



Brinsworth Academy Newsletter

Head's Lines

Welcome to our latest version of our newsletter.

In this edition we share the fantastic work of lots of our students as always, but we also discuss the findings of our home learning survey and how we are responding as an academy.

We continue to be really impressed by our students and the huge variety of activities they are taking part in at the moment. Keep sharing your work with us so that we can celebrate it on social media.

We hope that you enjoyed the video that staff produced for you last week. I felt that it really summed up what our school community is about—staff care about you and are missing teaching you properly and I think that came through in the video.

As I write this we are about to have a 'bank holiday' to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE day. This is an event that should have brought communities together and I know the academy was involved in exciting plans from the Brinsworth community of how this event could have been celebrated.

Clearly our celebrations will have to be very different given the current situation, but hopefully you find time to reflect on the immense relief and joy people felt at that time. I know that we are all hoping for a time when we can celebrate the end of the current situation in a similar way. However, for now it is really important that we continue to stay safe, stay indoors and save lives.

Take care of yourselves and your loved ones and hopefully we will see the sunshine this weekend.

From Mr Raynor

Achieving Excellence



A striking picture of a fox from Alfie Lumb in Year 9—great effort Alfie!



VE Day

Our History department want to mark the 75th anniversary of VE day by creating a time capsule so that future generations can understand how we commemorated VE day.

Ideas might include designing bunting to celebrate the event, learn a dance from the 1940s, create a newspaper article or write a letter to the veterans thanking them for all they did.

See our social media channels for lots more ideas and send us your contributions!



Cyber Security Opportunity!

Cyber Discovery have launched a free Virtual Cyber Security School for teenagers aged 13-18 years old. The cyber school offers access to over 200 cyber security challenges. Follow the link to apply <https://cyber-school.joincyberdiscovery.com>

#StayAtHomeChallenge

#IMInside

#StaySafe

Part of

LEAP
Multi Academy Trust

Hegarty Heroes

Students continue to develop their mathematical skills with some great use of Hegarty Maths last week.

In Y7 Zach K and Ellie B had over 3 hours of learning time last week. Whilst Dylan L, Zach K, Sam M and Jacob F all answered over 150 questions.

In Y8 Finlay S, William H, Reece R and Maliha S all spent over 2 hours working away, whilst Summer R, Natalie M and Finlay S have all answered over 100 questions on the platform.

In Y9 Victoria C, Hadiyah B, Dorian G, Amy W, Ibrahim K and Theekshana PM all had over 8 hours on Hegarty. Whilst Hadiyah B, Ibrahim K, Cora F, Lauren M, Theekshana PM, Thomas C, Mikey H and Jack A have all answered over 200 questions.

In Y10 Ellen J, Issac M, Owen T, Rowan W, Asam I, Lauren H and Malaikah H all spent more than 5 hours on the platform and Rowan W, Flynn K, Asam I and Malaikah H have all answered over 200 questions.

Collectively students have watched over 130 hours of videos. They have answered 24,591 questions, while doing 695 hours of learning.

"Hegarty Heroes are the best kind of heroes" said Miss Robinson.



Our Y7 students have been continuing to access the Accelerated Reader programme during lockdown.

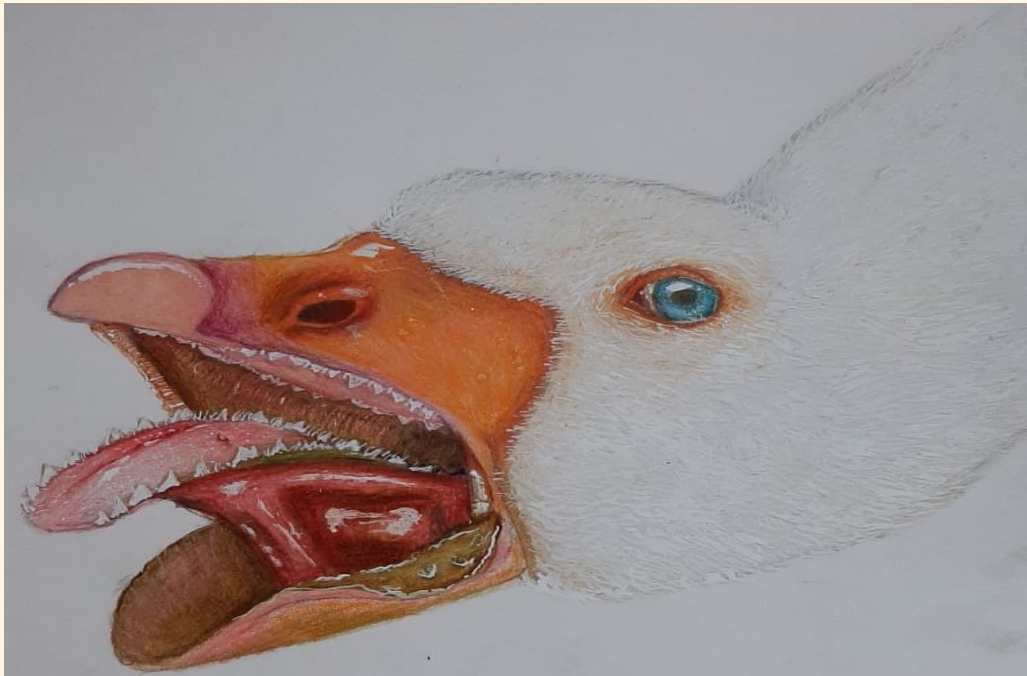
Successful quizzes this week—

100% - Abby F, Connor H, Fatoumata S. 90% - Poppy FG. 80% Declan B, Mason S. 70% Aynaz D. All impressive scores—well done to everyone!

Mathletics

Some students have also been working hard on our Mathletics programme. Kelsey M scored over 13000 points, Jacob S over 11000 and Dylan L over 7000. Others with great scores were—Harvey A, Ellie B, Fatoumata S, Layan S, Esha T and Nicole W. Fantastic work from all involved—we are very proud of your achievements.

Brinsworth Academy—Achieving Excellence



I wouldn't fancy meeting this goose on a dark night! Another example of our talented artists with Keira Bowley's interpretation of this piece of nature.

Brilliant Brooke

Brooke Robinson in Y10 is the youngest member of Brinsworth Seniors Support. This group is run by volunteers who pack and deliver groceries free of charge to pensioners or isolated families. Last week they fed 58 families in the local community. Brooke's family and Brinsworth academy are very proud of her for getting involved with this group and helping those in need at this difficult time.



Brooke even found time to give her dad's hair a trim. She is clearly a multi-talented individual and we are very proud of her! I let Mrs Raynor loose on my hair last week—fortunately there isn't much left to make a mess of!

Always a part of you,
Have known you forever,
They are the glue,
Keeping you all together.

Perfect poetry

This time of 'lockdown' has allowed many people to explore their creativity. Whether that has been in the form of sporting challenges in their gardens, amazing artwork or wonderful writing. Phoebe Roebuck composed a poem about Family during this difficult time. I thought the quote above was brilliant and really matched lots of our feelings at this time. Well done Phoebe—keep creating!

Please remember to share your brilliant work with us. We love hearing about what you have been up to and love celebrating your successes in our newsletter each week. In the staff video last week my message was that Brinsworth students inspire me every day and they really do!





Last week many of you completed a 'Home Learning survey' for us. We felt that after a number of weeks of home learning, we needed to get your feedback to see what was working and what needed adapting.

Key Findings

Too much or not enough?

There was a really mixed response from people about the range and amount of work that was being set. Some people felt that there was too much work, others felt there wasn't enough. Most people felt that we had found a better balance since the Easter break and so we will try and maintain a similar amount moving forward.

The really important thing is to do what you can given your own context. We understand that all our situations are different at this time, so do what you and parents can manage. Any work you do in whatever format will be gratefully received by staff.

Technical Issues

Some people had struggled with some elements of Show My Homework and also needing Microsoft Office programmes. We have sent out links via e-mail which provide guidance around how to use Show My Homework effectively and also that let you know how to download any Microsoft Office programmes you might need through the academy.

Live Learning

Some people asked about the possibility of live lessons through Zoom or similar. Our first priority has to be the safeguarding of both students and staff and we currently have a number of concerns around safeguarding if we were to attempt live streaming of lessons. We are moving to try and use some recorded video content for lessons, but that is dependent on staff having the technology within their own homes to do this.

Contact

Some parents asked about additional contact from staff at school. A wide range of students have been contacted regularly and Heads of Year have been in touch via e-mail weekly. We have asked for all form tutors to contact their forms via e-mail next week and I know that they would love to hear about how you are getting on in this unusual time.

We have also asked that wherever possible staff respond to e-mail questions within 24 hours, but obviously that is dependent on staff being well and also having the capacity.

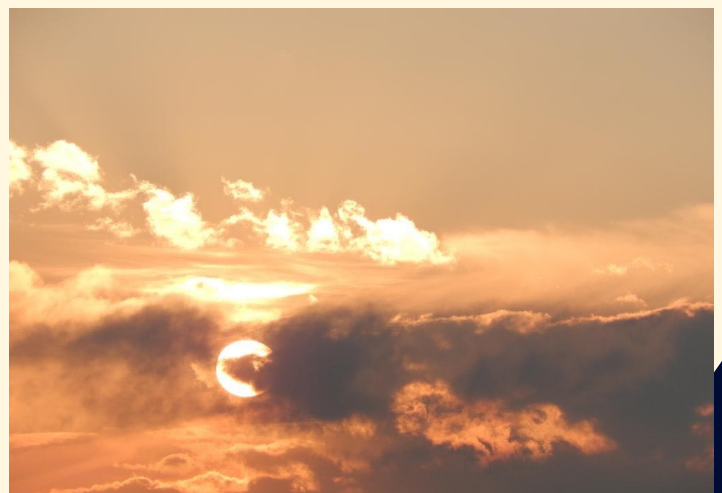
We are all adapting, learning and trying to do the best we can. Please keep in touch if you need any support.



Fabulous Photos

In this time where human activity is much lower, lots of us are taking more notice of the beauty of nature that surrounds us. These brilliant photographs have been taken by two of our students.

The glorious picture above of a bluebell strewn woodland is by Jessica Powell in Y7, whilst the close up of the bluebells and the glorious sunset pictures were taken by Vinny Fox. Wonderful images you two!





Just Horsing Around!

The recent changes to how we have to live our lives have meant that Demi Wilson has not been able to compete in her usual horse shows. However, that hasn't stopped her! Demi has been competing in virtual horse shows and the word is that she has been doing very well!

Emily Wisher in Y9 has also been horse riding as part of her regulated daily exercise. We know that our exercise is really important for both our physical and mental health and what a fantastic way to exercise—out in the fresh air, with blue skies overhead but also socially distanced! Well done Emily!



More Amazing Artwork

We have been so impressed by the wide range of artwork that our students have produced during this time. The example below is from Meika in Y7. She has used Manga as her inspiration for this piece. I am sure you will agree that her painting is excellent. A superb effort!



Last week we set you the challenge of baking a cake and having a natter with your loved ones. It's so important in this time, when we can often be glued to screens that we make time to have a chat to others.

As we anticipated you have not disappointed. We have been inundated with pictures of your fantastic baking, so much so that the last page of the newsletter is full of images of delicious treats and we still didn't have room to show them all.

Well done everyone—a brilliant effort!

#Brinsworthcakeoff

#MrRaynor loves cake

Brinsworth Academy Cake & Natter Challenge



Alex and William Hale produced this brilliant cake - Well done boys!



Just look at this chocolate feast from Ruby Mae Hickson. Scrumptious!



Another delicious offering—this time from Eden Gillott Moody



Thank you

I wanted to finish this week with a big thank you to all students, parents, carers and staff who are working so hard at this time. We had another brilliant poem written, this time by Leoni Jackson and I felt that her final stanza was a fitting way to end this week's newsletter.

The world is strong,

A bittersweet, but rallying song

More able to see what is right and wrong?

A grown sense of community

To realise and reflect, the opportunity

That humanity relies on its unity.

Wise words from Leoni. I know that our Brinsworth Academy community will stick together at this time and show our unity. Stay safe and look after your loved ones!

#AchievingExcellence



And look at this colourful and mouth watering cake from Meika in Y7—the same person who did our Manga picture. You have been busy!