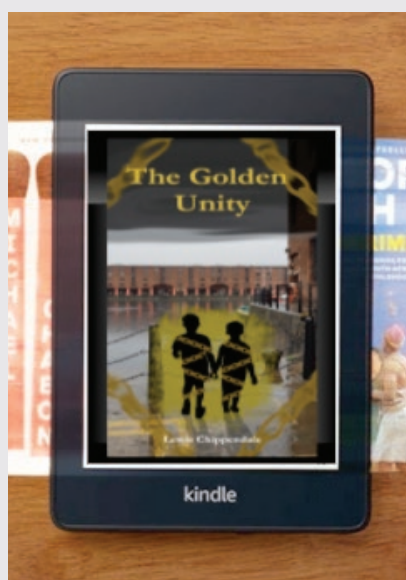
It was a fantastic few days and the team and those involved did really well and once again showed the determination, self-reliance and resolve expected at students at this level. Similar plaudits must be given to Mrs Woods who graciously volunteered her time to support the expeditions.



A NEW EPQ ERA!

A huge congratulations to Year 13 student Lewis Chippendale who has made history by being the first ever Brookfield student to complete an 'Extended Project Qualification' project.

His commitment, hard work and studious approach to his research was outstanding and as a result he has written his first ever piece of extensive creative writing, *The Golden Unity*, which explores class inequality in Liverpool. Mrs Metcalfe-Murgatroyd, Mr Hirst and Chair of Governors Mr Barker witnessed his superb presentation and were truly blown away by the effort he went to. Well done Lewis – let's hope that many more Brookfield students follow in his EPQ footsteps in the future.



YEAR 9 BEYOND THE BASELINE

Our Youth Sport Trust 'Beyond the Baseline' tennis leadership project got underway in June, with eighteen students taking part. The first session was very positive and both the students and their mentor, Anna Fitzpatrick, commented on how much they had enjoyed the session. Our students engaged well with their mentor, and began planning a tennis session they can model to each other for the final event in July.

Beyond the Baseline is a scheme led by the Youth Sport Trust in conjunction with the LTA and involves a tennis mentor visiting schools to share their story and their skills with a selected group of students. They inspire the students with how they achieved success in tennis, as well as talk about the employability and life skills they gained on their journey.

Students then get active on the court and learn the skills needed to compete in tennis whilst having fun and working with others.

Students will finally work with the rest of their Beyond the Baseline Project Group to plan, organise and deliver a tennis project for other young people in their community.

NATIONAL CITIZENS

In the last week of term, all our Year 12 students have been given the fantastic opportunity of taking part in the nationally acclaimed National Citizenship Service. This is a superb programme that will take our students on a two day outward bounds adventure, a three day community action planning session and finish with a week of local community action in our area. As well as team building and developing employability skills, our students will have the chance to give something back to their local community.





ATHLETICS SUCCESS

Students representing Brookfield Community School have tasted success at the Derbyshire Schools Athletics Championships. The competition was held at Moorways Stadium on Saturday 12th June.

- Grace Pell in Year 8 came third in the 75m hurdles and met the qualification standard for representing the County at the regional championships.
- Pollyanna Wilmot in Year 8 won the girls hammer competition.
- Evie Blant, Year 8 came tenth in the 1500m.
- Ella Boyland came eighth in the 800m.
- And finally, Rory Randall in Year 11 finished second in the javelin.

Congratulations to you all, and we would also like to wish good luck to Grace Pell as she prepares for the regional competition.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH BRONZE AWARD

The 2019-20 Duke of Edinburgh's Award Bronze cohort finally managed to get out on their Qualifying Expedition over the week of 21-24 June 2021 – only a year overdue! COVID-19 has disrupted many aspects of school life and DofE has been similarly affected.

The cohort have displayed resilience and tenacity in trying to accomplish as many aspects of the award as possible in these difficult times, espousing the very qualities the award programme seeks to instil. The group had their training disrupted, their expeditions cancelled and their many outside activities being used to complete the other sections effectively put-on-hold indefinitely.

Finally, using the mitigations put in place by DofE to allow expeditions to run in COVID times, we have finally got out and finished the expedition section. The students are now in Year 11 so we had to wait for the GCSE exam evidence gathering period to end - when the students went on expedition they had effectively finished school. Further credit to those who came back to undertake the award.

The expeditions ran over four days, with half the group going on the first two days and the other half on the second two days. Routes were planned locally, straight from the school door and there was sadly no camping; unlike our usual forays into the Peak District. The weather was by and large marvellous with blue skies, little in the way of cloud and no rain! The groups worked really well with their attached member of staff and worked hard on their navigation and team work, trying to make up for all that lost time.

For many of those attending the expedition section was the last piece of the jigsaw and they have now successfully completed their Bronze award – well done to them. For the remainder the door is still open and the award can be finished at any point prior to 25 – though we would prefer it sooner than that. Students can still upload evidence and ask questions about the other section at any time.

Finally, as always, DofE at Brookfield would not happen without the help and time of the staff. In this case Mrs Woods, Mr Mason, Mr James, but especially Mrs Williams and Mrs Wagstaffe who were vital in getting these Bronze expeditions to the start line. Many thanks to all.

10 THINGS YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT: MRS QUINN

1. What three words might describe the person you were when you were at school and what advice would you offer your sixteen year old?

"A bit stroppy". I would tell a 16 year old to be kind, to yourself and to others.

2. What would you have been if not a teacher?

A farrier.

3. Why did you decide to teach?

I love history and politics and I quite like young people - in small doses! Seriously, I do love history and politics and I am quite passionate about helping people to learn and understand more about those subjects because they are so important. I also love seeing people get a chance to succeed and go on to make the best of their opportunities; being a teacher gives me chance to do that.

4. Which teacher from school can you remember best - and why?

Mr Stretton, a history teacher. He made us think.

5. What did you want to be when you were twelve?

In a punk band.

6. Who was your role model as you were growing up? And now?

I don't have role models: everyone is different - be the best that you can be. No more heroes!

7. What do you get up to outside of school?

Riding, tennis, reading, being a councillor and walking my dogs.

8. What's your best memory from your time as a teacher/working at Brookfield?

I've not been here that long so I would say being back after the second lockdown and able to see everyone again.

9. Why are you so passionate about your subject area?

Politics decides what happens in our lives and people just don't know enough about how it works and what their role is. I am hoping to change that.

10. Finally, can you tell us a joke?

"The Times" has reported that because we can't export dairy products to the EU anymore: we have a massive ice cream mountain. It's a huge scoop.



COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Amelia Randall (Year 13) has made excellent use of her time since finishing her A Level assessments by designing and building a 'water wall' to be installed in the early years play area at Ashgate Croft School. Despite coming to the end of her time at Brookfield, Amelia continues to be an inspirational role model for the rest of the school community.

Well done Amelia!

PERFORMING ARTS SHOWCASE

The Performing Arts team and students have been working tirelessly since we returned to school to create an outdoor summer showcase, planned to be very much like proms in the park, with a range of performances based upon Shakespeare's works, themes and characters, and the BPFA serving strawberries and cream.

Current restrictions mean that the event can no longer go ahead in that form, but fear not - the show will go ahead in a virtual format, as our students have worked too hard to miss this opportunity to showcase their talents!

The showcase will be available on *our website* from Wednesday 21st July at 7pm, so join us for an evening of dance, drama, songs and more - the perfect way to relax into the summer break.

CRIMINOLOGY WORKSHOP

On Monday 5th July 2021, fifteen current and prospective Criminology students at Brookfield Community School took part in a full-day "Crime Scene to Courtroom" workshop facilitated by a former Chief Inspector at Humberside Police.

Students began the day by listening to and analysing a 999 call, then scrutinised the testimonies of witnesses and examined a crime scene before taking on courtroom roles and conducting a mock trial. The day was designed to give students some practical context and experience of investigative techniques and processes in order to complement their studies.

The Applied Diploma in Criminology is a two-year, Level 3 (A-Level equivalent) vocational qualification that has been offered by Brookfield Sixth Form since September 2020. The course covers four units of study, starting with how our awareness of different types of crime is changing, and a theoretical exploration of what makes some people become criminals, through to an end-to-end process examination of the roles and systems of criminal justice and how punishment and other forms of social control are used to control deviant and criminal behaviours in society. The course is popular with students studying a variety of other courses, and many students plan to further their studies by studying criminology and policing at university.

The course is run by the Social Sciences Department - anyone interested in finding out more should contact [Mr Cliff](#).



GEOGRAPHY BAKE OFF

The Geography Department recently held a bake off for their Year 13 students. Our budding bakers had to make a cake which represented a section of the A Level Geography specification that they have been studying over the last two years.

The competition was judged by Mr Hirst, Mr Croft and Mr Schofield, and the overall winner was Amelia Randall, in 13CE.



CAREERS NEWS

Brookfield students continue to show great resilience and take full advantage of the careers and work experience opportunities on offer to them. The majority of our Year 10 and 12 students completed a two day Virtual Work Experience package and in addition to this many students have successfully applied to major online virtual Work Experience opportunities with big institutions like the NHS and Santander.

Whilst our usual trips to local employers and Higher Educational institutions have had to be put on hold, we continue to maintain strong links with local employers such as United Cast Bar and are delighted that they have agreed to continue working with us next year, providing our students with a real insight in to the world of STEM and Business and Admin. These close links provide our students with progression opportunities and three of our current Y13 students have gone on to secure a Higher Apprenticeship with UCB.

We will continue to promote all virtual Higher Education fairs with students and parents as we enter the next academic year.

And finally, Lilja Raine in Year 12 has successfully been accepted on to a Women in Construction initiative where she will be mentored by a female professional from the industry and represent Brookfield on the scheme. Well done Lilja.

Please encourage your children to make full use of our free online careers platform [Start Profile](#). Here they can explore future careers, progression routes and local market information.



ART & TEXTILES ONLINE EXHIBITION

Our online exhibition for GCSE and A Level Fine Art and Textiles is now live, and we are delighted to share with you this collection of artworks produced by our Year 11 and Year 13 students.

As we are unable to invite you into school to see the work in person, we have put together this virtual exhibition showcasing student work from our Fine Art and Textiles qualifications. We are tremendously proud of the creative endeavours of all our young artists, in this, the most challenging of years. We hope you enjoy the work and join us in applauding the artistic achievements on show.

[Click here](#) to visit the exhibition.

OUT AND ABOUT WITH GEOGRAPHY

Brookfield Community School's Year 12 Geographers completed two days of fieldwork in July, one in Bakewell and another in Holderness on the East Yorkshire coast.

Students worked hard to complete a wide range of fieldwork techniques and even found time to have a competition to see who could make the best coastal landform models from sand and pebbles on the beach.

Sam Kitchen's group were victorious - Sam's enthusiasm alone deserved maximum points!



ISOLATION ROWS

Into the glowing blue-green screen I peer,
Seeking solace from some stateless ether.
On film, by contrast, by green-screen appears
Life, or something like, bringing together
Action-setting-superstar. It's clever:
They pretend to be heroic - as if
In beating villains (vanquished forever)
Or solving riddles from cursed hieroglyphs,
Nemeses will by them be banished from real-life.

Solitary Saturday matinees
On BBC2: all is black and white.
Lines drawn between characters; "simpler" days:
All resolved - big tick - and morally "right".
Today, we choose greyscale: although more byte,
It allows for subtle shades and nuance.
Once, we would've been sure we'd win the fight;
Now we look at odds, put things in balance:
In Pandemic Times, learn to calculate the chance.

On-line and off, life is technicolour.
Like illuminations from a holy book,
A paradise of promises hover:
"Technology is wonderful" its hook.
Into the glowing blue-green screen eyes look,
Openly gaze on a virtual brave
New world that has such people; sense their "luck"
In being born in this world where they have
Such ways to avoid Covid's first, second, third wave.

Late to the white-heat of technology,
Accepting my seat at its interface,
Teaching becomes techno-pedagogy:
Inform, instruct; encourage, inculcate.
Online, remote learning to educate -
Not a close-knit classroom full of scholars.
In time my screen comes alive - half past eight:
Strange hieroglyphs, icons, avatars
Or (bizarrely, less human) initial letters.

As solo students make our meeting,
Tutoring starts with a salutation:
I'm tuned to the timbre of the greeting
Of each faceless voice in quick rotation.
Now we congregate from every station:
In Bolsover, Brampton, Holymoorside,
Staveley, Newbold, Hasland, Walton, Tapton
Options are taken to cross this divide:
Like the first day of term, of school, of life outside.

Tentative first steps in techno-spaces
Imitate first steps in their nurseries:
Opening mouth/microphone first day is
Not for the faint-hearted/introverted.
Innate inhibitions become insecurities.
Sent emojis suggesting emotions
Of humour, hope, happiness;
Lying by unopened invitations
And repeatedly posed but unanswered questions.

Isolated voices initiate talk,
Overcoming over-powering reserve:
Nervously, hands raise above the bulwark,
Indicating ideas to preserve
Somewhere within a cyberspace server.
Our college community now changing,
Like superstars - YouTube influencers -
All brought alive via "Start Recording".
This communication serves to pause the longing.

Optimism grows - it's now sustaining,
Nurtured like seed of Apple or Acorn:
Imagination rebooted, making
Symbiotic the hope from both sides born.
Over their offspring's shoulders parents see form
Letters, a lexicon, literally
An acknowledgement through strange cuneiform
That isolation breeds - ironically -
Independence (+ ICT facility).

No console or computer consoles like
Interaction; no screen chat like this is
Set to "open hearts" even if "open-mic".
Only the lonely know the way it is:
Loneliness isn't being alone; it's
A state of mind - in crowds or lockdown - which
Truly, we realise, isolates us.
Isolation makes us reflective:
Opens our eyes and hearts to a new perspective

*Mr Davey
January - March 2021*

BROOKFIELD CAREERS GOES PLATINUM

In the final week of term Brookfield's Careers provision was assessed against the gold standard for careers services, and was proudly awarded Career Mark Platinum Award. This places Brookfield alongside only six other schools nationally to hold this prestigious acclaim.



SPORTS DAY RETURNS

On Friday 16th July 2021, Brookfield hosted their school Sports Day for the first time in two years.

Although the usual format of sports day had to be modified to ensure social distancing, all students in years seven to ten represented their form groups and took an active role in the day. Students took part in a variety of athletic events and team competitions across the year groups.

All students showed the kind of effort, enthusiasm, resilience and sportsmanship that we have come to expect at Brookfield and did themselves, their forms and the school proud.



PRIMARY TRANSITION A SUCCESS!

It has been an amazing start for our new Year 7s. Our transition week started on Monday 19th July and on the first day 170 students arrived in the hall for a welcome introduction by Mr Hirst, our transition leader Mrs Allan and Senior Head of House Mrs Williams. It was great to see the Year 7s all dressed impeccably in their uniform, and whilst they certainly had some pre-school nerves it wasn't long until the nerves turned into excitement.

Some of our Year 11 and Year 13 students returned to the school as Ambassadors - Tom, Amelia, Rory, Hannah, Maddie and Jacob were positive role models for our Year 7s to meet and work with.

The students have enjoyed getting to know new people, experiencing new subjects and playing 'scatter ball' in PE. Everyone involved is working incredibly hard to ensure our new Year 7s have a fabulous transition week at Brookfield. They will finish on Friday with huge smiles, already looking forward to September.

After this week, they certainly need a rest before then!



ALUMNI NEWS

We are always delighted to hear from past students and are particularly proud of Joel Golby and Elizabeth Little.

Joel has made a successful journalism career and has kindly spent time critiquing our Sixth Form Editorial group work over Microsoft Teams. Whilst very honest, his charismatic wit has provided our students with an invaluable insight in to this highly competitive industry.

Elizabeth Little, class of 2017, has just graduated from The Glasgow School of Art has had her triptych 'The Lovers' featured on [The Times online](#).



SIXTH FORM UPDATE

After another unique year, we bid farewell to our wonderfully resilient Year 13 students as they spread their wings and progress on to university, apprenticeship and gap year opportunities. We are so proud of the positive attitude they have displayed throughout their A Level studies and wish them all the very best for the future.

Our Year 12 students have just completed the momentous task of completing their first ever set of exams in a formal setting. Whilst this must have been a very overwhelming and daunting experience for them, they showed great courage and positivity and we look forward to seeing their results.

I would like to give a huge congratulations to our new Sixth Form Student Senior Leadership Team who have been appointed after a rigorous application process. I am sure they will go on to add greatly to the school a whole and bring about more positive change for all.



Head Boy: Jack Mitchell

Head Girl: Alice Woodcock

Deputy Head Boy: Jack Mumford

Deputy Head Girl: Faye Bramley

SSLT: Oliver Bates, Olivia Thurman, Lilja Raine and Beth Rippon

And finally I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all Brookfield students and parents past and present for supporting me over the last 19 years at Brookfield School. Whilst my time has come to explore a new chapter, I will miss Brookfield greatly and it will forever hold a special place in my heart - I wish you all the very best for the future.

Mrs Metcalfe-Murgatroyd

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

19th - 23rd July	Roll-over period (Years 6 - 10)
Wednesday 21st July	Performing Arts Virtual Summer Showcase
Friday 23rd July	Summer Term ends (1pm)
Tuesday 10th August	A Level Results Day
Thursday 12th August	GCSE Results Day
23rd - 27th August	Transition Summer School
Thursday 2nd September	INSET Day
Friday 3rd September	INSET Day
Monday 6th September	Autumn Term begins



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