

BIRCHES HEAD ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Edition: LP2 2022-23



READING AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

IN THIS ISSUE:

WE REMEMBER THEM...

**+ READING AWARD WINNERS
YEAR 11 GEOGRAPHERS
EXPLORE CASTLETON**



Frank Field
Education Trust





STAY UP TO DATE WITH THE ACADEMY:

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WELCOME

During our second learning cycle of the 2022-23 academic year, we have immersed ourselves in the values of gratitude and humility. We have learnt that gratitude is feeling and expressing thanks and humility is having a modest view of oneself. The student leadership team have led an assembly about gratitude and challenged all students to choose a member of staff who they are grateful to and to express their thanks in some way. Year 7 have contributed to the Rotary Club Christmas shoe box appeal and will continue to working on these in the new year so that children receive birthday presents who otherwise would not. During staff briefings, assemblies and academic review sessions, students and staff have reflected on the following quotes -

- “Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all others.” – Cicero
- “Showing gratitude is one of the simplest yet most powerful things humans can do for each other.” – Randy Pausch
- “Gratitude and attitude are not challenges; they are choices.” – Robert Braathe
- “If you want to turn your life around, try thankfulness. It will change your life mightily.” – Gerald Good
- “It is unwise to be too sure of one’s own wisdom. It is healthy to be reminded that the strongest might weaken and the wisest might err.” – Mahatma Gandhi
- “Every person that you meet knows something you don’t; learn from them.” – H. Jackson Brown Jr.
- “Without humility, there can be no humanity.” – John Buchan

Extra-curricular Opportunities

We are delighted that so many students have continued to attend extra-curricular activities and we encourage any students who have not done so during the Autumn term to join a club at the start of the Spring term. The extra-curricular timetable is available on the website, face book page and on the screens around the academy including in the main reception.

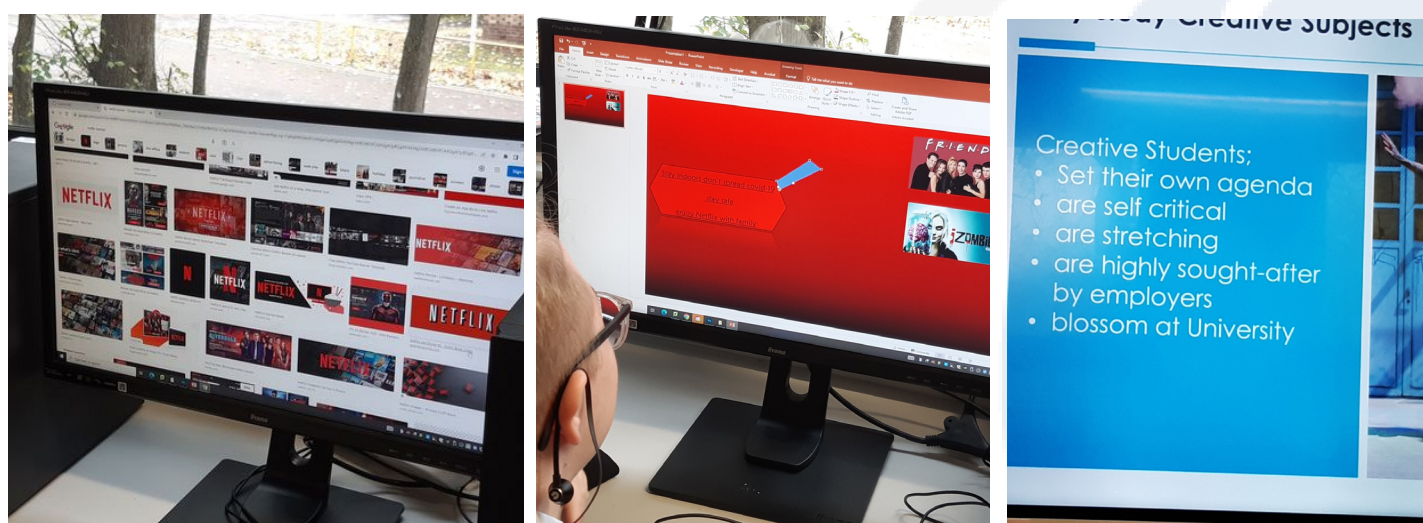
Our third learning cycle begins on Monday 9th January. We will have our second and review day for Year 7 and 10 on Friday 20th January and we will meet with the parents and guardians of year 11 students after the review evening on Thursday 9th February. We look forward to immersing ourselves in the value of courage and we invite you to help us to teach our children the importance of acting with bravery and overcoming fears. We wish you all a happy and healthy new year and thank you for your continued support.

During LP2, our LORIC skill focus was on organisation. Students were challenged to be more organised using strategies such as lists which are written in priority order. Lots of rewards were given for their positive responses to these challenges.

OUR ACADEMY VALUES

HUMILITY the quality of having a modest or unarrogant view of one's own importance	COMPASSION the quality of feeling pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others	HONESTY the quality of being truthful
INTEGRITY the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles	ASPIRE TO BE MORE	GRATITUDE the quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness
COURAGE the quality of having strength in the face of difficulty	RESPECT the quality of having due regard for the feelings, wishes, or rights of others	JUSTICE the quality of being fair and reasonable

SECURE YOUR FUTURE - CREATIVE INDUSTRIES



Twelve of our Year 11 students spent the day at Stoke College, Cauldon Campus, for their "Secure Your Future – Creative Industries" event. They had practical workshops using the photography studio, Photoshop and Netflix together with a presentation from Higher Horizons on the many and varied opportunities available in this area.

WE REMEMBER THEM...

"At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them."
Robert Laurence Binyon

We commemorated Armistice today by observing a whole school silence. Visitors, student leaders and pupils who are members of the armed force cadets also held a service by our memorial to show their gratitude and respect to soldiers from the local area, and for those who have served since.



KS3 BRONZE READING AWARD WINNERS



Congratulations to our first cohort of Bronze Reading Award winners in KS3 this year. These students have all finished reading at least 3 books since September. We are very proud of you!

POEM: CLIMATE CHANGE BY DYLAN

What a fantastic poem, written by Dylan, a Year 9 pupil, about Climate Change:

This is for Everyone
The time has passed, the deed is done.
Is it all really just for fun?
"It's time to change, end this today."
That's all they'll do, that's all they'll say.
"It's time to change"
That's what they said, now all the trees are dead.
It's already happened, the deed is done.
Nothing to stop, the very hot sun.
Most animals dead, most species extinct.
Every animal, they're all linked.
The time has passed, the deed is done.
That's what they said, but it's only begun.
The ice caps melting, the glaciers gone.
We must save the planet.
This is the only one.
This is for everyone.



YEAR 7

BRONZE READING AWARD WINNERS

This group of boys from 7B2 have all achieved their Bronze Reading Award today. This means they have each read at least 3 books since they started here in September. A massive well done for proving that boys do indeed read (or at least Birches boys do!) Big congratulations!



YEAR 10 BRONZE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

We were delighted to hand out certificates this afternoon to some of our Y10 pupils who have completed their Bronze DofE award.

To achieve the award they have completed an hour of physical activity per week, learnt new skills and volunteered in some way to help their local community. They did at least 3 months for each activity and then chose which one they wanted to complete for a further 3 months. On top of that they completed a qualifying expedition where they had to be self sufficient for two days out in the Staffordshire Moorlands countryside.

Mr Burndred is really hoping we can get students to progress onto the Silver Award over the coming weeks.



BIRCHES HEAD ACADEMY ALUMNI

We are currently trying to update the Awards Board at the Academy and compile a record of alumni who went on to Higher Education.

If you are a BHHS/BHA Alumni could you let me know, by emailing info@birchehead.org.uk

- Your name and contact details
- Date of Leaving BHHS/BHA
- Uni/Higher education institute attended
- Course studied
- Date qualified
- Grade obtained eg BA Hons 2:1
- Current employment details.0

If you are still in touch with anyone to whom this applies could you ask them to contact us please.

YOUR CHILD, THEIR FUTURE

WITH YOUNG PROFESSIONALS



At Young Professionals, we have run two parent / guardian focused 'Your Child, Their Future' events back in September 2021 and February 2022 and across the two webinars we had a staggering 5000+ parents and carers attend virtually from all over the UK. I'm writing to announce that we have our third parent / guardian information evening taking place this November.

The job market for students leaving school or university can be difficult to navigate and now more than ever we need to help our young people by making them aware of all the opportunities available to them, as well as providing them with advice and tips on securing the very best opportunities when they enter the workplace. We would like to extend our invitation to all parents and guardians to attend our 'Your Child, Their Future' Event on Thursday 24th November from 6:00pm – 7:30pm.

We have leaders from some of the biggest employers in the world including KPMG, BT Group, Capgemini, British Airways, Linklaters and more who will each come along to talk to you, as parents and guardians, about how your son/daughter/young person can best navigate the job market to find some incredible work experience/internship placements, as well as graduate

and apprenticeship opportunities. We will be sharing some useful tips around psychometric testing, how to prepare for assessment centres, putting together a CV, filling out application forms, as well as advice on how you can prepare your child/young person for the working world.

This event is completely free of charge, and it will be running via Zoom on Thursday 24th November from 5:00pm - 6.30pm. We encourage you to join this event virtually with your son/daughter/young person, or the whole family and ask any questions that you may have, directly to leading employers.

The registration link can be found below here, so please do sign up if you would like to attend. The zoom link will be emailed to you closer to the time.

Registration Link:

<https://www.survymonkey.com/r/YP-Information-Evening>

We look forward to welcoming you to the event and if you have any questions, please let us know!

KEELE UNIVERSITY AND DR SIMON JACKIN EXPLORE HEALTHY EATING



During our Year 7 PSHE session we welcomed eight Keele University pharmacy students and Dr Simon Jacklin.

We learned about the dangers of vaping, how to choose a healthy diet, and even had the opportunity to sample some healthy food and drinks.

Year 7 were also inspired to consider aiming to study at Keele university and potentially a career in pharmacy.

**NOW
Enrolling**



**STOKE
ON TRENT
COLLEGE**



SCAN ME

New Year, New Skills

Whether you want to learn new skills, improve your well-being, change or enhance your career, or help your children excel at school this New Year - we've new courses starting soon.

A world of opportunity awaits:

- FREE* courses
- Distance Learning Opportunities
- Higher Education and Professional Qualifications
- Apprenticeships
- Financial Support Packages
- Payment Plans & Loans

For more information visit:

www.stokecoll.ac.uk/january-adult-offer
or scan the QR Code

For help and support:

Tel: 01782 603634

Email: admissions@stokecoll.ac.uk

*Subject to criteria

ACCESS. ACHIEVE. ASPIRE

HELP FUTURE

Burslem Campus: Moorland Road, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent ST6 1JJ

Cauldon Campus: Stoke Road, Shelton, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 2DG

[WWW.STOKECOLLEGE.AC.UK](https://www.stokecollege.ac.uk)



SCHOOL LIBRARY TRANSFORMED INTO NARNIA

Our School library has been transformed into Narnia.

Beginning with the journey through the wardrobe, students have experienced what it was like for the characters to emerge onto the snowy path and into the magical land.

After reading the first chapter of 'The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe,' students then had the opportunity to see and feel some real Narnian artefacts, using this as a springboard for their own creative work.

We have been blown away with the depth and quality of what has been produced this week. Well done KS3!



Your next step to a positive future this New Year

Whether you want to update your Maths and English skills, learn how to tile a wall, discover how to eat healthily on a budget or learn the latest nail enhancement techniques, our range of courses is for you.



Courses starting soon include:

- Access to HE (Health Professionals)
- Bookkeeping
- Business Start-up
- Ceramics
- Children's Health
- Construction Skills - Carpentry & Joinery
- Construction Skills - Plumbing
- Eyelash Perming
- Gym Instructing
- Healthy Eating on a Budget
- Hybrid Electric Vehicle Operation and Maintenance
- Mental Health Awareness
- Microsoft Excel
- Paediatric First Aid
- Preparing to Work in Adult Social Care
- Sports Massage Therapy
- Supporting Teaching & Learning in Schools

And much more...

PLUS - FREE Distance Learning courses available in over 45 subjects – study online at a time and place to suit you!

For the full list of courses available and to apply online please visit: www.stokecoll.ac.uk/january-adult-offer or scan the QR Code

For help and support:

Tel: 01782 603634

Email: admissions@stokecoll.ac.uk



SCAN ME

KRAKOW, POLAND EXCHANGE OPPORTUNITY



The history department will be running an abroad trip to Krakow, Poland during experience week.

Students will visit Auschwitz, the Jewish quarter and what was a Jewish ghetto, among other things. This is a really exciting opportunity and anyone interested should collect a letter from Mrs Timperley-Goodwin in HU6 this week. Places are limited and it will be first come, first served with a reserve list operating thereafter.

YEAR 11 GEOGRAPHERS EXPLORE CASTLETON

Y11 Geographers are braving the cold weather in Castleton. They are completing fieldwork in preparation for their exams in the summer. The conditions are chilly but make for great photos.



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS AT BHA

Year 11 Christmas dinner and their reverse advent calendar hamper that will be donated to the food bank.

Each form completed an entry for a wreath competition - each wreath had to symbolise each member of the tutor group. ASF won, as voted for by Mrs Williams and Ms Dixon.



Congratulations to H.P who won Mrs Roberts' Christmas bauble competition which was displayed at our year 7 Christmas lunch today. He enjoyed being rewarded with the opportunity to be one of her elves who helped to prepare for the event!



Stronger Together Through Winter

Are you struggling with the cost of living?

The cost of living crisis is having a big impact on people across Stoke-on-Trent.

For advice on energy costs, financial support and accessing benefits, mental health, affordable food and a wide range of other assistance, visit sottogether.vast.org.uk or call **01782 208200** (Monday to Friday 2pm-7pm)



Scan here for
more information

