



# Bredon Hill Academy

**Summer Term 2022**



## ***A message from the Headteacher...***

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of another busy academic year, I would like to take the opportunity to thank every member of our school community for their on-going support to BHA. Thank you to the BHA staff, directors, governors, parents, carers and most importantly to our pupils, who make Bredon Hill the special place it is. Our school motto 'Learning Together for Success' continues to be at the heart of everything we do.

We hope you enjoy reading our Summer '22 Newsletter and that it gives you a flavour of school life over the last few months.

At the end of the year, we say goodbye to Gary Sheridan who, an ex-pupil himself, has worked at the school for over 10 years. He has made a significant contribution to school life but will be remembered mostly for his rugby achievements over the years; the highlight being the 2014 team reaching the national finals and playing at Richmond. In 2020, Gary received an award for Services to School Rugby from England Rugby. He has had a positive impact on so many pupils' lives. We wish Gary good luck in his new job at the Cotswold School.

What a journey our Year 8s have had over the last 3 years! Yet they have taken it all in their stride, never moaned at the restrictions imposed on them and they have simply got on with it. I have never known a year group who have supported each other in quite the same way. They really have been there for each other and formed real friendships. We wish them all the very best of luck in the next stage of their education. We will miss them.

We also wish those pupils in Year 6 and 7 who are leaving us good luck too. In September, we look forward to the opening of our two new classrooms on the end of the maths block; these will replace the mobiles and consequently create more playground space.

From everyone at BHA, we hope that you have a happy, relaxing and safe holiday. Take care,

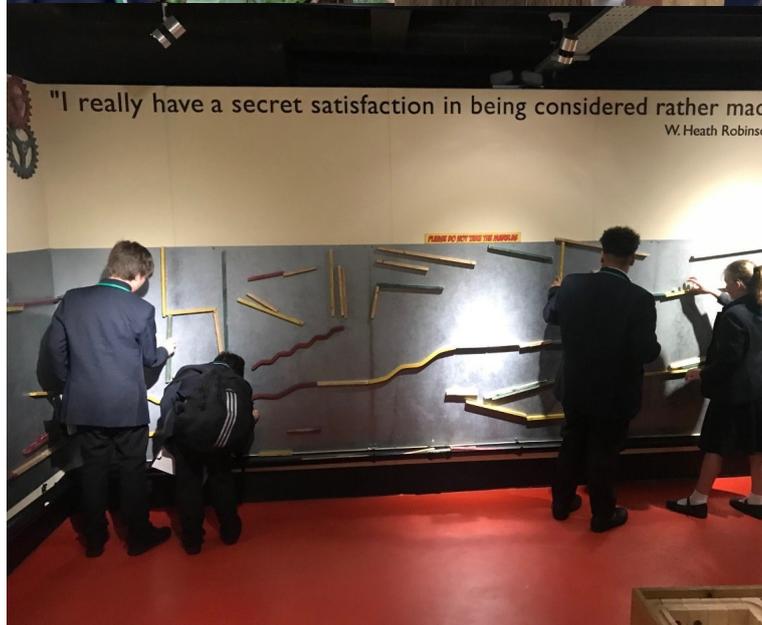
*Debbie West*

## Celebrating Extra-Curricular

After nearly two years of COVID-related disruption, pupils and staff alike have welcomed the opportunity to explore learning beyond the classroom. One of our long-standing BHA traditions is the Hill Walk—a chance for pupils to explore the beauty of our natural environment and take in the amazing views Bredon Hill offers. Armed with school cameras, pupils are encouraged to capture memories and are challenged to find as many different species of flora and fauna as possible.



Our passionate bird-watching club had a fantastic time at Slimbridge Wetland Centre, enabling them to explore a wider variety of wildlife in a different setting. Some of our year six and seven pupils had a STEM-filled day in Stratford, visiting MAD Museum and The Butterfly Farm—the year 7s even had the opportunity to take part in an impromptu version of 'All the World's a Stage' with a street performer, a monologue they had been studying in English. A small group of year 8 pupils visited Cyber Q Escape Rooms in Worcester, to develop their team work and problem-thinking skills whilst our prefects went bowling as a thank-you for their hard-work and dedication to their roles. Meanwhile, we have continued our established links with Prince Henry's, with some of our year 7s experiencing a Design Technology session, whilst some of our year 8s took part in a workshop exploring ethics and thought experiments.





**Slimbridge Wetland Centre**  
Welcome to the birthplace of modern conservation





On Friday 15th July, pupils thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to develop their learning outside of our usual timetabled lessons with an activities day. Year six pupils stayed on site and rotated around a range of fun tasks, including construction challenges, Lego marble runs, dance and drama.

Meanwhile, year 7 visited Croft Farm for a fun-filled day of land and water based activities.

Year 8 made the short journey to Bonkers in Pershore to make lasting memories before they move onto High School with a day on the water.



## Celebrating Achievement



Congratulations to the 274 pupils across all year groups who went through the whole summer term without receiving a sanction and were rewarded with a choc ice to cool down with this week.



Furthermore, we had an impressive 161 pupils who were true 'Zero Heroes' and went a whole academic year without receiving a single sanction. These pupils were rewarded with a film in the school hall last week.



Over the final few weeks, we've collectively celebrated the achievements of so many of our pupils with special celebration assemblies. Well done to the pupils who picked up a tutor award for effort, achievement or progress, an individual subject award or those who were nominated as a 'Pupil of the Term' for their overall approach to their learning. A big 'well done' and 'thank you' to the many pupils who shared their talents and learning within the assemblies —there was a lovely celebration of music, art, song and spoken word for each year group to take part in, too.



## House Points 2021-22

Our pupils have continued to shine across all areas of school life, picking up a wealth of house points for their efforts, achievements and participation and really demonstrating their appreciation of our motto, 'Learning Together For Success'. Congratulations to Vale, who have led the way for most of the year and finished as House Champions for 2021-22. Make sure you keep up to date with your child's achievements through the My Child At School platform.



Avon	Brook	Castle	Hill	Tower	Vale
4316	4344	4245	4654	4524	5147

'Congratulations' also go to the following pupils for their achievements out of school:

- ◆ Jay T-M in 8 Vale, who has made fantastic progress in his 85cc motocross, competing and doing incredibly well across two championships.

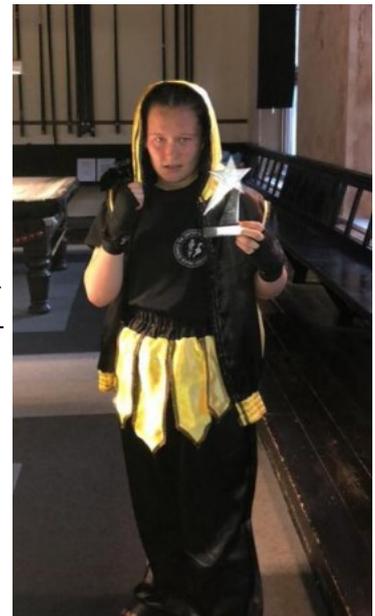


- ◆ Nicole G in 7 Tower, who, after a successful local bout, is now preparing to fight for an area title in kickboxing.



- ◆ Zofia P in 6 Vale, for coming away with an amazing six podium places at the U12s Summer Championships at Evesham Swimming Club.

- ◆ Lawrence O in 7 Hill for being awarded with a bronze medal after coxing his J14 girls' quad team at the National Schools Regatta at Eton Dorney. This achievement was followed up with further successes with the J14 and J15 quads at the Monmouth Regatta and a fifth place finish at the British Rowing Junior Championships.



- ◆ Ella C in 8 Avon after being selected in U17 Severn Stars netball team, following successful trials competing against players much older than her.

- ◆ Millie P in year 6, Ella J in year 7 and Jessie M in year 8, who were all involved in "Curtain Up" - an amazing

show at The Henrician by Vale Dance, involving many hours of rehearsals and dedication.

- ◆ Molly B and Charlotte P in Year 8, who have been selected to play for the Worcestershire Schools county football team next season; a huge achievement!
- ◆ Olivia K in 6 Brook, for undertaking the One Million Steps Challenge for Diabetes UK; three months of 11,000+ steps per day.
- ◆ Lexi G in 8 Castle, now 3rd in the country at tumbling, following her recent success in the National Championships.





### ***Focus on Food Preparation***

As you may have seen on our social media pages, year 8 pupils have been turning up the heat this half term as they've applied all the skills they've been taught over the course of the year to create a sensational starter, marvellous main and delicious dessert. Cooking doesn't get much tougher than this, as Mrs Parkinson awards the pupils marks for preparation skills and complexity and guest judges award the top three in each class on 'restaurant quality' presentation.

A selection of what has been created is shown on this page and yes, of course, there were a fair few buttery biscuit bases on offer for dessert!

Well done to all of our year 8 pupils—they thought carefully about balanced recipes, portion size and customer appeal and produced some incredible plates of food.



## Focus on English

This term has been an outward looking and dramatic one. Our students' learning continues to go from strength to strength in English.



The year six cohort have immersed themselves in Lewis Carroll and 'Alice In Wonderland' alongside writing to inform and drama lessons. The pupils continued to develop their retrieval, comprehension, summary, questioning and inferring skills whilst reading the texts. They all developed their writing skills by completing their own writing developed from their novels and are currently writing their own garden information leaflets for year 5. In particular, students continued developing vocabulary choices, sentence structures and have been exploring the effect punctuation choices have. The year six cohort also behaved superbly during the May SATs and applied themselves diligently. Well done, year six. They have enjoyed taking part in a talk from Karen Argent of The Letterpress Project about 'Amazing Alice', a live author event with Phil Earle and a Shakespeare drama workshop experience.

Year seven continue to explore the concepts of heroism and villainy. This term they have explored Shakespeare's soliloquy 'All the world's a stage...' and sonnet 18 alongside a modern novel. They have developed their independent project planning and delivery skills. The cohort have been developing their creation of metaphors thinking about tenor, vehicle and ground. A group of year 7 also took part in a 'Speak up for Trees' workshop promoting youth voices and persuasive public speaking. Congratulations to all who took part and in particular to our finalists, George C and Grace W.



Year eight learning continued to be based around the concept of 'conflict' in English. They have all been given the opportunity to learn about a range of modern novels which all focused around conflict and how different characters manage these experiences. They then turned their analytical eyes to Shakespeare's 'The Tempest'. They have all been engaging with the language, historical context and the idea of text in performance over this term. They all experienced a professional workshop on Friday 8th July delivered by the West End In Schools Company. This enabled them to explore the text through drama.



Reading buddies has helped to boost reading skills this year and build academic relationships between year groups. We look forward to growing this group next year. The Bredon Hill Academy Literacy Shed Project started this term and will continue into the Autumn Term 2023. This will be a super extra learning tool for the whole school. Thank you to the year 7 team who work after school on this.



All students in years 6 and 7 have been issued with our Summer Reading and Writing 30 Day Challenge. It is also on our website in case a new copy is required over the summer. This is a great way to counteract the summer dip and start September with house points.

We wish you all a relaxing summer break. We wish all our year 8 students the very best as they move to their new schools and into year 9.

The English Department

Don't forget to keep up to date on all things BHA online!



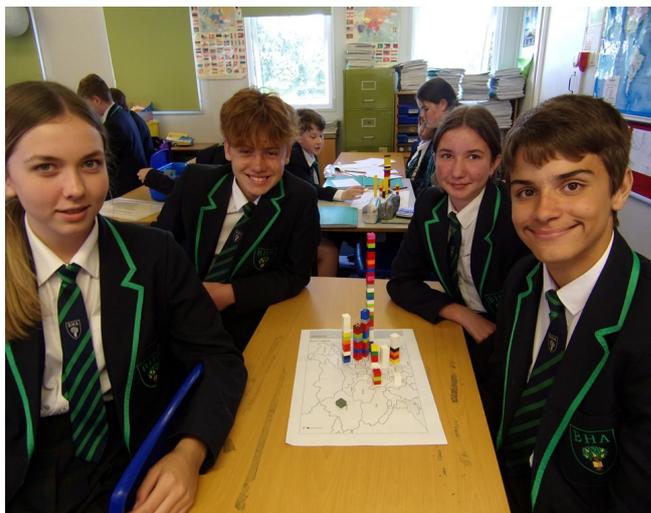
Visit the MCAS website regularly for up to date information on your child's achievements and assessments, as well as other key information.



Get up to date news on Twitter and Facebook - @BredonHAcademy

## Focus on Geography and Science

Year 8 have been learning about China in the summer term this year in Geography. As part of their studies, they have to interpret data and create graphs and maps from it. In recent lessons, pupils have been using Lego to create their own choropleth maps, which show the population distribution in China. A choropleth map uses symbols and colours to show data and the Lego is a fun way to represent the population data, from which we can analyse the reasons for the population distribution.



Meanwhile, year 7 have been learning about weathering. Having learnt in the classroom what weathering was and how it worked, it was important that our pupils had the opportunity to see how weathering affects not only the natural surroundings but the man made world too. To this effect, the students carried out an investigation looking for signs that weathering is having an effect on the school buildings. Their results were written up in class using maps and diagrams.

Outdoor learning has also taken place in Science this term. During lessons, pupils have been studying flowers and plants to support their understanding of plant reproduction and seed dispersal; completed resultant force calculations on the playground; completed a speed activity; hunted for vertebrates and invertebrates and developed their knowledge of how quadrats can be used in scientific experiments. Additionally, in STEM Club, pupils have been pond dipping. They have enjoyed a vast array of experiments over the term, from making stethoscopes and kaleidoscopes to learning how to deal efficiently with huge liquid spills (nappies won the day!) to name just a few.

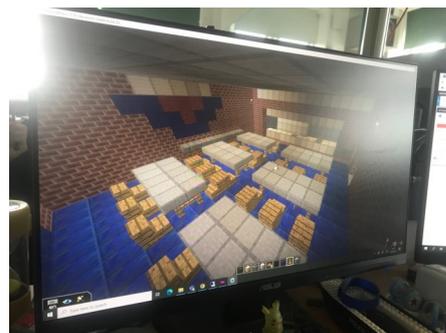


## Focus on Computing



Over the course of the year, our pupils have made fantastic progress in their computing lessons.

Year six have been recently completing their build projects in Minecraft, alongside other tasks along the way. One of their challenges involved creating



versions of our school building, with some of our more established Minecraft users being able to intricately create the inside of the school, too! The process has supported the pupils' problem-solving and STEM skills, as well as enabling them to reflect on design processes.

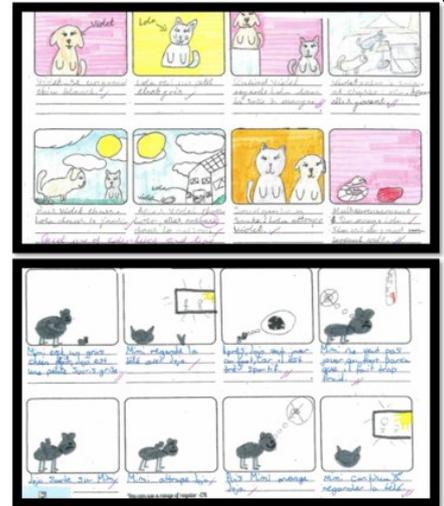
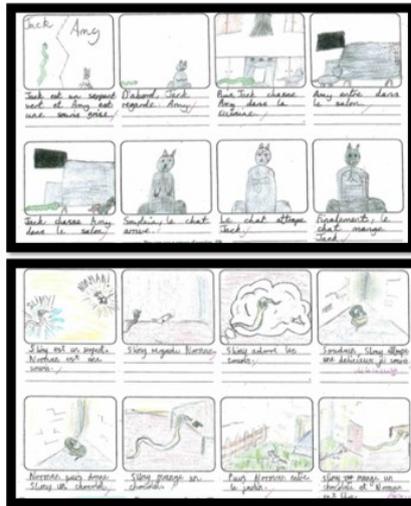
In Key Stage Three lessons, both years seven and eight have been completing their website projects. All pupils have demonstrated problem-solving skills and resilience and have produced some polished and professional results, based around their own personal interests.

Computing has also been part of the Enrichment Programme for year seven this year. This half-term, 7 Castle have been developing their creativity, building on their previously acquired skills in regular computing sessions. Mr Bishop was particularly impressed with how collaboratively the group worked as their constructions took shape.



## Focus on French

It's wonderful to see our pupils developing their confidence in their independent use of writing in the French language. Year 7 pupils have enjoyed creating short stories using a range of regular -er verbs in the present tense. Reusing previously learnt vocabulary such as animals, rooms of the house and adjectives, pupils were able to effectively communicate the adventures of their chosen characters. Pupils from all year groups have appreciated reading these stories displayed for all to see!



Through various reading activities, Year 6 pupils have developed their awareness of where French is spoken around the world as well as finding out some key geographical information of France. They have written detailed descriptions of French towns adapting a range of key phrases and using new vocabulary.

It's always great to get feedback from our pupils to reflect on our curriculum. Here's two examples from this year...

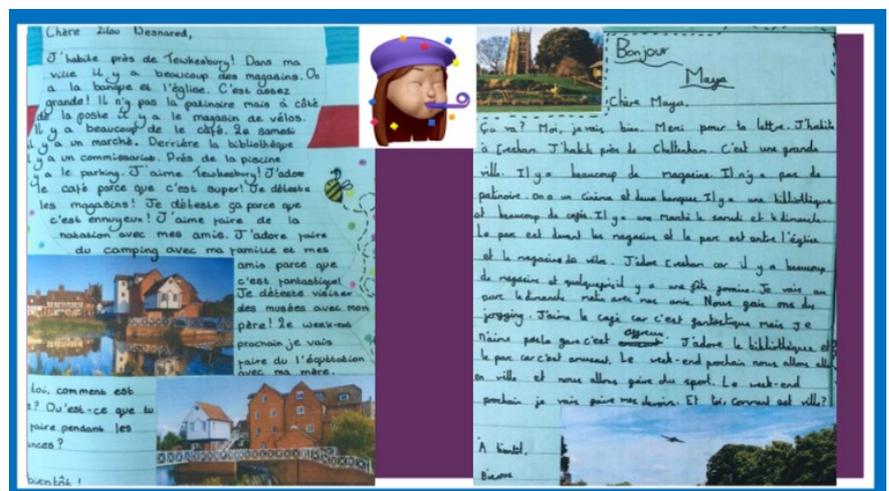
Amelie B 7 Vale:

'It was great receiving a penpal letter because I don't normally send or receive a handwritten letter. I felt really excited when I first saw it because her handwriting was so neat and the letter was decorated so nicely! She has misspelt some words and this made me realise that my letter would have had some mistakes too in French. However, I was so excited to write back!'



Alexandra I 7 Vale:

'When I received my first penpal letter, I was so excited to see who it was by and if they written it well. When I saw it, my penpal's handwriting was really good and I was really jealous of her handwriting! After I read my penpal letter, I was very surprised that everything was perfect. I was determined that I should make my pen pal letter look good and make my presentation as best as I can, to show someone else from a different country what I could do best. Whilst I was writing it, I thought to myself: "Let's make this letter interesting to read so that I know my penpal will love it!"'



Whilst I was writing it, I thought to myself: "Let's make this letter interesting to read so that I know my penpal will love it!"'

## Focus on Music

On 6th July, we celebrated the musical abilities of pupils at BHA with our Summer Concert. There was a vast array of talent on display, with performances from those who have only taken up an instrument this academic year, to those who have a number of graded achievements already. The concert crossed a number of genres and styles, covering songs from musicals and classical compositions to modern day pop.



Well done to all those who performed on the evening:

- Singers: Vesper A, Kitty A, Maia A, Ellie B, Fleur B-W, Amy B, Maizy B, Isla C, Paige C-P, Josh C, Megan C, Kiya-Grace C, Millie D, Megan E, Abigail G, Zoe H, Alexandra I, Gabriella J, Olivia K, Olivia K, Immy L, Mabel M, Bethan P and Grace W.
- Band: Rhys B, George C, Aron G, Chloe H, Patrick K, Immy L, Freddie W and Grace W.



- Individual/group performers: Patrick K, Elsa G, Kitty A, Megan C, Mabel M, Josh C, Billy F, George C, Maia A, Freddie W, Ellie B, Amy B, Gabrielle J and Aron G.

## Key Dates

Teaching Training Day	Monday 5th September 2022
Term Starts for Year 6 Only	Tuesday 6th September 2022
School Open for Years 6, 7 and 8	Wednesday 7th September 2022
Teacher Training Day	Friday 21st October 2022
Half-Term	Monday 24th October –Friday 28th October 2022

## Focus on Art and Design

Within the Art Department this term pupils have been busy creating their work. Across Year 6 we have been experimenting with painting styles of great artists and developing Manga Comics.



Across Year 7 we have been creating figure in a local landscape paintings.



Across Year 8 we have been developing book illustrations.



## ***Focus on Physical Education***

The warmer weather may have seen our range of sports change, but the quality of our achievements at Bredon Hill Academy remain high.

Earlier this term, we took four teams to compete in the South Worcestershire District Competition at the Prince of Wales Stadium, Cheltenham. All pupils involved performed amazingly well. The following pupils have become District Champions in their individual event(s): Ella C (javelin), James F (javelin), Louisa (shot putt), Amelie C (shot putt), Shay G (shot putt), Riley G (shot putt and 100m), Millie B (discus), Fernanda B (discus and 200m), Marley D (discus and 500m), Kerem S (discus), Isobel J (high jump), Josh H (high jump), Oliver M (high jump), Olivia C (100m), Charlotte P (100m), Nell B (300m), Heidi P (800m), Scarlett E (1500m), Leo J (800m), Levi D (300m). The year 7 girls, year 8 girls and boys relay teams all won their respective races.

Final Standings:

Year 7 Girls: 1st BHA 154 points	2nd Pershore 118 points	3rd St Nicholas 89 points
Year 8 Girls: 1st BHA 229 points	2nd Pershore 125 points	3rd Bredon School 81 points
Year 7 Boys: 1st BHA 164 points	2nd Pershore 129 points	3rd St Barnabas 117 points
Year 8 Boys: 1st BHA 277 points	2nd Pershore 204 points	3rd TDMS 148 points



Our Inter-House Track Day result resulted in the usual camaraderie and competitive nature across pupils and staff alike. Despite the warm weather, pupils showed impressive resilience and put in some impressive performances. The final outcome was very close, with Tower ending up winners by just a single point!



Our under-13 cricket team got as far as the semi-finals of the County Cup before coming up against an outstanding Kings' Worcester team. Well done to the team for their exciting and positive approach to the game, particularly in their victory against The Chase School, Malvern. Additionally, our rounders team has also had success against local schools, most noticeably with a 12-6 victory over Pershore High School.



Year 6 pupils had the opportunity to attend a Tennis Skills Festival at Pershore Tennis Centre. Our team had a fantastic time, developing their understanding of the game and undertook a range of challenges linked to the skills needed to be successful in the sport. The team collectively finished in a commendable second place.

Elsewhere, some of our year seven pupils recently visited TDMS as part of an event to unite pupils ahead of the Commonwealth Games, held in Birmingham next month. As well as an opportunity to mark this significant sporting occasion, the pupils had a fantastic time trying out a range of sports and games in a friendly and collaborative atmosphere. The activities included those familiar to all pupils, such as rugby and trampolining, but also offered pupils a chance to participate in more unusual fitness pursuits including boogie bouncing.



## ***Focus on Careers Guidance***



Year 7 pupils had a productive day off timetable this term when we hosted a range of inspiring business volunteers, as part of the Launch Pad Enterprise Challenge.

The day saw the pupils collaborate in teams on the early stages of launching a fledgling business. Pupils explored the art of balancing a budget, as well as creating a brand identity and marketing strategy for their products. They learned about their personal strengths and preferences and what this means for both working in a team and for their own development in the future. A great introduction into the world of business.

## Class of 2022

The weather may have been sweltering, but that didn't stop the celebrations as we came together to commemorate the end of our year 8 pupils' time with us. It may have been an unusual and challenging few years in education, but as a group they have always taken it in their stride and their collaborative and resilient natures were reflected in their evening of dance, song and merriment.

We wish all our year 8 pupils every success for the future as they embark on the next stage of their learning journeys.

