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Multi Academy Trust

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EXCELLENCE



Brinsworth Academy Newsletter

October 2020

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Welcome

It has been absolutely brilliant to welcome back our school community since September. Whilst our school day and buildings currently look very different, we have been very impressed with the way that students have responded to our new way of working. Students have been keen to engage in their learning and are already making rapid progress, as we look to address any gaps in learning. Our recent collection of attitude to learning data showed the high levels of engagement that students have demonstrated.

We continue to follow all the guidance we are receiving about the current situation and will maintain regular communication with parents wherever possible. As we see cases rise within Rotherham, it is important that students are following our expectations in school, which the vast majority are doing, whilst also ensuring that similar levels of safety are maintained within the local community as well.

Staff across the school have worked really hard to ensure that we are able to deliver the usual high quality curriculum offer for students, despite the challenges we are facing and I know that students have really appreciated the opportunity to learn in all their curriculum areas. Students have seized those opportunities and have demonstrated responsibility for their own learning, resilience when faced with challenges and respect for others. These factors, coupled with the support you have provided from home have ensured that our return to school has been a very positive one.

We know that the upcoming months may present us with further challenges, however I have every confidence that the students, parents and staff in our school community will continue to work together to ensure that all our students are able to Achieve Excellence.

Mr Raynor
Principal

Academy News

Brinsworth Bake Off

You might remember that during our 'Free to Be' week this summer, we had our annual Brinsworth Bake Off competition. Whilst the judging was virtual (unfortunately that meant we couldn't taste the cakes!), we were delighted to announce that Ruby Alsop (8C) and Noah Alsop (10R) were the winners with their amazing creation. Both students have been awarded with the much coveted Brinsworth Bake Off spoon and certificate! Well done to both! The prize will be up for grabs again next year – plenty of time to practice your baking skills! #FreeToBe #BrinsworthBakeOff



Ruby with her 'bake off' awards.

Last call for Brinsworth Time Capsules!

My 2020 Time Capsule

You might want to add photos, diary entries, artwork etc. to your capsule entry...but please check that your parent/guardian is happy with this as these things will be buried for a long time!

Write in the jar your key memories from this time.

A Letter to My Future Self

What would you like to say to your future self? What have you learnt from this experience? What would be your message to future generations? What are you thankful for? What are your goals for the future? Remember: Someone in the future will open up our capsule...what special message do you want them to receive?!

Back in the summer, Brinsworth students were invited to complete a time capsule activity that will go in to the Brinsworth time capsule, as a memory of our time living during a pandemic. We will be burying this capsule in the school grounds, near to our new R Block (due for completion 2021). If you would like to add your memories of lockdown in to the capsule then please don't delay...send in your capsule sheet to cmellon@brinsworth.rotherham.sch.uk by Friday 6th November. Who knows when the capsule may be discovered! This is your chance to share your part in what will one day be history!

Writing Club

Writing Club members have been achieving excellence even during lockdown. Lots of our students have been rewarded for their brilliant writing skills by having their poetry published in anthologies. We are so proud of their achievements and have been blown away by their work. This half term Writing Club are entering even more competitions.

If you love writing feel free to join us.

Y7: Thursday 3-4pm in E42.

Y8: 3.15-4pm in J1.

Y9: 3-4pm in C11.

<p>Y7 Writing Club will start on Thursday the 24th September.</p> <p>3PM</p> <p>E41/42</p> <p>Do you love writing? Would you like to be a published author? Are you interested in meeting new people?</p> <p>You will have the opportunity to explore different genres and styles of writing, enter competitions and may even have your work published.</p> <p>We look forward to seeing some of you there!</p>	<p>Y8 Writing Club will start again on Thursday the 24th September.</p> <p>3.15PM</p> <p>J1</p> <p>You will have the opportunity to explore different genres and styles of writing, enter competitions and may even have your work published.</p> <p>We look forward to welcoming back last year's cohort and hopefully seeing some new faces too.</p>	<p>Y9 Writing Club will start again on Monday the 21st September.</p> <p>3PM</p> <p>C11</p> <p>You will have the opportunity to explore different genres and styles of writing, enter competitions and may even have your work published.</p> <p>We look forward to welcoming back last year's cohort and hopefully seeing some new faces too.</p>
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European day of Languages

To celebrate the annual European Day of Languages on 26th September, forms were invited to take part in a quiz where they had to identify a number of languages through geographical, spoken and written clues. First prize went to 11W who correctly identified 7 of the 8 languages.

Congratulations!

European Day of Languages ...

is a time to celebrate the 6,000+ languages spoken around the world, and have some multilingual fun!

European Day of Languages 26 September

Journée européenne des langues

www.coe.int/edl #coeEDL

Percentage of people aged 15-30 who say they can read & write in more than one language

Source: Eurobarometer 2018

As our lives become more **globalised**, you will be competing with people across the globe for the same education, leisure and employment **opportunities...**

Don't get left behind because of your language skills!



Mental Health Awareness Month

Mental health awareness - **#HelloYellow**

Throughout October students have participated in lessons around mental health and wellbeing in their **Ethics lessons**

They have also had the opportunity to complete a second **survey** (via SMHW) organised by Rotherham to follow up the one many of our students completed during lockdown in the late spring.

It is not surprising that missing friends and feeling isolated were high on the list of concerns expressed by our young people. As we return to school, the focus is on supporting students to recognise their own mental health and build resilience by helping them to develop strategies to support and improve their mental health. There will also be work done

around signposting for further help and support. We know as the weeks unfold, we are seeing some young people struggle to come to terms with the changes and their experiences during the past few months.

To show students that they are not alone, staff and sixth formers wore yellow on **Friday 9th October, World Mental Health Day**, to celebrate that we all have mental health but there are times when our mental health is not as good as it can be and there are things we can do to help improve it.

Please watch the video below to find out more about Young Minds and **#HelloYellow**.

<https://youtu.be/DYISh2ALnrM>



Y7 – Only One You

Our Y7 students have settled in to Brinsworth Academy and have started to complete cross curricular transition activities. One of these is the 'Only One You' pathway where every Y7 student will be using their Ethics and Art lessons to think about their own individuality, along with decorating a pebble to go on our 'only one you' pathway. The pathway will be based around our new, soon to be built building (R Block) and will celebrate the uniqueness of every student we have that joins us at Brinsworth Academy. Each year we will add to our colourful and diverse pathway! **#TeamBrinsworth #Respect**.



European Youth Parliament

We are proud of our students and their commitment to learning beyond the classroom. Here is Ahmad Raza's reflection on being a member of the European Youth Parliament. **#AchievingExcellence**

"Throughout lockdown, I was constantly searching for opportunities which would give me a clearer insight into not only the British legal system but also the European one, and I came across an opportunity provided by the European Youth Parliament (EYP). EYP is a model of the actual European Parliament and allows participants to enhance what happens within that atmosphere. Not only did I lose my fear of public speaking but my ambition to study something related to law/politics at university strengthened as this experience ensured me that I was heading towards the right path. Four months forward, and I am heading towards my 10th session next month (this time as a chairperson) which I am sure will yet be another amazing opportunity to experience something so inextricably connected to my future dream. The sessions themselves last 4 days each where delegates take part in teambuilding on the first day, committee work on the next 2 days and participate in a general assembly where every committee presents a resolution they spent 3 days on, which the rest of the delegates debate on! The one main thing these sessions have taught me is to never hesitate from experimenting with the opportunities you have available to you because the same experimentation unlocks so many further doors and opportunities for you!"



EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT

Our flock has flown its nest!

Our flock has flown its nest and has landed at Wentworth Woodhouse in this spectacular art installation. The Art department invited staff and students to decorate a bird that reflected their time living during a pandemic. So many beautifully decorated birds have made their way over to Wentworth Woodhouse. If you would like to visit and go and find your bird then visit Wentworth Woodhouse's website to book your free tickets.



Performance faculty extra-curricular

The Performance department are keen to celebrate the fantastic participation Brinsworth Academy students have shown to extra-curricular clubs over recent weeks. Students got involved in a vast array of activities within all areas of the faculty including Football and Netball training, Drama Club, Music Tech Club, Ukulele Club and Rock Band!

Staff have regularly commented on how students have been able to develop their learning beyond the classroom, by spending additional time within the faculty to undertake activities they enjoy and want to develop further. Watch this space for our new series of clubs starting in November, including Rugby Training, Year 7 Girls Cricket and Trampolining!

Follow us on Social Media (Twitter and Facebook) using the tag @BACPerformance.



National Poetry Day Celebrations in English

We dedicated lessons to World Poetry Day in English this year using the visions theme in line with national celebrations. Years 7-13 had the opportunity to be creative and we had a fantastic number of entries to a LEAP wide competition.

In KS3 the students created a poem using a line from Sympathy by Laurence Dunbar. The students worked brilliantly with this constraint

and really enjoyed having the opportunity to write their own poetry. In KS4 and 5 the students used the poem, "Night" by Rachel Long to create poems using dreams as inspiration. Again the students let their imaginations soar and produced some spectacular poetry.

Here are some examples of the quality of the work produced...

"There's a bluebird in my heart that wants to get out."

Good evening Mr Moon, O chivalrous light,
take my covetous darkness and bury it in the night.
Take hold of my heart in the palm of your hand,
wish it away to a promised land.

Good evening Mr Moon, O set me free,
take me to Neverland with Hook and Smee.
And Peter in caves with his immortal friends,
bless me with ideas of fictitious ends.

Good evening Mr Moon, O don't let them see,
my tenderness, my love; the secrets I keep to be free.
My weakness is forthcoming with you as my beholder,
I let the sunshine pass as I am cursed with growing older.

Good evening Mr Moon, I ask you this,
when the sun comes up what do you suppose I will miss?
It won't be the stars, despite their beauty,
or the dim glow of the streetlamps who stand on duty-

It's you Mr Moon, you are what I will miss,
the calm you deliver, the solitude, the bliss.
For you bestow upon me the greatest gift of all,
the power to let myself go. To let myself fall.

Verus Amor est Ignis.

Why?
Why cage your fiery heart
Because another tore it apart?
Oh, the heart with its flames of love and desire!
'tis not for containment but for freedom to acquire.

With pain, you quell the fires and suffocate th'embers,
Paint on a smile, force out a laugh, whilst to pain surrenders.
For why let love when love was lost?
The game of love comes often with cost.

But one shall come and be worth the pain,
So uncover your heart, its embers remain.
The right one shall revive them to roaring glory.
Without vicissitudes, what is a story?

The hurt will vanish; materialise and go,
Your fires forever fed, for in true love shall grow.
Your past forgotten, lost beneath a new yearful haze,
But the love dies with you, that is the way.

Love is an art, let it flourish and dance,
But it must come to an end, for that is romance.

Brinsworth Achieving Excellence

Each week every form competes to achieve the most achieving excellence points, from their year group and from Y7-Y11. Lots of forms have risen to the challenge and each week the Achieving Excellence trophy is passed on. Is your form one of the winners? When this newsletter went to press 10R (Ms Murray's form) were in lead with the most wins! Let's keep up the great work! **#TeamBrinsworth**

Some of 8A receiving their week 4 Super Champions award **#AchievingExcellence**



Huge congratulations to Harley Ratcliffe in 11I for making her debut for Nottingham Forest Regional Talent Centre on Saturday 26th September.

Throughout lockdown, she ran 5km each day before completing her Joe Wicks workout and school work for the day. A true champion and always **#AchievingExcellence**
#TeamBrinsworth Nottingham Forest



Please let us know if your child is doing something outside of school, which deserves a special mention in our next newsletter (December)! You can contact their form tutor or Head of Year to share the good news!

We will continue to share good news via our social media pages – Facebook and Twitter (**@BrinsworthAcademyLEAP**). You can also message us with good news stories directly on Facebook (**@BrinsworthAcademyLEAP**). We look forward to hearing more about the amazing things Brinsworth Academy students have been doing! **#TeamBrinsworth**

Achieving Excellence – Special Mentions!

Laura Machin for her fabulous achievements in football outside of school!

Y11 Child Development Students completed an actual GCSE exam last Thursday 1st October. Many worked very hard to complete work and revise, and in such good spirits too! Well done!

Huge congratulations goes to Charley Docherty for signing for Sheffield United FC first team. Read more about here...

www.sufc.co.uk/women/news/2020/august/charley-docherty-signs/



Y8s have been working on climate activism speeches this term, inspired by Greta Thunberg and David Attenborough and using knowledge from their topic on "Climate Change". Brilliant speeches from Shadiyah Usman (8A), Adam Khan (8R) and Abdul Rehman (8C) - well done!



The LEAP Vision

Achieving excellence is the overriding ambition of our Trust. We place students at the centre of everything we do, creating a culture of success and a love of learning which enhances students' achievements and their personal, social and emotional wellbeing.

We achieve our vision through:

Excellence for our Students

Inspiring, challenging, engaging and supporting all of our students to achieve excellent outcomes irrespective of their starting points. Every student is provided with a clear progression route to the next stage of their education and career.

Excellence for our Staff

Driving excellence in teaching and learning, and implementing a knowledge-rich curriculum that meets the needs and aspirations of all students.

Excellence for our Schools

Enhancing central and shared services to maximise organisational and cost efficiencies.

Excellence for our Communities

Building positive partnerships with our parents, primary schools and the wider community

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Achieving excellence



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