

BHSA Newsletter

Summer Edition

2023

Edition 15



Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our summer term newsletter. As you can see from the wide variety of events and celebrations, we never stand still at BHSA. I hope you enjoy reading about all the achievements this term; it really does celebrate the end of this academic year.

Thank you for your continued support throughout the year and to our Parents Association for their tireless work in organising the summer fair. It was wonderful to see so many of you there with your children.

Have a relaxing summer break. We look forward to seeing our Year 13 students on 17th August and Year 11 on 24th August for their results days. We hope they have the success they deserve.

I look forward to welcoming all other students back to a new year on Wednesday 6th September.

Thank you again

Rebecca Mahony



EYFS & KS1 Celebration of Work

EYFS and KS1 enjoyed sharing their work with their family members through our Work Celebration last Wednesday. It was brilliant seeing so many of you there to admire all the hard work throughout the year



International Coalition Of Girls' Schools Conference 2023



Mrs Mahony attended the ICGS conference in Cleveland Ohio with colleagues from a variety of GDST schools and gave two presentations about partnership and leadership work at BHSA and the wider GDST. There were 15 countries represented and some inspirational speakers. She was also awarded a scholarship prize for our pioneering work at BHSA. The mayor of Cleveland opened the conference with a passionate speech about girls' education and had the city buildings lit up in the ICGS colours to honour the work done in girls' schools throughout the world. We hope to partner with some of the ICGS schools in the future so BHSA students can make connections around the world.





Life beneath a pond

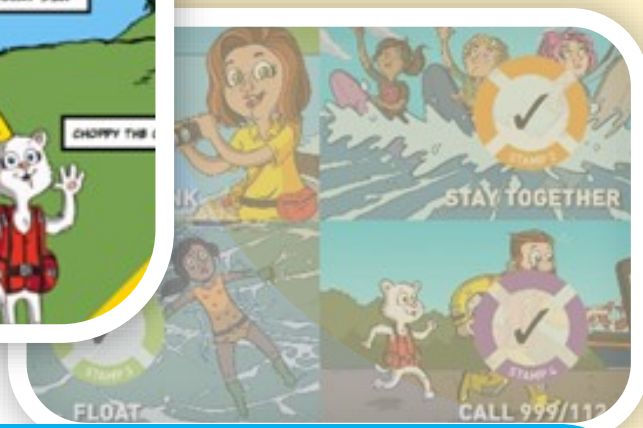
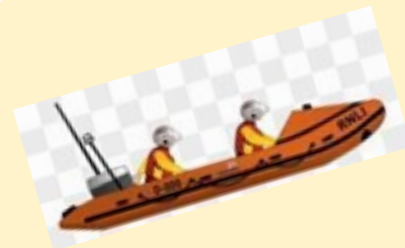
Year 1 enjoyed a fun filled school trip. They investigated what lives beneath the surface of the water while pond dipping and took part in a nature trek, exploring the many different kinds of plants found in the beautiful setting of Ness Gardens.



Year Six were delighted to welcome senior school science teacher Miss Sand to juniors recently. Miss Sand was accompanied by Hattie, the albino hedgehog, Kelloggs the Corn Snake and Donatello the tortoise. The girls enjoyed learning all about the animals and how to hold them correctly. The girls asked so many interesting questions which were expertly answered by Miss Sand. We hope these visits become a regular event as we were very taken by the animals!



Water Safety



As part of our PSHE curriculum, Mr. Dave Bates from the RNLI Hoylake visited our junior school on Thursday 25th May. He delivered workshops on water safety to all our children from nursery up to Year 6.

The children learnt how to spot a wide range of dangers, identify an emergency, understand the effect cold water has on our bodies and the RNLI's four key safety messages:

- Stop and think
- Stay together
- Float

Call 999/112.

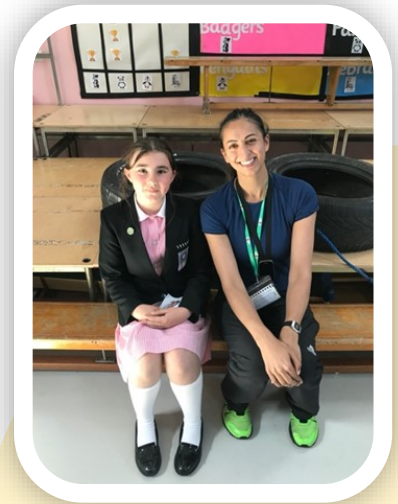
Mr. Bates commented how he had enjoyed 'a fantastic day' with our students and how 'the children were a credit to the school'.

We are extremely grateful to Mr. Bates and the RNLI for their time and efforts to support and educate our students with these extremely valuable safety messages.



Polar Preet Visit

Junior School welcomed a special visitor to their assembly on Monday morning. Earlier this year, Preet Chandi, or 'Polar Preet' as we know her, returned from her second expedition to the Antarctic where she broke two Guinness World Records for both the longest solo unsupported one-way polar ski journey for a woman and the longest solo unsupported one-way solo ski journey.



Before she left on this expedition, Preet launched a nationwide school competition to design a logo that could be turned into a sticker and stuck to the pulk (sled) that she would use to traverse Antarctica. We were delighted that Y6 pupil, Lupe Mendez-Quirk was one of the winners and even more delighted to discover that Preet would be hand-delivering Lupe's prize herself.

Preet gave an inspirational talk to all pupils from Year 2 to Year 6 about believing in yourself, pushing your own boundaries, and coping with disappointment and failure. We also had a go at pulling Preet's training tyres, Tyre One and Tyre Two across the hall before Lupe was presented with her special prize of a signed photograph and a test tube of genuine Antarctic snow (in its melted form!)



Even after Preet had left BHSA and was on her way to the next school visit, a buzz of energy could still be felt around the school. It's a visit that both pupils and staff will remember for a long time to come. Thank you Preet!

Science Investigation competition



The pupils in KS2 demonstrated their blossoming science skills during our Science Investigation Competition. One week in May saw the Junior School buzzing with exciting and imaginative ideas as the pupils independently planned and conducted investigations to find out the answers to the creative questions they had posed; questions such as "Who has the loudest scream?" and "Does the length of your arm affect how far you can throw a ball?" and "Does your age affect your memory?"

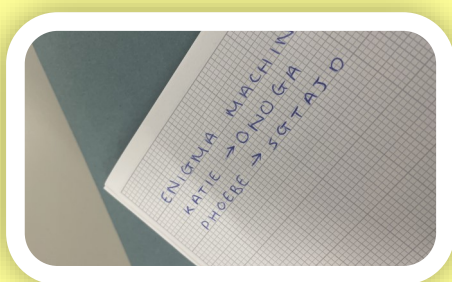
Congratulations to the winning team in 5M - Brooke, Faye and Imogen - who used our new data logging equipment to find out "Does the amount of air in a balloon affect how loudly it pops?"



Cryptic Codes

We've been learning about Enigma and how it was used in WWII by Germany to send encoded messages and how the team at Bletchley Park found flaws to crack it.

We've then made paper-based enigma machines out of tubes of Pringles! The pupils have discovered how they can encode and decode messages using these.



Five girls in Year 6 travelled down to Wimbledon High School to celebrate the 'We are one' sustainability project all GDST schools have taken part in. The girls made a video to encourage behaviour change that would help to save the planet. On the day, Martha took part in a film discussing what the environment means to her. The girls were brilliant environmental ambassadors and were an excellent example of how enthusiastic our pupils can be!



Invertebrate Home Design



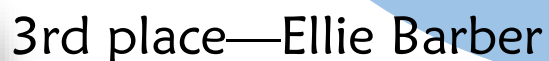
1st place—Lottie Ryan



2nd place—Ellie-Mae Seed

Creatures without backbones can count themselves lucky that Year7 have put such care, understanding of invertebrate needs, careful research and inventiveness into producing plans for homes/hotels/abodes for them. I know many year 7 intend to put their plans into production over the summer holidays.

After an initial selection process in which the class teachers put forward the best three from the class, there was a final judging process where a team of three staff (Mrs Moss, Mr de Middleaer and Mrs Perry) and three members of the Head Girl team (Niamh Lewis, Sophia Wynne-Walsh and Lily Ost) conducted a rigorous, lengthy and chocolate-fuelled final judgement. They rated the entries against 13 of the criteria outlined in the competition launch and were impressed by the standard of the entries—Well done everyone!



Mayors' inauguration



On the 16th May, our cadets acted as Honour Guard for the inauguration of the incoming Mayor of Wirral for the second year in a row. The cadets lined the stairs to the entrance for the event, welcoming guests to a backdrop of classical music from a string quartet. It was a very grand affair indeed. After the new Mayor was sworn in, the cadets were there to welcome him and the Mayoress as they left the Round Room at Wallasey Town Hall to begin a year of civic duties on behalf of the people of Wirral.

The Mayor thanked each of the cadets individually and council officials and guests alike were very impressed by the professionalism and seriousness with which the cadets undertook their duties. Our cadets were, as always, great ambassadors for the CCF and the school.



Remembering Srebrenica

On the 19th June some students in KS3 took part in a poetry workshop called 'Remembering Srebrenica' with Nik Perring. The students wrote poetry based upon the Genocide that took place in July 1995 during the Bosnian War. Some of the students have been invited to read their poetry at the Memorial taking place in Liverpool on the 11th July.



Cathedrals visit



On March 17th all of Year 6 visited both Liverpool Cathedrals; Christ the King Metropolitan Cathedral and Liverpool Anglican Cathedral.

They were accompanied by the Year 10 Religious Studies GCSE students, who had spent their lesson leading up to the visit researching the two cathedrals and were able to explain the differences between them. The students walked along Hope Street and learnt all about how important it was to have two cathedrals in the city. We stopped by the sculptures outside LIPA to reflect upon times in recent history when many immigrants passed through the city of Liverpool on their way to start a new life in Ireland and North America.



The Cells Project

Before we finished for half term we were fortunate enough to get funding to invite the Cells project into school. This is an organisation that uses ex-offenders to help students avoid the mistakes that they have made in life. They covered a huge amount of topics that supplement our PSHE curriculum such as joint enterprise, exploitation and grooming, prison life, drugs and alcohol, and the family perspective of those affected by prison.

The day was hugely successful and our students learnt some valuable lessons. To quote a student they didn't realise "how something small and little can turn into something big and effect the rest of your life" but they also realised because of the people who shared their stories that "you can always come back from your mistakes". A fantastic, worthwhile day.

The RS department recently welcomed Mrs Michelle Hayward, Chair of Governors at King David High School in Liverpool, to talk to our Year 10 and 11 students about her faith. As an Orthodox Jewish woman, Michelle was able to tell them all about her role in shabbat. They were able to ask her questions about her beliefs and she talked them through some of the key practices of Judaism. The students were really engaged and learnt a lot, and it was an excellent revision of week before our students' Judaism paper.

Religious Encounters



Bake Sale

Year 9 students ran a bake sale in June to raise funds for our on-going support of those suffering in Ukraine.

We managed to raise £102.42.

Students involved were:

- Avril Yates Law
- Xuan Yu
- Katerina Davies
- Sozana Nasir
- Sara Neagu
-

Photograph was from Amelie Pleavin and Fatima Audu (both have had some media training this year which comes across in their work!)



School Production Plan 2024



The BHSA Arts Faculty are planning to bring to the stage in 2024 the much-loved and eternally popular musical, **ANNIE**, for all the family to enjoy.

The story of Annie has become a modern fairytale of New York ~ the story of the lovable little orphan, Annie, alongside a host of memorable characters in her life. From orphanage to luxury living, Annie provides the ultimate feel-good musical.

This is a great opportunity for our students to be part of a whole school production. Participants will develop creativity as a performer or designer, they will develop teamwork and leadership skills, will build friendships, make new friends and increase their confidence.

Auditions will be held at the start of the new academic school term in September 2023. We will be looking for actors, singers, dancers and Production Team Members. **Please speak to Mrs Pinnington or Mrs Davies** if you're interested in taking part in our school production. Students will be required to attend after school rehearsals and must be fully committed.

Amazon Web Services (AWS) GetIT competition

Once again BHSA took part in the Amazon App design competition this year. Our students submitted their app designs and ideas to Amazon just after the Easter holidays. Sally Cox, our Amazon ambassador, (Sally is pictured with our students above) visited us to help and support their ideas before the submission deadline. We were unfortunately unsuccessful in reaching the final this year but two of our teams received some excellent feedback from Amazon.

The feedback for team Quick Fit and their app called 'Keep quick! Get Fit!' was as follows - Amazing idea with catchy slogan, sticker and name to get people fit. Exercise is essential for maintaining good physical and mental health. I really like the data points presented on the benefits of this app, problem statement, how the user journey works. Great Job!

The idea is simple yet effective and I like how you narrowed in on a young audience who are likely to be more active and benefit from the app's simplicity. You have clearly showed the journey of the app showing the initial wireframe and then implementing the feedback. Nice visual representation of the app journey, and feedback mechanism and its incorporation.

There is great level of details presented on the technology front, and how the app will help people. It would be great to see direct quotes from feedback and specific metrics to qualify your idea beyond speculation.

The feedback for team Wyzee was as follows - Loneliness is such a huge issue, and I agree with your group that it's only been exacerbated by COVID. I love that you've chosen such a worthwhile cause to tackle in your app. You've clearly thought through the feedback you received and made adjustments accordingly on your app design.

I'm impressed with your clear writing and well-articulated explanations. The stats you provided (63% increase of depression in young people during COVID) really grabbed me!

What an important problem to tackle. I love your app name and how you came to it and think there's some great ideas to help fight loneliness. Well done! This was fun and creative! Also, nice to see some sample photos, too.

I really like how the feedback you got was incorporated back into the app's design and features, and the symbolism of growth throughout the app!

Well done to everyone who took part this year.



BHSA Library Service

Book Club celebration

Our KS3 Book Club members have shadowed both GDST Book Award and Carnegie Medal 2023. We have read 12 high-quality novels and sparked an intense book discussion at each session. With the provision of books and biscuits, here is absolutely our reading heaven.



Year 4&5
Spark Award Book Club



KS2 Book Club Hall of Fame:

Year 3
Spark Award Book Club



Year 6 Awesome Book
Award Book Club



Accelerated Reader - Word Millionaires 2023

Year 9 Emma Black has been crowned as the Erudite Reader of the Year among KS3. She has read more than 40 books, over 3,744,997 words in this academic year. Congratulations to all.





Summer Reading Challenge

To keep our reading vibe on during the long vacation, you can borrow up to 3 books from our school library. New books will be released in July.

Junior school pupils can take part in the national summer reading challenge. Here is the link to join online:

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

In addition, here are the Wirral e-library links which enable you to download free ebooks/ audiobooks and travel abroad in style.

Join the library online: (to get your card number and PIN number)

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/libraries-and-archives/join-library-online>

Wirral Library Overdrive:

<https://wirral.overdrive.com/>

Books To Read in this

Winners of GDST Book Awards 2023



Winners of Carnegie Medal 2023



Waterstones Children's Book Prize 2023 Winners



Winners of the British Book Awards 2023

Book of the Year Children's Fiction



Book of the Year Children's Non-fiction



Highly Commended Book of the Year Children's Non-fiction

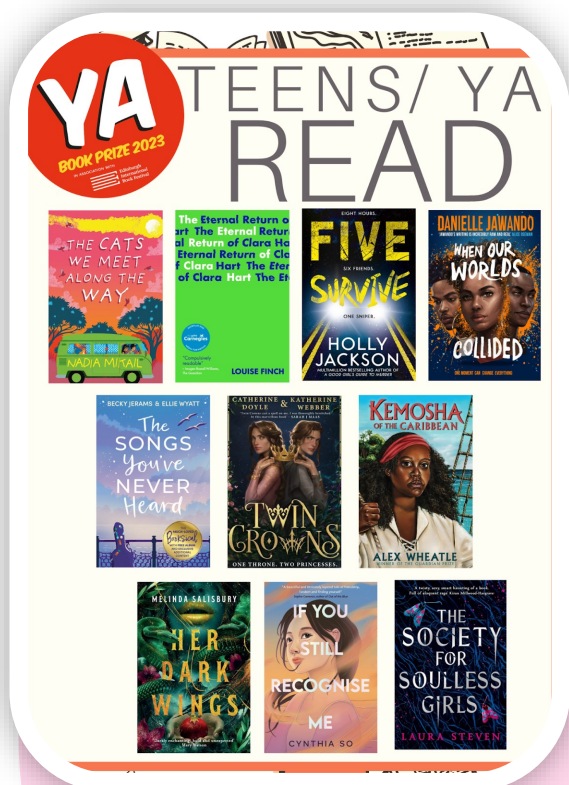


Winners of UKLA Awards 2023

3 - 6+ Winner	7 - 10+ Winner	11 - 14+ Winner	Information Book Winner (3-14+)
			

Shortlists of Young Adult Book Prize 2023 (14+ fiction books)

Shortlists of Branford Boase Award 2023





Thank you for your support during this
past year.

Enjoy a relaxing Summer break.



REMINDER:

School opens on 6th September 2023
following the Summer break

Follow us



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