



NEWSLETTER – JULY 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

This summer I will be leaving Broadoak Mathematics and Computing College after eight years as Headteacher. The time has simply flown by and in that time I have developed a real affection for the College and its community.

I always wanted to be a teacher and being the first person in my family to go to University has made me value education enormously, as for me it was the passport to achieving my aspirations. It has, then, been my aim to build a school that supports all young people, no matter what their background, in achieving their ambitions.

The response from most people when I tell them what my job is, is to say, "That must be a challenge" and I always reply, "Yes but it is incredibly rewarding too." The young people that I have the privilege of working with make me proud on a daily basis.

I have been lucky to work with such a supportive group of governors, many of whom are parents and all live in the community, who have supported both me and the College. They help give Broadoak its values and ethos, and work tirelessly for the benefit of the College community.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff I have worked with past and present in my time here, who care deeply about the College and who give so much of their time and energy to help improve the life chances of the young people in their care.

Although I leave with very fond memories of my time here, I will miss Broadoak. I will miss the pleasure of watching the students grow and develop in their journey through the College and I will miss the warmth, humour and friendship of the staff.

Lastly I would like to thank parents and carers for their support for me and the College, and for the many messages of goodwill I have received. I hope the College has thrived under my leadership and that I have not got it wrong too often! I am sure the College will continue to thrive under the leadership of the new Headteacher, Ms McGillycuddy.

Have a lovely summer and my very best wishes to you and your families for the future.

Ms S Pritchard

YEAR 11 LEAVERS' CELEBRATION

On Friday 26th May, Year 11 students at Broadoak celebrated their time at the College with a "Leavers' Assembly".

Families and members of our community were invited to join students to celebrate their time at Broadoak, sharing memories and achievements. Awards were presented to students in each tutor group for outstanding progress, achievement and citizenship with the Year Leader's "Outstanding Student of the Year" award, which was presented to Sophie Evans.



Everyone was interested to hear the memories of Head Boy (Kruz Belcher), Head Girl (Kiera Westwood), Deputy Head Boy (Ewan Burge) and Deputy Head Girl (Sophie Evans). They talked warmly of how they have developed throughout their time at Broadoak, the relationships they have formed and the memories they will take with them.



Headteacher, Ms Pritchard reflected on what is her last ever Leavers' Assembly before semi-retiring. She was happy to give an award to Adam Evans for his 100% attendance. Adam hasn't had a day off school in 5 years!

Year 11 Leader, Mrs. Downes said, 'This is a special year group for me. I have been with them since their first day at school. It has been an honour to see them through their secondary school days. I wish them all a happy and successful future in whatever they choose to do.'



AWARDS' EVENING

Every year, Broadoak recognises the success of their students at their annual "Awards Evening".

This year's event was held on the 11th July and the College was delighted to welcome Richard Phillips, Managing Director of Three Cherries Ltd in Clevedon, as their guest speaker. The guests of honour were Mayor Councillor Jos Holder and Deputy Mayoress Mrs Margaret Lyall.

Richard Phillips is an accomplished businessman with an extensive career in business and sales. His career in business has included commercial car sales, telecommunications, and information technology. He has lived and worked in California, spending some time as a Rolls Royce limousine chauffeur. Richard is happily married and has four children, he is currently

head of business development for telecoms and IT reseller "Three Cherries Ltd" based in Clevedon. He entertained students and parents alike with his efforts to meet every single astronaut that walked on the moon and encouraged everyone to follow their dreams!

At the ceremony, over 80 students' efforts and achievements were recognised and rewarded by the staff and governors, and each student received a certificate and book.

Students are awarded prizes in three areas:

Achievement – For students who have performed at a high level consistently throughout the year.

Progress – For students who have made excellent progress across a range of subjects.

Citizenship – For students who have frequently worked hard within the school community and for the benefit of others.

Each Year Head also awarded a prize and proudly gave their reasons for choosing these outstanding individuals.

Ms Pritchard commented, "The Awards Evening is one of the highlights of the year for me as Headteacher. I am immensely proud of all our students; the effort and commitment they have towards their work is outstanding, as well as their excellent behaviour and attendance. It was also lovely to see so many parents attending the event, it's a great support that as a College we really value and appreciate."

Cont/...





Prior to the Awards Ceremony, the College held their annual Creative Arts Showcase featuring examples of stunning student work produced by the Art and Design & Technology faculties. This showcase event was attended by parents and local VIPs who were extremely impressed by the high standard of work.



Broad oak's next major public event will be their Open Evening on 28th September. For further details please visit www.broadoakcollege.org.uk

GUINNESS WORLD RECORD GAME

Did you know that a goldfish will grow to fit the size of its bowl? So the bigger the bowl, the bigger the goldfish....

That has been the theme for Year 9 this year. We have tried to make sure that we are constantly learning and exceeding our expectations, and we have tried to think outside the box as much as we can. With this in mind, our Charity week was a little bit different. We



decided to think big, very big – Guinness World Record big to be exact! Our chosen charity was “Mind”, which is a charity that works closely with young people in order to help them with their Mental Health issues. It provides support and counselling for a wide range of issues, and it is a charity we felt we wanted to donate to, as anyone can be affected with a Mental Health illness.

So, what was the best way to raise money and awareness? By breaking a world record of course! We thought about the many ways we could do this, and chose to use “Kahoot”. Kahoot is a free download app that is used by teachers and students as a

revision aid. We opted to think of 10 general knowledge questions – then raise money by asking people for a donation in exchange for the Game PIN. There was no official world record for this, so we thought that with a bit of publicity we could get everyone in school involved....

We picked the 12th July to run the game – and set up a “Just Giving” page for people to donate. We got our pictures in the Weston Mercury and tweeted local news stations to raise awareness. We even tweeted Prince William and Prince Harry – but they were probably too busy to reply! As the day approached, the buzz got bigger and bigger. How many people would play, would we get a world record, would the system crash????

The day finally arrived. In order to class as a Guinness World Record, everyone had to play the same game, at the same time. Every class in school was involved, all the support staff were encouraged to play, and the screen in Broadoak's Main Hall was set up to show the questions.

At 12.35pm, the game went live. The user names came flooding in – 1 player, 2 players, 3,4,5, players.... 100 players, 150 players.... 200, 300, 400, 500 players all logged in and ready to go. Finally the first question appeared and we had 550 players logged on at once! This was definitely a UK record... but would it be classed as an Official Guinness World Record?

Whatever the result we managed to raise over £400 pounds for Mind, and we all had a great time taking part. And that's what helped grow our goldfish bowls a little bit more.....

YEAR 6 YOUTH CLUB

New this year, the Year 6 Youth Club has been a fantastic success, with over 75 new students attending.

The children enjoyed a range of activities, including pebble painting, science experiences and 'Risk it for a biscuit' with Mr Morse in the LRC.

Lots of fun was had by all, with many parents saying their children did not want to go home at the end of the evening! Hopefully, this has helped to make the transition to Broadoak a lot smoother and we all look forward to welcoming the new Year 7's when they arrive in September!



YEAR 11 PROM

The long awaited Year 11 Prom was, as always, a wonderful occasion. The sky was overcast and grey, but the beautiful array of “party best” outfits soon dispelled the gloom.

The tone of the evening was set by the many forms of creative arrivals. Clearly a lot of thought had been put into how to make an entrance. On display were be-ribboned classic cars, a lorry, and a Tuk Tuk!



The Batch Country Hotel was a beautiful back drop for the occasion. We all enjoyed the wonderful grounds, including the Monet-style bridge over the lily pond and the rose garden.

The atmosphere was relaxed and happy. After a three course dinner, much fun was had in the photo booth and everyone was up on their feet dancing the night away. The conga snaked around the room as new shoes were abandoned under the tables.



It was a memorable evening of fun amongst friends.



CURRICULUM ENRICHMENT WEEK

VISIT TO LONDON

A group of 43 students headed for London for a 3-day tour around our capital cities top tourist attractions!

We learnt about the history of the city's of Westminster during our walking tour, enjoyed a West End show, experienced the city from the River Thames on a cruise, saw the crown jewels in the Tower of London, explored the Science Museum, looked down on the city from the London Eye, and finally learnt about how democracy works in our country at the Houses of Parliament.

Year 9 student Daniel Walker said, "I thought that the West End production of "Matilda" was phenomenal and it was great to see young actors living their dream. The Houses of Parliament was surprisingly interesting, it was great to find out more about how our government works.

The guides made the House of Commons and the House of Lords come alive with their memorable stories."



Year 7 student Harvey Martin said, "I really enjoyed the Science Museum, it was great to take part in the interactive activities about Space, I also loved the London Eye as we could see the city from high above, Buckingham Palace looked so small!"

Elen Lewis Year 8 said, "My favourite part of the trip was seeing the West End musical "Matilda" because I have read the book many times and it was

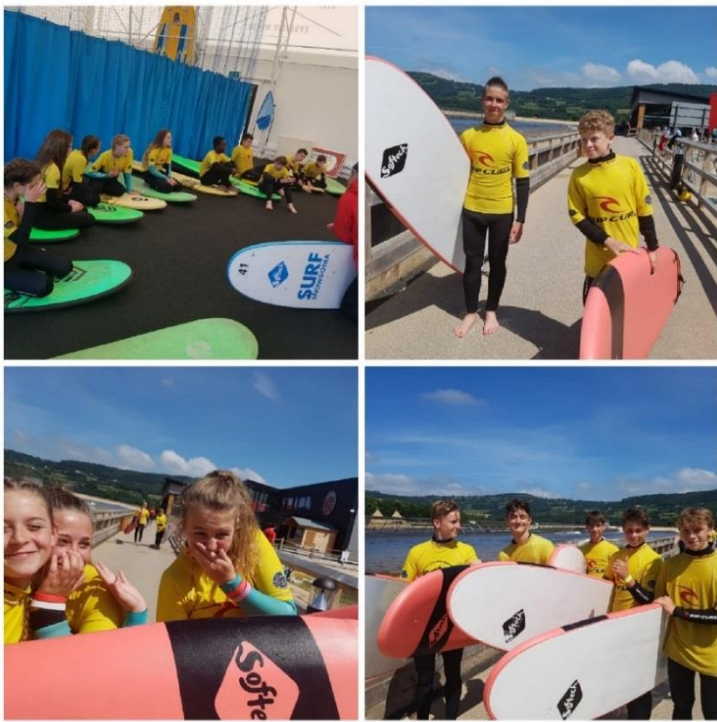
great to see the story in action. The London Eye was also a highlight because we could see all of the sights and I overcame my nervousness about how high it was!"

The students conducted themselves immaculately throughout the trip and all the staff agreed that it was a real pleasure to spend time with these students who were a real credit to Broadoak. Well done!



SURF SNOWDONIA

“Snowdonia – the biggest mountain in Wales, and the second biggest in the UK, and not the place where you would think about surfing. But that’s where we headed on a sunny Wednesday morning. Surf Snowdonia is an artificial wave pool at Dolgarrog in the Conwy valley, North Wales. It is the world’s first commercial artificial surfing lake and the United Kingdom’s only artificial surfing lake, and is about the size of six football pitches in length. We didn’t know what to expect when we started on our long journey from Broadoak, but when we pulled up at the venue, we couldn’t wait to get our wetsuits on and get into the water to try and see how good we were.



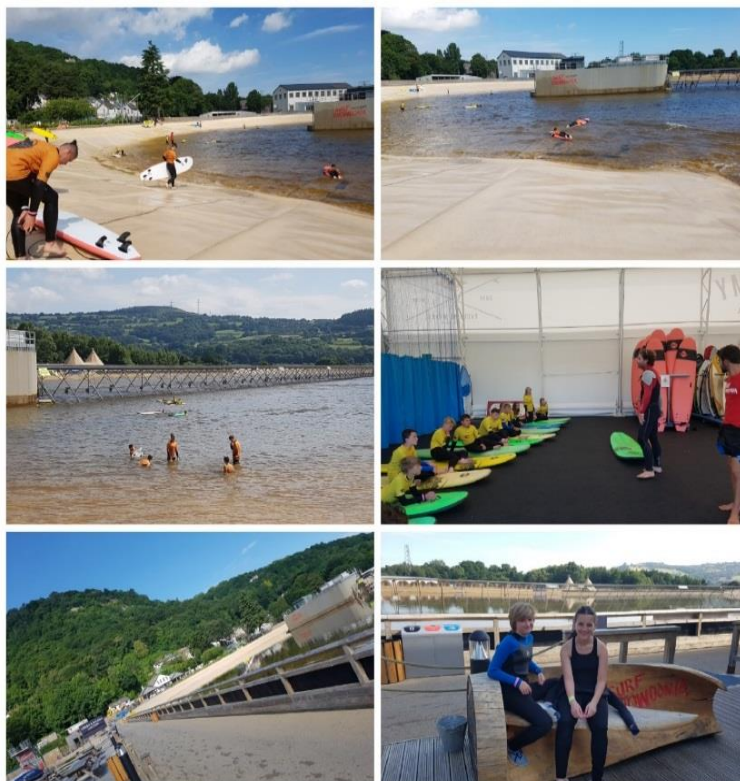
We were split up into two groups. Half of us went to the Surf Centre to get an hour beginner lesson from the experts. We spent time practising how to paddle with the wave, then we were taught how best to stand on the board. Then the time came to put theory into practise and off we set into the cold water of the lake. The wave machine generates a wave every 90 seconds which meant that we had loads of chances to catch the wave, stand on our boards then coast to the shore looking like professionals! There were a few “wipe outs” on those first few attempts, but it was easy to get right back on the board, and wait for the next waves to come along.

The other group got to experience the crash and splash lagoon and the catapult blob– not for the faint hearted!!! The Crash and Splash course involves monkey bars, balance beams, rope bridges, climbing walls and giant spinning balls. The course ends with “The Blob” – a 10m long by 4m wide rubber tube filled with air that acts as a huge catapult. A “blobber” sits at the end of the air bag, while their friend – the “jumper” – climbs a 4.5m tall tower. The jumper then takes aim and launches him or herself at the landing zone, catapulting the blobber up to 15ft in the air.

After a full-on afternoon in the water, we settled in to our Pods for a well-deserved sleep, before starting early for a second jam-packed day in or on the water. The groups swapped over from the previous day, so it was a beginners’ surf lesson for some, whilst the Year 9 students went to the crash and splash lagoon. That afternoon, we were able to have free surf sessions, where the instructors trusted us enough to go into the water on our own, and practise our techniques. In between the sessions, we got some chill out time in the hot tub and sauna, and we got time to relax in the tipi. We arrived at Surf Snowdonia as novices, but left as proper surfers!

Year 8 students, Charlie, Dido and Harvey wrote, “Two weeks ago, we went to Snowdonia on a surfing holiday. The coach journey was long, but the landscape was amazing. We had to stop at the services to rest and to get some food. Once we had some food we got on the coach again for the rest of the journey. Once we got there we were given our wetsuits. After that we got changed and went on the crash and splash.

The crash and splash had an obstacle course above water and a blobber which was fun. After crash and splash we had some time where we could do whatever. Dinner was nice, we had a choice of pasta bake or cottage pie. The beds were comfortable, and very cosy in the pods. The next morning we had some breakfast which was really nice. We then split into groups, but our group had a while to wait before starting the activity, so we spent it in the hot tub! The instructors were really nice and helped us in everything we needed. Our first lesson was AMAZING! We were taught all the basics, then our group went back to Crash and Splash for some more activities. We then had dinner, which was lovely – lasagne and chips! The next day we left for home, everyone was upset to be leaving, but happy to be back in Weston.”



WOODHOUSE PARK



As part of Enrichment Week, we took 38 students to Woodhouse Park, an adventure centre outside Bristol. The weather was glorious and we had a fantastic 3 days in the sunshine.

On our first day, the students moved in to their dorm rooms and we started with some team-building games, to get to know each other. The challenges included some very competitive wheelbarrow racing, using land ski's and working together to solve puzzles.

Each group had the opportunity

to take part in a range of adventurous activities. The assault course was very muddy, but extremely fun. All of the students threw themselves into it and there were some record breaking times. There was also a high ropes course which challenged the nerves of even the biggest dare devils amongst us. Their bravery was impressive and they supported each other to give it a go. Shelter building and fire making was also on offer. Students ventured into the woods to find enough materials to build a waterproof shelter. These were extensively tested with a very cold bucket of water! The teams also competed in a wide range of games, such as Stag and Hounds and Capture the Flag, where they had to work as a team and use strategic thinking to outsmart their opposition.

Cont/...

On the first evening, after a very hearty meal, we all sat around the campfire, that students had gathered wood for on their evening walk. We sang songs and told some very spooky ghost stories. Our entertainment on the second evening was the Woodhouse Park Talent Show, where the students impressed us with an array of performances, including singing, dancing and magic tricks.

The trip ended with an opportunity for our groups to come together and show off their team spirit. They were challenged to create their own Haka to prepare them to compete in a tug of war, which was a very close competition.

The three days were spent enjoying the outdoors, working together and experiencing something new. The students were a credit to themselves and to the school – polite and helpful throughout. They were always willing to help with the tidying, cleaning and organising, as well as supporting each other in everything they did. It was a great experience, with lots of laughter. We hope to return next year for an equally enjoyable time!

A DAY AT MENDIP ACTIVITY CENTRE

One hundred and one Year 8 students (not Dalmatians) spent a day at the Mendip Outdoor Centre at Sandford, taking part in activities including orienteering, disc golf, bush craft and tobogganing.

It was an opportunity to try new activities and to work in teams with students throughout the year group. The tobogganing and marshmallows were particularly popular and the orienteering became very competitive.

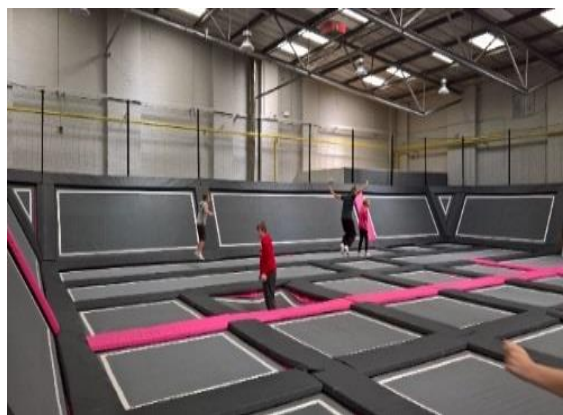
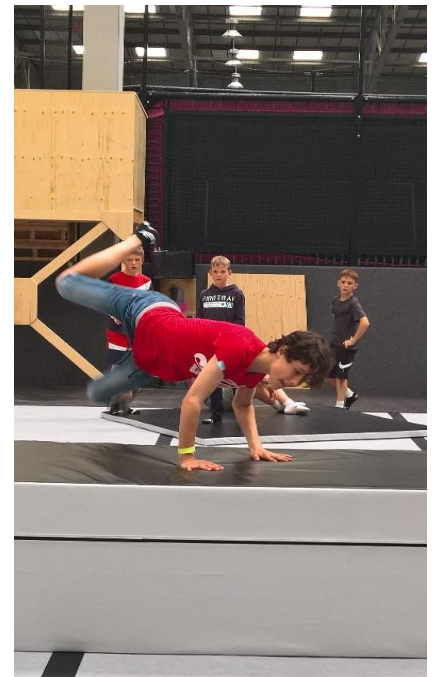


TRAMPOLINING AT "FREEDOG"



Students enjoyed a visit to "Freedog" where they tried their hands at trampolining and dodgeball on a trampoline.

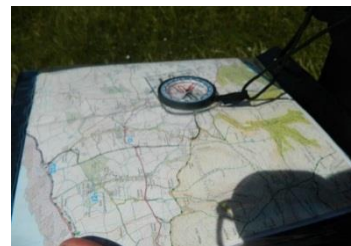
Everyone had a lovely time, but it was very hard work jumping for an hour and a half!



DUKE OF EDINBURGH ASSESSED EXPEDITION



A brilliant weekend of walking and camping. With baseball, marshmallows around a camp fire and ghostly stories. Lovely students who had a thoroughly enjoyable weekend.



With only two groups this year we were hoping for an early finish! However the mixed group of Year 9 and 10's said they were enjoying the sunshine and Somerset vista so much, that they decided to take a 2-hour detour!

Let's look forward to next year and hopefully our first groups of silver.



VISIT TO CHATEAU BEAUMONT, FRANCE

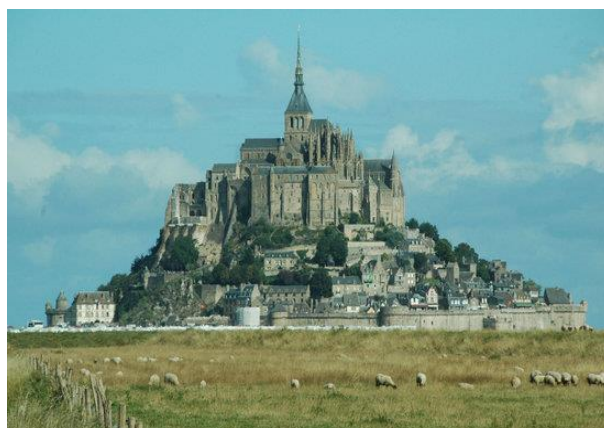


A group of 40 students and 5 staff headed for Chateau Beaumont in beautiful Normandy for a fantastic long weekend! We experienced the delights of a real French market, a goats cheese farm and the stunning Mont Saint Michel. The students also took part in a host of activities including fencing, rock climbing and a very impressive zip wire course.

The students conducted themselves immaculately throughout and totally embraced the French language and culture.

One of the highlights was seeing them interact with the market sellers, practising their French and feeling really proud when they received what they asked for! They also sampled true French cuisine with all of them giving frogs' legs and snails a go!

All the staff agreed that it was a real pleasure to spend time with these students who were a real credit to Broadoak. Well done and thank you to all!



YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE WEEK

From the 3rd - 7th July, the whole of Year 10 took part in work experience.

They set up and organised their own work placements across a wide variety of industries ranging from hair and beauty to equestrianism, gaining valuable experience in the working world.

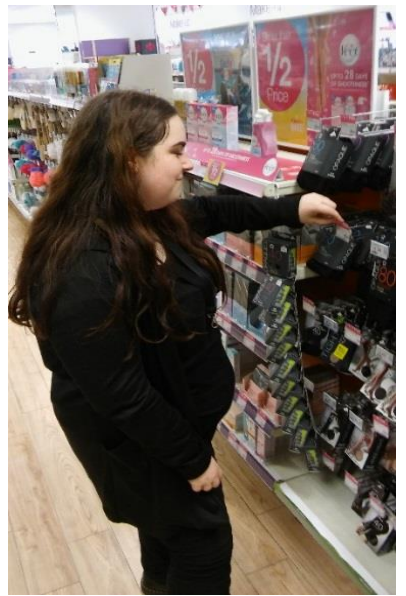
Feedback from employers has been extremely positive and has even resulted in job offers for at least three of our students. Year 10 represented the school in an exemplary manner and should feel very proud of their efforts.

MATHS CHALLENGE DAY

We were delighted to run our “Maths Challenge Day” for the third year running on the 13th June.

The day was organised in order to give Year 5 Maths enthusiasts the opportunity to take part in a challenging, fun-filled day with us. We hosted students from Windwhistle, Oldmixon, Hutton and Corpus Christi Primary schools. The day consisted of a variety of activities including the Cube

Investigation, Frogs Investigation and a Challenging Maths Relay. The level of engagement and enthusiasm was brilliant to see and the students experienced a different side to mathematics. They had to learn to work with others in a team and understand that problem solving involves patience and perseverance. They had a fantastic day and Ms Pritchard came along to end the day by presenting the students with their certificates and prizes.

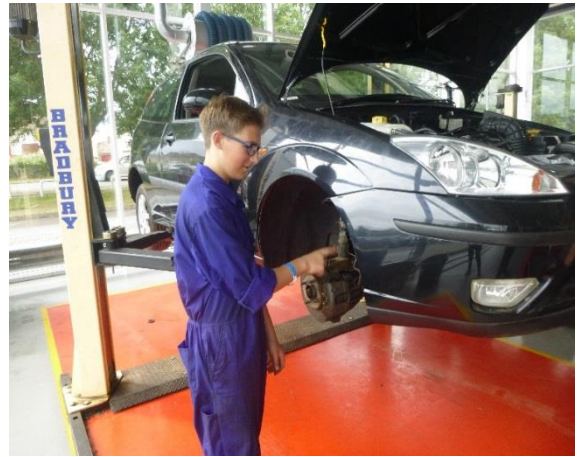


BRIDGWATER AND WESTON COLLEGE TASTER DAYS

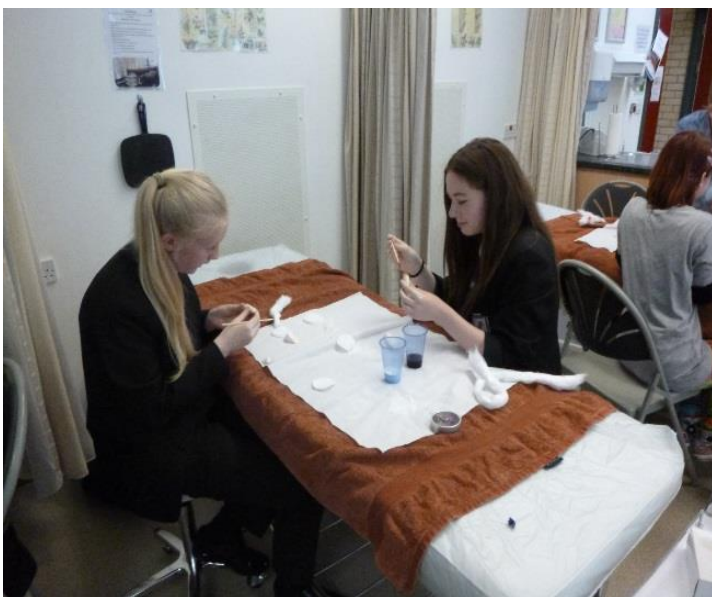
On the 23rd June, Year 10 attended a taster day at Weston College. Students participated in a variety of workshops that were held across the four Weston College Campuses that ranged from animal care to working in the sports academy. Students left at the end of the day having had an extremely positive experience that will prove beneficial when it comes to them making decisions on their futures. Feedback from the staff at Weston College was also very positive and recognised the hard work and effort shown by our students throughout the day.



On Wednesday 24th May, Year 10 students attended Bridgwater College Taster Day. They took part in activities that spanned a whole variety of different subject areas from Animal Care and Automotive to Floristry and Fashion. Students were given the opportunity to



learn skills and techniques within these subject areas from highly trained staff in a college that has outstanding facilities and, will have gained a valuable insight into where their own career paths may lead beyond Broadoak. Staff from Bridgwater College were extremely complimentary about the enthusiasm and effort shown by Year 10 and the students were certainly a credit to Broadoak throughout the day.



SCIENCE TASTER DAY



As part of an on-going link between Uphill Primary School and the Science department at Broadoak, 40 Year 5 pupils spent the afternoon in the Broadoak Science labs. The objective was for them to have an insight into safety in the laboratory and how we use equipment that they do not have access to at primary school.

In a Harry Potter-themed lesson, they were given a number of 'potions' that Ron Weasley and Harry Potter had mistakenly jumbled up! They used Bunsen Burners to discover the ingredients and help Hermione, being the top student that she is, label the bottles correctly.



YEAR 5 SHAKESPEARE DAY

26 Year 5 students from local primary schools participated in a Shakespeare day at Broadoak on the 20th June.

Throughout the day, students explored “The Tempest”, a play about a shipwrecked magician and his daughter. Students enjoyed recreating the storm and the island, using props and musical instruments to really bring the play to life. Year 5 students were joined by a selection of Year 9 Broadoak students who shared their

knowledge of the play and of Shakespeare with their younger counterparts.

The main highlight of the day was a group performance of the play, created by the students themselves. Students were able to re-create the play based on their learning over the day, so the audience of teachers and parents were able to enjoy a range of different interpretations. Comedy and mime featured heavily in this performance - very Shakespearean!

The students were an absolute pleasure to teach and feedback from the day from students and parents was very positive.

The main highlight of the day was a group performance of the play, created by the students themselves



BROADOAK PREFECTS



Introducing the new 2017/18 Year 11 Prefects, with new Headteacher, Ms McGillycuddy, and Ms Pritchard.

“GOODBYE”

We will be saying “goodbye” to a few staff this summer.

Mr Cahill (ICT) and Mrs Ashby (PE) who have both been working at Broadoak on temporary contracts and have been great!

Mr Buckley (History)

Miss Brooks (Maths)

Our cover supervisors, Mr Tivenan and Mrs Druce are both off to new teaching roles.

Mrs Windridge, our Finance Director, who has worked at the College for 14 years and done sterling work.

And Kelvin Clarke, our Science Technician of 20+ years is retiring. He will be fondly remembered by students and staff, past and present.

We wish them well for the future!

Good Luck

FREE SCHOOL MEAL APPLICATIONS

This is a message from North Somerset Free School Meals service:-

We are replacing the old free school meal paper application forms with a new online checker. Parents will be able to apply online at home, and in school and get an instant result. The system will generate a letter that parents can print off and give to schools to show eligibility. If you do not have a printer, please forward the letter to our enquiries address, or show the school on your smart phone.

Parents will need to reapply every school holiday (so 6 times per year) and eligibility will last for the whole school term.

Each child will need to be checked individually as the online checker creates a system code for each child.

If parents give schools their permission, schools can check eligibility on their behalf. In order to do this, the school would require the parent's National Insurance number and date of birth.

Schools will be sent an email at the beginning of each term detailing who has applied. Anyone who applies mid-term will be able to show schools their eligibility letter. Eligibility starts from the date on the letter, and stops at the end of that term.

The new checker can be found at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/fsm. This can be used straight away, and the old database will be phased out in August.

If there any queries or issues, please do contact Vicki Bush on (01275) 888328 / vicki.bush@n-somerset.gov.uk.

UNIFORM FOR SEPTEMBER 2017

We are always very proud of how smart our students look, both in college and in the community. We appreciate all the support of parents and carers to ensure that students are wearing the correct uniform. The photos below highlight expected standards of uniform and we look forward to your continued support in sending students to school in September in correct uniform.



Uniform 2016/17 – Acceptable Trouser/Skirt Guidance

Examples of trouser and skirt styles that are acceptable.

Trousers must be black, tailored and straight; not excessively tight or tapered. They should be of a sensible length and 'sit on the shoe'.

Skirts should black, tailored and be of a length no shorter than the top of the knee.



Uniform 2016/17 – Unacceptable Trouser/Skirt Guidance

Examples of trouser and skirt styles that are unacceptable and must not be worn.

Trousers must not be skinny, leggings, made of denim or stretchy fabric.

Skirts must not be made of stretchy fabric, must not be tight or above the knee.





Uniform 2016/17 – Acceptable Footwear Guidance

Examples of shoe styles that are acceptable.

These plain black shoes are of a suitable design that can be polished and offer protection against inclement weather, spillages and other accidents in subjects like technology and science.



Uniform 2016/17 – Unacceptable Footwear Guidance

Examples of shoe styles that are unacceptable and must not be worn.

These styles offer little protection, are generally canvas or trainer style and have brand logos, markings or the words 'no trainers', 'no canvas shoes' etc. on the sole.



Please remember that trainer-style shoes are sold in some shops as school shoes, they do not meet Broadoak uniform requirements. If you have any questions, please contact your child's Head of Year. All branded uniform can be purchased through NK Sports.

PIERCINGS

We would also remind you of the rules regarding jewellery and piercings:-

Under no circumstances are facial piercings acceptable. Students are only allowed 2 studs in their lower lobe.

We again appreciate your support in ensuring students' return in September with only the allowed jewellery.

SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

At Broadoak, we recognise and embrace our role in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. *Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE September 2016)* makes it clear that all staff have a safeguarding responsibility. Safeguarding means:

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development
- Ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- Taking action to enable all children and young people to have the best outcome

Our Child Protection lead staff include:-

- Ms E Gundry (Deputy Head, Designated Safeguarding Lead)
- Mr T Kirkby (Assistant Head, Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)
- Mrs R Whitehouse (SENCO, Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)

The Designated Governor and Deputy Designated Governor for Child Protection are Mr. John Brock and Mr Leigh Morris. All staff in the College receive regular training to ensure that they can fulfil their safeguarding role. We encourage all parents/carers to contact us if concerned about a child.

The NSPCC website provides a wealth of information for parents/carers about a range of Safeguarding issues. This can be found at the link



TERM & HOLIDAY DATES - 2017/2018 ACADEMIC YEAR

TERM1			
Inset Day (college closed to students)	Monday	4	September 2017
Start (for students)	Tuesday	5	September 2017
Early closure for students (1.25pm)	Thursday	28	September 2017
Inset Day (college closed to students)	Friday	29	September 2017
End	Friday	20	October 2017
TERM 2			
Inset Day (college closed to students)	Monday	30	October 2017
Start (for students)	Tuesday	31	October 2017
End	Tuesday	19	December 2017 (12.25pm finish)
TERM 3			
Start	Thursday	4	January 2018
End	Friday	9	February 2018
TERM 4			
Start	Monday	19	February 2018
End	Friday	23	March 2018
TERM 5			
Start	Monday	9	April 2018
Bank Holiday	Monday	7	May 2018
End	Friday	25	May 2018
TERM 6			
Start	Monday	4	June 2018
End	Friday	20	July 2018 (12.25pm finish)