

Bredon Hill Academy

Learning Together for Success



Newsletter—Spring Term 2023

A message from the Headteacher...

I cannot believe that we have completed two terms of the school year already. Whilst it has only been a relatively short term, we have certainly filled a lot in. There's been numerous sporting successes and trips, including a theatre visit to see *The Tempest* in Stratford and a careers-based trip to Price Waterhouse in Birmingham.

The year 7 French trip was a great success and pupils and staff thoroughly enjoyed their time in Saint Leonard des Bois. Highlights were a visit to Mont St Michel and a trip to La Saffrie, a goat cheese farm. During the same week, our year 6 pupils had their practice SATs week. We were really impressed with their mature approach and positive work ethic.

Rehearsals for our school production, *Oliver!* are well underway and we look forward to the shows, which will be held in the school hall in July. It's wonderful to walk around school and, every now and again, hear a group of pupils practicing their *Oliver!* songs together.

We are pleased to announce the launch of our new website. Please visit us at www.bredon.worcs.sch.uk. We hope you enjoy reading our newsletter. If you want to keep up-to-date with events, please follow us on Twitter @BredonHAcademy.

From all of the BHA staff, we wish you a relaxing Easter break. School re-opens on Monday 17th April, which is a 'green' week.

Once again, thank you for your on-going support; it is greatly appreciated.

Take care,
Debbie Weir



Key Dates

Start of Summer Term	Monday 17th April 2023 (Green Week)
Bank Holiday	Monday 1st May 2023
Bank Holiday	Monday 8th May 2023
SATs Week (Year 6)	Tuesday 9th May—Friday 13th May 2022
Hill Walk (Year 6)	Friday 13th May 2022
Half Term	Monday 29th May 2023-Friday 2nd June 2023

Celebrating BHA's Values

A fabulous three hundred and twenty pupils have been rewarded this week for being 'Zero Heroes' with a doughnut and drink celebration. This praised two thirds of our school community who have gone throughout the whole spring term without receiving any sanctions and marks a slight increase on last term—a big 'well done' to all who managed this notable achievement.

Next term offers a clean slate and we look forward to even greater numbers maintaining our high expectations of conduct. We will also reward those who manage a whole year without receiving a single sanction with an extra special treat!

Pupils have been searching high and low across the school buildings as part of our egg-citing Easter egg hunt this week. We've seen the term out with an inter-form Easter-themed quiz courtesy of Miss Lloyd and Mrs Dunkley and further awards were handed out during our end of term assemblies, including our coveted Pupil of The Term awards, as well as those for Zero Heroes, house point awards, house competition winners, subject commendations and our planner awards. Congratulations to all our award winners—over 800 certificates were handed out this week alone— the perfect way to end the term and show how our pupils consistently demonstrate Belief, Honesty and Aspiration in their learning and within the BHA community.



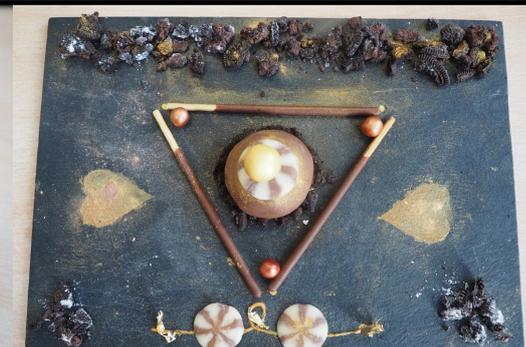


Focus on Food Preparation and Nutrition

Mrs Parkinson has been busy with year 8 creating some teacake masterpieces as part of this year's Tunnock's Teacake Challenge. The theme for this year was 'patterns and shapes' and this enabled our pupils to show off an array of their food presentation skills in lessons, including spinning sugar, icing work, and creating compotes.

The standards were high across the whole cohort, so a big 'well done' to the winners and overall house victors, 8 Hill.

- 8 Avon—2nd Josie M, 1st Abigail G
- 8 Brook— 2nd Stan M, 1st Martha H
- 8 Castle— 2nd Toby P, 1st Matilda R
- 8 Hill— 2nd Amber J, Katie S
- 8 Tower—2nd Oliver M, 1st Eva H
- 8 Vale—2nd Eden E, 1st Lily H



Focus on Geography

In Geography this term, year 8 have been looking at a topic called The Dangerous Earth. In this topic the students examine the structure of the Earth, plate tectonics, earthquakes and volcanoes. The recent devastating earthquake in Turkey and Syria brought into sharp focus the power and destructive forces within our planet. We used this earthquake as a stimulus to our lessons and we examined some of the causes and effects of earthquakes in Turkey and looked at the effects on the country, its towns and cities and the people.



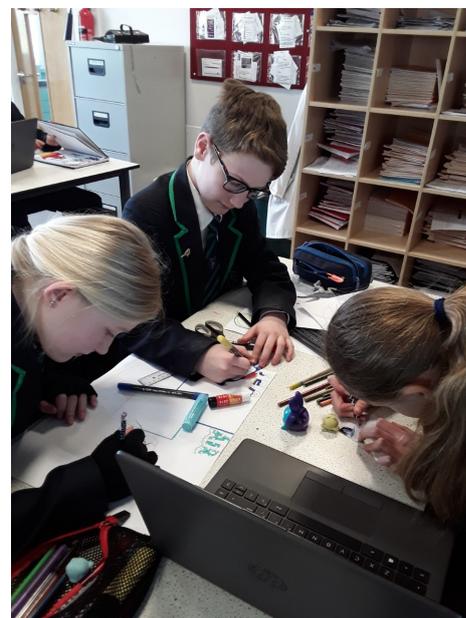
Meanwhile, year 7 have been looking at how the shape of our landscapes can be changed by the effects of weathering and erosion. We have considered how buildings can be affected by these processes and the students have undertaken some fieldwork in the school grounds to investigate how our school buildings, paths and roadways are not immune to the power of weathering.

Year 6 have started a topic called 'The Local and Global Environment' and are currently exploring the huge impact that plastic pollution is having on our oceans. Hopefully, they will become more aware of their role in reducing the effect of pollution on the environment by re-using and recycling plastic products and packaging.

Focus on Science

During 10th-19th March, the science department and the whole school celebrated British Science Week. The theme for this year was "connections". As part of the activities, all pupils were invited to take part in a House poster competition—pupils made connections from David Attenborough and various aspects of the environment and how space links to atoms, elements and compounds. The winners of our own competition will be entered into the British

Science Week national poster competition—good luck to those involved!



Additionally, there were a range of extra activities undertaken in STEM Club, including a challenge for the group to make a Boston glider from diagram information and being only able to ask three questions. All pupils rose to the challenge and successfully built some great gliders by the end of the session.



Focus on Careers and PSHE

Bredon Hill Academy pupils have been actively learning about the skills and attributes they will need in the future. We celebrated National Careers Week by having assemblies learning about essential skills and also looking at a range of careers. Some pupils had the opportunity to visit the offices of PwC in Birmingham to experience life in an office, as well as carrying out a variety of tasks which will help them build essential skills such as teamwork and using their initiative.



We welcome the help of parents and carers who would be willing to come in and talk about their work, to help inspire our pupils. Please contact the office if you are able to help—office@bredon.worcs.sch.uk

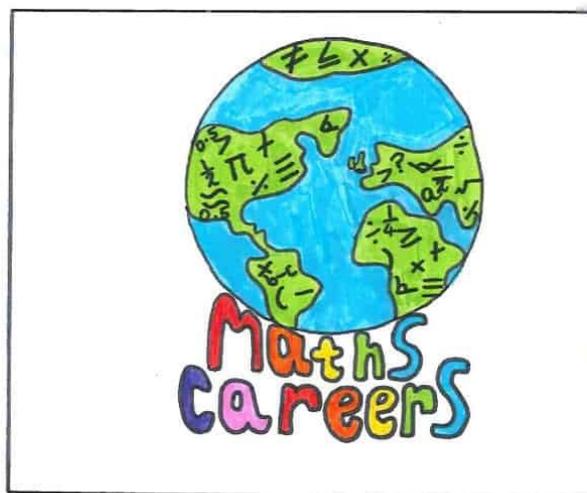


Focus on Maths

Before the Christmas holiday, Year 7 and Year 8 students were set a competition to create a new logo for the Maths Careers Website. We are pleased to announce that Francesca C's (7 Hill) entry was selected as the winner in her age group. Francesca's logo was featured on the @MathsCareers Twitter account, throughout February and March.

Congratulations to our ten year 8 participants in the Intermediate Maths Challenge. Ruben J took a silver award and was 'best in school'. Meanwhile, Katie N and George F picked up bronze awards.

We were incredibly pleased with the way year 6 conducted themselves during the practice SATs week—many have made fantastic progress over the course of the year. We look forward to working with them all in the coming weeks ahead of the final SATs in May. Keep working hard, year 6—you've got this!



My Maths Careers Logo

For my Maths Careers logo, I decided to draw Earth with mathematical symbols on the continents. This indicates that the website can be used all around the world.

Ensuring that my logo is mathematical, I drew a variety of symbols used in maths to show that people use maths everywhere.

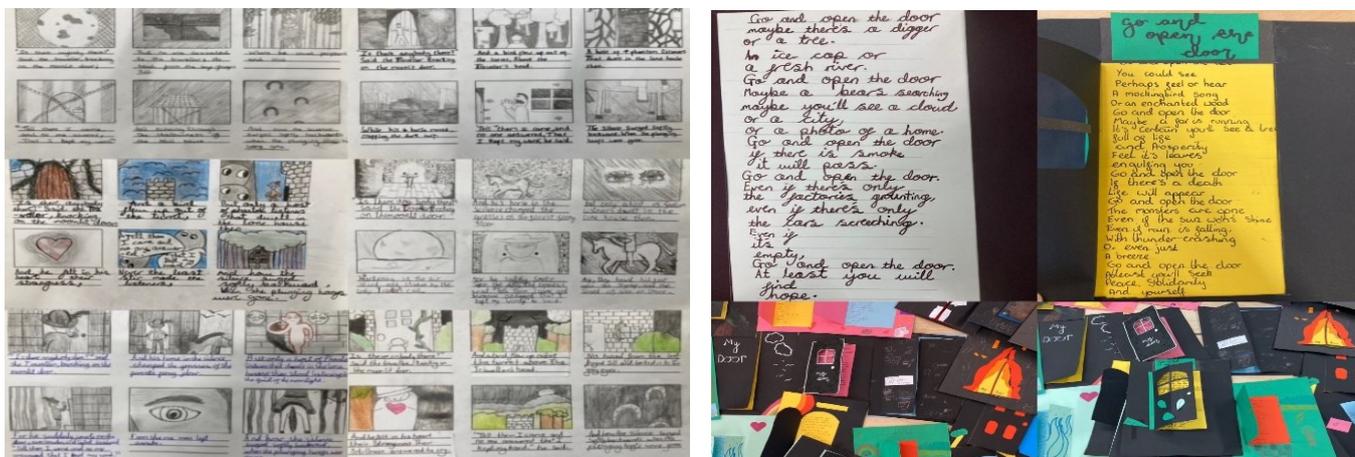
Careers in maths should be available to everyone no matter where they are from.

I have used bright, bold colours to make the logo attractive and appealing.

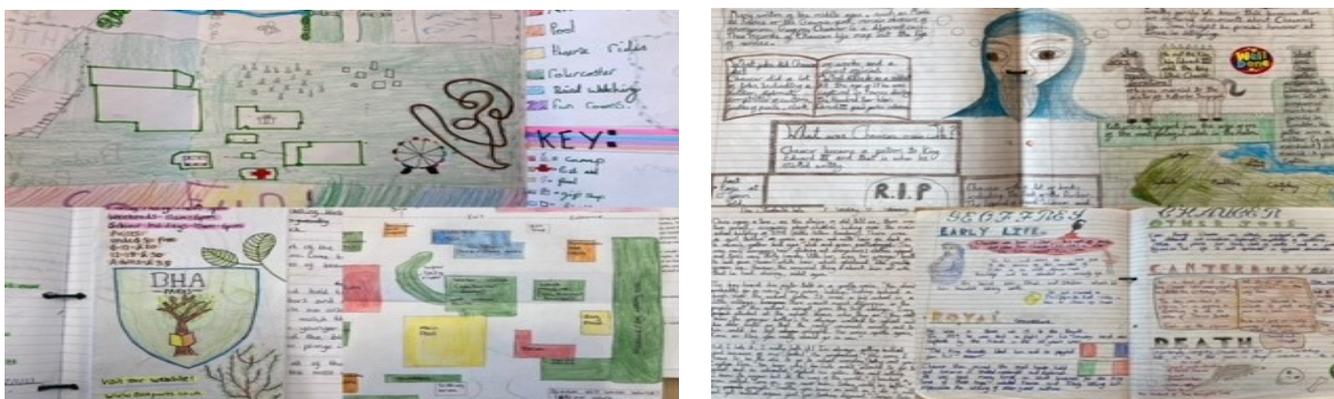
Focus on English

This term has been a lively and vivacious one in English, despite the weather—our pupils' learning has gone from strength to strength in English. Mr Mills, our School Improvement Partner, has visited the department as part of our on-going monitoring, evaluating and improving process.

The year six cohort have immersed themselves in poetry and refining their skills for reading. The pupils continued to develop their retrieval, comprehension, summary, questioning and inferring skills whilst reading the texts. They all improved their writing skills by completing their own range of poems. In particular, pupils developed vocabulary choices, sentence structures and have been exploring the effect punctuation choices have. All year six pupils have been provided with a CGP book to aid their revision of KS2 learning. At present, Year 6 are also using the [Spelling Frame](#) website to consolidate spelling knowledge. The year six cohort also behaved superbly during the March SATs experience and applied themselves diligently. Well done, year six.



Year seven continue to explore the concepts of heroism and villainy. Chaucer's 'The Knight's Tale' has been explored and dissected as a text from the English canon of literature. The year group have continued to question: how do pupils use quotes to support their opinions whilst exploring how writers construct continuous texts? They have been studying how Chaucer's characters come across to a modern reader. They have had many varied thoughts and they have conveyed these through their written responses. We have enjoyed reading their carefully crafted tales too. They are moving to learning about how poets employ heroes and villains in the poetic form.



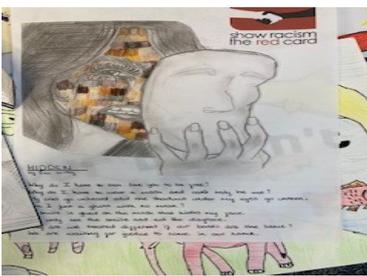
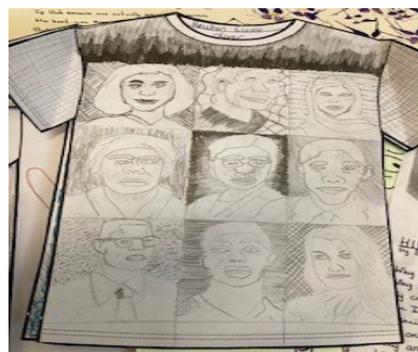


Year eight learning continues to be based around the concept of 'conflict' in English. They have all been given the opportunity to learn about Aristotle's 'Art of Rhetoric' and were inspired by modern voices such as Emma Watson, Greta Thunberg and the Obamas. The speeches that year 8 then crafted and delivered on a variety of personally selected topics were engaging, mature and emotional. The cohort are now studying Shakespeare's 'The Tempest' which focuses on conflict and how different characters manage these experiences. It is inspiring to see the pupils thoughtfully responding to this great text. We also enjoyed a fabulous trip on 2nd March to the Royal Shakespeare Theatre to watch the text in



performance. Some Year 8 pupils have also been involved in a drama workshop with Mrs Cook, Subject Lead for Drama at Prince Henry's High School.

The whole school took part in our 'Red Card Against Racism' and 'World Book Day' competitions and we have enjoyed judging the entries. This gave pupils the opportunity to respond to reading personally, creatively and with pleasure. We wish we could showcase all of them! Congratulations to Castle House who were the overall winners with Vale and Tower as runners up in the interhouse competition.



We wish you all a restful break and we are looking forward to our Summer Term learning.

The English Department



Focus on French

Fifty five of our year 7 pupils recently had the opportunity to visit Saint-Leonard des Bois, in Normandie. After a very early start and a long coach and train ride to their destination, the pupils soon settled into their new surroundings and got stuck into some delicious food. Over the course of five days, the group spent a day at our partner school in Mamers, giving them the perfect opportunity to meet their penpals and practise French speaking skills. They also visited the Chateau de Fougères, reinforcing history studies

of medieval castles; explored the beautiful Mont-Saint-Michel; visited local shops and markets to sample local delicacies and purchase souvenirs and had a truly fantastic visit at Les Chèvres de la Saffrie, learning all about goats' cheese and getting the opportunity to give the newly born kids a little cuddle.



A huge thank you to Mme Amzallag and the accompanying staff who worked so hard to create such a memorable event.

Meanwhile, back at school, the rest of year seven experienced a little taste of France as Mme Dorrell ran a French café with the support of some very attentive year 8 waiters to support pupils' speaking and listening skills and even Mr Bishop's computing enrichment session had a French twist to it!



Focus on Art

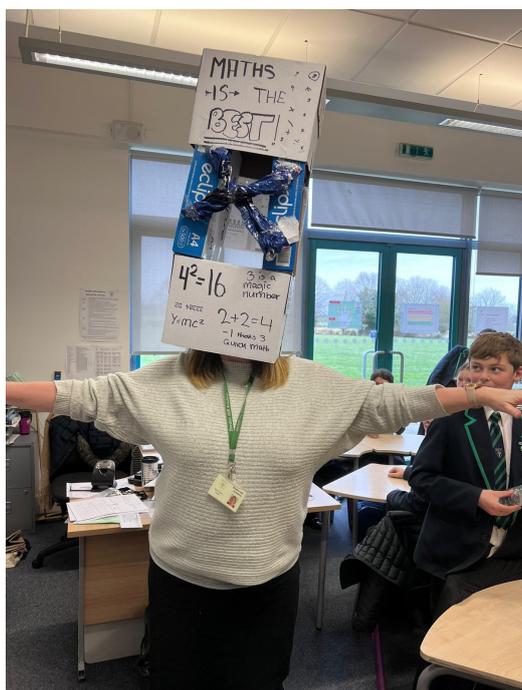
Year 6 have been looking at various Greek Myths and creating narrative prints showing scenes from the story.



Focus on Wellbeing

As part of Children's Mental Health Week, the BHA Community took part in the Taskmaster Education and Place2Be Challenges to encourage our pupils to connect with one another and explore different ways of thinking. Over the course of the week, Mr Timpson and Mr Horton set the school individual and tutor-based challenges, including: making the 'best' rainbow; designing the 'best' outdoor game using just one piece of equipment and three instructions; creating a portrait of Miss West using items found outdoors; choreographing a dance, and creating hats from recycling. The pupils did really well in thinking laterally and, most importantly, had a great deal of fun! The event was so successful we are continuing to add challenges periodically to tutor times to keep the fun going!

The pupils' efforts were shared across our social media platforms and several examples of their ideas were picked up by the Taskmaster Twitter feed. A special mention goes to Abigail G in 8 Avon, who also received a mention from Alex Horne, co-host of Taskmaster!



Focus on Physical Education

We have once again been thoroughly impressed by the levels of participation and achievement across a range of sports this term. As well as inter-house competitions, our pupils and sports teams have competed at local, district, county and national levels and enjoyed a great deal of success. Highlights included:

- We are KS3 Panathletics Boccia champions—well done to Harry D, Charlotte O and Ruby M and all our other participants for a fantastic tournament.
- Also in panathletics, we are the KS2 County Champions and the pupils involved—Evelyn E, Penny L, Isla S, Inna H, Mathew D, Dylan K and Alistair S now go onto represent the County in the national finals next term. Our KS3 team were runners-up —well done to you all.
- Reece Y in year 6, Kipp S in year 7 and Scarlett E in year 8 represented Hereford and Worcestershire at the National Cross Country Finals after successful district trials. All three did tremendously well in tough conditions—Kipp and Reece both finished second for Hereford and Worcestershire and Scarlett fourth. A big ‘well done’ also goes to the large number of pupils who represented the school and region in the district and county finals.
- Within inter-house competitions, 7 Hill have been crowned netball champions and Hill also followed up this success in the year 6 competition. Well done to all those who involved—it was lovely to see such high levels of participation and the year 8s and staff colleagues being on hand to support Mrs Speake.
- Year 7 netball teams were involved in a district tournament. In a strong squad effort, the A team finished runners up and the B team a commendable 4th place.
- In year 6, Avon were crowned as interhouse football winners at the start of the term—earlier in the year Tower were victorious in both the year 7 and year 8 competitions. Thank you to Mr Haines for organising this event—often in the worst of weathers!
- Our u-13 girls football team have once again made it through to the finals of the county cup, following a 5-2 victory over Walkwood Middle. Fingers-crossed they can retain their title next term.
- Our Equestrian Team have been in action at Allens Hill, Pershore. Holly M came 4th with a double clear round in showjumping in the 60cm class, whilst Heidi P and Fern W were involved in arena eventing. Heidi came 3rd in the 70cm class and well done to Fern as she represented the school in her first competitive event.





- Our swimming teams enjoyed local success in the South Worcestershire gala: our year 8 team finished third, whilst the year 6 and 7 teams both finished as gold medallists.



- Our rugby teams have enjoyed participating in a range of local friendlies—an 8 try to 5 victory over Pershore High for our year 8 team in a very entertaining game being a recent highlight. Our pupils also demonstrated great leadership skills whilst supporting the first schools' tag rugby competition.

- Following district success, our year 7 boys and year 8 girls Sportshall Athletics teams are competing in the county round to represent South Worcestershire early next term.



School Stationery Shop

A reminder that we have our own school stationery shop, which runs every Tuesday and Thursday breaktime outside the maths classrooms.

With items sold at cost price and from as little as 5p for a pencil or rubber and a wide range of items on offer, it's a great opportunity for pupils to top up on essentials without having to pop into town or make an online order.



Focus on Attendance



We're incredibly proud of our school attendance, which currently stands in the top 10% of schools across the country. We believe our school community, positive relationships and our focus on our core values of Belief, Honesty and Aspiration make Bredon Hill Academy a fantastic place to learn.

At the start of this term, we introduced an attendance trophy to reward the tutor group with the highest attendance over the course of each week. Awarded on the steps every Friday, it's a positive celebration of our pupils' dedication and perseverance. The winning tutor group gets a little treat and to keep the attendance cup for the week. A special mention goes to 8 Brook, who have been victors an impressive five times this term!

House Point Update

Our pupils continued to pick up significant numbers of house points this term for a wide range of reasons, from producing excellent work to improvements in attitude to learning; from helping towards supporting our BHA community to producing great pieces of home learning. We have also run a wide range of House competitions across a range of subject areas—these points will be added to overall totals at the end of the year to identify the final standings. The overall House totals up to the end of this term are shown below—can Castle remain in pole position throughout the summer term? Make sure you keep up to date with your own child's achievements through the My Child At School platform.



Avon	Brook	Castle	Hill	Tower	Vale
4094	4556	4708	4582	4429	4690



Our School Gardens

We will once again be opening our fabulous gardens in June as part of the Ashton under Hill Open Gardens weekend. The theme for this year is 'the pollinators' - highlighting the dramatic decline in bees, butterflies and other key pollinators that are essential for successful pollination of plants and the future of fruit, vegetable and cereal crops. It is hoped that visitors will reconsider some of their actions as a result of their awareness being heightened.

Miss Bankes works tirelessly to ensure our school grounds are a quiet space of tranquillity to support pupil wellbeing, learning and biodiversity. One of our Enrichment sessions on a Thursday afternoon focuses on using a range of strategies, including outdoor spaces, to support wellbeing. Additionally, every form group has its own planting patch within our 'Friendship Gardens' to enable a sense of pupil ownership of our grounds and to nurture a natural curiosity of gardening. The Eco-Council form an active part of our school life, meeting once a month to explore how we can best support eco-diversity and the environment by making small adaptations to our own lives or activities within school.

You can chart our journey through the grounds' own Twitter feed—@BHAPottingSheds.

Pupils are currently working with Miss Bankes to prepare for the Open Gardens event, including planting, tidying the gardens and caring for the wild-life. We hope you pop in and see us if you are planning to attend the Open Gardens.

Ashton under Hill Open Gardens

Worcester WR11 7SW

**Saturday & Sunday
June 10th and 11th
2023**



WIDE VARIETY OF GARDENS FOR YOU TO ENJOY

Various Plant and Craft Stalls

Light Lunches | Cream Teas | Refreshments

Discounts for pre-booked groups of 10 or more

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www.ashtonopengardens.co.uk

Opening Times:
1pm - 6pm

Admission: £8.00
Under 16s free

**BOOKING AVAILABLE ON-LINE:
www.ashtonopengardens.co.uk**



Focus on Extra-Curricular

Attendance remains incredibly high across the wide range of extra-curricular activities we offer at BHA. The start of a new term marks a new opportunity for our pupils to try something different!

Monday		
Cricket	Year 8	Mr Haines (Field)
Rounders	Year 6	Mrs Speake (Field)
Library	All years	Mrs Oakley and Team
Warhammer Club	All years	Mr Bailey (Lab 2)
Singing Club	Invitation Only	Mrs Pilling (Music Room)
Minecraft Club	Year 6	Mr Bishop (Computer Room)
Chess Club	Years 7 & 8	Mrs Campbell (Room 9)
Chess Club	Year 6	Mrs Oakley (Room 9)
Home Learning Club	All years	Mrs Bartlett (Room 4)
Gardening Club	All years	Miss Bankes (Friendship Garden)

Tuesday		
Cricket	Year 7	Mr Haines (Field)
Rounders	Year 7	Mrs Speake (Field)
Art	Year 7	Mr MacDonald (Art Room) – Green weeks only
Home Learning Club	All years	Mrs Bartlett (Room 4)
History Club	All years	Miss Durkin and Mr Pearce (Room 11)
Library	All years	Mrs Oakley and Team
Band Practice	Invitation Only	Mrs Pilling (Music Room)
Minecraft Club	Years 7 & 8	Mr Bishop (Computer Room)
Wellbeing	Invitation Only	Mrs Sidney (Lab 3)
Gardening Club	All years	Miss Bankes (Friendship Garden)
Science Clinic	All years	Mrs Huntly (Lab 1)

Wednesday		
Tennis	Year 6	Mrs Speake (Courts)
Cricket	Year 6	Mr Haines (Field)
Library	All years	Mrs Oakley and Team
Home Learning Club	All years	Mrs Bartlett (Room 4)
Gaming Club	Year 6	Mr Bishop (Computing Room)
Turing Tumbles Club	All years	Mrs Merrick (Room 10)
STEM Club	All years	Mrs Griffin, Mr Bailey and Mrs Huntly (Science Labs)
Bird-Watching Club	All years	Mrs Smith (Meet in the garden)
French Club	All years	Mme <u>Amzallag</u> (Room 6) – Green weeks – playing games to consolidate learning and/or get extra help or support Blue weeks – for those who enjoy watching films in French
Gardening Club	All years	Miss Bankes (Friendship Garden)
Drop-In Music Session	All years	Mrs Pilling (Music Room)
Girls' Maths Club	Invitation Only	Mrs Campbell/Miss Mann (Room 8)

Thursday

Softball	Year 7	Mr Haines (Field)
Rounders	Year 8	Mrs Speake (Field)
Art Club	Year 6	Mr MacDonald (Art Room) – Blue weeks only
Library	All years	Mrs Oakley and Team
Rock Band	All years	Mrs Pilling (Music Room)
Craft Club	Invitation only	Mrs Campbell (Room 9)
Craft Club	Years 7 & 8	Mrs Dorrell (Room 7)
Lego Club	All years	Miss Lloyd (Room 10)
Journaling Club	All years	Mrs Bartlett (Room 4)
Maths Clinic	All years	A perfect opportunity to get help with maths home learning or catch up missed work. (Room 8)
Gaming Club	Years 7 & 8	Mr Bishop (Computing Room)
Gardening Club	All years	Miss Bankes (Friendship Garden)
Girls' Maths Club	Invitation Only	Mrs Campbell/Miss Mann (Room 8)

Friday

Running Club	All years	Mrs Stevens (Running Track)
Film Club	All years	Mrs Jessop (Room 2)
Tennis	Years 7 & 8	Mrs Speake (Courts)
Art Club	Year 8	Mr MacDonald (Art Room) – Green weeks only
Portfolio Art Club	Invitation Only	Mr MacDonald (Art Room) – Blue weeks only
Library	All years	Mrs Oakley and Team
Gardening Club	All years	Miss Bankes (Friendship Garden)

