



Living our core values - 2018/19



Ambition for All

We believe in the importance of a relentless determination to succeed.

Our students are supported to fully achieve their potential and live rewarding lives.

We value each student equally and ensure that no-one is left behind.

BWA STUDENTS TREK IN TANZANIA

18/02/2018



A dozen students from Brooke Weston Academy had the experience of a lifetime, climbing mountains in Tanzania and trekking with the Maasai.

As part of their 21-day adventure the students also built a classroom in a local school and had a day-long safari, as well as time for rest and relaxation at a beach resort.

The students, from Years 10 and 12, raised funds for the trip themselves and were accompanied by teachers Dawn Willis and Jenny Strydom, plus a rep from Outlook Expeditions.

Ms Willis said: 'We flew into Kilimanjaro and spent the night in Arusha, the main city. We drove 12 hours to the Usambara mountains and spent three days trekking and actually camped on the summit! It was phenomenal waking up and seeing the view over the mountain.

'After that we spent a week in a school and helped with cementing, plastering and painting. By the time we left there was a finished classroom and we used the outlines of our bodies to paint murals of ourselves on the wall. Some of our students taught lessons. We played games and sports with the children and they are so competitive and have such high aspirations. We appreciated how lucky we are by what we have, in comparison to what they don't have.

'We drove back to Arusha and went to Mount Longido where we trekked with the Maasai tribe and spent two days camping with them. It was amazing and the Maasai were absolutely phenomenal. We had walking boots on and they were going up a mountain in flip flops! They were lovely people and at night guarded the fire because there were buffalo around. I had never felt so safe in all my life!

'Then we went on safari. The guides were brilliant - how they spotted some of those animals was beyond me. From there we drove to Bagamoyo where we had a couple of days relaxing on the beach and swimming in the hotel pool.'

INTRODUCING OAKLEY VALE'S NEW HEAD BOY AND HEAD GIRL AND THEIR DEPUTIES

16/02/2018



Congratulations to Damian, Abigail, Tony and Grace, who have been appointed Head and Deputy Boy and Girl at Oakley Vale Primary School. It is the first time that the roles have been introduced and it marks the school's ten year anniversary.

Principal Emma Goodwin said: 'Students were invited to apply and they had to do a speech about why they wanted these roles, then everyone in the school voted. They talked about how they wanted to embrace our four core words – opportunity, challenge, ambition and collaboration. They also said they would like to be able to support our children

to do the right thing and how they were proud of the connection with the Brooke Weston Trust as well. They were very well informed, the speeches were impressive and the students have been very articulate. They are such great ambassadors for the school and it is a great opportunity for them.

The students will do lots of different roles over the next year, including meeting and greeting visitors, accepting awards on behalf of the school and observing the School Council meetings.

Head Boy Damian Janus, said: 'I wanted to make this school a better place and help Miss Goodwin educate the next generation of inspirational adults. I want to be a role model and I was excited and a bit shocked to get the job.'

Head Girl Abigail Magnus-Hannaford said: 'I promised to help people where I can and try my best. If they have any issues they can come to me and I will smooth the situation out a bit. I like all the people in the school, we all make friends with each other.'

Tony Muntano, the Deputy Head Boy said: 'I wanted to be a Head boy so not only would I greet people and have all of those values like being mature and helpful, I also wanted to make the school a better place by helping people.'

Grace Boud, the Deputy Head Girl said: 'I wanted the role because I thought it would be really cool and I could do new things that will help the school a lot. The best thing about this school is all the nice people in it and nice teachers.'

BEANFIELD STUDENTS SEE BEST-SELLING AUTHOR PETER BROWN

10/01/2018



New York Times bestselling author and illustrator Peter Brown visited Beanfield Primary School as the last stop on his UK-wide promotional tour, talking about his latest book, 'The Wild Robot Escapes.'

He told students how his love of art began early and he was inspired by his grandfather who was an artist. He wrote his first book, about his tree-climbing dog, Buffy, aged just six. He showed students his early illustrations and spoke about his love of animation and Disney movies and how he was inspired to study illustration at college.

'When I went to university where I studied drawing, painting and writing, I took a class in illustrating children's books and I just had so much fun. I got to come up with different art styles and adventure stories and come up with my own characters. I changed directions and started to write stories.'

Peter has had several books published in both America and the UK and had a previous title longlisted for the Greenaway Medal in 2015. He spoke to students about his latest books: 'The Wild Robot' and 'The Wild Robot Escapes.' He first came up with the idea of a robot who exists in the wild when, years earlier, he had done illustrations for an earlier book and had drawn a robot standing alone in the pine tree. 'You put those two opposite things together and it seems like there's an interesting story in there somewhere. I kept thinking about that robot. Why would that robot be in a tree in the wilderness? I had all these funny questions popping into my imagination. I spent about five or six years writing and illustrating other picture books before I finally had time to think seriously about this robot nature story.'

He started studying robotics and animal behaviour and psychology: 'There were lots of cool things about nature and technology interacting and I realised this was not going to be another picture book, it was going to be my first novel, about a robot struggling to survive in the wilderness. What would an intelligent robot do alone in the wilderness?'

He invented Roz the robot and planned the book out in small chapters and did lots of possible illustrations before deciding on exactly the right words and pictures, which he worked on in minute detail.

MAASAI WARRIORS VISIT PECKOVER PRIMARY

10/02/2018



Students from Years 2, 3 and 4 at Peckover Primary saw a fascinating performance by the Osiligi Maasai Warriors.

Teacher Sian Pettit said: 'The performance was fantastic and the children got to learn a lot about their culture, as well as listen to traditional songs and dances. We couldn't believe how high they could jump! It was a wonderful experience for the children and it gave them a taste of Africa!'

YEAR 7 STUDENTS VISIT WARWICK CASTLE

10/11/2018



Year 7s from Brooke Weston Academy had an action-packed trip to Warwick Castle as part of their humanities studies. A total of 97 students went on the trip, which gave them a glimpse into life in medieval England.

Students explored all of the castle including the dungeons and made their own notes, in preparation for their next unit of coursework on the topic.

Teacher, Adelle Northern said: "Students fully immersed themselves in all activities and many overcame some fears! This included a fear of heights and, of course, a fear of the dark and generally all things jumpy when in the dungeons! I

myself even jumped a few times! It was a really successful trip and one that is always very popular with students."



BAFTA NOMINATED FILM MAKER DELIVERS BRIT KIDS CLASSES

10/11/2018



Paul Balmer, a BAFTA nominated film maker, is delivering the Film production strand of the BRIT Kids Saturday classes at Corby Business Academy.

Paul, who has an extensive background in radio, television and Film production, has a passion for teaching young people "how to tell their own stories", as well as running his own media company which trains young people.

Paul is teaching his BRIT Kids students the basics of Film-making, showing them different camera angles and building up their knowledge so that they will learn how to construct increasingly complex advertisements and films as

the course progresses.

He said: "We talked about the students' favourite Film genres and went through some basic shots, including a long shot, mid shot, close up high angle and we got to do a tilt down and a pan left and right, building up a basic vocabulary. We have also done a storyboard, planning their first little three shot commercial."

Paul was nominated for a BAFTA after producing the highly-acclaimed 'Stéphane Grappelli - a life in the Jazz Century' – distributed by Universal. It was just one of three music documentaries shortlisted for a BAFTA in 2002, and narrowly missed out to a Hollywood Film. Paul says: "I spent most of my life working in television and radio. Going to the BAFTA ceremony was the proudest moment of my life. I followed that up with a film about Julian Bream, the great classical guitarist which was voted DVD of the year in 2006."

Paul was introduced to Film-making after playing guitar at Liverpool's Philharmonic Hall and appearing on television four times before he had left school. That gave him an insight into life behind the lens, and he joined the BBC as an apprentice:

"I was making the tea and watching some of the greatest directors in the world. I started out as a sound engineer, then I became a cameraman. I did some lighting and writing for television and trained at Elstree as a director. I left the BBC in 1990, went independent and spent the next 25 years making programmes for Channel 4, the BBC and CBC in Canada. It was a great adventure. I briefly taught at the School of Film in London and I have a media training company in Corby, HD Media,

FORMER PROFESSIONAL DANCER DELIVERS BRIT KIDS CLASSES

15/10/2018



Former professional dancer Louise Jensen is looking forward to encouraging other young dancers in her new role as tutor for the BRIT Kids Saturday classes.

Louise, who is a recently qualified teacher at Corby Business Academy, will bring a huge amount of experience and enthusiasm to her new role. She said: 'I realised quite early on that I wanted to be a dancer so I went to the Stella Mann College in Bedford for three years and did my professional training in musical theatre and dance. I did a lot of dance teaching and taught in after school clubs. Then I did my first six months abroad doing theatre and cabaret,

touring in the Algarve with a team of Russian dancers which was very demanding.

'My training has been in ballroom and Latin and I also do street dance so I love those, they are very different. I do enjoy contemporary and now and again I enjoy a bit of ballet and tap so there are lots of dance disciplines I draw on to encourage and empower the young people in my classes.'

She will assess the ability levels of her students and see which areas of dance they would like to learn but Louise is keen to get them confident in performing in front of each other and in public.

'To get them started we will do flash mobs or little productions here and there. It is about listening to music and knowing what your body can do, so we will be doing things like stomping the beat to see if they can catch it. I have always been a freestyle dancer – I don't need choreography, just give me a piece of music, any style and I'll go, I love it.

'Right from the beginning they are going to perform in front of each other to get rid of any nerves because that is going to break down barriers. I want to really train my dancers to have that confidence so it's all about fun, teamwork and camaraderie.'

'AMBITION FOR ALL' AT TCA

31/10/2018



A packed programme of inspirational and thought-provoking events will be running throughout November when Thomas Clarkson Academy becomes the torchbearer for our Ambition For All campaign.

Each month, a different school within the Trust takes on the Ambition For All mantle, organising a series of activities aimed at encouraging students to think about their futures and developing the characteristics needed to achieve their ambitions.

At TCA, students will benefit from a whole host of exciting activities, including:

- **Tim Peake's spacecraft and space descent experience on the Samsung VR tour bus**

Students will be transported to space through an immersive virtual reality lounge, where they can experience Tim Peake's 400km journey through space through a specially curated virtual reality experience.

- **Talk by Ricky Munday**

Ricky, who is a mountaineer and polar ambassador, will be visiting TCA to deliver inspirational talks to our students. He will also include hands-on sessions where students get to see some of his specialist polar expedition equipment.

- **TCA Careers Fair**

Students will have the opportunity to meet representatives from a range of career, HE and apprenticeship providers.

- **PfX 'Getting Into Top Universities' trip**

A selection of students will take part in workshops and seminars about securing places at top universities.

BWA STUDENTS VISIT NATIONAL HOLOCAUST CENTRE

11/05/2018



Nearly 100 Year 9 students from Brooke Weston Academy learned more about the Holocaust during their visit to the National Holocaust Centre in Nottingham.

They learned about the timeline and causes of the Holocaust and saw moving video testimony from a survivor. They also placed pebbles on the memorial monument to pay their respects to those who suffered or perished in the atrocity.

The visit was arranged to complement last term's coursework on the Holocaust, where students explored its

effects on the Jewish community, reflecting how day-to-day choices can have far reaching and devastating consequences.

Unfortunately students weren't able to hear a talk from a Holocaust survivor as scheduled, however they saw the video of Eva Clarke telling how her mother was pregnant with her in Auschwitz-Birkenau, but kept her pregnancy hidden. She was transported to another camp and eventually gave birth to Sib Eva, when she herself weighed only five stone, due to the deprivation she had suffered.

Teacher Adelle Northern said: 'Her story was inspiring and incredibly emotional and it had a huge impact on our students. I was incredibly proud of the respect, maturity and reflection that students showed and they were incredible ambassadors for our school as staff at the Centre praised and thanked our students for their maturity and behaviour, saying they are some of the best behaved students they have had there.'

PECKOVER STUDENTS APPEAR ON TV NEWS

11/05/2018



Students from Peckover Primary School featured in a BBC news report about an exhibition at Wisbech Museum.

The children, from Year 4, took part in a project where they helped to make a sea monster which was created entirely from plastic and recyclable goods. The children worked with Fred, the inventor of the sea monster, to decorate the ribs and they then visited the museum to see the finished sea monster in situ. The recycled sea monster exhibition is still at Wisbech Museum, so go and take a look as it is fascinating!

The programme, which was aired on BBC Look East (West) on 5 November, is currently available on iPlayer.

To find out more about the museum and its exhibits click [here](#).

ROUND UP OF CTS'S AMAZING AMBITION FOR ALL MONTH

11/09/2018



Students and staff at Corby Technical School had an action-packed Ambition for All month that included overseas trips, academic, music and arts activities along with a 'Student of the Day' award.

The focus of the school's Ambition for All month was a broad range of activities that add 'extra value' to our students and gave them additional opportunities. This ranged from the activity week for its Year 7s with individual and team challenges, to the CERN trip where Sixth Formers visited and learned about the ground-breaking physics experiments taking place at the world-renowned facility in

Geneva.

CTS's Year 9 and 10 students took part in a range of exciting workshops at the 'Women in STEAM' event at Rockingham Motor Speedway, which encouraged female students to choose Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Design, and Math-based Higher Education choices. They listened to an inspiring talk by astrophysicist Dr Rebecca Smethurst who spoke about how she turned her love of space at school into a career.

Corby Technical School welcomed visitors including Marc Gummer who gave a presentation to our year 10 DT students about and the Leather Technology BSc course at Northampton University. Ex-RAF engineer Wg Cdr Richard Bonella gave Year 9s an engineering challenge as part of the RAF100 event, run by the Institute of Physics. Another military speaker was former Royal Marine, Nigel Barrett who spoke about war and conflict, topics which the Year 10 students are studying in their GCSE poetry anthology.

CTS was the launch pad for an important community initiative as delegates from the local Red Box Project are encouraging people to donate sanitary products to collection points in school. The scheme is being rolled out across all the Trust schools and our students were interviewed by Heart Four Counties Radio. Student wellbeing was also a key element of Ambition for All and CTS supported World Mental Health Day with discussions about mental health issues and the support available within and outside school.

TALENTED GOLFER WINS JUNIOR TOUR COMPETITION

15/11/2018



Congratulations to keen golfer Ben Atherton from Year 7 at Brooke Weston Academy, who has won the Bronze Division Order of Merit in the recent Shires Junior Golf Tour, beating 85 other players in his category.

Ben, who has been playing in the competition since he was eight, came second in the same competition last year and was determined to win it this time. He has been playing with the tour for three years and started in the 9-hole competitions, later progressing to 18 holes. He has also played for the County U14 team and is also in the County Academy Talented Golfers Group, receiving tuition from

professionals at the county course.

The Shires Tour is a series of events aimed at encouraging young golfers and getting them to play in a series of events suited to their age and ability level. To win his title his top six best scores were recorded.

Ben said: 'I won the competition by six strokes overall and I was really proud because I wanted to win last year. I started learning golf with my mum and dad, who are both keen players and now have lessons with Mark Norton, who is one of the professionals at Northampton. The secret to being successful at golf is staying calm as it can get frustrating sometimes, particularly if you are playing in a medal competition as every stroke counts. I have a handicap of 23, which is quite good for my age group.

'I play for Northants County U-14s team and I hope to play for them again next year. My coach also put me into the County Academy so I meet once a month with them for extra training. I play at least once, and generally two or three times, a week and I have my own set of made-to-measure clubs. I watch a lot of the professionals, my favourite is Jordan Spieth and I'd like to be a professional golfer one day!'

BWA STUDENTS MEET JACQUELINE WILSON!

16/11/2018



Keen readers from Brooke Weston Academy had the amazing experience of meeting best-selling children's author Jacqueline Wilson and learning about her writing career and inspirations.

A total of 17 students, from Years 7, 8 and 9, met Jacqueline at the 'Children's Laureate' event in Birmingham where she, and other children's laureates, including Julia Donaldson and Chris Riddell, spoke to their fans.

Brooke Weston Academy's librarian, Wendy McCabe, said: 'Meeting an author like Jacqueline Wilson and hearing her inspirational story is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that

students will always remember. She is one of the authors that every student knows. She was launching her new book 'My Mum Tracy Beaker'. The original Tracy Beaker came out in 1991 so now Tracy is a mum herself!

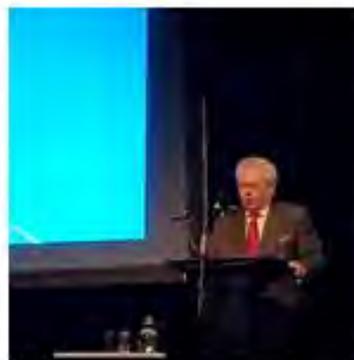
'Jacqueline Wilson wrote a book when she was nine and some of the themes and characters she from then are still recognisable in her books now. She was an only child but writes about big families. She always knew the character was going to be Tracy but she didn't know what her surname was, so she was looking around her bathroom thinking "Tracy Soap", "Tracy Tap" and then she spotted a beaker so that was how she got the name for the character!'

Student Isabella-Anne Brown said: 'Ever since I was little I have always read Jacqueline Wilson, she has been one of my writing inspirations apart from JK Rowling. It is not every day that you get to meet a famous author that you have dreamed of meeting your entire childhood. My favourite book is 'Dustbin Baby'. It was a real thrill to meet her in the flesh.'

Jeeya Balla said: 'I like her new book "My Mum Tracy Beaker." She uses her imagination a lot and I like her books because they are really creative.'

BWA STUDENTS MEET DAVID STARKEY AT HISTORY CONFERENCE

21/11/2018



Sixth Formers from Brooke Weston Academy attended a history conference where leading historians, including David Starkey, spoke about the lives and legacy of the Tudor dynasty.

The Year 13 students heard talks by Professor John Morrill of Cambridge University who



Dr Anna Whitelock on the stage.

explored the Reformation of Henry VII and Dr Anna Whitelock, Reader in Early Modern History and Director of the London Centre for Public History and Heritage at Royal Holloway, University of London.

She is also the prizewinning author of *Mary Tudor: England's First Queen* and *Elizabeth's Bedfellows: An Intimate History of the Queen's Court*. Dr Whitelock encouraged students to challenge existing conceptions about both Edward VI and Mary I; notably that Edward was not the 'sickly, weak King' as often portrayed, nor was Mary I a failing, unsuccessful queen. Students were encouraged to think about the successes of these two monarchs and abandon hindsight, which often influences historical viewpoints. The keynote speaker was renowned TV historian, David Starkey, who discussed the reign of Henry VII and encouraged students to challenge the traditionalist view that he was a 'miser' King.

Teacher Adelle Northern said: 'Our students were fantastic and said how fascinating it was to see historians use evidence to challenge views that are portrayed as facts. It was an excellent opportunity for students to see how history has multiple interpretations and that they themselves are historians who can use evidence to really drive their own arguments about key questions. This conference really challenged their understanding of the Tudors! As a Head of History it was fantastic to see students really 'grapple' with these arguments and see their understanding of the Tudors deepen as a consequence.'

TRUST PRIMARIES TRAIN AT NORTHAMPTON SAINTS

28/11/2018



Year 5 and 6 students from our Primaries took part in a day of rugby at Northampton Saints, where they got a tour of the grounds and tuition from the club's coaches.

The groups, from all five primaries first had warm up games of tag rugby before going on a tour of Franklin's Gardens, where they saw the gym, changing rooms and sat in the stands, watching some of the players training. Then it was back to the pitches for an inter-school tournament before the final scores were totted up with the team from Compass Primary announced as victors.

Well done to the other teams, including Cretton, who were narrowly pipped at the post with Beanfield and Oakley Vale sharing joint third place.

Trust Director of Sport, Kirstie Smith organised the day and she took part in a 'Beat the Teacher' competition, going head to head with Liam Benner from Beanfield Primary to see who could kick the most goals.

She said: 'This was an amazing opportunity for our students to tour a top flight stadium and to see behind the scenes, sitting in the players' changing rooms where they get ready for match day. The students really played their hearts out in the tournaments and took on board the tuition that they had received in the morning session. Thanks to all the schools who released their students and teachers to take part in a great day of sport that, hopefully, they will never forget!'

To see more pictures from the day, [click here](#).

SIXTH FORMERS LEARN COOKING SKILLS AT CTS

12/11/2018



Sixth Formers at Corby Technical School are preparing for life at university by learning a range of cooking skills and basic recipes.

The lessons are being held on a 'drop-in' basis on Thursday mornings with teacher Mark Bidwell and food technician Heather Wright sharing their expertise.

Aaron Tamplin, Kara Hamer and Ollie Steadman, from Year 13, all made soup. Kara's was broccoli and stilton, Aaron's was spicy carrot and coriander while Ollie made butternut squash.

Kara said: 'I do cook at home and I like savoury stuff so this should be good. This is good for life experience in general because it prepares you for leaving home. It is a life skill, not just for uni.'

Kara is hoping to pursue her love of singing as a career and she will focus on that when she leaves school and then consider her future options.

Ollie said: 'I want to learn to survive at university because this is only my third time cooking in my life! I have made Dutch apple cake and garlic bread, and I helped Aaron make a pizza. I want to go to Northampton to study leather technology as we had a talk at school about it.'

Aaron said: 'I have some cooking experience but I think you should enhance what you already know. I have never done soup before so it is a new thing today. I want advice and recipes for when I go because I want to be more independent than just going to McDonalds everyday. I am looking at a few sports psychology courses at the moment.'

Afterwards Mr Bidwell said: 'Cooking is such an essential skill for life so we are encouraging those who are new to cooking, or who perhaps have never ever tried it before to come and have a go. We're

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Afterwards Mr Bidwell said: 'Cooking is such an essential skill for life so we are encouraging those who are new to cooking, or who perhaps have never ever tried it before to come and have a go. We're doing cheap and healthy student recipes, such as spaghetti bolognaise and soup that they can adapt and make their own.'

BWA STUDENTS RECEIVE BOOKBUZZ NOVELS

12/11/2018



Christmas came early to Brooke Weston Academy as all students in Year 7 received a free book from the Library as part of the Bookbuzz programme.

Bookbuzz, a reading programme from Book Trust, supports schools to encourage reading for pleasure and develop a whole school reading culture.

Students were given the opportunity to choose their own book from 12 titles to take home and keep. The books were all selected by a panel of experts, including teachers and Librarians, and designed to appeal to all students,

regardless of their reading level.

Titles available this year included 'Defenders: Killing Ground' by Tom Palmer who visited students at Brooke Weston last July, 'Fortunately the Milk' written by Carnegie Medal winning author Neil Gaiman and illustrated by former Children's Laureate Chris Riddell, and 'The Hidden Oracle', from the New York Times number-one bestselling book series, The Trials of Apollo by Rick Riordan.

The most popular title this year was 'Haunt: Dead Scared' by Curtis Jobling, a mystery ghost story with lots of surprises and unexpected twists and turns.

The scheme, has been running for several years at Brooke Weston Academy and Librarian Wendy McCabe said 'The Bookbuzz programme introduces the students to different genres of books they might not have read before. Being able to give the book as a Christmas gift to all the Year 7 students is really something special and it helps to encourage a positive attitude towards reading.'

All of the Bookbuzz books are available to borrow from the Library and, in the New Year, a competition will be launched for Year 7 students to write a review on their chosen title and be in with a chance of winning all of this year's Bookbuzz titles.

TRUST STUDENTS UNDERTAKE MATHS CHALLENGE

18/12/2018



Teams from some of our Trust schools recently put their skills to the test when they took part in the UK MT Senior Maths Challenge at Mereway Upper School.

They were set a series of problems, which they worked together to solve, including cross numbers, which are crosswords with numbers instead of letters, and relays, where students had to answer a question in pairs before the other pair was able to answer their question. The competition tested students' mathematical skills in areas such as geometry and algebra.

Teams from Brooke Weston Academy and Kettering Science Academy were among those competing.

Ben Johnson, Head of Maths at Brooke Weston Academy, said: "This was a really good event and the students were put through their paces in a series of challenges which stretched their thinking and logic skills. They worked collaboratively and did extremely well to be placed fourth in the competition, which was very hotly contested. There were many schools taking part, including from the private sector, plus others from different counties so our team did us proud."

OAKLEY VALE STUDENTS CREATE GLITTER SLIPPERS!

18/12/2018



Students at Oakley Vale Primary School had a sparkly time as parents came in to help them make festive slippers as part of their 'Step into My Shoes' project.

The students have learned about the history of shoes and shoe making and have had a talk by an expert from the Northampton Shoe Museum. The Year 3 students, from Badgers and Otters classes, then invited their parents and families in for a fun afternoon, sewing and decorating felt slippers with all kinds of beads, bows, feathers and industrial quantities of glitter! It was a really busy afternoon so thanks to everyone who came in to support

and share the fun.

To see more pictures of the students' colourful creations, [click here](#).



OAKLEY VALE STUDENT LOOKING FORWARD TO JOINING BRIT KIDS!

01/09/2019



Well done to deputy head boy, Tony Mutano, from Oakley Vale Primary School, who has been nominated to take part in BRIT Kids performing arts classes.

The creative classes run on Saturday morning at Corby Business Academy and the organisers have asked schools in the Trust to nominate students to take part. Tony was chosen by Oakley Vale staff as he has performed well and has an interest in acting.

Tony, from Year 6 said: 'I will be going to BRIT Kids from January to July and I'll be doing two classes a week so I am very happy and glad to have been chosen. One of my

friends, Jayden, already goes there and says how good they are.

'I want to do acting and music production as I want to be taught how to memorise scripts. I want to be an actor as I see them on television and I admire them. I also wanted to do music production because I like music and I wanted to learn how to create it. I am really looking forward to starting the classes.'

The spring term classes start again this Saturday and run every week until 30 March.

For more information on BRIT Kids and how to apply, please [click here](#).

AMBITION FOR ALL LAUNCHES AT BEANFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

01/11/2019



Beanfield Primary Academy has launched an energetic Ambition for All month, with plans for sponsored events, afternoon teas and a variety show, which will all raise money for local charities.

Proceedings got off with a bang today (Friday 11 January) with a whole school 'Jumpathon', where all students and staff spent ten minutes jumping to funky music. It was a sponsored event so all of the proceeds will be donated to Lakelands Hospice. It was a chance for students to let off steam and raise money for a good cause at the same time.

Following on from last year's success, Beanfield Primary School is also planning afternoon teas on 21 and 25 January. A range of cakes and goodies will be provided along with tea and coffee for adults and juice for children. Tickets cost £4.50 for adults and £3.50 for children, and they will be available to purchase from reception from Monday 14 January. There should also be some entertainment and profits from these events will be donated to the NANNA animal charity, after students held a ballot to decide which local charity to support.

More than 50 children will be taking part in a variety show on Thursday 31 January from 6pm. It will be an opportunity to showcase their talents, including singing, dancing, music, football skills and comedy. There are 28 acts signed up in total and it will be a lively evening of entertainment. Each student taking part will be allocated two tickets, and there will also be refreshments and a charity raffle.

Finally, each year group will be learning new skills throughout the Ambition for All month and they will meet together on 1 February to showcase the things they have learned. Reception have been involved in music making and Year 6 students will learn African drumming.

Associate Principal Sam Eathorne said: 'We had a really good Ambition for All month last year, so this year we wanted to expand what we were doing. The Variety Show was really popular and the response has been even bigger this time around. We will have the Mayor of Corby coming along, as well as Principals from other Trust schools so it will be a memorable event. Local companies have already donated prizes for the raffle and the students are really getting excited about all the fun that we are going to have this month.'

CTS STUDENT RECORDS FIRST CD

15/01/2018



Talented singer Kara Hamer from Corby Technical School has recorded her first-ever CD which consists of covers, thanks to a local charity that helps young people develop their talents.

Kara, who won 'Northampton's Rising Star' competition, received funding from The Travers Foundation to pay for her recording sessions at Beck's Studios in Wellingborough. She has recorded about 20 songs, which will be whittled down to ten for the finished product, which should be available soon.

She said: 'The Travers Foundation is a charity that provides funding and financial support to young people to help them improve their skills in sport, music and the arts. They gave me money to have a three voice lessons with a West End coach called Mary King to learn about breathing techniques as it is important if you want to sing professionally that you don't strain your voice.'

Kara has spent hours recording her songs, sometimes repeating the same song or phrase many times until it was perfect: 'I am planning to record 20 songs and we will choose ten which fit together well. We record each song three times and use the best bits of each. If I don't like any phrases or syllables then I do them again until I get it just right. It is very time-consuming and is certainly not as glamorous as people think!'

Kara only needs to listen to a song two or three times to learn it. She performs regularly and has sung in front of a packed audience at Corby Cube and also at civic receptions for past and present Mayors. She also sings at private events including funerals. Last year she wrote and recorded 'You Were the One' which featured on social media and was aired on Corby Radio.

'As it was my first song it took me years. I sung little phrases and played a few notes at a time on the piano. Everybody writes songs differently, I don't think there is a formula for it. I have to be in the right creative mood to write. A good melody may pop into my head so I get my phone out and record it. I have got hundreds of recordings on my phone in the hope that that they could potentially fit into a song somewhere someday.'

OAKLEY VALE STUDENTS ARE SUPERHEROES!

15/01/2018

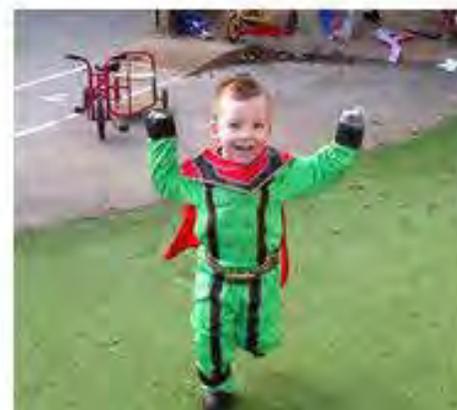


Reception class students at Oakley Vale Primary School got off to a flying start this term with their topic on Superheroes.

They dressed up as their favourite characters and talked about the sort of powers they would each like to have.

Teacher Nic McNab said: 'The majority of our children came dressed up as superheroes and we also had masks and a dressing up box for them as well. Each week we are going to use a "book as a hook" for our work. We have read "Charlie's Superhero Underpants" and "Supertato" and we will be using others like "Superworm".'

'We will also be talking about real life superheroes, like firefighters, or special members of the children's families. We have got lots of books and resources lined up and the children have been talking about their ideal superhero costume and superpowers. The whole topic is really capturing their imaginations.'



NAIM RETURNS TO KETTERING SCIENCE ACADEMY

29/01/2019



Former student Naim Sheikh returned to Kettering Science Academy to deliver a physics workshop to a group of Sixth Formers and high achieving maths students from the lower years.

Naim, who achieved three A* grades in Further Mathematics, Mathematics and Physics and two A grades in Chemistry and Italian last summer, is now studying a four-year physics course at Durham University. He spoke to the students about 'moment of inertia' which he demonstrated by rolling a ball down a plank and got students to make predictions using both A Level and Degree Level equations.

Naim said: 'I introduced a new idea, 'moment of inertia', and then created an experience where the best way to understand it was to predict values and compare them with measurements from an experiment. Moment of inertia is a mathematical description of the distribution of mass in an object. The simplest example would be when we have a ball rolling down a slope, in which we have to consider how the ball itself rolls, on top of its normal linear motion.'

'I tried to simplify the concepts using diagrams and tools so that it could be understood more easily. The session took about an hour and a half and there were 15 students there. I hope it was useful for some of them, but more importantly I hope they all enjoyed learning something new.'

'I am from Italy and so I was at KSA only during Sixth Form. I managed to make friends pretty quickly. The staff is very friendly, with particular mention to the librarians and Mrs Farrar as she helped me a lot with my university applications. I have really enjoyed the first few months of university. I have made friends and the work is just as difficult as I hoped it would be. Without a little challenge university would definitely not be as interesting!'

GCSE STUDENTS LEARN CHEESEMAKING SKILLS

29/01/2019



GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition students at Brooke Weston Academy put their food processing theory knowledge into practise by making their own mozzarella cheese.

The Year 10 students learnt more about Food Processing by making mozzarella cheese using milk, vegetarian rennet, citric acid and salt. The students were then tasked with using the fresh mozzarella to make a bruschetta starter dish with toasted garlic ciabatta, tomatoes, red onion and basil. Their food presentation skills were put to the test when plating and garnishing the dish. This lesson enabled

the students to gain a deeper understanding of how cheese is made and the science behind it. They enjoyed the challenge of shaping the cheese and tasting the final product.

BEANFIELD STUDENTS GET CREATIVE WITH FOUND NATURAL MATERIALS

15/02/2019



Children at Beanfield Primary School excelled when they were asked to collect natural materials and make something beautiful or stylish from them.

Teachers Mrs Freeman and Miss Wateridge set the homework challenge and the response was amazing. The students created models, mobiles, pictures, animal sculptures and lots of other things. Well done to KS1 winner Rares Barna and Molly Meakins from KS2, who made the winning items.

Mrs Freeman said: 'It was amazing how creative the children were and what interesting and innovative models they made. Some of these are on display in school and more can be seen on the school website.'

BWA PREPARES TO STAGE OLIVER!

31/01/2019



Students and staff are putting the finishing touches to this year's big musical performance of Oliver! at Brooke Weston Academy.

The classic show, written by Lionel Bart, has been adapted for school performances and it was seen as the perfect feel-good follow-up to the Academy's previous shows, Grease and Bugsy Malone.

Students from all year groups have been working tirelessly on the

production, which takes place from 6:30 pm on Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th February 2019. The show has been produced and choreographed by Head of Performing Arts, Dawn Willis, who said: 'Each year we try to build on the success of the previous year's performance and Oliver! should be a real theatrical extravaganza. We have really strong cast members in the form of Owen Fleming as Oliver, Ben Turner as the Artful Dodger, Ollie Hackett as Bill Sykes and, of course, no production would be complete without a Fagin, and ours is played by Stanley Evans.

'The cast are working hard on their moves and the ensemble pieces and the whole stage will be a riot of dance, drama and much loved musical numbers.'

Tickets can be bought from the Finance Office at a cost of £5 each. There will be refreshments available on the night so please get your ticket early and come and support this iconic piece of musical theatre.



BEANFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL ROUNDS OFF AMBITION FOR ALL WITH A TALENT SHOW AND SPECIAL ASSEMBLIES

02/04/2019



Beanfield Primary School had an exceptional Ambition for All month with lots of activities which raised more than £2,000 for two local charities.

The theme started with a sponsored Jumpathon which each year group took part in. Throughout the month the students also learned a different, age appropriate skill, which they shared during a special assembly. There were also two themed afternoon teas, when students and their families got together to enjoy delicious sandwiches, cakes and drinks prepared by catering manager Kevin Dainty and served by the very efficient Catering Crew. The local MP,

Tom Pursglove, also came in to the school for a visit during the second afternoon tea, and had a quick chat with children and their parents, as well as a tour of the school.

Another highlight was the talent show when more than 60 students showed off their skills in music, gymnastics, singing, dancing, football and comedy. It was compered by student Ryan Kemp and attended by hundreds of parents and Cllr Lawrence Ferguson, the Deputy Mayor of Corby. There were refreshments and a raffle which boosted the charity fundraising for the month to a whopping £2,064! The money raised will be donated to Lakelands Hospice and the NANNA animal charity. The talent show was such a success that there will be a repeat performance to the whole school later this week.

The final Ambition for All event was a special assembly so students could showcase the skills they had learned. Reception played 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star' on keyboard while the Year 1s did hula hooping and Year 2s showed off their line dancing. Year 3s displayed their archery skills. Year 4s learned about First aid, Year 5s practised origami while Year 6s learned country dances from the 1900s.

Well done and thank you to everyone who supported the Ambition for All events throughout the month. Particular thanks go to Callum Reilly and Gemma Cushings for organising the Jumpathon and talent show and to all the students, staff and parents who all made sure that Ambition for All was such a success at Beanfield Primary School.

PYTHONS AND PLANETS AT PECKOVER!

02/06/2019



There's been lots happening at Peckover Primary School this term. Here's a few details of just some of the exciting topics taking place for some of the different year groups.

Year 4 students had the amazing opportunity to see Hunni and Strike, two royal pythons. The students have been learning about the rainforest and which animals live in the different layers of the forest.

Teacher Holly Gladwin said: 'We have looked at different groups of animals; reptiles, amphibians, mammals and

insects. The pythons were with us for a whole afternoon and, after having the opportunity to hear about them and ask questions of their handler, the children had the chance to stroke and hold Strike.'

Year 2 students at Peckover Primary learned about space during a live video conference with Commander Rob from the National Space Centre. He answered lots of questions that the students had prepared before the event, and there was also time for impromptu questions. Teacher Esther Fletcher said: 'They learned lots of interesting facts about the planets, the sun, the moon and life on the ISS. The children enjoyed speaking to Commander Rob and are looking forward to their visit there very soon.'

Year 5 students learned about blood composition and bacteria during a visit from Dr Ambrose, who is currently completing research at Manchester University. She taught the students about how red and white blood cells, platelets and plasma work in the blood and also about good and bad bacteria. Then the students had a visit from surgeon Dr Ellie Atkins, who told the children about different parts of the body and the work she does at the Queen Elizabeth hospital in King's Lynn.

Year 6 students held their RU2cool4school event, with several parents, and grandparents, joining in with the children's lessons for the morning. Vice Principal Kate Kendal said: 'All the parents were very well-behaved and very impressed with how hard the children work. In the afternoon, we completed lots of E-safety scenarios, where we learnt how to keep safe online. At 3:15pm, the parents were exhausted...and they'd only done one day! We were kind though and didn't give them any homework! Thanks to everyone who came along - we hope you had fun!'

OAKLEY VALE SPORTS TEAMS TAKE PART IN LOCAL COMPETITIONS

02/06/2019



Well done to our young sports teams from Oakley Vale Primary School who recently took part in tag rugby and curling competitions:

The rugby tournament was held at Kettering Leisure Village where our team of Year 5s went head to head with those from Kettering and district schools. For many of them it was the first time they had played the sport and the team had coaching from the Pacesetters organisation.

Teaching assistant Cheryl McAulay, who accompanied the students, and said: 'The competition took place at Kettering Leisure Village and there were six schools

competing. We were the only one from Corby. Our team came fifth and the students played really well as a team.



The Oakley Vale team in the rugby sessions.

I'd particularly like to mention Adam, who is very quick, capable and an excellent team player and Amelia as her joy at taking part was infectious. The smile never left her face the whole time and she had a really sporting attitude. The students played five games in the rounds and a sixth game to determine their place in the rankings. They were either playing for fifth or sixth place, so it was a nail-biter. They didn't let the pressure get to them, they got their heads down and won a hard-fought point. They were brilliant, it was a joy to watch them. I was incredibly proud and they are a credit to the school.'

The SEN curling tournament took place in Oakley Vale Primary School's hall and schools from all over the town competing with the top two going through to the county competition.

AUTHOR CHRISTOPHER EDGE DELIVERS PRESENTATIONS AT BWA

02/12/2019



Author Christopher Edge spoke to Year 7 and 8 students at Brooke Weston Academy about his books and led writing workshops encouraging them to write their own compelling First Lines.

Christopher has had 15 books published, including *The Infinite Lives of Maisie Day*, *The Many Worlds of Albie Bright* and *The Jamie Drake Equation*. 'Other authors start their books with chapter one. I don't do that. *The Infinite Lives of Maisie Day* starts with chapter zero ...' His books are inspired by science including quantum physics, the big bang and multiple alternate realities. He bombarded the

students with facts about space, dark matter, dark energy, black holes and many of the other topics that are woven into his books:

'Maisie is in her kitchen and she sees her kitchen start to explode in a mini big bang. She finds what looks like a black hole in the bathroom of her house and the only clue Maisie can find, to try and explain what is happening, is a picture she sees on the television screen in her living room. It is a red balloon floating up into a clear, blue sky and Maisie has got to try and find out what this image means, what has happened to her family and will she ever get to see them again?'

He also spoke about *The Many Worlds of Albie Bright*: 'It is about a boy who loses his mum to cancer. His mum and dad were both scientists. When he questioned whether his mum was in heaven his dad said that with quantum physics there are parallel worlds out there that might be filled with different realities, so he goes in search for her. The book is about how far would you go for love?'

The Jamie Drake Equation is about a boy whose dad is an astronaut working on the International Space Station searching for alien life. Jamie, on earth, really misses his dad and meets an astronomer who has hacked into the Hubble space telescope to look for signs of alien life. It's a story about science, space and family.'

GLEE CLUB HAD AMAZING TIME AT YOUNG VOICES CONCERT

15/02/2019



Students at Beanfield Primary School are still buzzing from their amazing experience singing with 6,000 other children and pop star Tony Hadley at the Genting Arena in Birmingham.

The Glee Club had rehearsed for months for the concert, learning a repertoire of up to 25 songs. On the day of the concert 39 children went along for an action packed day of rehearsals and singing, accompanied by Beanfield staff, including Callum Reilly.

He said: 'We were lucky we had parents who managed to get some tickets and we had a really big Beanfield banner

so we managed to hold that up so that parents could see where we were. The Glee Club had been rehearsing for months, but when you bring that all together with 6,000 other children it was phenomenal.

'Tony Hadley performed Gold and some of the staff got to meet him. The students had a great time and there was a lot of togetherness. They were really supportive to one another. It was a really good opportunity for them to have, going to such a big venue and doing such a big event, it is something that hopefully will stick with them for the rest of their lives.'

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OPERATING THEATRE LIVE 2019

27/02/2019



Nearly 70 students from three of our Trust schools took part in an inspirational and hands-on science session, learning about medicine, dissection and major bodily organs in a simulated operating theatre.

The session, held at Corby Technical School, was a mixture of lectures and practicals, led by facilitator Dean Thomas-Lowde, from Operating Theatre Live. He took the Year 10 students through an array of medical subjects, from patient assessment and care, anaesthesia and anatomical dissection, so students investigated the structures of pigs' heads, eyes, hearts, lungs, liver and digestive systems.

Mr Thomas-Lowde said: 'Students get the opportunity to match up knowledge that they have already been given in their science curriculum, in a more 3D environment. It is presented in the context of working within the NHS so there they may be inspired to think about a medical healthcare career.'

The students, from Brooke Weston Academy, Corby Technical School and Kettering Science Academy enjoyed the five-hour session at CTS, where they worked on plastic patients before having the dissection sessions.

Dan Hawksley, Second in Science from Brooke Weston Academy said: 'Today has been a fantastic opportunity for our students from across the three schools to not only work together but get hands-on experience on what it actually would be like in a hospital environment. First of all we learned how to correctly make up and dilute anaesthetic for a patient. We then looked at brain injuries, also the central nervous system and the peripheral nervous system, including the optic nerve. Finally we investigated the respiratory and circulatory systems and intubated the sample.'

Teacher Stephen Cox, from Corby Technical School, said: 'It was a really good day and the students learned a great deal. They were really engaged and involved and it was good for them to learn the application, not just the theory. It is reinforcing their understanding from lessons and applying it to real life situations.'

BWA STUDENTS SHINE IN OLIVER! PRODUCTION

03/01/2019



Congratulations to our students at Brooke Weston Academy who put on a truly stunning performance of Oliver! For the past two evenings audiences have been transported back to Dickensian London and our students have been the stars of the show.

The musical featured much loved songs, including Food, Glorious Food, Consider Yourself and Reviewing the Situation. The set and painted backdrop added to the drama, but it was the energy and passion of all of the students that shone through. Owen Fleming played the title role, while Ben Turner was perfectly cast as the Artful

Dodger. Stanley Evans's Fagin was superb and Myah Brown made the role of Nancy her own. Oliver Hackett was suitably menacing as Bill Sykes and the characters and choreography combined with vibrancy to bring the classic story to life.

Thanks to everyone, cast, crew, musicians and backstage helpers who made the production go so smoothly. Particular thanks go to director Phoebe Horner, assistant director Camilla Kerr, producer and choreographer, Dawn Willis, musical director Michael Lovelock and Tom Michell for lighting and sound.

Miss Willis said: 'Each year we do a musical production and the students put in hundreds of hours of rehearsals between them and it really is testament to their commitment and energy that we are able to stage such high quality productions, particularly as, for many of them, it is their first time onstage. All of the cast and ensemble were amazing and really gave this production their all. I hope the audiences enjoyed it as much as we enjoyed performing it.'

BROOKE WESTON ACADEMY STAGES ITS LARGEST EVER CAREERS FAIR

03/01/2019



Brooke Weston Academy is staging a massive careers fair on Tuesday 26 March with more than 50 local and national exhibitors.

The event, which is being organised by Careers Leader Clare Scott and Head of Work Related Learning and Industry Relationships, Jonathan Browne, runs from 5.30 to 7.30pm. Exhibitors include RS Components, Barclaycard, Weetabix, Morrisons, Kier, Northamptonshire Police, the Armed Forces, the NHS, London School of Economics, and the Universities of Northampton and Leicester.

This is the largest careers fair that the Academy has hosted and it is targeted at students from Years 10 to 13 studying at Brooke Weston Academy and Corby Technical School and their parents/carers. Mrs Scott said: 'March and April are key times for applying for apprenticeships so we thought that the timing was perfect. Employers want to come in and tell students about the opportunities available.'

'There will be something for everybody as it is not just an apprenticeship event it is a careers event. We will also have a very academic focus with representatives from several universities, including Russell Group institutions and there will also be information on gap years for those students who are not going directly into employment or onto further education. Mr Browne and I are building on our industry links so we have some really exciting and dynamic exhibitors who will be sharing their information and knowledge.'

OAKLEY VALE STUDENTS CREATE WORMERY LINKED IN WITH TOPIC WORK

03/08/2019



Students at Oakley Vale created a wormery as part of a project on Superheroes. The Reception children were especially fond of reading about 'Superworm' and so they prepared a purpose built wormery with sand and soil, ready for its new residents.

The wormery is part of the recently constructed outside space and there are also plans to introduce a garden area where the children can grow vegetables and flowers.

Reception teacher Nicky McNab said: 'The children loved preparing the wormery, layering it with soil and sand, so they learned about repeated patterns and capacity as they

used different sized buckets. They tidied up leaves that had dropped off the trees and used them as a top layer. They have really enjoyed doing it and we found worms from the allotment, which we put into the wormery.

'The learning objectives were understanding the world, looking at the environment and seeing how changes occur. This leads into our next topic which is Paws, Claws, Fur and Feathers when we will be looking at mini beasts. We set up a bench in front of the wormery and they did descriptive writing outside. The whole project also involved a lot of maths, communication and turn taking, which the children did beautifully.

We are hoping to develop our garden and want to plant a mixture of salads and herbs that the children can grow from scratch so if anyone has donations of plants, seeds or gardening equipment then we would be pleased to have them.'

YEAR 3S ENJOY GREEK DAY

05/08/2019



Year 3 students dressed up as Greeks and made special clay pots to mark the end of their topic on the civilisation.

Parents were also invited in to help decorate the pots and take part in the fun.

Teacher Genevieve Hearn said: 'We decided to dress up as Greeks and made some lovely pots. The children loved it. The parents came along and were helping to decorate them. We have been learning that Greek pots actually told stories with tales written on one side that finished on the other side. The students also had to find out facts about the Greeks and stick them on the homework wall. They

learned about Greek gods and goddesses and more about the country and its culture. Without the Greeks we wouldn't have a theatre so we were looking at theatres now and comparing them to the Greek theatre. The students were also really fascinated about the Olympics. It is a great topic'

YEAR 7S DESIGN FUTURISTIC POWERED CARS

05/06/2019



Year 7 scientists at Corby Business Academy designed and built futuristic model cars during a topic about alternative forms of energy. The students discussed each energy source before drawing up plans and constructing their final models, with a list of pros and cons for their choice.

Teacher Brian Van Niekerk said: 'This was a project that really captured their imaginations and they worked very well in their teams to come up with futuristic and inventive designs recycling materials including plastics, paper, wood and cardboard into their prototypes. The students got to grips with different forms of energy, including solar,

biomass, wind, tidal and nuclear and the eventual winner used wind power. The runners up were nuclear and solar powered and each car incorporated interesting design features, including one which made use of dual fuels.

'They were judged on the planning, and design process along with ingenuity and it gave the students the opportunity to understand which form of energy was most appropriate to use in different situations.'

WOLVES TRIUMPH IN OAKLEY VALE CAR RACE!

05/11/2019



Well done to Wolves class whose model car proved victorious in Oakley Vale's race as part of their Ambition for All week.

Each class designed and built their own car on a skateboard chassis. The entries were then displayed to parents in the playground before being placed on a specially designed ramp and released. Some barely made the bottom of the ramp, others swerved off-course into the eagerly expectant crowds and one even ended up upside down! The final position of each was marked in chalk on the playground and the Wolves' car was pronounced the winner. Each class

member received a medal and the glory of a job well done! Thanks to all the parents who came along to spectate, cheer and enjoy the fun.

Ambition for All continues for the rest of the month at Oakley Vale Primary School where its focus is on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) subjects.

WOLVES TRIUMPH IN OAKLEY VALE CAR RACE!

02/11/2019



Well done to Wolves class whose model car proved victorious in Oakley Vale's race as part of their Ambition for All week.

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TRUST STUDENTS MEET BESTSELLING AUTHOR CATHY CASSIDY

12/03/2019



Best-selling author Cathy Cassidy spoke to hundreds of students across our Trust schools, carried out book signings and answered fans' questions when she visited both Beanfield and Compass Primary Schools.

Cathy, who has had more than 30 young adult books published over the past 15 years, spoke to students about her career, including how she develops characters and details about her latest book in the Lost and Found series, 'Sami's Silver Lining.'

She spoke at Beanfield Primary School, where keen readers from Corby Business Academy and Oakley Vale Primary

Schools were also invited along, and, in the afternoon, she went to Compass Primary School in Kettering, where students from Kettering Science Academy also attended.

Cathy, a former illustrator and art teacher, told students how one of the most important components for creativity is day-dreaming: 'It is when unexpected, imaginative, creative ideas get a chance to shine. That daydreaming skill is one of the big reasons that I am an author. You are pulling the daydream from your imagination and putting it down on paper. If you are lucky enough to be published you get to share your daydream with readers all around the world.

'My number one tip to help your creativity, and the way I plan my stories, is where my daydreaming technique comes in. I research my ideas and inspirations and allow it to unfurl in daydream form. If you get really good at the daydreaming thing, it is as though you have got a story running through your head like a movie that only you can see. Sometimes something unexpected might happen and the characters might go off-script and do something that you really didn't think they were going to do. Those are often the best bits of all. I dream and type straight onto my laptop and that brings the story to life.'

SPACE THEME FOR Y2 STUDENTS AT PECKOVER PRIMARY

18/03/2019



Year 2 students at Peckover Primary School have been very busy with an out of this world theme this term, experiencing an inflatable planetarium and gearing up for a visit to the National Space Centre.

The Planetarium was a huge hit as it enabled the children to sit in a gigantic dome where images of the planets and night sky were projected onto the inside. They learned all about the different planets, their sizes and how long it would take to travel to them. They also learned about the different constellations and how to spot them.

Then they looked at different materials in science and they designed and made space suits for astronauts. The children worked collaboratively and thought carefully about which materials would be most suitable for a trip into space. They also printed colourful covers for their topic books using printing ink on a crumplet to produce moon patterns, which they also decorated with a rocket potato print. Finally they are looking forward to a trip to the National Space Centre at the end of this month where they will see real life rockets and spacesuits. It has been a really busy and interesting topic and the Year 2s are really enjoying their work.

'COMMANDO JOE'S' LAUNCHES AT CORBY TECHNICAL SCHOOL

19/03/2019



Romano Betts, a trainer with Commando Joe's organisation, will be running regular sessions with Year 9 and 10 students at Corby Technical School.

The purpose of the group will be to encourage self-reliance, innovation and teamwork. Students have been hand-picked to take part in the weekly sessions and their progress will be tracked and monitored. Mr Betts runs the programme at several other schools in the area and he is looking forward to working with students at CTS: 'Commando Joe's is a veteran-led programme and its ethos is not leaving any child behind. Some of the subjects I will

be covering are initiative, teamwork, leadership, communication, technology and it is about building students' characters.

'There is a lot of adventure based activities and we will run a syllabus over a term and we could do anything from making a river crossing to bridge building in a classroom. With Years 9 and 10 a lot of it is more communication-led depending on what they need.'

He will tailor the activities to the needs of the individuals in the group. 'I like to get to understand the students and understand what their spin on the topic is. Everyone learns differently so I need to understand what key priorities are. Typical ones may be to reward behaviour, build on attendance self confidence and self esteem. Every term I will compile an impact report and liaise with the school on how we are doing. This is what sets Commando Joe's apart - I am instructing on life skills that are going to help students in the classroom.

'Resilience, Empathy, Self-Awareness Passion, Excellence, Communication and Teamwork are the buzzwords that we use in Commando Joe's as a RESPECT acronym which is what we are all about.'

PECKOVER STUDENTS ENJOY TITANIC TEA DANCE!

22/03/2019



Year 6 students at Peckover Primary had an amazing time at the Titanic Tea Dance with music, dancing and a sumptuous afternoon tea.

Special guests included Wisbech's Mayor and Mayoress, Cllr Peter Human and Mrs Janet Tanfield, as well as the school's Governors and Leyton Smith, Brooke Weston Trust's Primary Executive Principal.

Proceedings were overseen by the Captain of the Titanic, Capt Smith (aka Mrs Kendal) and there were lively jigs and waltzes which left everyone warm enough to melt an iceberg! Thanks to everyone who made it such a

memorable afternoon, especially those who prepared and served the delicious food or kept the music playing.

OAKLEY VALE STUDENTS DO VIOLIN RECITAL

22/03/2019



Year 3 students at Oakley Vale Primary performed a violin and cello recital for parents following weeks of rehearsals in schools.

They started with a warm up, gave examples of plucking the strings before taking up their bows and playing to a musical accompaniment. Well done Year 3!

TCA TEACHER BUILDS ACADEMY IN MINECRAFT

25/03/2019



A teacher who recreated Thomas Clarkson Academy in Minecraft is hoping to use it as a unique teaching tool to deliver lessons to students who may be experiencing barriers to education.

Two years ago, art teacher Mr John Birch – a Minecraft enthusiast – spent time during the summer holidays building Thomas Clarkson Academy in Minecraft.

It prompted him to consider whether it could be used as a teaching tool to deliver 'virtual' lessons to students who need extra support.

Lessons taught in the classroom can be adapted for Minecraft, with the hope it could make lessons more accessible for students by keeping them engaged and on task.

Mr Birch said it could also help new students – particularly EAL students – with their transition to TCA as it allows them to explore their new school.

He said: 'It's all about inclusivity and the idea that anybody can be involved. By replicating in Minecraft what we do in lessons, it becomes a teaching tool with tangible schemes of learning. It's about using Minecraft in a different way.'



BWA STAGES LARGEST EVER CAREERS FAIR

27/03/2019



Brooke Weston Academy's largest ever careers fair was a huge success, attracting hundreds of students and exhibitors from home and abroad.

The event was organised by Jonathan Browne, Head of Work Related Learning & Industry Relationships and Careers Lead Clare Scott. One exhibitor came from Spain while others were from across the UK including as far afield as Aberystwyth and Newcastle.

More than 200 students and their parents came along to tour the stands and find out about possible future pathways. Trust CEO Dr Andrew Campbell also paid a visit

to the event, which took place in the Sports Hall at Brooke Weston Academy.

Afterwards Mr Browne said: 'We would like to pass on a huge thank you to all those who helped and supported us in organising the Careers Fair. We had a wide variety of visitors including industry professions, over half a dozen Higher and Further Education providers including local ones such as Moulton, Tresham, Northampton Leicester and Coventry Universities. Several Russell Group universities attended including Loughborough, Lincoln, Leeds and Nottingham.

'There were also gap year specialists including A+ Academy (which is based on a tall ship and sails around the world visiting 20 destinations) Projects Abroad and Global Vision. These really expanded the opportunities available to those students who are considering taking a constructive and rewarding gap year, prior to university.

'Brooke Weston Academy has already forged strong work-related learning links with RS Components and their stand was particularly busy with students wanting to apply for several live apprenticeship places. Alongside them were Weetabix, Morrisons and Barclaycard, who are all offering extremely lucrative and rewarding apprenticeship opportunities across a broad range of specialisms and career sectors.

'Several of the exhibitors included former Brooke Weston students, such as Emily Davis, who studied mechanical engineering and has travelled all over the world working on prestigious projects which include the London Cross Rail project; one of the largest civil engineering projects in the country. She will shortly come back and do a presentation aimed at getting more female students seeking careers in STEM based industries.

SPRING IN OUR SCHOOLS

29/03/2018



Spring is definitely in the air in our schools with chicks hatching at Oakley Vale Primary School and the EYFS children at Peckover Primary having a special visit from two-week-old lambs.

The students were fascinated by the sheep and learned more from smallholder Tom McKay. He said: 'Each year we bring the sheep just to show the little ones because some of them have never seen lambs and they give them a little pat.'

At Oakley Vale the arrival of the new chicks coincided with Year 3's special assembly about Easter where students told

guests and parents about different Easter traditions around the world.

To see more pictures of the lambs, [click here](#).



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To see more pictures of the lambs, [click here](#).



Oakley Vale's day old chicks.



Lambs at Peckover Primary.

EASTER ASSEMBLY AT OAKLEY VALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

04/02/2018



Well done to our Year 3 students who put on a lively Easter assembly sharing details of how the festival is celebrated in different parts of the world.

The students wore Easter chick or rabbit ear hats and each recited facts or held up an artefact to illustrate Easter customs in diverse countries including Bermuda, Poland and Greece. Thanks to all the parents and families who came along to support and cheer them on.

To see more pictures [click here](#).



BWA RUNS SPECIALIST ART WORKSHOPS FOR STUDENTS

04/03/2019



Two local artists ran specialist workshops at Brooke Weston Academy allowing students to explore lino printing and abstract art.

Year 10 GCSE students were shown how to design, cut and roller a lino tile to make a design while the Year 12s tried abstract art in a variety of media, under the supervision of artist Catherine Headley.

Head of Art Jenny Strydom said: 'A lady from the Leicester Print Society worked with the GCSE students and they had lots of fun, producing artwork for their coursework units and working on their own individual themes. It gave them

the opportunity to try a different media and I was really happy with the quality of the prints they produced. They were all engaged and focused.

'For the second workshop artist Catherine Headley, a contemporary abstract artist demonstrated different effects with students. They were using pens and paint to build up their portfolios and get used to different techniques. Hopefully it will develop deeper thinking and a range of creative skills that they can work into ideas for their coursework. We are also inviting former students who are now pursuing art in further and higher education colleges back just so our students can hear about the range of options open to them in the future.'

BWA ANNOUNCES BOOKBUZZ WINNER

04/03/2019



Well done to student Adrian Leal Fernandez from Brooke Weston Academy who has won this year's Bookbuzz review competition for his review of 'Bus Stop Baby'.

The competition was open to all Year 7 students, who could submit a review for the Bookbuzz title that they were given at Christmas. It was judged by Librarian Wendy McCabe attracted 46 entries. Adrian received the top prize of a goody bag containing all of the other 14 books in the set.

Well done also to runners-up Amelie Ibbertson and Benjamin Connell who each won another book of their choice from the Bookbuzz selection.

Adrian, from 7K, said: 'I really liked *Bus Stop Baby* because there was a mystery in it. It took about two days to write and the hardest thing was thinking about how you would rate it so I didn't think I was going to win!'

Benjamin said: 'I did my review on *Defenders: Killing Ground* by Tom Palmer. It is suitable for people who like football and sports and who are fans of mysteries.'

Amelie said: 'I chose to write about *The Wolf Wilder* which is about a girl who takes care of wolves and trains them. This is my first book review and I did it with some help from my teacher. Everyone should try a book because you don't know what you will find inside it!'

Ms McCabe said: 'Adrian gave plenty of detail about the book to engage the reader without giving away too much of the plot and its twists. All of the books are still available to borrow from the library and there are lots of details about them on the Bookbuzz display so students should be able to pick out the ones that appeal to them the most.'

PECKOVER STUDENTS VISIT NATIONAL SPACE CENTRE

04/10/2019



Year 2 had a fantastic time on their trip to The National Space Centre.

Class teacher Mrs Parsley said: 'There was so much to do and see including going up the famous Rocket Tower, training as an astronaut in the Tranquillity Base and visiting the Sir Patrick Moore Planetarium. What a wonderful way to complete our term all about space!'



BWA STUDENT'S GOLFING SUCCESS IN COUNTY COMPETITION

25/04/2019



Well done to young golfer Ben Atherton from Year 7 at Brooke Weston Academy, whose perfect last shot in a recent competition meant that the Northants county team clinched a victory to beat Bedfordshire.

He played in a pair, against a pair from the opposing team and whoever won the most holes was awarded one point and if there was a draw the players get half a point each. There were seven teams meaning a maximum of seven points up for grabs.

Ben's match was tightly fought, the only one going all the way to the 18th hole, which was a par 5. Ben played the hole perfectly making a 5 to win his match, which meant the team beat Bedfordshire four and a half points to two and a half.

As well as playing in the county team Ben also plays in the County Academy Talented Golfers Group.

He said: 'The secret to being successful at golf is staying calm as it can get frustrating sometimes, particularly if you are playing in a competition as every stroke counts.'

Ben has again been selected to represent the County Under 14's against Cambridgeshire on 19 May at Overstone Golf Club.

PECKOVER PRIMARY SCHOOL HAS AMBITION FOR ALL

05/05/2019



Students, staff and parents joined together at Peckover Primary School to make and sell craft items for their Ambition for All month, raising over £250.

Parents came in to work with students on different Easter themed items which were sold at the end of the day. A total of £100 was donated to a Brooke Weston Trust colleague, Nicole Andrews, at Compass Primary Academy in Kettering as she was running the London Marathon and raising money for Child Bereavement UK.

Principal Carrie Norman said: 'It was a super event with more than 100 parents joining us to work with their

children and it was a great way to celebrate our Ambition for All month in April. Thanks to everyone who created some lovely items and also to those who gave so generously at our sale. I'm delighted that we could support our colleague and, in turn, this amazing charity.'

To see more photographs, [click here](#).

STUDENT CREATES INGENIOUS CAKE TRENCH FOR HISTORY COMPETITION

05/07/2019



Year 8 student William Farnsworth Coombs from Brooke Weston Academy built an ingenious WWI trench from cake and won a Year 8 history competition in the process.

A group of Year 8 students were challenged to come up with an accurate trench model as part of their homework and Principal Pete Kirkbride and Senior Vice Principal Shaun Strydom judged the results.

Teacher Ms Adelle Northern said: 'The class showed amazing creativity and, for the most part, historical accuracy in their designs and with William's edible cake I think we have a Bake-Off star in the making! Well done also

to Victoria Tysoe who was awarded second place and Matthew Church and Edward Denis who were placed third in the hard-fought competition.'



RAPTOR XOTICS VISITS TWO TRUST SCHOOLS

05/09/2019



Dave Sharpe from Raptor Xotics took his amazing animals to both Oakley Vale and Beanfield Primary Schools, giving our students the chance to hold them and learn more about their diets and behaviour.

He spoke to Year 1 students at both schools, focusing on owls at Beanfield Primary School to tie in with their topic work and, at Oakley Vale, his visit was the 'sparkly start' for a whole new topic on animals so he took along a tarantula, owl, snake, giant snail, frog, bullfrog and lizard.

Teacher Mandy Mutch said: 'The students were really good, focused and well behaved and it was an opportunity for

them to see a range of animals up close. The majority of them were very brave and wanted to touch them. The owl flew across the classroom, which is obviously a new experience for the students. We are working on non-fiction in literacy so it was a chance for them to gather facts to inform their writing so they have got items to recall and work with.'

At Beanfield Primary School teacher Natalie Kelly said: 'We kept the visit a surprise from the children and read them different snippets over the week from our owl stories. They went into the hall and Dave had a small owl, Crackerjack, Plop the barn owl, a black kite and Nigel the hawk. It was brilliant. He had the birds flying around and swooping over the children. He was in for an hour and really kept them engaged. They are learning about the animals that are in the UK so we wanted them to get that real life experience. He was talking to them about their diet and different features and that will all be used in our English work. We have been reading "The Owl who is Afraid of the Dark" and "Owl Babies" and we are featuring the owl in our science lessons as well.'

BEANFIELD STUDENTS VISIT THE CORE

05/09/2019



Arty students from Beanfield Primary Academy had the opportunity to see behind the scenes at the Core Corby as part of the Arts Award programme they are doing.

The students, from Years 5 and 6, attend an after school art group where they can build up a portfolio of work. To get the Discover Award they need to complete 20 hours and now they are working towards the more advanced Explore level.

A total of 16 students were able to visit the Core theatre where they met staff including the general manager and education outreach manager. Education Welfare Assistant

Callum Reilly runs the club. He said: 'We were taken on a tour of the building, including the areas that the public can't always go to, like the control room with the sound and lighting boards, break out spaces and workshop rooms. The children went in the main auditorium and looked out from the main stage. They asked some amazing questions. The more that they looked at it they were really interested in people's jobs and what did they do.'

'To get their Explore certificate they have to visit an arts venue and so I would also like to take them to see a production so they get to experience both sides of the Core.'

The club is a really creative place where students can work on lots of different projects and use different media, we have explored what arts means to them, and have also done some drama where they have worked together really well as a team. They can do whatever interests them including artwork, fashion design or even computer animation and we support them, whatever their area of interest.'

TCA SIXTH FORMERS EXPLORE DIGITAL DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS

05/10/2019



Year 12 students at Thomas Clarkson Academy heard how degree apprenticeships are another route into the digital sector after spending the day with staff from an international technology consultancy firm.

Staff from Capgemini, along with representatives from Anglian Water, discussed the post-18 degree apprenticeships that are becoming increasingly available. They also spent time looking at the employability skills required to work in the digital sector.

The event, at the Boathouse, included an interesting challenge in which students had to create an app that used digital technology to save water and helped protect the environment.



They then had to present their ideas to a panel before receiving feedback linking the skills they demonstrated back to employability skills.

One of the ideas was for a 'hydrone', which would enable farmers to test the water and fertiliser levels in their soil for more efficient water use. This would ultimately save farmers money and

reduce over-watering. The app, which would be programmed with artificial intelligence, would be used to control and monitor the drone.

CTS STUDENTS ENJOY WRITING WORKSHOP WITH AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR

14/05/2019



Award-winning author Tamsin Winter led a workshop with students at Corby Technical School, where they wrote compelling opening paragraphs and learned about story structure.

The Year 7 and 8s were given vocabulary to incorporate into their work and encouraged to be as creative and experimental as possible.

Tamsin said: 'My job is making things up; it is a really lovely job to have. When you are a writer all you need is a pen and your imagination.'

Her debut novel 'Being Miss Nobody' tells the story of Rosalind Banks, a girl with selective mutism: 'A picture came to mind of a girl sitting silently in a classroom with people ignoring her and all these words tumbling around her mind. I remember thinking "what if she could find a way to speak?" That is how Miss Nobody started.' Her second novel, 'Jemima Small versus the Universe' was inspired by a newspaper story about body image and is being published in the summer.

Tamsin said: 'Ideas come from different things. Mostly I think how would I feel if I was in that situation? The story has got to come from your feelings and from the heart.'

She told the students about 'world building' where she imagines believable characters and scenarios.

'I drew the entire town including the pier, where my character lived and a map of the school so I knew her exact route. It is a crucial part of being a writer, building up a world in your mind. It has got to feel real to you, because if it doesn't feel real to you, it won't feel real to your readers.'

TCA'S FIRST-EVER MOTHER/DAUGHTER DAY IS A SUCCESS

21/05/2019



A special event at Thomas Clarkson Academy to celebrate mothers and daughters was very well received and paves the way for future family occasions.

A group of teachers organised TCA's first Mother, Daughter and Special Ladies Brunch on Saturday, with games, food and a speech about female empowerment all part of the celebrations.

It was the brainchild of Miss van Rhede and her fellow South African colleagues, after they decided to bring a tradition from their native country to TCA. Events such as these are a big part of their culture.

Around 30 students and family members, including a grandmother and a foster mum, attended with several shedding a tear when a short film was played which featured messages from their daughters.

Teacher Ms Morley gave a talk about the UN's drive to empower adolescent girls and how education is key to this. She also spoke about you have to make things happen in your life, rather than just wishing for it.

Miss van Rhede said: "The event went really well. There was lots of fun and games and it was so nice to see everyone bonding so we're really pleased it was successful. I'd like to thank everyone who attended and the staff who helped out."

VIDEO OF BELIEVE BIG FINAL NOW ONLINE

24/05/2019



The video featuring the final of the Believe Big competition involving all our Trust secondary schools is now available online.

Hundreds of students came up with innovative ideas to be in with a chance of representing their school at the competition, run by 7 Billion Ideas. Finalists were chosen from each school and they all attended the Final at the Core in Corby, presenting their ideas to a panel of judges.

It was a day of innovation, collaboration and teamwork and our students came up with some very interesting ideas, marketing, slogans and models.

The results were as follows:

1st: Future team - KSA - Pacto Vegetabilis

2nd: Fade Creations – Brooke Weston Academy - Token Trader

3rd: SEN4 - Corby Technical School

Best Poster: Tree Totaliser – Kettering Science Academy

Best Model: Helping Hands – Thomas Clarkson Academy

Best Stall: ITASK – Corby Business Academy

BEANFIELD TEACHERS SHARE A STORY

24/05/2018



Members of staff at Beanfield Primary School read stories to different classes during a 'Share a Story' morning.

The event was run as a celebration of 'National Share a Story Month' and each adult chose a book and read for about 20 minutes with their designated classes. Students from Reception through to Year 6 enjoyed story time with a difference.

Education Wellbeing Assistant, Callum Reilly said: 'I was given a Year 5 class so I chose a specific book, written as a diary with lots of mini stories as it relates back to the themes of resilience and working together.'

Teacher Gemma Carey said: 'The whole school took part including our nursery children. This is another event to promote a love of reading in school - the children and staff are always so supportive and enthusiastic and we particularly wanted staff to read with children that they wouldn't normally see.'

OAKLEY VALE'S COLLABORATION WEEK

08/04/2018



Oakley Vale Primary School is running its first ever 'Collaboration Week' where year groups are joining together for five days of fun activities across a range of topics.

Yesterday's focus was on art, so every student produced their own circular artwork which will be displayed on the screen wall near the dome. The school also used the day to start preparing for their float for Corby Carnival in July.

Today's theme is geography so every class has been allocated a different part of Corby to study and discover. Wednesday will be a PHSE and mufti day, while on Thursday

classes will be doing outdoor cooking. Collaboration Week finishes on Friday with a musical theme and parents are invited to come along and hear what their children have been up to.

Vice Principal Katie Mason said: 'The children have really understood the concept of what collaboration means so, not only are we working with different subjects, but they are working together. Their artwork was inspired by a story called "The Dot" so every child has produced one. In geography we will be talking about Corby and there will hopefully be a drone coming up from Brooke Weston Academy which will take pictures. On PHSE day we have got a really big focus on mental health and we will have an outdoor treasure hunt because all the year groups will work together on that.'

OAKLEY VALE STUDENTS ENJOY OUTDOOR COOKING SESSION

06/06/2019



Students at Oakley Vale Primary School enjoyed outdoor cooking sessions when they toasted marshmallows and melted chocolate in the Forest School area.

They also had a picnic and took part in a treasure hunt on the third day of their collaboration week. There's a musical soiree to round the week off.

To see a gallery of pictures click [here](#).



BWA STUDENTS' SUCCESS IN DISTRICT CYCLING EVENT

06/07/2019



Brooke Weston Academy took a team of 12 Year 7 students to the district cycling event at Kettering Rugby Club. Students competed in sprints and long distance races around a track with many challenges from steep hills to sharp turns on mountain bikes.

The students performed exceptionally well, picking up a 1,2 finish with Brooke Weston Red team coming First with 84 points followed by Brooke Weston Blue Team who finished with 77 points.

All students performed to an incredibly high standard winning the majority of their heats with six students

making it all the way to the final races for the boys and girls. Special mentions go to Jolie Bowman who picked up an individual bronze after fantastic performances in her heats and a third place finish in the Final, Devon Peterson who won an individual bronze after winning two out of three of his heats and finishing in third in the Final, Henry Dent who, after dominating all of his heats, finished in the Final to pick up a silver medal and Adrian Leal Fernandez who won an individual gold after not losing a single race all day and blowing away all competition in the Final to finish the day as the best cyclist in the district.

SUCCESS FOR OAKLEY VALE'S FOOTBALLERS

02/09/2019



Well done to Oakley Vale's team of footballers who have qualified for the final of the Gamble Cup.

The team of Year 3 and 4 students played against other schools and, so far, have not lost a game. They came first in the first round of matches at the event at Lodge Park Academy, to qualify for the final on Monday. Teacher Liam Keith said: 'They have played fantastically well and we are all really looking forward to the final.'



OAKLEY VALE ENDS COLLABORATION WEEK WITH MUSICAL FINALE

06/10/2019



Parents came along to support Oakley Vale Primary students with the musical finale which ended the school's very successful Collaboration Week.

The students had taken part in a variety of activities over the week including a geography day, mental health awareness, outdoor cooking and art projects. Each of the year groups took part and, after the topics, toured each other's classrooms to find out what everyone had been up to. It was the first time that the school has run the Collaboration Week and it was such a success with students and staff that it may not be the last.

Vice Principal Katie Mason said: 'The musical finale was a great way of rounding off the week. Parents came along and listened to songs which the students had been working on for weeks. Thanks to everyone that attended, we hope you enjoyed what our students had done during this very busy week.'

Principal Emma Goodwin said: 'It has been a very exciting time and an opportunity to explore different areas of the curriculum in a bit more detail. The children have had lots of different experiences, produced lovely art, geography topics, thought about mindfulness and wellbeing and enjoyed the outdoor cooking. We had a whole-school picnic which was lovely environment as all of the year groups were able to sit together. This week has been so good that we would like to have this as a regular event and get all the school involved in the same activities.'

WELLBEING WEEK LAUNCHES AT BEANFIELD

06/10/2019



Beanfield Primary School is gearing up for a whole week of wellbeing for staff and students with special events and ways to make people feel good.

As well as special lunchtime discos on Monday and Friday and a 'wear what makes you happy day' the school is implementing a 'thank you' system where people can write special messages for friends, colleagues and teachers and pop them in a special postbox.

The school is also running a 'happy cake' competition where students can design the smiliest, feel-good bakes and the week will be rounded off with a special Father's Day tea

where students can invite male members of their family for a special time of refreshments and cakes. Tickets are on sale from today.

Beanfield's Safeguarding and Child Protection Manager, Sarah Fleming, said: 'We have a very big focus on wellbeing throughout the year and making sure that staff and students feel valued and appreciated. One of our recent schemes has been 'You've Been Mugged' where staff are surprised with a mug full of goodies. We decided to have an entire week focussed on wellbeing and showing appreciation for our students and colleagues in a lot of different ways. This creates a very positive atmosphere around the school for everyone. Our Mother's Day tea was very popular and I am sure the Father's Day event will be just as special.'

BELIEVE BIG BOOK LAUNCH AT COMPASS PRIMARY

06/11/2019



Compass Primary Academy hosted the primary Believe Big book launch when the winning team from last year's competition saw their idea in print.

Team Nothing, comprising Jackson, Ryan, Olivia and Nell from Compass Primary Academy, won last year's primary Believe Big competition, hosted by 7 Billion Ideas.

The competition challenges students to come up with ideas that could change the world and Team Nothing won with their product called 'Matsie', a practical piece of equipment that combines a onesie with an inbuilt mattress, making it useful for sleepovers and festivals whilst also

being ideal for homeless people.

The students worked in teams to dream up ideas and develop promotional material including posters, slogans, models and stories.

As part of their prize the students worked with an illustrator to have their idea made into a children's book. Friends, family and staff from across the Brooke Weston Trust gathered at Compass Primary Academy for the occasion. On arrival guests watched a video of the competition final and the winning team then explained the story behind their idea. To close the event the students read their book to the audience.

LOCAL AUTHOR ENCOURAGES TCA STUDENTS TO 'DREAM BIG'

06/12/2019



A local author spoke to Year 7s about his writing career and encouraged them to 'dream big'.

Rudi Jennings released his debut novel, a Fantasy adventure, *The Last Myon*, in 2017 and is currently working on the sequel.

During his recent visit to Thomas Clarkson Academy, Rudi spent time discussing his career and inspiration for his work before answering students' questions. He then set the class a creative writing challenge where they could either create a fantasy character or write a fantasy story.

Rudi also read an extract from his book before doing a book signing.

All students received a bookmark on which Rudi had written the words: 'Dream big'.

Mr Bronizewski, English Key Stage 3 Lead, said: 'Rudi was really inspirational as he told students about what he's done in his life so far, including working as a bodyguard, living in America and even meeting Beyoncé!

'He explained that he'd always enjoyed writing so one day, he just sat down and started writing. He kept linking back to the curriculum and it was really useful because these students will be doing a piece of creative writing for their end of year exam so it was helpful to make that link. It was good for students to get the perspective of an author and hear his tips.

NED PERFORMANCE AT BEANFIELD

06/12/2019



Students enjoyed an inspirational assembly at Beanfield Primary School as part of their Wellbeing Week.

The Key Stage 2 assembly, NED's Mindset Mission, was about a cartoon boy named NED who solves clues to find his 'mindset'. He overcomes Mount Everest's toughest obstacles, uncovers treasures on a Caribbean island and helps a space alien discover there is always more to learn.

The Ned Shows is an organisation that delivers empowering messages to school children throughout the UK, America, Canada and Australia. The company said: 'The show activates the imagination of young students and uses

humour, yoyo and magic tricks, puppetry and storytelling to share the message about the power of a positive mindset.

Students enjoyed the interactive assembly. Afterwards Sarah Fleming, the safeguarding and child protection manager, said: 'Today's performance was amazing! The children were captivated throughout and it is the talk of the whole of Key Stage 2. The message given out today was very fitting for our Wellbeing Week. "Never give up, Encourage others and Do your best." The children learnt all about Ned's journey and how important it is to support each other.'

Bianca from Year 6 said 'The message really influenced people in the assembly and there was a good moral behind the story which is it is really important to encourage others and never give up.'

KSA STUDENTS ATTEND HISTORIC DUXFORD D-DAY COMMEMORATION

13/06/2019



Year 10 history students at Kettering Science Academy had the experience of a lifetime when they attended the 75th anniversary D-Day commemoration at Duxford.

The students saw a formation of 23 Dakota transport aircraft carrying paratroopers to France, re-enacting the events of exactly 75 years earlier.

It was a reward trip for students who had performed well in their studies and they were accompanied by Associate Principal Tony Segalini. He said: "Those taking part were re-enactors and one American came around and gave all the students a 1942 American cent. They were really

enchanted. Then we went outside and watched every single plane taxi out and take off one after the other with Spitfire fighter escorts.



"It was the third time in 75 years that this has ever been seen and it will probably be the last time. All the planes were gathered from all over the world for this one event. The students absolutely loved it. It was a really amazing day, living history in action and part of the whole Remembrance process.

"There were veterans there and some of them, 92-year-olds, tandem-jumped with the Army parachute display team, The Red Devils. As it

was such a historic occasion the BBC was also there. On the news that night you could see the paratroopers jumping out and landing in France, so the students could see the other side of the journey as well. It wasn't just a visit to Duxford, it was a full-on experience and one that our students were privileged to experience."

AUTHOR EVE AINSWORTH VISITS BWA AND CBA

13/06/2019



Author Eve Ainsworth spoke to students at both Corby Business Academy and Brooke Weston Academy about how her experiences as a teenager informs her writing and made her passionate about exploring emotional issues and difficult situations.

She struggled at school and found solace in books, including *Matilda* by Roald Dahl, *Back Home* by Michelle Magorian and *The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole* by Sue Townsend: "The Secret Diary was one of my absolute favourite books when I was growing up. It is about a teenage boy who is really awkward but so funny. When I

was a teenager I didn't really fit in and I struggled at school because I was really shy. I spent a lot of time in the library so reading and writing made me happy. That was my escape route.

She started writing stories as a child, and, as an adult, wrote in her lunch hour at work. "I was in a job that didn't make me happy so I got a pastoral support job at my old school. They didn't have anything like that when I was at school so I wanted to be part of the change and make sure that no-one felt like I did at that age.

"Bullying inspired my first book *7 Days*. Nine times out of ten there is a reason why a bully is a bully, maybe they have pressure at home or in their year group. I wrote that in three months and got it published. I had three other titles published and I started to think about *Lost*, my latest book.

"It is about grief and someone dying. It is also about someone losing their way in life. The main character is Alfie, an exceptionally talented football player and he has lost his mum. It is about his journey how he deals with grief.

"I know what it was like to lose someone close to you but I wanted to write it from a boy's point of view because they struggle to show their feelings emotionally so it is very difficult. As a country we shut grief away and trap it inside ourselves."

BEANFIELD'S SUCCESSFUL WELLBEING WEEK

14/05/2019



Beanfield had a very successful Wellbeing Week with lots of events for students and staff.

There were daily yoga classes, a motivational assembly, a 'wear what makes you happy day', cupcakes and a Father's Day event when family and friends visited for a colouring session and refreshments.

Students and staff also had the chance to send each other messages of appreciation. The 'happy cupcake' competition was hugely popular and the school received thousands of decorated cupcakes which were sold for 50p each with an amazing £500 raised for Lakelands Bright Sparks appeal.

The school also tweeted lots of information and photographs of students and staff enjoying activities that enhance their wellbeing, including sports, singing and crafts.

Thanks to all our students, staff and parents who supported Wellbeing Week so wonderfully, it certainly was action-packed. Thanks also to the Wellbeing team who did a fantastic job of organising it, despite the wet weather putting paid to plans for Monday's outdoor disco!

COMPETITION WINNING BWA STUDENT RECEIVES PRIZE AND CHEQUE

19/06/2019



BWA Sixth Former Hannah Watkins has received a cheque and ipad after winning The British Sociological Society's essay writing competition.

Students were asked to write 'to what extent does society have a responsibility towards those who are vulnerable?' Hannah, who is studying sociology, psychology and English language at A Level, chose to write an open letter about children of divorce.

The British Sociological Association said: 'The judges felt that this entry was highly emotive and personal. The entry demonstrated an engagement with vulnerability that went

beyond the textbooks, applying sociological theories to personal experiences. It was a creative piece that showed a real sociological imagination.'

Hannah will have her winning entry published on the BSA's website and in a book. Michael Dunning, a sociologist from the University of Leicester, presented her with a £500 cheque for the school and an ipad mini for her. He said: 'This competition is a great way of encouraging the next generation of sociologists.'

CTS RUNS CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS DAY

21/05/2019



Departments across Corby Technical School linked up to deliver a day of cross-curricular themed activities.

There was a purposeful buzz to lessons and connections were made to career pathways that each subject could lead to.

Sports and MFL were paired up so Year 9 teams played 'Footgolf', took part in group exercise and had an energetic game of hand-ball in the gym. The languages element came in as instructions were in German and the crossfit exercises were inspired by the intensity of German fitness regimes.

The DT/art and science departments ran activities for Year 10s where students built their own trebuchets. Physics teacher David Godfrey said: 'We used ideas around turning forces and moments and applied them to building mini trebuchets. Students will project their objects across the room and the ones that finish successfully will use the bigger trebuchet that we have constructed. This allows them to revisit work on forces they have done previously and we have also discussed a range of engineering careers from being a car mechanic to an astronaut.'

Art teacher Mr Harley said: 'The idea is for students to understand how they can change either the weight or length of the arm to move the projectile further. It is also about team-building and problem-solving.'

Another art and science project involved students creating models of mould in petri dishes. Teacher Emma Morgan said: 'Students produced natural dyes using vegetables, acids and alkalis. These were used to marble paper and students also used materials including ribbons, wool, felt circles and beads. The results are very colourful and effective.'

The drama, English and humanities departments linked up to explore representations of slavery with classroom activities as well as drama pieces where students devised their own tableaux and explained the motivation and emotions behind them.

Maths and computer science collaborated so students created their own algorithms which they demonstrated by moving in and out of position in a line-up of classmates.

STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT CAR CRASH CAREERS AT UNIVERSITY OF NORTHAMPTON

24/05/2019



Students got to see the aftermath of a simulated car crash during an event at the University of Northampton.

Car Crash Careers gave students the opportunity to see professionals at work and learn more about job roles in the emergency services.

They heard about the different organisations involved including the police, firefighters and paramedics and learned about pathways into the professions. The Year 10 and Year 12 students took part in workshops and had the opportunity to question participants about their careers and gain an insight into life in front line roles. It also gave

them the opportunity to learn more about road safety and the devastating after-effects of a crash.

Assistant Vice Principal Jane Watson said: 'We worked on policing, forensics, media and paramedic science. The students found it fun and informative and came back motivated to work hard at school realising the qualifications they would need to pursue a career in this field in the future.'

KSA STUDENTS SEE WEST END SHOW

25/05/2019



As a reward for good effort and behaviour in school a selection of Year 7,8 and 9 students were invited to a performance of the West End show, Aladdin.

Students were wowed by the performance, costumes and set and everyone enjoyed themselves, particularly those who had not been to London or seen a show before. It was a really memorable experience for them all.

KSA GIRLS ATTEND STEM EVENT AT UNIVERSITY OF NORTHAMPTON

24/06/2019



Year 8 girls visited the University of Northampton where they learned more about university life and took part in a number of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) activities.

Their favourites were working on dentistry and blood samples in the biomedical science labs. Year 8 boys will be making the same trip this week.

To see pictures from the event click [here](#).

KSA STUDENTS TAKE PART IN CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING FESTIVAL

25/06/2019



Students From Kettering Science Academy attended the Construction Engineering Festival hosted by Northampton College.

This was a series of events held across the week to give young people a chance to experience different construction activities, listen to talks and discuss their future career and study options.

A team of eight students from Year 10 competed in the Big Rig

challenge. This involved working on a three-storey scaffolding rig to harvest rainwater, pump it into a storage tank, pass it through a photo-thermal (solar) cell to heat the water and then use it to make a hot water shower work.

The team had to follow engineering design plans and use complex equipment in a safe and professional way to allow them to complete the challenge. Students developed their skills using wiring and plumbing systems that included making secure, leak proof joints. They were extremely pleased with their efforts when they successfully got the shower to work.

Project team leader Tom Smith said, 'It was great to work with proper full-sized equipment to solve a real life problem and to have the support of the engineering staff from Northampton College to help and advise us along the way. We were really pleased with ourselves when we got the system to work properly.'



WOMEN IN ENGINEERING EVENT GETS STUDENTS THINKING

25/06/2017



Students at Thomas Clarkson Academy attended an event aimed at encouraging more girls to consider a career in engineering.

The STEM event at Linton Village College featured women from the industry, including research scientists, research physicists and engineers.

Speakers described their career pathways, while interactive exhibitions allowed the group to see engineering in action.

The event, which was held to celebrate National Women in Engineering day, gave TCA's Year 9 students the chance to

talk to representatives from energy companies, police forensics and construction firms.

They also took part in an exercise where they reflected on their own skills to see which jobs are suited to those particular qualities.

The students found it particularly useful to learn of the importance of gaining work placements with a variety of companies.

CTS STUDENT TO REPRESENT GB IN ARCHERY

28/06/2017



Sixth Former Iulia Petre from Corby Technical School is representing Great Britain at the Archery European Cup in Romania next month.

Iulia only took up the sport three years ago and was such a natural that, less than a year after starting, she won the national junior competition. She practices for three hours each day and also takes part in GB training camps at Telford each month.

Iulia combines her sport with her schoolwork. She is studying art, sport and English at A Level and aspires to be a professional archer.

Iulia said: 'In primary school I went on a PGL trip where we did archery and I really liked it. I was swimming and I begged my mum to let me quit swimming for archery. It took ages but eventually I persuaded her!

'I joined Corby Archers three years ago and use a compound bow. They are really technical pieces of equipment and we shoot smaller targets than normal. I shoot all year round. When I first won the nationals I had only been doing the sport for about ten months and all my competitors had done it for at least 12 years!

'For GB and international competitions there is only one round, called 720. You shoot 72 arrows and can score a maximum of 10 points per arrow. I shoot from 50m and my highest score is 675. I would like to be a professional archer and have got sponsorship. I now play in the adult competitions and am ranked about 25 or 30 for adult women in the UK.

'My first international was at the World Championships earlier this year in Nîmes. I came 20th. You have to go through a selection process where you are put under pressure so that tests our skills.

'Our GB team consists of four boys and four girls and it is nice to all get together. We will be doing individual and team shooting in Bucharest next month. I am looking forward to it because I have friends from the other teams and we barely get to see each other unless we are at the internationals.

'Archery is a good sport because, you don't have to stop at a certain age although it is very expensive to take part in. My bow type isn't in the Olympics but they are fighting to put it in for 2024 so if it is eligible then I will definitely try and qualify. The school has been very supportive and encouraging with my sport so it will be great to see how far I can take it.'

KSA ARCHAEOLOGY STUDENTS MAKE INTERESTING FINDS!

23/06/2019



Year 7 students took part in an archaeology event with a difference at Kettering Science Academy.

Instead of finding pieces of pottery or bone, they searched for sweets hidden on the school site that replicated the concentrations and different types of finds you might get on the surface above a usual British site.

The students conducted a field-walking survey of the site and had to pick up all the



sweets from squares on the ground they had been allocated before recording the quantity and different types.

Back in the classroom students were told what the different sweets represented. The group was able to use their results to practice some Geographical Information Systems (GIS) skills to map the concentrations of their finds and were able to identify areas where people might have been living and working. They also had some wonderful ideas about ritual practices in the past.

The students' behaviour was excellent and Mrs Davenport and Miss Collins were very impressed with their insightful group discussions.

BWA YEAR 13 MATHS BARBECUE

07/06/2019



Around 25 students attended BWA's Year 13 maths barbecue at Wicksteed Park.

The event has been a tradition that teacher Mark Rowell started where maths teachers and Year 13 students meet up at Wicksteed Park on the last day of their exams for a barbecue.

The barbecue was a great success and extra special as it was a chance to bid farewell to Mr Rowell who has taught A-level maths for a long time. He has been an invaluable asset to the department and students and staff are going

to be at a loss without him. We wish him all the best as he starts his new adventure in Moldova.

Teacher Erin Van Wyk said: "I now have the pressure to keep up Mark's tradition in hosting this barbecue in the years to come. Personally am going to miss this intake of Year 13 maths students since I have taught most of them from Year 8 when I first joined Brooke Weston so I am suffering a bit with empty nest syndrome!"



CTS STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT APPRENTICESHIP DEGREE OPPORTUNITIES

07/05/2019



As part of a careers focus at Corby Technical School Sixth Formers had careers advice about jobs of the future and learned more about degree apprenticeship opportunities.

The day started with a presentation by Avril Bartley-Smith of Timely Advice who said that young people now may have eight to ten different careers throughout their working life. She told them: 'It is about you as an individual being ready for the next stage. You need to develop transferable skills that are useful for multiple employers. Whatever pathway you choose you will find those skills can be used in different directions. Once you have been working for ten

years there will be jobs out there that haven't been created yet, or those that you couldn't give a name to at the moment. Technology is making the world smaller which means that you can potentially work from different countries and collaborate with colleagues worldwide.'

The students then heard about the apprenticeship degree programme offered by RS Components.

Apprenticeship Programme Manager Tim Beasley outlined the advantages of the scheme, including potential earnings of £18,000 per year over three years, compared with the average university student debt of £45,000. This equates to roughly a £100,000 difference between pathways to obtain the same degree. He said: 'These options are available now and they are going to get massively popular over the next few years. You'd have no student debt, you would get exactly the same degree as someone who has gone to university and you would have work experience as well. When you do an apprenticeship you are learning what is relevant to the job.'

BRIT KIDS OPEN DAYS

07/04/2019



BRIT Kids, the creative arts Saturday classes at Corby Business Academy is holding Open Days for prospective students and their parents.

The classes, which include art, dance, fashion, film production, singing and sound production, are run in conjunction with the BRIT School, which is known the BRIT Awards and past students, including Adele, Jessie J and Tom Holland.

At BRIT Kids students can sign up for a combination of hour long classes, which run between 9am and 12 noon each Saturday.

The Open Days are running on Saturday 6 and Saturday 13 July from 11.30 to 12.30pm and current students will showcase some of the projects they have been working on. The Open Day on 6 July will feature the work of children aged from 8 to 11, while the older age group (12 to 16 years) will take place on Saturday 13 July at the school in Gretton Road, Corby.

KSA STUDENTS VISIT ICONIC SYMPHONY HALL

07/04/2019



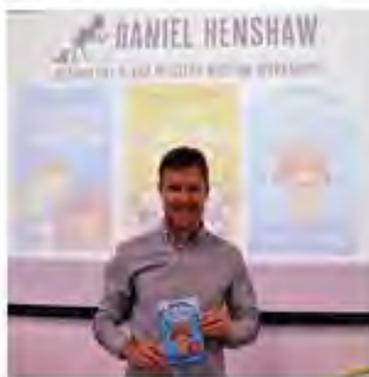
Kettering Science Academy's music department took 45 Year 7 students to the world famous Symphony Hall in Birmingham to hear a live orchestra perform.

The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra performed a special schools concert featuring the music of Russian composer Igor Stravinsky and his ballet *The Firebird*. It was great to see an orchestra of over 100 players perform live, especially as students have been studying the instruments of the orchestra and it was an opportunity for them to witness one of the greatest orchestras in the world perform in an iconic venue.

After the concert, students admired views across the Birmingham skyline from the top of the newly constructed Library of Birmingham. It is the largest library in the UK, built at a cost of over £180 million and is the largest public cultural space in Europe. After a successful trip with lots of culture the music department hopes to organise a similar trip in the future.

AUTHOR UNRAVELS THE MYSTERIES OF WRITING!

07/05/2019



The secrets of writing mystery novels were unveiled by author Dan Henshaw at Bearfield Primary School.

He spoke to students in both assemblies, telling them about his books and staging a mini-mystery involving a missing wedding dress for them to solve.

He told them: "The first book I ever wrote was called "The Great Snail Robbery" about a boy, Jeremy, who is having some problems. He thinks the best way to solve the problems is to get a new pet. Lots of things go wrong, it gets worse and worse but there are lots of laughs along the way."

"Jeremy is in all of my books. The second one is called "The Curious Case of the Missing Orangutan". He takes his favourite toy into school and it goes missing so he has to try and find out who has taken it. He is trying to solve a mystery and that is what we are talking about today. Mystery writing isn't just about writing books, but it can be writing for television or a movie. Scooby Doo is a classic mystery story."

Later on he read an excerpt from his book, did writing workshops with students where he helped them plan their own mysteries.

Dan, a teacher, wrote three books in four years. "I used to read with my class all the time and used to love it when we were reading a funny story and they were laughing. I wished I could write something that kids would find funny, so that was my inspiration. I tried my writing out on my class and eventually I got the idea for these stories. I wrote the first two in one year."

His third book, "Jeremy's Shorts" is a book of short stories and he is working on another one currently. Dan's books are available from Amazon.

CTS STUDENT HAS WESTMINSTER WORK EXPERIENCE

07/09/2019



CTS Sixth Former Kacper Kwiatkowski had memorable work experience in the Houses of Parliament as he met well-known politicians including Jeremy Corbyn and Amber Rudd.

Kacper, who is studying English language and literature, psychology and media studies at A level, would like to study law eventually. He secured a work experience placement in the office of Corby MP Tom Pursglove.

Kacper said: 'I was there for three days doing administration, like writing letters, opening correspondence and filing. I had most contact with his

assistant rather than him personally because obviously he is a busy person. All of the staff were quite friendly and I got a tour of the Houses of Parliament.

'If you are into politics or something related then I would recommend it as a placement. I met Jeremy Corbyn briefly, at lunchtime and once when we were going to the office, and also Amber Rudd. I didn't manage to see Boris Johnson though! This was my first work experience placement so it was eye-opening.'

'Igniting the Spark'



A group of our Year 10 students recently joined other local schools at Northampton College to take part in an exciting workshop organised by the Leicester Space Academy.

A group of our Year 10 students recently joined other local schools at Northampton College to take part in an exciting workshop organised by the National Space Academy.

The workshop called 'Igniting the spark' allowed students to gain a greater insight into the science of space through a variety of fun activities. Activities included making a comet, investigating the heart and how the body changes during space travel, using lenses and telescopes to view the universe and building and launching rockets.

The session encourages students to consider further study in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) subjects and allowed them to explore the future careers they could lead to.

Science Teacher Mrs Oliver said 'The students had a great day and thoroughly enjoyed the different experiments.'

KSA hold first ever Careers Fair



To bring our 'Careers' term to an end, we held our first ever careers fair on Friday which provided a wonderful opportunity for our students to explore their options beyond school.

Students from Years 7-13 visited the careers fair throughout the day to talk first hand to professionals working in a range of industries including the emergency services, the army, engineering, nurseries, vets, hospitality, sports and many more.

Representatives from local colleges, universities were on hand to talk to students to help them find out more about the courses they offer and grade entry requirements.

Year 11 students also took part in a variety of workshops led by professionals from industries such as hospitality, medical, games design, accountancy, law, criminology and forensic science.

Assistant Vice Principal Jane Watson said: 'The day has been a wonderful success. I've received great feedback from the students who now have a clearer understanding of what options they need to take for certain careers or have gained a better understanding of the grades they need for the course they want to take part in beyond school.

'Thank you to all the companies that came to support the day and led workshops with our students. I hope this will be the first of many careers fair to be held at KSA.'

Ski trip success

Over 30 students from years 8-13 took part in an enjoyable half term of skiing on the Academy's annual ski trip to Austria.

During their first ski lesson, students were split into groups depending on their experience. On the first day, the beginners started to learn basic manoeuvres such as turning and stopping whilst the more experienced skiers took to the slopes to define their skiing techniques.

Each day, the students took part in 5 hours of skiing and by the end of the trip all students were skiing competently on blue runs, with some even moving on to tackle the more challenging red runs.

Each evening, the students enjoyed the culture and cuisine as well as interacting with locals at the family run hotel. Students also took part in a range of fun activities such as table tennis tournaments, DVD nights and a fancy dress party on the last night.

Trip organiser and PE teacher Mr Liam Feeley said: 'All the students really embraced the trip and overcame their fears. The trip not only allowed students to learn to ski or improve their technique but also taught the students many other valuable life skills. Students learnt to become more independent and organised, being away from home. The students also developed their teamwork skills and were incredibly support of one and other, with many new friendships being formed during the course of the week.

Award winning author Dave Cousins visited our Academy to mark the end of our Transition Reading Challenge



Dave Cousins was chosen as this year's Transition Reading Challenge author. Year 7 students were tasked to read Dave's book *Charlie Merrick's Misfits I'm a Nobody Get Me Out of Here!* over summer and complete an activity sheet based on the story.

For the finale of the challenge Dave was invited to the Academy to talk to the students about his life, how he became a writer, what books he enjoys reading and where he gets his inspiration. Dave also took part in a Q & A session, signed students' books and selected four winners of the activity sheet challenge.

CBA hold their first GCSE success fair



The event was organised to provide support to parents and students in the run up to the Year 11 GCSE exams.

Throughout the evening speeches were given from the Head of School, Nicola Treacy and guest speaker Kevin Heynes, who gave an entertaining and thought provoking presentation on time management and memory technique. There was also additional information about PiXL Apps, GCSEpod, exam papers, careers, stress management and health and revision guides were available to purchase.

Head of school Nicola Treacy said: 'It was privileged to be able to run our first GCSE Success fair at Corby Business Academy.'

'The evening recognised and strengthened the partnership between the school, students and parents that is so important for a student to reach their true potential. It provided an opportunity for us to share with parents the key messages we are giving to students in preparing for their exams, as well as equip them with lots of resources.'

Big Book Bus visits our Academy



A double decker bus filled with the latest books visited our Academy yesterday.

The visit, organised by the library and Year 9 student Kiezer, allowed students and staff to go aboard the Browns Books for students and choose which of the latest young adult fiction they'd like to see in the library. The students scanned the bar code of the books they'd most like to read and the library has now completed a mass order. The selected books will be available for the students to borrow from the library in term 3.



Librarian Amy McKay said: 'Each year we organise an event for students to be involved in book selection and this was the best yet. Our library is here to provide a service to our students. We need to ensure that we stock books which our students are interested in reading. Our existence depends on the students using the services we provide and therefore we think is incredibly important that the students are involved in deciding what books we purchase. The bus was a great way for the students to browse and select new titles and they made some superb choices.'

New student librarian initiative is launched



This year, for the first time at Corby Business Academy, we have launched a new student librarian initiative and appointed our first set of student librarians.

To become a librarian, the students had to go through a rigorous process, submitting an application form and taking part in an interview with a panel consisting of Head librarian Amy McKay, Assistant Librarian Christina Mangin and Senior Student Librarian Kiezer U.

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Musicians perform in Regional series of MFY



Over the weekend, our Senior Concert Band and Big Band performed in the regional series of the National Festival of Music for Youth, at Northampton School for Girls.

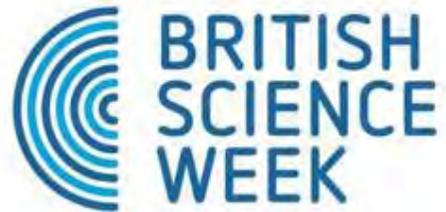
Each band performed a 10-minute programme, featuring songs such as Sky Fall, Encanto and Bohemian Rhapsody, for a chance to perform in the National Festival.

Head of School Mr Simon Underwood said: 'I am so proud of the Academy and our musicians who showed everything we are and continue to be at Corby Business Academy. The judges' comments summed up what our Academy is about:

"Natural group cohesion", "Obvious care and expression" and "Poised and focused"

'Great performances from everyone and thank you to all students and staff involved.'

Students inspired by British Science Week



To celebrate British Science Week, our science department have organised a range of exciting activities to increase students' engagement with the subject and allow them to explore possible careers within the industry.

The department are running a 'science link treasure hunt' for Year 7 and 8 students in which they are challenged to match a science related statement (about a job or interest) to the relevant teachers.

Science teachers have also selected a group of 10 students, who have shown a keen interest and commitment to science, to become science ambassadors. On Tuesday, the Year 8 and 9 students will take part in a training session at the University of Northampton to become representatives of the science department and increase primary students' engagement in the subject.

Later in the week, a group of students will visit the Big Bang Fair in Birmingham to explore STEM based careers. The students will have the opportunity to take part in a variety of interactive workshops, talks and demos to explore career options within the industry.

Students' innovative idea is turned into a children's book



7 Billion Ideas have created a book, which follows the story of how Believe Big competition winners, Team EJS from CTS came up with their drink driving solution.

The competition, that part place earlier this year, tasked students from secondary schools across the Brooke Weston Trust to come up with an idea that could change the world. Team EJS, made up of Eoin, Jack and Sam, worked together to develop an drink driving solution. Their idea was to install breathalysers in cars, which would automatically immobilise the vehicle if someone was found over the alcohol limit.

As part of their prize, the students had their idea turned into a children's book, which has been developed over the last 3-4 months.

Students visit leading supplier of automation technology

FESTO

A group of our Year 7 students have met engineers from a leading world-wide supplier of automation technology.

In total 14 students visited Festo's base in Northampton to talk to its staff and learn about the technology they use.

The students got to see demonstrations of some of the company's products and had the opportunity to take part in practical workshops. The students also did some work with pneumatics and made pneumatic circuits and learnt about hydraulics.

BWA runs specialist art workshops for students

Published: Wednesday 3rd April 2019 by C. Freeman

Two local artists ran specialist workshops at Brooke Weston Academy allowing students to explore lino printing and abstract art.

Year 10 GCSE students were shown how to design, cut and roller a lino tile to make a design while the Year 12s tried abstract art in a variety of media, under the supervision of artist Catherine Headley.

Head of Art Jenny Strydom said: 'A lady from the Leicester Print Society worked with the GCSE students and they had lots of fun, producing artwork for their coursework units and working on their own individual themes. It gave them the opportunity to try a different media and I was really happy with the quality of the prints they produced. They were all engaged and focused.'

For the second workshop artist Catherine Headley, a contemporary abstract artist demonstrated different effects with students. They were using pens and paint to build up their portfolios and get used to different techniques. Hopefully it will develop deeper thinking and a range of creative skills that they can work into ideas for their coursework. We are also inviting former students who are now pursuing art in further and higher education colleges back just so our students can hear about the range of options open to them in the future.'



Round up of CTS's amazing Ambition for All month!



Students and staff at Corby Technical School had an action-packed Ambition for All month that included overseas trips, academic, music and arts activities along with a 'Student of the Day' award.

The focus of our Ambition for All month was a broad range of activities that add 'extra value' to our students and gave them additional opportunities. This ranged from the activity week for our Year 7s with individual and team challenges, to the CERN trip where our Sixth Formers learned about the ground-breaking physics experiments taking place at the world-renowned facility in Geneva.

Our Year 9 and 10 students took part in a range of exciting workshops at the 'Women in STEAM' event at Rockingham Motor Speedway, which encourages female students to choose Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Design, and Math-based Higher Education choices. They listened to an inspiring talk by astrophysicist Dr Rebecca Smethurst who spoke about how she turned her love of space at school into a career.

Students take part in UK MT Senior Maths Challenge



**United Kingdom
Mathematics Trust**

Four of our Year 12 Maths and Further Maths students recently put their mathematical skills to the test when they took part in the UK MT Senior Maths Challenge at Mereway Upper School.

The students were set a series of problems, which they were tasked to solve using their combined efforts. Rounds included cross numbers, which are in the style of crosswords but with numbers instead of letters, and relays, where students had to answer a question in pairs before the other pair was able to answer their question. The competition tested students' mathematical skills in areas such as geometry and algebra.

Students use iPads to support art and design projects



iPads have been incorporated into Year 7 art and design lessons as part of a month-long study to see how iPads can be used most effectively in schools.

In design, students have used the iPads to create a step-by-step video and evaluation of their acrylic desk holder project. Traditionally photos and written comments would be used however students have instead edited clips of each other working into a video complete with voiceover.

Art and DT teacher, Mr Cooper, who has co-ordinated the project at CTS said: 'We task our Year 7 students with producing an evaluation and a step-by-step of their work as it is good practice and prepares them for what they will have to produce for their GCSE coursework. Being able to incorporate the iPads into the lessons has really helped elevate their projects.'

Lexi qualifies for Inter-Counties Cross Country Competition



Year 8 student Lexi recently represented the District in the U15 County Cross Country Competition at West Glebe, in Corby.

Lexi qualified to represent the District after achieving second place at the U15 District Cross Country Championships at West Glebe Park earlier this year.

Despite a tough race at the County Championships, in which Lexi was up against over 100 other competitors, she managed to finish the race in 7th place. Placing in the top 14 means that she will now go through to the next round of the Anglian Trophy Inter-County Cross Country. This will take place on 2nd February in Northampton.

Students take part in Cyber competition



A group of female students in Year 8 were recently took part in the CyberFirst Girls competition organised by the UK government.

The online competition introduced the students to the field. They worked in groups to solve a variety of challenges in areas such as cryptography, logic/coding, networking and cyber security.

The idea of the competition was for the teams to answer as many questions as they could across four categories, earning badges along the way. Each category had three challenges of different difficulty levels rated from beginner to expert. For some challenges students were able to receive hints, however using a hint resulted in a deduction of points.

Each level consisted of up to five challenges, with more becoming unlocked as the girls progress through the challenges.

BWA Principal visits CCF detachment on patrol

Published: Tuesday 2nd April 2019 by C. Freeman

Brooke Weston Academy's Principal Pete Kirkbride went along to lend support to the CCF cadets on a field training weekend at Yardley Chase.

The students camped out, prepared their own food and took part in a variety of drills, including patrolling in woodland shooting at concealed targets. BWA's Principal Pete Kirkbride watched some of the drills and caught up with the contingent, including former cadet and BWA student Pete Sammons, who has returned on a voluntary basis to instruct the cadets.



Mr Kirkbride with former BWA student Pete Sammons.

Book Bus visits Brooke Weston Academy

Published: Tuesday 4th December 2018 by C. Freeman

A purple double decker bus, filled with inspirational books of all genres visited Brooke Weston Academy allowing students access to an astonishing 4,000 books on board. Reading is vital to success in all fields and the visit was designed so that key groups of students, including competition winners and all of Year 7, had the opportunity to browse a plethora of genres and expose them to a whole world of reading.



Students explore STEM based careers



The Big Bang UK Young Scientists & Engineers Fair

Year 9 students recently visited the The Big Bang Fair to explore science and engineering based careers.

Throughout the day students were able to gain an insight into many major STEM businesses. They took part in a variety of interactive workshops, talks and demos to explore careers options within the industry.

One talk the students attended which they found particularly interesting was from a micro-biologist who was a plane crash survivor. She explored the reasons and science behind the crash she was involved in.

CTS' annual production is a huge hit



Congratulations to all students who made this year's production of High School Musical a great success, as well as Drama Teacher Mr Stephen Cox for all his hard work casting and directing the show.

Students from Years 7 to 10 showcased their talents to friends and family when they performed the popular Disney hit musical over two evening performances. The show featured a combination of acting, singing and dancing which the audience got involved in. The performance also dealt with issues such as love, friendship, family and balancing classes with extra curricular activities.

BWA stages annual Art and DT exhibition

Published: Thursday 27th June 2019 by C. Freeman

Hundreds of parents, teachers and students toured this year's Art and DT exhibition at Brooke Weston Academy, showcasing the work of our A Level and GCSE students.

The exhibition, held in the Teaching School at BWA, opened to parents in the evening and to staff and students the following day. Artwork and DT on display has been completed over the past year and the exhibition included supporting work including sketchbooks and design notes.



BWA students win each category in Sportshall Athletics competition

Published: Wednesday 23rd January 2019 by C. Freeman

Well done to our Year 7 and 8 teams who came first in each of the age categories in the recent Sportshall Challenge.

Our teams went head to head with their counterparts from Corby Business Academy, Corby Technical School, Lodge Park Academy and Prince William School for the event, which was organised by the Oundle and Thrapston School Sports Partnership.

Chris Long, the School Sports Manager said: 'The COTSSP sportshall athletics competition has been running since the inception of the School Games in 2011, although indoor athletics has been contested in the district for 15 years. The top two teams from each event category qualify on to the County School Games championships in March, and any pupils meeting qualification times in that event will be invited to regional and/or national level competition.'

Head of PE Jodie Barber said: 'Congratulations to our very strong teams who swept the board in all these events. Their success clearly demonstrates their athleticism, determination and teamwork. We are now looking forward to the next round of the championships where they will compete with other winning teams from across the county.'



Some of the BWA students.



BWA recruits new library helpers

Published: Tuesday 4th December 2018 by C. Freeman

Keen readers from Years 7 and 9 have been recruited to help in the library, shelving books and learning a range of new skills. A total of 11 students have been successfully recruited after a process where they had to fill in application forms and take part in mini interviews.

Librarian Wendy McCabe said: 'Being a student library helper is a great way for the students to provide valuable input into the development of the Library while getting some practical experience in a real working environment. There will be a full training programme which will cover the basics, such as learning how to shelve books correctly, including how the Dewey Decimal system works. They will then progress through various levels of skills, achieving bronze, silver, gold and platinum award levels. I am grateful to all the volunteers and their help is invaluable in making sure that the Library runs smoothly and at the same time helping raise the profile of the Library among their peers.'



BWA students meet David Starkey at history conference

Published: Tuesday 20th November 2018 by C. Freeman

Sixth Formers from Brooke Weston Academy attended a history conference where leading historians, including David Starkey, spoke about the lives and legacy of the Tudor dynasty.

The Year 13 students heard talks by Professor John Morrill of Cambridge University who explored the Reformation of Henry VII and Dr Anna Whitelock, Reader in Early Modern History and Director of the London Centre for Public History and Heritage at Royal Holloway, University of London.



The BWA group with David Starkey.

Clay work at BWA

Published: Monday 14th January 2019 by C. Freeman

Year 8 students at Brooke Weston Academy are making striking geometric masks, inspired by the artwork of Kimmy Cantrell.

Teacher Charlotte Asprey demonstrated how to roll out a clay slab to form the background, before students cut out and added the facial features. The finished pieces will be fired and finished with acrylic paints before being displayed.

She said: 'This is a great project for students to learn different techniques, manipulating the clay and working to a design. It builds on their knowledge they acquired last year and they have been very creative with their designs. We will be expanding their skills with this medium as our GCSE students have the opportunity to use potters' wheels, a process which looks easy, but is quite a complex operation!'



Students see butchery skills

Published: Monday 3rd September 2018 by C. Freeman

More than 50 students saw butchery skills in preparation for their Year 9 food and nutrition course. James Edwards from Stilton Catering Butchers jointed chickens and showed them ways of producing burgers, to prepare them for a gourmet burger competition where they have to formulate their own flavourings.

Food technology teacher Natasha Chiremba said: 'This was the launch of our 'Gourmet Burger Challenge' competition so James talked to the students about mince, its preparation and provenance. He showed them a burger press, talked about food traceability, different farming methods and careers in the industry.'



Year 9 Poet Has Work Published



A Year 9 student who was inspired to start writing poetry by her mum has had two poems published in anthologies.

Lucy Hunt wrote the first, *Uni-Cat*, as part of her English lesson and decided to put it forward for consideration for *Young Writers' Pet Poetry 2018: Amazing Animals*.

She penned a second, *Easter*, which features in another book in the *Young Writers' series, Spring Into Easter*.

Lucy started writing poetry in primary school thanks to her mum's interest in creative writing.

Lucy said: "Most of my poems are fantasy-themed. I enjoy writing different stories in different genres and exploring what I like writing about. I've also been writing horror stories. I just like using my imagination."

Students Visit Norwich Castle for Recreation of Historical Trial



Year 10 students gained an insight into 19th century crime and punishment when they watched the re-enactment of an 1829 murder trial.

The group of GCSE history students visited Norwich Castle where they sat in the courtroom and heard witness statements, performed by actors, from those involved in the real-life case.

The case involved a man in a workhouse who was accused of murdering another man by lacing dumplings with arsenic.

Students were able to question the witnesses and had to decide if the accused was guilty or innocent. Although students decided he was innocent, he was actually found guilty in real life and was executed.

Harvey Selected for County Football Squad



A promising footballer is looking forward to representing Cambridgeshire after being selected for the county schools under 14s squad.

Harvey Wilson, who is in Year 9, was put forward for the trial by TCA's Head of PE thanks to the skill he has demonstrated and his commitment to improving his game.

Harvey was one of about 40 other boys who went along for the trial and was delighted to learn he had made it through to the final squad of 20.

He said: "They sent my dad an email to say I'd got through - I was so happy when I found out. The trial was really hard. It's the highest level I've played at and at the games, you get lots of academy scouts going along."

Students Explore Careers in Engineering



Anglian Water gave students an insight into the career pathways in engineering during an inspiring information day that included a trip to its head office.

A group of 14 students from years 11, 12 and 13 spent time at the College of West Anglia to hear about the Level 2 course and Level 3 engineering course that Anglian Water fund. They explored the different routes into industry and heard how you can get paid to study or, in some cases, how Anglian Water will pay for your studies as part of its graduate scheme.

At head office, students heard how Anglian Water is an alliance which is made up of multiple teams and the importance of these teams being able to work alongside each other. To illustrate this, the group was divided up into teams to plan and build different parts of a house. It demonstrated the issues that can arise if the different teams didn't work together and the loss of money and time that can occur as a result.

Sixth Former Selected For England's Under-21s Nets Squad



A Year 12 student will travel to South Africa this summer for the World Indoor Netball Championships after being selected for England's under-21s Nets squad.

Emma Linnett was one of 14 players from across the country to be chosen for the under-21s squad after training and playing for England Nets last year.

Nets, which was previously known as Indoor Netball, is a version of netball that is fast, very tactical and is played within nets. It can be 5, 6 or 7-a-side.

Emma has been training with England Nets once a month in Birmingham, as well as playing for Rookies Netball Club, the county league and representing the region.

Biology Students Visit Field Studies Centre



Our Year 12 A level biology students worked with ecologists at a field studies centre to consolidate and deepen their learning.

The group spent four days at Cranedale, a residential centre in north Yorkshire, undertaking a range of ecological studies, including sampling at a rocky beach, examining sand dune succession, bat studies and investigating different habitats.

The trip also gave students the opportunity to develop their microscopy skills.

Mr Tarsitano, Director of STEM, said: "Part of what we do at the centre is a requirement of their studies but there are also benefits to carrying out these kind of studies in different settings and looking at different habitats. It also gives our students the chance to work with ecologists and gain a further insight into what they do."

Roller Hockey Star Training at National Level



A Year 7 student who is excelling at roller hockey and has been training at national level is hoping to compete in a tournament in Portugal this summer.

Jake Day started playing roller hockey the same week that his five-a-side football team disbanded.



He soon progressed from not being able to skate at all to joining the Skaters Scorpions Roller Hockey Club.

He began playing for the under-11s team before moving up to the under-13s team, which he is now captain of. The team is unbeaten this season with only two more tournaments to go this year.

Jake also participates in National Hockey Training once a month at Ormiston Bushfield Academy in Peterborough, coached by National Roller Hockey director and England coach Carlos Amaral.

National Hockey is made up of five levels and after 18 months, Jake progressed to Level 4 and is determined to get to Level 5, where he'd be playing alongside 15-18-year-olds.

NHS Discovery Day



Sixth formers had a hands-on experience of working in the NHS after visiting Anglia Ruskin University's new medical school.



The Year 12s took part in a range of sessions across the careers of midwifery, nursing, social work, operating theatre practice and the paramedic service.

Using life-like dummies, students practised resuscitation techniques and inserting breathing tubes, wound cleaning and even delivering a baby.

The day also included information on the degree courses available and opportunities to speak to lecturers and students.

University's celebration of creative writing inspires students



Students took part in creative writing workshops and heard from award-winning authors when they attended a university's Festival of Literature for Young People (FLY).

The University of East Anglia pioneered the teaching of creative writing in the UK and in order to inspire a future generation of writers, it holds a week-long celebration of writing every year.

A group of students from TCA who have been attending the academy's after-school creative writing club, along with a number of students who have shown a flair for writing, were given the opportunity to go along on one of the days.

They attended Write On, which was designed to help students discover all the secrets to making creative writing fun and successful with three of the best authors writing today.

Little Explorers Police visit



Little Explorers pre-school children recently received a visit from the police, including Ava's Aunty Nicky who is a police officer. The visit was part of learning about growing up and finding out what they would like to be when they grow up.

The police spoke to the children about what they do as part of their job. The children learnt about the police uniform, what items a police officer carries with them and why. Mrs Blades was 'arrested' for stealing sweeties but was fortunate to be let go for good behaviour.

Students train with champion athlete

Students from all year groups at Oakley Vale Primary School were put through their paces by champion hurdler Alex Knibbs during a recent visit.

Knibbs, who is a 400m bronze medallist in the junior world championships, told students how when he was their age he tried out as many sports as he could before he settled on hurdling.

Teacher Liam Keith said: 'He gave a really interesting talk and a question and answer session and really encouraged our students in their sports activities. He led fitness circuits with all year groups and the students took part in sponsored events, with some of the money going to Alex to help with his training while the rest will be used to buy sports equipment for the school. Thanks to everyone that sponsored the students, they had a great time taking part in the training.'



Year 3 students enjoy Stone Age trip

Hunting, firelighting, shelter-building and painting were just a few of the activities that our Year 3 students enjoyed during a day of Stone Age-based activities at Irchester Country Park. They had read the story of 'Stone Age Boy' and completed written work in the classroom, but this trip was an opportunity for them to experience life in the wild.

They started the day off by playing games and constructing bows and arrows and shooting at fish targets. Another group cooked some food over a fire they had lit while others squashed flowers and berries into patterns to make natural artwork.

After lunch it was time to build shelters from branches and natural materials and the children talked about how Stone Age people would keep warm by building fires and covering the shelters with animals skins to keep the heat in.

Class teacher Genevieve Hearne said: 'It was a really action packed day and the children learned a lot. When we got back to school we used chalks and pastels to create our own cave paintings and we talked a lot about staying safe around fire.'



BWA STUDENTS VISIT NEW DESIGNERS EXHIBITION

07/09/2019



Year 9 textiles students from Brooke Weston Academy visited the New Designers exhibition and the Design Museum on a recent trip to London.

The New Designers exhibition is a yearly event spanning two weeks. The first showcases the best graduate work in textiles, fashion, costume design and jewellery. The students had the opportunity to speak with university lecturers as well as the recent graduates exhibiting their work.

Teacher Selina Moore said: 'Representatives from the Fashion industry visit the exhibition to find new talent, but

it's also a fantastic resource for us to see what is new in terms of materials and techniques as well as portfolio inspiration. After the exhibition we went to the Design Museum to look at products that have been developed over time. It was interactive, allowing students to use an interactive wardrobe, a bit like the one seen in the film *Clueless*, learning material theory on an interactive quiz, as well as about the products and designers that will be on the GCSE specification. The students had a great day seeing where a textiles GCSE can lead to.'

STUDENTS ATTEND STEMFEST AT RS COMPONENTS

07/09/2019



Year 7, 9 and 10 students from Brooke Weston Academy attended an exciting day of interactive activities and workshops at RS Components.

STEMfest, is the first event of its kind to be organised by RS to inspire young people to understand the incredible opportunities within Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics offered both at RS Components and through its wide and varied customer base.

The students were let loose on tablets with apps to control high-powered crab-like robots called Mekamons and were given free reign to see what they could make the robots

do! They also took part in a competition to build what looked like mini-daleks out of plastic cups, wooden skewers, blu tack and 'spheros' and use the app controls to get their creations to pop a balloon!

They also visited Titan II, RS Component's incredible exhibition truck where they had access to Virtual Reality headsets, as well as getting the chance to sit in a racing car! There were freebies galore at the stands in the marquee and the opportunity to hold giant African snails, giant millipedes, cockroaches and stick insects in the 'Critters area'.

KSA FOCUSES ON MENTAL HEALTH DURING WELLBEING MONTH

07/11/2019



As part of Kettering Science Academy's Wellbeing Month, the school is holding a Mental Health Awareness Week from Monday 15th July with daily assemblies, visiting experts and lots of advice for students and staff.

The initiative is being rolled out across the school by teacher Mr Crane who is the lead teacher for the Anti-Bullying Ambassador Programme. Each year group will be able to access advice and information and the focus is on promotion of positive mental health and ensuring that all students know where to go if they, or a friend or member of their family, is struggling.

The school already has Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, students who are specially trained to help their peers and who raise awareness during assemblies and other projects. Mr Crane leads the programme, which has proved very successful over the last three years and involves over 20 students.

The Ambassadors will be involved in the Mental Health Awareness Week assemblies and an expert from the University of Northampton, Dr Scanlan, will visit to talk to all year groups on 'a mindful approach to the problem of living with suicidal ideas'. On Wednesday mental health experts will be in the building at lunchtime focusing on positive mental health so students can talk to them about any issues.

BWA YEAR 13 SUMMER BALL

15/07/2019



Brooke Weston Academy's Year 13 Summer Ball was a great success.

Students and staff gathered at Barton Hall in Kettering to commemorate the end of this cohort's time at the school. Good luck to everyone with their future plans. See you back in school on results day!

[Photo gallery 1 - click here.](#)

[Photo gallery 2 - click here.](#)

GRETTON PRIMARY STAGES ART EXHIBITION

15/07/2019



Gretton Primary School staged an art exhibition showcasing the work of its students in a variety of media.

The artwork was inspired by 'Men of the Docks' by George Bellows as part of the National Gallery's 'Take One Picture' scheme, which encourages children to be inspired by a particular piece of artwork.

The 1912 picture of New York docks gave rise to artwork including perspective drawings of the Brooklyn Bridge, a model of the New York skyline and a liner with all different first, second and third class cabins hidden behind flaps as

well as life-size cardboard figures with specially chosen artefacts.

Teacher Mrs Hill, who teaches Year 2 and 3 Ash class, said: 'We chose men from the painting and thought about who they were and what they were doing. The students did written descriptions, dressed them how they wanted and thought about things they make take on their journey to Europe. We cross referenced it with the Titanic to link in with the Year 6 work.'

SPORTS WEEK AT COMPASS

17/07/2019



Compass's Sport week began with the big write; students were tasked with writing a journalistic report about the staff vs students' cricket match.

Steeler, the mascot from Northamptonshire County Cricket even made an appearance to celebrate the staff's victory. All year groups across the week took part in projects relating to a sport or a sporting event.

Year 5 learnt about the Jamaican Bobsleigh team and even made their own bobsleighs, Year 1 learnt about healthy eating and tried new fruits and vegetables and Year 6 made foil sculptures of their moving sporting action.

On Wednesday and Thursday students from Years 1 to 6 went to Clip n Climb where resilience was truly shown. Both students and staff had an amazing time. Compass finished their Sports Week off with their Race For Life which everyone enjoyed.