

8 March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Y9 Options Evening Success

Our Year 9 Options Information Evening was a huge success! We had a fantastic turn out of pupils and parents who joined us on Thursday evening to learn more about the options subjects available to them for next year. The pathways pupils choose to take now are very important as they will lead directly to GCSEs in subjects that will support their learning for the rest of their lives. This was a fantastic opportunity for our children to learn more about what is involved with each course, the content and what outcomes it can lead to. Feedback for the event was very positive and I would like to thank parents and carers for their continued support in helping your children make informed and balanced decisions about their future aspirations.

Year 9 & Year 10 Ambition Day

This week, our Year 9 and Year 10 pupils had the opportunity to explore diverse career pathways at the "Futures Me Festival" organised by Staffordshire University. As the next generation embarks on its journey into the world of work, understanding the range of options available is vital. This event aimed to bridge the gap between education and employment, giving our pupils a clearer vision of their future. The City Careers Event was not just an event; it was an immersive experience designed to empower and inspire our pupils on their journey toward a successful and fulfilling career. Our pupils connected with a vast range of employers, universities, and apprenticeship providers and spoke about the important value of the visit.

World Book Day

We have had an exciting week celebrating reading and World Book Day! Reading is crucial to your child's academic progress, but it is also so much more than that - it can help relieve stress, improve concentration, and is immensely fun!

We started off our World Book Day celebrations with a bang on Tuesday. We were visited by local author, Jenni Spangler. First, she delivered a fantastic inspirational workshop to a selection of pupils. Pupils produced a range of beautifully crafted stories based on the inspiration that Jenni provided. Jenni Spangler then delivered an assembly to all of our year 8's. The assembly allowed pupils to reflect on their own writing and ways that they could improve in the future.

Following this, on Thursday, pupils were immersed in a school full of popular characters as staff dressed up for the day. Pupils were transported to the world of Harry Potter, Alice and Wonderland, Matilda, and many more. Pupils were asked to complete a 'character hunt' – much fun was had by all! Alongside this, we were visited by the Literacy Trust where pupils explored their love of literacy with a range of informative and exciting ideas. We also had a 'book giveaway' during lunch time, whereby we gifted a large number of books to pupils.

Finally, on Friday we saw our pupil librarians visit Hanley Library and a local bookstore. On this trip pupils were able to develop their organisation and communication skills, as well as developing their love of reading.

Overall, it has been an outstanding experience for all pupils!

Calculator

A calculator is an essential item of equipment for learning in Maths, Science and Geography. You now have the opportunity to purchase the new Casio FX83GT CW Scientific Calculator from the Academy for £10.75 each (normally £15 in retail stores). Please place your order via Parentpay if you would like one for your child. Collection will be available from their maths teacher.

Y11 Elevate Workshop

Elevate joined us again this week to help our Y11 prepare for their imminent exams. Elevate have also provided a useful link for parents to access a variety of different webinars to help about helping their child prepare for exams. Please see the link below

<https://go.elevateeducation.com/ukschoolwebinar>.

Detentions


In our continuous efforts to improve the learning environment and foster positive behaviour among our pupils, we have decided to simplify the detention process. A separate letter will be sent to parents/carers to explain the new process in greater detail.

Dates to remember

Wednesday 13th March – Y10 History Trip
Friday 22 March - School closes for Easter
Monday 8 April – School returns

Please contact us if you need this information in any other language or format if you have any questions. You can contact the office by email on info@bircheshead.org.uk.

Yours Sincerely



Ms K Dixon
Principal