

School Newsletter

March 2024

NEWS FLASH: Tuesday 9th April 2024, school reopens to all students.

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we reach the end of the spring term, I would like to share with you some of the highlights of 2024 so far.

As you are aware a significant change took place for us this month as on Friday 1st March as we academised and became part of **Thrive Education Partnership**. We are excited by the support and collaborative opportunities this will bring for us with the focus on improving outcomes for our students.

You will know from local and national newspapers that **attendance** across the country is a cause for concern. The Government & DfE are quite rightly troubled by this as poor attendance does impact on the success students experience as learners. The expectations are that students are in school for at least 95% of the year, anything below that is a cause for concern and if attendance falls below 90% then a student is classed as being persistently absent. We understand that many of our students have complicated health issues that affect their ability to attend. However, I would like to remind parents that if a child has a medical appointment they are expected to attend school for part of the day unless the appointment is taking place outside Coventry.

In January the whole academy was treated to a performance from **M&M Theatrical Productions**; the show this year was **Beauty and the Beast**. It was complete with costume and scenery changes, up to date music so all could join in and dance and sing along. Everyone in the audience had a great afternoon. Lots of fun and high energy from all. The performance was sponsored for school by the charity Happy Days so a big thank you to them.

There have of course been many other community trips that students have taken part in; **Excel swimming** sessions, visits to the **Transport Museum**, trips to the **cinema, sporting competitions** along with visits to places in the local area. As always student behaviour when out on a visit has been exemplary so well done to everyone for being such positive representatives for our academy's community.

A group of students from across the academy attended a trip to hear an **orchestra at the Symphony Hall** in Birmingham perform a concert telling the story of Alice in Wonderland. They came back with lots to tell their friends about and had a really enjoyable experience. Other students were able to watch via a live link.

On behalf of the staff team, I would like to wish everyone a happy Easter. We hope you enjoy time with family and friends. *Alison*

Notification

Please remember not to use Class Dojo to report student absence or to pass messages through the escorts.

All **absence must be reported via StudyBugs**.

If the office does not receive an explanation of why a child is not in then legally they must mark your child as having an unauthorised absence.

May I remind parents / carers that if students have medical appointments that school is given advance notice and that a copy of the appointment letter is sent to school. If the appointment is in the morning, we expect to see the student in the afternoon. Similarly, students should attend school for the morning if the appointment is in the afternoon.

Next term events:

Trust wide training day

Friday 3rd May. **School**

is closed to students.

Bank holiday: 06.05.24

Summer half term is

Monday 27th May to

Friday 31st May.

Year 14 students last

day in school is Friday

12th July.

End of term for Year 7 –

13 is Friday 19th July.

Eid Mubarak!



World Book Day this year fell on Thursday 8th March. Well done to all those who came dressed as their favourite book character. The theme for this year was "READ YOUR WAY" - the purpose was to make reading fun and to celebrate student choices. We have had some exciting paired workshops and sessions with **Ian Bland Poet** (on the left) and **Alec Williams Storyteller** (on the right) to celebrate World Book Day. This



has involved listening to performance poetry and a wide range of stories, from folklore tales to using puppets and action stories.



Our students have told us how much they have enjoyed these sessions, in particular working with new people, listening to performances, intonation and learning about stories with actions, puppets drawing and paper play. We are going to be using these ideas in class to see if we can produce our own versions! *By Sharon M.*

Friday 15th March we raised about £150.00 for **Comic Relief** including the sale of the infamous red noses. Students had a day of fun activities organised by the Student Council which included a Red Café, bouncy castle and then in the afternoon the academy were treated to a disco followed by Baginton Fields presents **X-Factor**. There were some great performances by students, well done to all who took part.

By Sharon S.

During the last week of February, a residential trip to **Dol-Y-Moch** took place. The group had a fantastic time taking part in adventurous activities and overcoming personal challenges and fears on the way. There were a lot of tired, happy students at the end of the week. Thank you to all the staff who gave so generously of their time to ensure the success of the trip.



The Explorers have been using new equipment to make a wide variety of drinks including smoothies. They have been using a peeler, knives and a switch to turn on the blender. *By Lilli*



Another Explorers class have thoroughly enjoyed their Open Theatre sessions. They have been transported into a world of imagination. They have been shown how exciting everyday items can be, including scarves, pegs, hats, newspapers and bells. It has been great fun allowing new people into our classroom environment, developing our interactions with each other and building upon our expressive arts skills. *By Hannah*



March 23rd saw the start of **STEM week**. This years topic was "Time". Learners had fun investigating time with various experiments and timers. Learners had fun learning about measuring the amount of rain water collected in bottles, growing broad beans and making sand timers to name but a few. On Wednesday there was a clock making workshop which was supported by **Amtico**, a local company. A fun week was had by all! *By Liz*

The Upper Investigators were lucky to go to **Warwick Castle** as a conclusion of the work they had been doing on **Traveling on the trains**. The students got the train from Coventry to Leamington Royal Spa where they had to change platforms to get on the train to Warwick. Whilst at the castle they were able to take part in a sword workshop. They learnt about how to walk as a group to keep inline and how to hold their weapons. They then had a tour of the castle and got to see some of the historic artefacts. Big thank you from U4 and U5 to **Madeline** from the Heart of England Community Rail Partnership who supported the trip. *By Leanne*



L6 students with friends from M3 spent a fantastic morning at Hereward college. Students competed in several events; running, throwing, jumping, tennis and football. Students developed their turn-taking skills, tolerance to change and unfamiliar people and settings, in addition to hand eye coordination. We were so proud of how every student was a true testament and ambassador to our school, they were gracious and kind to other teams and even returned as **winners**. We had a very happy drive back to Baginton Fields, with lots of singing! *By Connie*

We are delighted to have achieved the **Bronze Award** to recognise the beginning of our journey to becoming a **UNICEF Rights Respecting School!** This means that the Baginton Fields community has been celebrated for committing to "putting the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child [CRC] at the heart of a school's practice to improve wellbeing and help all children and young people realise their potential" *By Emma D.*

