



Newsletter

Brookfield Community School



Winter 2016

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parent

This first term has, once again, been very busy and seems to have passed extremely quickly. Year 13 and Year 11 have completed their mock examinations in addition to considering or finalising their plans for after their current stage of study. A large number of Year 13 students have received offers from Universities and a number have participated in gruelling interview schedules.

In addition to their studies, students have been involved in a wide variety of trips, visits, sporting activities and other events which give them a wider school experience. This newsletter will give more information about some of this term's events.

On behalf of all at Brookfield I wish you and your families an enjoyable break.

Mr Edmonds
Headteacher

Twitter



@BCSch

Twitter is a really easy way to keep in touch with events that are happening in school and to share in the success of our students.

To date we have posted 668 tweets and now have 456 followers. It would be fantastic if we had the whole school community following us. If you haven't yet signed up, please give it a go.

Brookfield Weather Station

This can be seen on Weather Underground.

<https://goo.gl/m24wYq>

or [Twitter Brookfield Weather](#)

End and Start of Term Dates

School will close for the Christmas holidays at 1.00pm on **20 December 2016** and will re-open on **Tuesday 3 January 2017**.

Uniform Sales

Our school uniform supplier is:
Gogna School Wear & Sports
67/69 Rookery Road
Birmingham
B21 9QU

Tel 0121 523 5572
Fax 0121 681 6828
Website www.gognaschoolwear.co.uk
Email info@gognaschoolwear.co.uk

Gogna
SCHOOLWEAR & SPORTS

As an alternative to purchasing school uniform from Gogna you may also buy some items of school uniform from BHS, Next, Debenhams, M&S, Tesco, Asda and Matalan.

School site at the start and end of the day

Due to limited access and for the safety of students can I please remind parents that they should not bring vehicles onto the school site at the start or end of the school day. Your help and support in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Please do not park in numbered bays as these spaces are allocated for staff parking.

If students have difficulty walking, or there is another specific reason why they must be picked up by car from the school site, please contact Mr Feltham (SENCO) who will issue you with an access pass.

Art Out Loud Exhibition

Year 13 A Level Fine Art students visited the Art Out Loud Exhibition at Chatsworth in September.

In addition to visiting the sculptures on display in the gardens, students attended 'Beyond the Human Body', a discussion with Jenny Saville, one of the foremost painters of her generation. Jenny discussed her work with Dr Nicholas Cullinan, the Director of the National Portrait Gallery, how, over the last three decades, it has reflected her interest in Old Master paintings and, more recently, her renewed engagement with drawing and contemporary painting practice.

Yorkshire Sculpture Park & The Hepworth Wakefield

Year 10 GCSE Fine Art and Textiles students visited the Yorkshire Sculpture Park and The Hepworth Wakefield in November.

Students spent the morning in the sculpture park, visiting artwork on display in the gardens and galleries. In the afternoon we visited the Hepworth to view the 2016 Sculpture Prize and take part in an artist led printmaking workshop.

By Mr Fallon





THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

Duke of Edinburgh Award

By Mr Greenwood

As ever the new academic year began with last year's Bronze and Gold students presenting in the Hall to their friends and family about their exploits on DofE, thus bringing to a close a very successful 2015-16 year.

September sees the recruitment of both new cohorts, and 40 intrepid Year 10s and 21 Year 12s signed up for the Bronze and Gold awards respectively. After the first few after-school lessons both groups have had their first taste of an expedition with the annual Day Walks.

The Bronze students met in October for a route on the hills around Castleton, taking in the views from Mam Tor and Lose Hill, whilst also traversing the Great Ridge in between. Supported by 15 members of staff, the six groups had a great day in superb autumn weather. Early morning mist gave way to blue sky and sunshine as teams practised navigation skills alongside team-building and communication.

The last event of the year is the BCS Gold Day walk in November. It is one of the last expeditions allowed by Derbyshire DofE and the idea is to step-up from Bronze and Silver and challenge the students in the toughest terrain in the Peak District with hopefully some inclement weather thrown in for good measure. The weather did not

disappoint, with heavy overnight rain leading to saturated conditions on the ground and a persistent heavy drizzle in the air. The challenging 12.5 mile route over some of the highest ground in the Peak District, in near zero visibility, gave the students the ideal conditions to test and develop their own navigation, teamwork and leadership skills. All in all it was an ideal end to the year and should have set our Gold students on track for success in the Lake District in the summer.

Once again the success of DofE over the last 12-months would not be possible without the commitment of the staff who volunteer their time to support all the expeditions. Over the last year 18 different members of staff have deployed on expeditions giving up their time, expertise and energy in supporting our students, without them BCS DofE would not happen. Further thanks also to the in school staff who help to prepare letters, maps and deal with the financing of trips and equipment, their contributions are equally as invaluable.



Brookfield Careers

By Miss S Metcalfe

In each issue, find out what Careers based activities our students have been involved in and get a heads up on what careers events will be coming up soon.

Please note, Ann Brown, our school Careers Advisor is available in school every Wednesday.



Our Careers Library is located in the Senior Library and is open to students from Mon-Thurs 8am to 4pm and Friday 8am to 3pm. Here students will be able to access up to date further education prospectuses along with careers magazines.

For all other Careers Information, Advice and Guidance please visit the Careers section of our website where you will find a

wealth of advice including information about KS3 Options, Post 16 Options and Post 18 Options as well as key dates, useful contacts and links to other useful websites.

Remember: Government legislation states that all young people should be in learning until the academic year in which they are 18 (equivalent of Year 13). This could be at school, college, an apprenticeship or job with training.

EMPLOYABILITY



Hot off the press for this year:

We have introduced the Brookfield EMPLOYABILITY PASSPORT to all

students from Year 7 to Year 11.

This is kept in the student's planner and provides a useful way for students to record and reflect upon employability skills that they have experienced. This is an area that is featuring high on the Government's agenda at the moment as employers feel that although students are leaving school with adequate qualifications, they often lack the employability skills that make them 'work ready'.

As a result the Government has outlined 10 Employability Goals that they want all students to have experienced by the time they reach the end of Year 11 as well as wanting all students to have had six meaningful encounters with an employer. Having completed a whole school audit, we can confirm that we do already provide Brookfield students with the opportunities to meet these goals and employer encounters.

The passport simply gives students a place to record these experiences so that they refer to them confidently when completing application forms or planning for interviews.

We would also like to thank United Cast Bar who have endorsed our Employability logo.



The ten Employability goals are:

1	Recognise your own strengths and values, and take responsibility for developing your work readiness skills and behaviours.	Self-motivated
2	Have the tools and skills required to present yourself to a future employer.	Self-assured
3	Have high aspirations for yourself.	Aspirational
4	Understand the career opportunities available to you locally and beyond and make realistic choices.	Informed
5	Experience work that is rewarding and fulfilling.	Experienced
6	Achieve qualifications valued by employers.	Achieving
7	Understand that employers want people who will work hard and are accountable for their actions.	Accountable
8	Understand that employers want young people who can listen and learn from their successes and their mistakes, and keep going.	Resilient
9	Work creatively to achieve your potential and that of the business.	Entrepreneurial
10	Have effective communication and co-working skills.	Co-operative.

Brookfield Careers

CAN YOU HELP?

We are always looking to increase our links with local employers in the community to either help provide our students with worthwhile work experience placements or to help out in our delivery of employability. If you, a family member or friend own your own business and would like to make links with the school, please email Miss Metcalfe directly on:

s.metcalfe@brookfield.derbyshire.sch.uk

MADE IN CHESTERFIELD



Twelve Sixth Form students have taken part in 'Made in Chesterfield'; an annual event that sees local Manufacturers opening their doors to

Chesterfield schools. Our students have had visits to United Cast Bar and Techman Engineering. Students were given specialist talks on the engineering sector and the British economy and were allowed access to the factory floor where they were able to bring their Product Design Learning to life.



POST 16 OPTIONS

It has been that time of year again when our Year 11 students start to think about their next steps. They have all taken part in the Post 16 carousel during PSHE lessons where they get the opportunity to research possible progression routes and gain valuable information and advice about completing application forms and preparing and presenting themselves properly in interviews. A large number of our Year 11 students attended the Skills Festival at the Pro-act Stadium in September where they visited further education stalls and researched possible progression routes. All of our Year 11 students have completed a mock application and have had a mock interview with a local employer. Despite feeling nervous, the students found the experience incredibly rewarding in terms of overcoming their fears and having an opportunity to experience a 'real' interview in a more supportive environment.

Students and parents have also attended the Post 16 Evening where they were given

advice and guidance on possible Post 16 routes as well as an opportunity to speak to local further education providers. Remember there are no limits on how many applications a student can make. We would always strongly recommend that students have at least one back up plan.

A reminder that for those students wishing to apply to Brookfield Sixth Form, the deadline for applications is 27 January. For details about other local Sixth Form and College open days and deadlines, please see details on the careers section of our school website.

Year 9 OPTIONS

In January, our Year 9 students will start making their first big choices about which GCSE options they want to choose. To support them with this we will be having a Year 9 Options Drop Down Day on Wednesday 18 January where they will receive subject specific talks, advice about how to make good choices and a chance to speak to some further education providers. This will be followed by an Options Evening and Year 9 Parents evening to give parents the opportunity to discuss these important choices further with their child's class teachers. The deadline for Year 9 students to return their options form to their Form Tutor is Thursday 9 February 2017.



POST 18 OPTIONS



Y13 students have been working hard on their personal statements for UCAS or researching alternative progression routes for Post-18.

OXBRIDGE VISITS



Twenty Year 11 students and thirteen Year 12 students have visited Corpus Christie for the day. The students were selected because they have the GCSE profile to enable them to apply to Oxford or Cambridge if they wish to.

The day was hugely successful and the students enjoyed visiting the quaint 'Hogwart' style buildings where they met with current students. They were given information about the Oxbridge admissions

process and also faced their fears by taking part in a real Oxbridge style mock interview.



COCA COLA CHALLENGE



Twenty five of our Year 12 students are currently involved in the national competition: Coca Cola Challenge. The challenge

involves Business Studies students working in teams (or "small companies" as we like to refer to it!) to develop a healthy juice drink brand. The drink must carry an on-pack promotion that encourages young people, aged 14-25, to get involved with Special Olympics Great Britain's Play Unified campaign. The students presented their idea in November. The best two ideas: 'Juci' and 'Fruitzooka' were submitted to the Coca-Cola European Partners for judging and although they weren't successful in going through, it was a great learning experience.

The RBC is designed to help students develop and demonstrate enterprise skills, and in particular to develop teamwork, problem-solving, creative thinking, leadership, financial capability, and business acumen. If our students do well, they will get the chance to work with representatives from Coca-Cola and they could even win some exciting prizes.

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE



A reminder that all Year 10 students will take part in one week's work experience from the 10th to the 14th July. This is a superb chance for our students to build confidence and develop their employability skills. We always strongly advise students to choose a placement that is in an occupational area that they are interested in as this will either confirm for them that this is a profession that they wish to pursue or alternatively may confirm for them that this is not for them. As always we will be competing with other schools for placements during this week and therefore it is essential that students secure a placement as soon as possible. For any further advice or guidance on work experience please contact Mrs Beards in school. Find out how our Year 10 students got on in the July Newsletter.

Urban Studies Cross-Curricular Fieldwork Day

By Mrs Rippin

All students in Year 7 took part in a day's fieldwork at the Urban Studies Centre in Chesterfield. They not only learned about the Geography and History of the town, but gaining fieldwork and research skills from compass bearings; 4 and 6 figure grid references; land-use data collection; to note collection and looking for historical clues in the building and street layouts.



Beyond Limits By Miss Long

In September Year 12 Graphic Design students kick-started their A Level course by spending a day at the 'Beyond Limits' sculpture exhibition held at Chatsworth. The sun shone for us and the students spent the day sketching and taking photographs in the grounds.



Bletchley Park By Mr Pritchett

Computer Science students visited Bletchley park in October. The site of the historic code breaking activities in WW2 now houses the rebuild of Colossus, the World's first electronic computer and is now home to the National Museum of Computing. After a presentation on codebreaking, students observed the process that was undertaken to help break German codes, viewed the running Colossus computer and encountered significant computing artefacts over the years. This in a very practical way demonstrated the effect of Moore's Law over the last 50 years. From hard drives the size of washing machines and memory modules that could not be lifted, the astounding changes in technology we take for granted was brought home. Every year we learn more about the fascinating events at Bletchley Park that have remained shrouded in secrecy and have denied Britain its place in computer history for so long. For more information go to www.tnmoc.org.



Russia Trip



After half term students returned from an 'out of this world' visit to Moscow where they met cosmonauts who had been to the International Space Station (ISS).



Jack Jerram, a Year 10 student said he learned a lot on the trip. He said "It was an amazing trip – a real out of this world experience. We explored markets, visited the Red Square, the Kremlin and of course visited a replica of the ISS, spending time talking to people who had already been into space. I learned that cosmonauts have to train for a minimum of five to six years before they can even be considered for a trip to space".



"They generally find out a week or two before the mission, which if they haven't been selected, seems a lot of work to find out at the eleventh hour that you cannot

go." Some students got to try on authentic space-suits and put questions to Alexander Samokutyaev and Sergey and Alexander Volkov. A highlight for Jack was seeing Yuri Gagarin's rocket. Yuri Gagarin was a Russian Soviet pilot and cosmonaut.



He was the first human to journey into outer space, when his aircraft completed an orbit of the earth back in 1961. Jack said "Seeing the rocket was a real highlight for me, something I had been looking forward to for a long time. I enjoyed the trip, it was a great experience. I enjoyed finding out about a different culture, and was the first person in my family to travel to Russia so I have been telling them all about it. The only downside was the food. It seems that beetroot and cabbage are added extras at almost every meal, so if you didn't like either of those you were in trouble!"



The trip was launched about 18 months ago, when students were asked if they would be interested in going. 42 students signed up. Over the 18 month planning period, students held numerous fundraisers to try and help boost the fund to pay for the trip. They held a bag-packing event at Morrisons in Walton and sold gifts at the annual Brookfield Christmas Market. The youngsters were also taught Russian words and learned about the country's history, embassy, education and culture in the run up to the trip.



The behaviour of the students on the trip was exceptional and everyone returned having had a truly outstanding experience.



A blog of the visit can be found at <https://brookfieldinrussia.wordpress.com/>



Extreme Weather Procedures

It is getting towards the time of year when we may face disruption due to weather conditions, particularly heavy falls of snow.

Our intention is always to open as normal. In common with many other large secondary schools, our staff are drawn from a large area. Therefore, a key factor in any decision about opening in extreme conditions will be whether we can guarantee sufficient staffing to supervise all the students safely. If conditions prevent this, a decision will be taken, either to delay opening, or to close completely. A text and tweet will be sent to inform parents of this decision.

The latest situation regarding any possible closure will be posted on the school's website www.brookfield.derbyshire.sch.uk

We will also notify local radio stations well before school starting time in the morning for an announcement to be made.

Radio Sheffield 104.1, 88.6/94.7 FM
Peak Radio 107.4 and 102. FM

Reminder from PE Department



As we begin to experience adverse weather, students are reminded of the need to wear appropriate clothing for their outdoor PE lessons.

Students are also reminded that even in cases of illness and injury they are expected to bring their kit as they can still participate in the lesson by undertaking roles such as coach, official and organiser.

Although we do have some laundered spare kit available, which is used when students do not have the appropriate clothing, the supply is limited.

Charity Dance Show

By Miss Leigh



This term dance clubs have been working hard preparing for the Charity Dance Show. Led by the Year 13s with the help of Miss Whitehouse and Miss Leigh, around 60 students from Years 7-13 performed in the Musicals themed show. From ticket sales, games, refreshments and cake sales and donations students raised approximately £800 to be shared between Cancer Research UK and Macmillan. One of the highlights of the evening was the teachers' contribution with Miss Whitehouse, Mr Ireland, Miss Slater and Miss Leigh taking to the stage. Everyone involved deserved a round of applause for their performance!



In December students from Years 7, 12 and 13 will be performing in the SSP Dance Platform at The Winding Wheel. This is an excellent evening where we can show the quality of our A Level dancers alongside the up and coming talents of our KS3 students. The event is part of the U.Dance initiative giving young people the opportunities to perform at local and national levels.



Poppy Appeal



A massive thank you to you all for helping to raise funds for the Royal

British Legion by buying your Poppies in school. All together we collected a grand total of **£426.45**. THIS IS A NEW RECORD AMOUNT RAISED FOR THIS CAUSE by students at our school (£78 more than last year). The British Legion have said that this is a magnificent effort and an amazing total raised by just one school. Well Done!



Remembrance Day

Student representatives once again joined the Old Cestrefeldians on 11 November. They participated in a remembrance service at the old school site and then spent time with the 'old boys' to find out about their experience of school. Students reported back that it was a very eye opening experience.



German Work Experience

By Ms Barlow



At the end November all the students from the Year 12 and Year 13 German classes went on the Work Experience visit to Germany. They stayed in families with students from our partner school the Viktoriaschule in Darmstadt which is twinned with Chesterfield. During the week they went to work every day; placements included working in a café, solicitor's office, music shop, charity bookshop, primary school, design firm and shadowing a judge. The placements were chosen according to the students' interests. As well as gaining an insight in to the world of world in Germany, they were able to greatly improve their language skills and enjoyed the experience of living in a German family. Additional activities included a tour of the Mathildenhöhe where there are many examples of Jugendstil architecture to help our students with the art and architecture in Germany section of the A Level syllabus. Although the weather was very cold, they also enjoyed a trip to the Christmas Market as well as attending the Viktoriaschule Christmas concert which was amazing. At the weekend their host families took them on various outings to visit local towns and sights including Frankfurt and Heidelberg. They were also lucky enough to be in Germany on the 6th December and all woke up to presents from St Nikolaus as is the tradition. They are looking forward to the return leg of the visit in March when their partners will be coming to Chesterfield for their own work experience although it has been commented that the German host families have set the bar very high in terms of hospitality!

Language Ambassadors

By Sophie Mitchell Year 13

The role of the Language Ambassadors is working together to lead a group of Year 11s towards achieving their Language Leader Awards.



This involves organising the Primary Language Festival for children from local primary schools. The lead up to the festival consisted of after school sessions with the Language Leaders, organising fun, language-learning themed activities for the day. Each activity lasted 15 minutes and combined learning vocabulary in Spanish, French or German and a memorable and motivating game for the children to enjoy. For example, a few groups chose to play snakes and ladders, giving the children the opportunity to learn how to count in another language. One group used a model skeleton to teach body parts, and others played games such as 'Duck, Duck, Goose' or 'Pictionary' to teach animals and food. Overall, the day ran smoothly. My role, alongside the French and German Ambassadors, was to make sure this was the case. We directed the activities, checked on each group throughout the day and welcomed the children to our school.



The day was a great success and the children gained knowledge and inspiration for learning languages in the future. Hopefully the Primary Language Festival will continue to run successfully in years to come, as I believe it is a great experience for young children to have.

Spanish Exchange / Work Experience

By Miss Slater

The Spanish Exchange this year took place from Friday 4th to Sunday 13th November and we had a total of 21 Brookfield students from Years 11 and 12 taking part this year. During their nine day stay, the Spanish students had the opportunity to visit Chatsworth House, Bakewell, York, Chesterfield Town Hall to meet the Mayor and they also took part in a guided tour of Chesterfield. In addition to these visits all Spanish students completed a two day work experience either in a local primary school or local café. All Spanish students were glad of the opportunity to practise their English and it will definitely be something we will be keen to repeat next year. Isobel Hall and Georgia Dodsworth (Year 12) had this to say about their experience of this leg of the exchange . . .

During early November, we had the pleasure of meeting our exchange partners Maria and Noelia. The Spanish exchange as a whole was rewarding and fun and really helped us to develop our Spanish fluency. We learnt useful common phrases that our partners commonly use which then enabled us to use language that often only natives would use. Having the girls here really showed us some of the different Spanish cultural influences which are woven into everyday life which, we're sure will be amplified greatly when we visit them in January. The exchange overall was great and gave us new skills such as adapting to unknown situations, and a new and more challenging level of communication. We cannot wait to go to Andújar in the New Year!



Online Safety

Online Safety is an important part of keeping children safe at Brookfield Community School. Online Safety is taught to all pupils and our curriculum empowers students to understand and be aware how they can stay safe and behave appropriately online but we can only be successful in keeping children safe online if we work with you.

Your help is needed to talk to your children about how they can keep themselves safe and behave appropriately online. It's important that we are all vigilant when children are using the internet and act to ensure they are protected from people who may pose a risk to them. Children can accidentally or deliberately be exposed to illegal, unwanted or unpleasant content, comments or activity online and there are steps you can take at home to minimise this risk.

What can parents do to help children keep safe online?

Follow the "Gold"en Rules.

GROUND RULES

- Discuss together as a family how the internet will be used in your house. Consider what information should be kept private (such as personal information, photos in school uniform etc) and decide rules for making and meeting online friends. Ensure your children know the risks of accepting friends' requests from strangers online and make sure you know what your child is doing online; much like you would offline.
- Discuss using strong passwords with your child so they understand how they can protect their online accounts- talk about keeping passwords safe e.g. not sharing them with anyone or use the same password for several accounts. If your child's account is "hacked" or compromised then make sure they change their password and report any concerns or suspicious activity. For more advice on using strong passwords visit <http://tinyurl.com/GetSAFEonlinepassword>



Get Safe Online
Free expert advice

- Consider locating your child's computers and laptops in a family area but be aware that children access the internet on mobile phones, games consoles and tablets so use can't always be supervised.
- Be especially aware of settings rules relating to your child's use of webcams and any applications or devices which allow voice or video chat. Childnet have useful information for young people about using webcams safely.



www.childnet.com/young-people/secondary/hot-topics/video-chat-and-webcams

ONLINE SAFETY

- Install antivirus software, secure your internet connection and use Parental Control functions for computers, mobile phones and games consoles to block unsuitable content or contact from unknown people. Research different parental control software and tools available for your home and select the tools which are most suitable to you, your child and the technology in your home. Visit sites like www.internetmatters.org, www.getsafeonline.org and www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-and-resources/a-parents-guide for safety information and advice about parental controls on consoles and devices and how to report concerns.



- Make sure you read any parental guidance and safety recommendations (including age

requirements – most popular social networking sites and apps are only for users aged 13+, 16+ or 18+) for any apps or websites before allowing your child to use them - visit www.net-aware.org.uk



- Always remember that parental control tools are not always 100% effective and sometimes unsuitable content can get past them, so don't rely on them alone to protect your child.

LISTEN

- Take an active interest in your child's life online and talk openly with them about the things they do. Talk to your child and ask them to show or even teach you how they use the internet, learn which websites or tools they like to use and why. Learning together with your child can often open opportunities to discuss safe behaviour online.
- To start a conversation with your child you could tell them that you understand that some young people share images and videos online and that you're interested to know what they think about it and how they think they can keep themselves safe.

DIALOGUE – KEEP TALKING

- Ensure that your child knows that once a picture, video or comment is sent or posted online, then it can be very difficult to remove as other people can forward it and share it with others, without them even knowing. www.childnet.com and www.thinkuknow.co.uk has some really useful tips and ideas for parents/carers about starting conversations about online safety.



Online Safety *(continued)*

- Always ensure your child knows how to report and block people online who may send nasty or inappropriate messages or content. Encourage your child not to retaliate or reply to cyberbullying and to keep any evidence.
- Make sure your child knows it's important that they tell an adult they trust if anything happens online that makes them feel scared, worried or uncomfortable.

Remember, the internet is an essential part of young people's lives and provides them with tremendous opportunities. The vast majority use it without coming to any harm so it's essential to be realistic: banning the internet or web sites often will not work and it can make a child feel less able to report a problem or concern, so education around safe use is essential.



WEBSITES TO VISIT FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Visit the "Parent/Carer" Section and use the "Click CEOP" button to seek advice and report online abuse.



www.childnet.com

Visit the 'Know It All' Section for an interactive guide about online safety.



www.getsafeonline.org

Free up-to-date Security advice including using complex passwords and managing hacked accounts.



www.internetmatters.org

Information from the four largest internet service providers (BT, Sky, Talk Talk and Virgin).



www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety

NSPCC's Share Aware campaign provides information for parents about popular social media sites, apps and games.



www.saferinternet.org.uk

Parents guides to safety tools on popular devices and signposts report mechanisms for some websites.



<http://www.derbyshire.police.uk/Safety-advice/Cybercrime/Internet-Safety.aspx>
Guidance from Derbyshire Police

If you are worried that your child is at risk of harm or criminal offence has been committed then you can report your concerns to the Police or Children's Social Care. Please do not notify suspicious profiles of your actions, as this could enable them to delete material which might be required for any Police investigations. You can contact Derbyshire Police via 101 or 999 if there is immediate risk or CEOP by visiting www.ceop.police.uk and using the "Click CEOP" reporting button.

The School Designated Safeguarding Lead Mrs Helen Dafforne, Mr Dooley or Mr Edmonds are available to discuss any help you may need or concerns that you may have.



Free Internet Security



Sophos Home protects every Mac and PC in your home from malware, viruses, ransomware, and inappropriate websites. It uses the same award-winning technology that IT professionals trust to protect their businesses. Best of all, you can manage security settings for the whole family from any browser.

Click on the link below for details of Sophos Home - free business-grade security for home use.

<https://www.sophos.com/lp/sophos-home.aspx?cmp=701j0000001q8FAAY>

Changes to GCSE Grading

Mrs Mason



Reformed GCSEs were gradually introduced from September 2015. Initially this was for English Language, English Literature and Maths. These new GCSEs are graded from 9 to 1, instead of A* to G.

Students who started their GCSEs in September 2016 are studying the new GCSEs in all of their subjects except Business Studies, Product Design, RMT and ICT. They will receive 9 to 1 grades for the new GCSEs and A* to G grades for the legacy GCSEs.

The top grade of the new GCSE is 9, decreasing down to 1.

The grading for the new GCSEs is structured so that:

- broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 4 and above as currently achieve a grade C and above,
- broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 7 and above as currently achieve a grade A and above,
- the bottom of grade 1 will be aligned with the bottom of grade G,
- a grade 5 will be awarded to the top third of students gaining the equivalent of a grade C or bottom third of a grade B,
- the top 20 per cent of those who get a grade 7 or above in each exam will be awarded a grade 9.

For further information please visit www.ofqual.gov.uk or contact Mrs Mason, Assistant Headteacher.

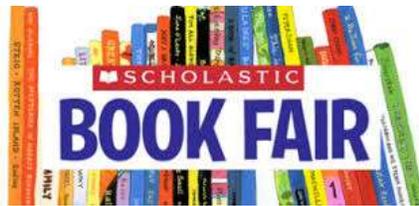


Library News

Mrs Atkinson



From 3rd to 10th October, we hosted a Scholastic Book Fair, where students were encouraged to buy from a range of books, stationery and posters. The Book Fair was extremely busy every break and lunch and all students who attended were encouraged to enter the free raffle. At the end of the fair lots of books were given as prizes. All the commission raised meant that we were able to buy lots of new books for the Library. We would like to thank everyone for all their support in making the Book Fair a success.



Just before half-term Year 7 pupils did a beautiful job of creating a display in the Junior Library for autumn and Hallowe'en. They also helped us to produce a Christmas display at the beginning of December. We have plans for further craft activities in the lead up to Chinese New Year and Easter.



The Year 7 Book Club has been meeting regularly since the

beginning of term. We meet every two weeks at lunchtime and students have the opportunity to talk about favourite books, play games and do quizzes.

The Year 8/9 Book Club has been meeting monthly and will shortly be starting to read books nominated for the Carnegie Medal.



Auf Wiedersehen Laura!

By Juliet Wornes

Laura Link has been working on a 3 month internship in the Modern Languages Department as a German speaking assistant but is unfortunately leaving in December.

She has come all the way from a small village in Germany called Gappenhach near Koblenz to help us and to gain experience for her future job as a teacher. Laura has lovely personality and has given up her time to work with us voluntarily. Laura's work here has made a huge difference and words can't describe the good advice and atmosphere she has brought to both our lessons and language department. We wish her all the best for the future and hope to see her again soon...

Viel Glück für die Zukunft Laura und danke schön!



PE and Sports News

Cross Country

Following their excellent performances in the recent Chesterfield Schools' Cross Country Championships, the following students have been selected to represent Chesterfield in the Derbyshire Schools' Cross Country Championships at Moorways Athletics Stadium Derby on Saturday 21st January 2017: Amber Downham, Charlotte Gee, Aisling Rippin, Owen Newell, George Marsden, William Miller, Rubi Hume-Evans, Gemma Wood, James Allen, Lewis Chippendale, Finlay Grant, Lily Barnes, Imogen Cooper, Rebecca Church, Alex Ediker, Mikey Broomhead, Harry Mustafa, Luke Hobson and Euan Harris.



Chesterfield Active Schools Awards

Secondary School Team Achievement winners – Brookfield KS4 Badminton Girls team – Isabelle Kenworthy, Jenny Morgan, Sylvia Ma, and Emily Corker. The girls did not lose a game in the first two area rounds before being crowned county champions. They came second at the Regionals, narrowly losing out on the National finals 21-19 in the deciding game.

Secondary School Team Achievement Highly Commended – Brookfield KS4 Badminton Boys Team – Alex Fletcher, Matt Birks, Thomas Else, Christian Pass. The boys were KS4 County Champions for the second year running and as a team are unbeaten in Chesterfield having never lost a game since they came together as a team in Year 9. They finished fourth at the Regionals. They won this award last year.

School Sports Organising Committee High Commended – Rebecca Moon, Ellie Mumford, Holly Fieldhouse, Lucy Kenworthy, Jenny Morgan and Emily Corker.



