



BROOKFIELD NEWS

Issue 4

HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME

This is an exciting time of year for many but we must always be mindful of those who may be experiencing difficulties or tragedy. On Friday 6th December I represented Brookfield at the funeral of Paula Kingdon, former Headteacher at Westfield Infant School. Paula was well known by many Brookfield students and families and the news of her untimely death still resonates in the school community. The school opened a Book of Condolence for students and staff to express their thoughts and memories of Paula and this has been passed to her family.

In school, there is no let-up in activity as we head towards the Christmas break. Last Friday the BPFA held the annual Christmas Market. On the same day we hosted BBC Radio 4's 'Any Questions?'. Both events were very well attended and enormously successful.

Christmas is a special time of year and I hope you are looking forward to the festive break. This is always a long term and the holiday is a welcome opportunity to spend time with family and friends. I want to emphasise, however, that in school we are keen that we have business as usual until the end of term. For many students - for example, Years 11 and 13 - this year is crucial, and every lesson is important.

On behalf of all the staff at Brookfield, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very happy festive season.

Mr Keith Hirst, Headteacher

SEASONAL FUN AT CHRISTMAS MARKET

On Friday 6th December the Brookfield Parents and Friends Association held their annual Christmas Market - and it was a resounding success! There were over 30 stalls from both external providers and students, offering a wide array of items ranging from jewellery to jams.

Despite the wet and windy evening around 300 people came through the doors to join in the fun and festive cheer. The event relocated this year to the Sports Hall and all agreed that it was a better venue. Crowds were entertained during the evening by Brookfield's own Performing Arts choir who sang carols in beautiful four-part harmony.

As well as being a great occasion in itself, the Christmas Market also raised £2,300 for the BPFA. All of this money will go directly back in to the school, to help provide students with 'extras' that perhaps the school budget can't.

If you would be interested in supporting the BPFA in any way, please email: bpfa@brookfield.derbyshire.sch.uk. They are active at many events throughout the year and would love to hear from you.



SIXTH FORM ADMISSIONS

Sixth Form admissions for 2020 are well underway with our new electronic applications system that can be accessed via [the Sixth Form section of our school website](#). The deadline for applications is Friday 24th January. Our open evening in November saw a great turn-out and we have also been visiting local schools to spread the word about our recent rise in A-Level results, which improved across every measure.

THE UNIVERSITY LIFE?

Recently a group of our students from our Early Applicants group visited Oxford University - Corpus Christi, to get a taste of what life as an Oxbridge student might be like. Perhaps they will follow in the footsteps of Lydia Botham who went to Cambridge University in September to study Asian Studies after securing some outstanding A-Level results at Brookfield.

QUALITY ENGINEERING

At the end of November our Year 10 engineering students spent the day at the Rolls Royce Turbine manufacturing plant at Rolls Royce. They learned a lot about robotics, investment casting, quality control systems, and health and safety procedures. They also found out about careers in engineering and thoroughly enjoyed their day.



ANY QUESTIONS?

On Friday 6th December, the school was very proud to host a live broadcast of BBC Radio 4's 'Any Questions?'. This prestigious programme has been running for 71 years and has 1.5 million listeners every week. Host, Chris Mason, put selected questions from a large audience to a panel including Richard Burgon, Shadow Justice Secretary, and former Conservative cabinet member, Sir Patrick McLoughlin.



Here's some of the brilliant artwork at @bcsch I was talking about on @BBCPM @bbcradio4 just now. #bbcaq is from #Chesterfield this weekend #GE2019 ^{YE}



The panel and the BBC team stayed behind after broadcast to spend time with students and staff and gave a real insight into the political environment as we approach the General Election. Also pleasing was Chris Mason's post on Twitter highlighting the quality of the artwork visible across the school.

DANCERS TAKING SHAPE

On Tuesday 3rd December twenty-five students from Years 8, 12 and 13 represented Brookfield at the Chesterfield SHAPE Partnership (formerly SSP) Secondary Dance Platform at the Winding Wheel theatre. All three groups performed brilliantly and showed the high calibre of talent within the school. The Year 12 and 13 groups showcased outstanding exam work, while Year 8 brought a smile to everyone's face with their upbeat Musical Theatre number, most recently seen in the extremely successful Charity Dance Show. Well done to all the performers, you were brilliant!



OUT IN THE COMMUNITY

On Thursday 12th December a selection of students will be returning to Pinebank Day Centre to entertain their attendees and spread some festive cheer. Students will take work from Guys and Dolls as well as highlights from our recent Charity Dance Show and some festive carols from Senior Choir Ensemble.

ARTISTIC INSIGHT

At the end of September a group of A-Level Fine Art and Textiles students went to London to visit the National Gallery, National Portrait Gallery, Victoria and Albert Museum, Natural History Museum and Tate Modern. This was an incredible opportunity to view historic and iconic artworks, and was important to support students with developing their artistic practice. It also provided a chance to carry out some artistic research for their portfolios.



SHOW TICKETS ON SALE NEXT WEEK



Tickets for our school production, Guys and Dolls, will go on sale next week. This year all tickets will be sold online - please look out for a link to purchase your tickets on our website and social media channels early next week.

JUNIOR ARTISTS STUDY ANCIENT GREECE

Last week students from Brockwell Junior School visited Brookfield Art Department for a clay workshop as part of their Ancient Greece project. The workshop was supported by Sixth Form students as part of the BE programme. As you can see, the visiting students had a great time and produced excellent ceramic outcomes.



Dates for your Diary • 9th - 20th December 2019

Monday 9th December	Year 12 / 13 Visit - Millennium Gallery
Wednesday 11th December	Year 11 Mock GCSE Exam Presentation
Wednesday 11th December	School Christmas Lunch
Thursday 12th December	Students perform at the Pinebank Centre
16th - 20th December	Ski Trip - Bormio (Italy)
Tuesday 17th December	GCSE and A-Level Presentation Evening
Wednesday 18th December	Carol Service at St Thomas' Church
Friday 20th December	School closes for students at 13:00

