

BROADOAK NEWSLETTER **SEPTEMBER 2016**

A rather belated welcome back to Broadoak, and a warm welcome to parents and carers of our new Year 7. They have settled in really quickly, getting involved in lots of extra-curricular activities and helping out on the prospective parents evening. We are looking forward to meeting our new parents at our "Meet the Tutors" evening on 13th October 2016.

This newsletter reports many of the events that happened towards the end of Term 6 as well as looking to the term ahead.

Next week, Year 11s are off to a Careers Convention at Weston College and Year 10 will be invited to an information evening about the new GCSEs and Work Experience.

I wish all our students and families a great Autumn Term.

Regards,

Shelagh Prichard
Headteacher

EXAM RESULTS DAY

1



All the staff, students and governors at Broadoak are thrilled with their 2016 GCSE results. This year's results are the best ever for overall GCSE grades with 5 or more A* - C at 56% with English and Maths, a notable 15% of the grades being A* and A. English was at an outstanding 71% and Maths at 60%.

However, the College is particularly delighted with the excellent progress the students have made since joining at the age of 11, which means a high number of students have achieved their personal best!

The number of students gaining A* and A's across all subjects was really excellent and bucks the national trend. An impressive number of students also gained Distinction* awards for our BTEC vocational courses. In other subjects, Triple Science and Drama results were outstanding and a notable 100% of Further Maths students passed with A* - C.



This year there was an international feel for some of the subjects taken. Three students took GCSE Greek, two studied and excelled in Polish and one in Russian. The College also welcomed Astrid



Moritz from Germany who joined the College for just 1 year and gained 10 A* - C grades including an A* in German!



Ms Pritchard, Headteacher, added, "We are really pleased with these excellent results. We have introduced some very structured testing and monitoring regimes, which has ensured that every student understands exactly where they need to be so they can reach their full potential. We have also adapted some

of the learning models from our "More Able and Talented" programme and again this has added great value across the whole curriculum. I would like to thank all the students and their families for all their support and commitment and wish them well as they say goodbye!"



Some of Broadoak's high achievers include; Courtney Friday who achieved 11 A*/A, Arnas Boruchovas = 9 A*/A, Euodia Dodd = 10 A*/A, Elle Chmiewliski = 8 A*/A and Rhys Williams = 8 A*/A.

2

AWARDS EVENING



On 12th July, students were invited to our wonderful end of year "Awards Evening". We welcomed our guest speaker, Matthew Ainsworth, a TV producer and director who has worked on many shows including Brainiac, Scrapheap Challenge and Driving Wild, currently showing on the Discovery Channel.

As always, tutors and Year Leaders found it hard to select nominees, as so many of our students make a positive contribution to College life. Across the year, we have awarded literally thousands of achievement points, presented countless bronze, silver and gold certificates, enjoyed celebration pizza lunches and Ms Pritchard has met with students from all Year Groups to present Headteacher Commendations.



Charity events have raised thousands of pounds for local, national and international causes; so many of our young people give up their time to help others, from sports coaching, supporting Brownies or Guides groups to charity fundraising. We can't forget our intrepid Moroccan explorers who spent long, hard hours building a school playground during their half-term holiday.



A VISIT TO BRISTOL HARBOUR



On Thursday 6th October, Year 11 Art and Photography students will be visiting the historic docks at Bristol.

Bristol harbour was one of the most important dock areas in Britain until the mid-20th Century, and provides a wealth of interesting sights to inspire our students as they work on their practise exams. Students will be sketching and photographing the historic buildings, boats, cranes and trains, as well as exploring the many newer developments that have transformed the harbour

in recent years. They will also be able to see public artworks and exhibitions in the Arnolfini gallery, and the displays in the M-Shed museum.

With so many exciting and diverse opportunities to gather information and observations, every student will be able to find something exciting to explore. We expect each student to return from the trip with a distinctive set of images, which they can develop into a personal artwork, which will add great value to their GCSE coursework.

"SHARP SHOTZ" COMPETITION



Broad oak College is delighted that one of their teams of three Year 8 female students entering the "Sharp Shotz" competition for 2016 has won with their film on tackling exam stress, this film has now been produced by the BBC, UWE students and local charity IDEAL.

Having had family members struggle through the important exam period, this topic stood out above the others in the brain storming stage for the girls.

They were also conscious of the new examination requirements of 100% final exam and the proximity of their exams.

The ChildLine National Exam Stress Survey revealed that 96% of the 1300 who completed the survey felt anxious about exams and revision, with 59% feeling pressure from their parents to do well and 64% saying they have never received any support in dealing with exams.

Not having techniques to deal with these stresses means that young people may turn to drink, drugs and self-harm as negative ways of coping with examinations. The film, "Don't Stress, It's Pointless", follows the story of one female student who, at hearing of an upcoming examination, struggles with her anxiety which results in a panic attack. A real life interview with a NHS school nurse provides strategies and relief for the young person. The girls who created the film wanted to firstly offer support to those who are struggling with these issues and also to start discussions based around the inclusion of strategies to the National Curriculum.

The launch of the film was on Wednesday 13th July 2016 at The Watershed in Bristol.

The film is available to view via the following link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fnBWPQzICH0>

VISIT TO MENDIP OUTDOOR PURSUITS



During the Curriculum Enrichment Week, One hundred Year 8's spent the day at the Headquarters of Mendip Outdoor Pursuits in Sandford. They took part in four activities during the day, testing their skills, concentration, accuracy and ability to stay upright in very muddy conditions. Disc Golf, Bushcraft, Archery and



Tobogganing were on the menu and you will see illustrated in the photographs that the students were engrossed.

"Fun activities with enough time between them. My favourite was disc golf because it was in our own groups and I came second." - Neve Kennedy.

"It was fun and interesting to do and very different." - Aimee Davidson.

"It was brilliant. I really enjoyed all of the activities." - Jade Hazzard.

"It was a new experience. I would not have had the opportunity outside of school. I really enjoyed it." - Phoenix Cottam.

"It was fun and exciting because we got to make a fire in the woods and shoot a bow and arrow." - Charlie Deady.

"It was good, enjoyable and fun to do." - Jack Edmunds.



"The tobogganing was fun and I liked the archery because I got gold. The people that taught us were nice and friendly. Disc golf was a bit wet and muddy." - Dan Barnett.

MADDIE RECEIVED RAVE REVIEWS IN HER LEAD ROLE



Year 10 student Madison Walker beat several other young girls from around Weston-super-Mare to win the lead role, Dorothy Gale, in the Weston-super-Mare Operatic Society, Oppitts production of L. Frank Baum's, "The Wizard of Oz".

The story of The Wizard of Oz has endured time to remain one of the best loved fairy tales and, coupled with the musical score from the original 1939 MGM motion picture, the show captures the hearts of audiences from all around the world.

"A star in the making" and "first rate performance" were some of the accolades Maddie received and Maddie's "Over the Rainbow" was even likened to Judy Garland's.

In addition to Maddie, several other Broadoak students were also in the cast with Bethany as Miss Gultch/Wicked Witch of the West, Jack as Professor Marvel/wizard of Oz, Daniel as the Munchkin Mayor and Cara, Mollie, Sophie & Molly in the ensemble.

The Wizard of Oz was performed at the Blakehay Theatre in Weston-super-Mare from 28th – 30th July.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Mr Gray (Leader of Broadoak's Duke of Edinburgh) will soon be promoting DofE in assemblies and hoping that lots of Year 10 students will be applying to join!

The Award is a hugely successful scheme running nationally and rewards participants for their contribution and successful participation in four sections; Volunteering, Skill, Physical and Expedition. It is a challenge, great fun, very rewarding and looks excellent on any C.V.



There will be an information evening for students and parents that will be held in the Main Hall on Wednesday, 19th October 2016 from 6-7.30pm. During the evening we will show you a promotional video to give you a clearer idea of what participants must do, Mr Gray will give you brief talks on each area of the award and there will be a questions and answers session.

If you have any further queries or would like to attend the information evening, please ask your child to inform Mr Gray or Miss Quan and they will be issued with a letter.



“BLOOD BROTHERS” AT WEYMOUTH PAVILLION THEATRE

Year 11 GCSE Drama class will be going to watch the much-loved tragic story of Willy Russell's “Blood Brothers”, on Thursday, 3rd November 2016 at the Weymouth Pavillion.

Students will be studying this performance in preparation for their final exam.



VISIT TO TATE MODERN, LONDON

The Art Department have organised a trip to London to visit the "Tate Modern Art Gallery" to see the Georgia O'Keeffe Exhibition on Monday 17th October, a retrospective of her work over the twentieth century.

Georgia O'Keeffe is best known for her paintings of magnified flowers, animal skulls, and New Mexico desert landscapes. A fantastic opportunity not only to view the exhibition, but also to tour the brand new extension at the Tate, as well as the permanent exhibitions. This educational visit is essential to the development of the Year 10's current Art project based on Georgia O'Keeffe.



SEWING BEE

Miss Baxter-Hunter will be running the "Sewing Bee" from Tuesday, 27th September 2016 in E6 right up until Christmas.

Any interested students, please ask Miss Baxter-Hunter for further details.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Broadoak staff put on their aprons and baked a huge selection of cakes for the MacMillan Coffee Morning on Friday, 23rd September 2016.

There was a variety of bakes and "fakes" to include Marble Cake, Rocky Road, Cupcakes, Lemon Meringue Pie and many more!

The sale went fantastically well and staff raised £156 for MacMillan.



PERFORMING ARTS

PERFORMING ARTS: Extra-Curricular Activities					
LUNCH TIME 12.25 – 12.55					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Music	Gospel Choir (Y9-11) H4		African Drum Circle (Y7-11) H4	Keyboard Club (Y7-11) H4	
Drama					KS3 Drama Club (Y7-9) Dance Studio
Dance			Cheer-Leading Club (Y7-11) Dance Studio		

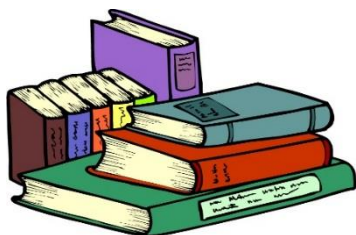


AFTER SCHOOL 3.10-4.10				
	Monday*	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Music	KS4 GCSE Music Support* (Y10-11) H5	KS4 Intervention (Y11) H5	Vocal Band Training Group (Y9-11) H4	Junior Choir (Y7-9) H4
Music	Gospel Choir* (Y9-11) H4	Orchestra (Y7-11) H4		
Drama		KS4 Rehearsal and Intervention Drama Studio	KS3 Production (Y7-9) Drama Studio	KS4 Rehearsal and Intervention Drama Studio
Dance			KS4 Intervention Dance Studio	KS3 Dance Club (Y7-9) Dance Studio

* Only when there are no staff meetings booked – dates to be advised

If you would like information on any instrumental/vocal tuition, please ask Reception for a letter.

BOOK FAIR



The Broadoak Book Fair will open its doors on Monday 10th October in the LRC. Students will be able to browse and purchase books from Tuesday 11th – Friday 14th and if parents wish to visit the Book Fair they can do so from 3pm – 4pm (Tue-Fri). It will also be available to Year 7 parents for the “Meet the Tutor” parents evening on Thursday 13th October. It’s a great way to support your child’s education by promoting a positive attitude to reading as well as raising much needed funds for the college library.

There are over 200 titles for you and your child to choose from, and with prices starting from only £2.99, there’s sure to be a book for everyone.

If you can’t make it to our Book Fair, try our discounted Gift Vouchers available at bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/parents. They’re a great way to ensure your child doesn’t miss out. Don’t forget that every book you buy can help to get FREE BOOKS for our school library!

Last year’s book fair raised £266.00 for the library to spend on new books!

A Weston teen's battle to help the town's homeless - one photo at a time

A 17-year-old Weston student is on a mission to change society's perception of homeless people through the medium of photography.

Rhys Davies is a second-year photography student at Weston College.

He decided to combine his studies with a desire to help people by publicly exhibiting 'before-and-after' photos of homeless people in Weston town centre, to show how their emotions can be improved if people make the effort to chat to them and offer support.

Rhys, who is preparing to go to university, told the Mercury he has been helping homeless people since he was a child and decided to begin documenting the issue through photography last year.

He said: "I am highly passionate about photography and documenting the world through pictures.

"My main ambition is to show the public how homeless people are not a burden to society."

As part of his project, Rhys approached various homeless people in Weston town centre to see if they were happy to be included in his work.

Once he gained their trust, he would sit and chat with them before offering the person help, kindness and a listening ear.

Rhys said: "I would ask the homeless person if it would be alright to photograph them and I would explain that I am trying to document how they feel and what they think society thinks of them.



■ Weston College photography student Rhys Davies.

Grace Earl

grace.earl@aachant.co.uk

"I would then sit down and speak to them, making them feel wanted and not an outsider, while they explained their story to me. I would then offer them food, drink and some money if they wished.

"As I started to leave them I would ask to take another portrait of them and ask them to demonstrate how they felt now, to get a before-and-after shot of how they were feeling

after receiving some help and a conversation.

"I want to show people how something so little can mean so much to someone in need and how much of an impact they can make to someone."

Rhys' photos were unveiled to his friends and family at a public exhibition earlier this year, where his board was hailed as the exhibition's top piece of work by college lecturers.

He said: "I completed my first year with a distinction and was awarded best exhibition board, but it was all thanks to my three tutors, Paul French, Jamie Dormer-Durling and Mary Pearson.

"They guided me and told me to follow my passion."

Taffy, Stacey and Nou Nou's stories

The three people who were happy to share their stories with Rhys were Nou Nou, Stacey and Taffy.

He asked each of them to share personal details about how they ended up on the streets and asked the trio for a piece of life advice to share with others.

Rhys spotted Nou Nou outside Peacocks, in Regent Street.

He said: "Nou Nou is 40 years old and used to be a head chef.

"He divorced his wife, lost his job and then couldn't afford to pay his rent, so everything started going downhill.

"The life advice I received from Nou Nou was not to look down on someone unless you're helping them up."

Rhys also met 29-year-old mother Stacey, who broke down when asked to share her story.

Rhys said: "Stacey didn't want to explain any more about how she

became homeless after being a full-time mum, so I bought her some lunch and advised her about some local shelters.

"She told me to always value life and stay grateful for everything you have."

The last person Rhys met in Weston was 46-year-old Tony, who wanted to be known as Taffy.

Taffy is a former self-employed plasterer.

Rhys said: "He told me his wife had an affair and took everything he had, including the kids. He then couldn't find work, so he ran out of money for rent and ended up homeless.

"Taffy said 'don't regret anything, take your chances when you can and enjoy life when it's good'."



■ Taffy became homeless after a family breakdown.

■ Taffy, who was formerly a plasterer.

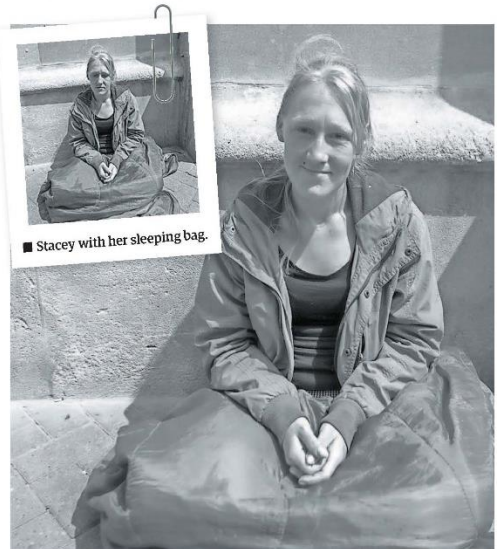
Picture: RHYD DAVIES.



■ Nou Nou, who is aged 40.

■ Nou Nou was formerly a chef.

Picture: RHYD DAVIES.



■ Stacey with her sleeping bag.

■ 29-year-old Stacey after speaking to Rhys.

Picture: RHYD DAVIES.

Well done Rhys! I am sure your family and friends are extremely proud of you, as we are.

This article was kindly sent to us from the Weston Mercury, in order for us to place in the Broadoak Newsletter. We would also like to say a big thank you to Rhys for allowing us to publish his photographs.



ANYONE FOR FOOTBALL?

Winscombe AFC "Under 14" football team are looking for new players. Training is usually on a Friday from 5.30pm – 6.30pm at Winscombe Recreation Ground, and League games are ordinarily played on Sundays at 10.30am.

If you haven't signed on for a league yet and are aged under 14, have played football before and interested joining a friendly, successful team, please contact David Merrifield on 077347522179.

YEAR 11 PREFECTS QUIZ

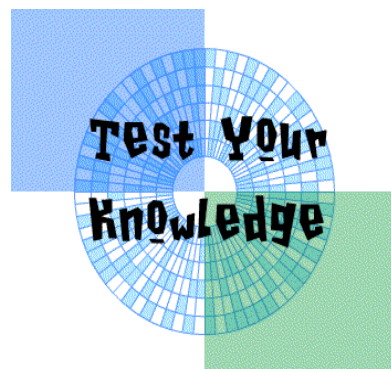
For the last few years, Year 11 Prefects have organised a themed quiz night to raise funds for their Prom expenses.

We are pleased and excited to announce that they have arranged another quiz this year based on "One World Week", and this will be held in Broadoak's Main Hall on Friday 7th October 2016 from 7-10pm in the Main Hall.

We guarantee you a real fun night! The questions are chosen by the prefects and we ask parents, carers, staff and anyone game to make up teams of 6. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you haven't got a team of 6 and still want to participate, as we may be able to team you up with others. The cost is £12 per entry and the winners will be awarded a fantastic prize! Refreshments will be available to purchase on the evening.

So, please come along and support our Prefects! We promise you a very entertaining evening and would love to see you there!

If you would like to attend, please enquire to Jackie Vernon on 01934 422000 or jv@broad oak.n-somerset.sch.uk



ACADEMIC YEAR 2016/2017

TERM 1 2016/17)			
Inset Day (college closed to	Monday	5	September 2016
Start (for students)	Tuesday	6	September 2016
Early closure for students (1.25pm)	Thursday	29	September 2016
Inset Day (college closed to	Friday	30	September 2016
End	Friday	21	October 2016
TERM 2			
Inset Day (college closed to	Monday	31	October 2016
Start (for students)	Tuesday	1	November 2016
End	Friday	16	December 2016 (12.25pm finish)
TERM 3			
Bank Holiday	Monday	2	January 2017
Start (for students)	Tuesday	3	January 2017
End	Friday	10	February 2017
TERM 4			
Start	Monday	20	February 2017
End	Friday	7	April 2017
TERM 5			
Start	Monday	24	April 2017
Bank Holiday	Monday	1	May 2017
End	Friday	26	May 2017
TERM 6			
Start	Monday	5	June 2017
End	Friday	21	July 2017 (12.25pm finish)