

smart

SUMMER TERM 2018 ■ ISSUE 11

BRISTNALL HALL ACADEMY MAGAZINE



ALSO INSIDE THIS ISSUE

90TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS
MATILDA
BHA RUNNERS - THE RESULTS



WELCOME



It has been an incredibly busy time at the academy with our Year 11 students working tremendously hard leading up to each of their examinations.

Our young people have been a huge credit to their families and the academy in how they have worked closely with staff, studied hard and supported each other at such a crucial time in their young lives.

When I walk around our academy and see how our young people from all year groups apply themselves in and out of lessons it fills me and the great team of staff here with huge optimism. This is not just for what our students will doubtlessly achieve whilst with us, but also what they will go on to achieve in their later lives, given their characters, positive outlooks and strong work ethics.

Throughout this year we have received accolades and acknowledgements of the great work being done to ensure that our students make exceptional levels of academic progress. It is great to now be recognised as a Leading Edge school. Education at Bristnall Hall Academy is much more than outstanding academic provision as this edition of Smart demonstrates.

This year sees Bristnall Hall celebrate our 90th birthday. Many things have changed at our school over the last nine decades but the pride in our name Bristnall Hall, and in the area of Oldbury we are based in has not. It is always great to welcome former students, staff and families to the academy and sharing so many memories in recent times has put into perspective the impact Bristnall Hall has had on so many lives since 1928.

Everyone associated with Bristnall Hall Academy will be working tirelessly over the next year to develop a school that is truly world class for the young people of Sandwell. We look forward to welcoming our current cohorts of amazing young people back to the academy for our centenary in 2028.

Vince Green
Principal

Bristnall Forest School

The second phase of the project has now been completed and the finishing touches will be made shortly.

The project was helped by a generous £500 donation from ASDA, which has pushed the environment onto completion. Students will be able to experience the outside classroom from the summer term onwards.





London Marathon

Mr Browne went the extra 26 miles to raise funds for the academy's charity Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals Your Trust Charity.

Mr Browne completed the London Marathon on the 22nd April in under 4 hours. It took him 3 hours, 54 minutes and 34 seconds to complete the run.

Mr Browne commented "It has always been a lifetime ambition of my running career and can be ticked off my bucket list now."

We look forward to supporting future charity events for this great cause.

Great Birmingham 10K Run

Team BHA dusted off their running shoes to run the Great Birmingham 10K run to raise funds for the academy's charity Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals Your Trust Charity.

All five runners completed the run with some fantastic times despite the hottest day ever to be recorded for a Bank Holiday Weekend in England.

Mr Browne	44 minutes
Mr Grainger	48 minutes
Mr Beardsworth	1 hour 1 minute
Mrs Hamilton	1 hour 8 minutes
Ms Noak	58 minutes

Well done to all for the fundraising and on completing the run.



We have now smashed our £2000 target!

Vibrant Volcanoes and Exciting Earthquakes!



Our year 7 Geography students have just finished their unit on 'Rocks, Weathering and Tectonic Activity'.

As part of this unit, students learnt about how, why and where earthquakes and volcanoes are formed. To sum up the unit and to help them with their revision for the unit, they produced some excellent earthquake and volcano models. The students worked really hard and also had a lot of fun creating these wonderful looking models! We have many exciting new developments in Geography at Bristnall Hall that we look forward to sharing with you in September.

Great Plastic Pick Up

Some of our Year 7 students took part in the Great Plastic Pick Up campaign organised by the Daily Mail in partnership with Keep Britain Tidy on Friday 11th May to make a difference and improve the community we live in.

The initiative was to encourage communities, schools, families and individuals to come together from the 11th May to 13th May to clear as much plastic and rubbish from our beaches and beauty spots. Our young people did a fantastic job. We have a beautifully clean site at Bristnall Hall and we are now working with Litter Watch to improve the local area.



Cambridge University Physics Competition

A group of Year 7 and 8 students were invited on an exciting Physics trip to Cambridge university.

We visited Girton College, one of the many colleges that makes up the Cambridge Community. We received a quick tour around the college facilities and were immensely impressed. Then we discovered more about student life here, and what was expected at university. After a quick lunch break in the sun, we once again boarded the coach to travel to Cavendish Laboratory. Once we arrived, we had the opportunity to view the small museum above the laboratory. It held a plethora of historic science equipment, and images of the original laboratories. Shortly after this, we started our challenges of the day. We have had several Physics practicals to complete, and then we made two teams for the final challenge (one for Year 7 and one for Year 8). We were asked to create a Mars Rover landing capsule, pods and a light wave detector. We all had a lot of fun putting our designs into practice! The victorious group, Raman's Corner, managed to complete the tasks and worked well under pressure – something we are sure we will have to do at uni!



The Year 7 group, Bob Squad, worked equally well, and it was a close competition. The winning team won a lavish chocolate based prize and we enjoyed that on the long journey home! The trip was a great experience and opportunity for us. We got to work on our teamwork skills and develop an insight into university life, and what it means to go.



Bin Bag Fashion Show

Students from 8X3 French took part in a Bin Bag Fashion show last week to consolidate their learning about fashion in French.

Each team had to create their outfit and write a full description of it which was read out as the models strutted their stuff down the catwalk! Oo là là!

ssat the schools, students
and teachers network



Bristnall Hall Academy wins national award for outstanding results

Students and staff at Bristnall Hall Academy are celebrating after hearing the fantastic news that the academy has won a national award recognising their exceptional educational GCSE outcomes.

Bristnall Hall Academy has been recognised nationally for its excellent results in 2017 based on data from the Department of Education and Ofsted, analysed by SSAT (the Schools, Students and Teachers network). Bristnall Hall Academy was found to be among the best performing secondary schools in the country, receiving an award for being in the top 20% of schools nationally for progress. The SSAT Educational Outcomes database compares all state-funded schools in England, with the highest performing, for a range of key measures, presented with SSAT Educational Outcomes Awards, sponsored by Lexonik. Bristnall Hall Academy was presented with our award in the summer term at a ceremony attended by winners from across the region.

Sue Williamson, Chief Executive of SSAT said:

"I am delighted that Bristnall Hall Academy has won an Educational Outcomes Award. This recognises an important aspect of the school's work, but, as we know, there is much more to recognise in a good school like Bristnall Hall Academy. SSAT is pleased to recognise the quality of leadership and the hard work of all staff to ensure the success of every child. A big thank you and well done to pupils, parents, staff and governors."

Vince Green, Principal of Bristnall Hall Academy commented "Congratulations to our outstanding students and staff on this well-deserved accolade.

We have now been invited to become a 'Leading Edge' school which places us amongst the highest performing schools nationally, and will enable us to share good practice with other schools to support improvements there. Thank you to our families, governors and community for your ongoing support". The award follows an outstanding Progress 8 figure as Bristnall Hall Academy demonstrated an improvement for the third consecutive year in 2017, with figures among the highest in the West Midlands. Bristnall Hall Academy's Progress 8 scores are positive in every category, including the core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science. The outstanding Progress 8 figure shows that students of all abilities are making transformational progress, particularly with high ability students.

It is clear that Bristnall Hall Academy is in a great position with significant improvements in all areas including attendance, facilities and confidence of our fantastic young people. This national award only reinforces what has been apparent for some time now. Due to the high standards, relentless focus on the quality of learning and teaching, coupled with exceptional care for our young people, Bristnall Hall Academy is a great place to learn and work in. This educational outcomes award definitely confirms Ofsted's judgement that Bristnall Hall Academy is well on its way to being an outstanding provider for all students.



Mechanics Day

The Further Maths Support Programme and the University of Wolverhampton hosted a Mechanics Day aimed at students in Years 9.

The students participated in a number of workshops based around different areas of Mechanics and Mathematics. The students had to call upon their knowledge of other cross-curricular subjects and try to make a logical understanding of why does a spinning top stand up? Why doesn't a rolling wheel fall over? Why is top-spin so effective in tennis? How does a falling cat always manage to land on its feet? How can the Hubble Space Telescope turn around in space? What do ice-skaters do to spin so fast? The students had an amazing time; puzzled yet mesmerised.

To finish the day the students had the privilege of listening to and participating in a closing lecture by Hugh Hunt, whom is famously known for work with the Nova (1974), Engineering connections (2008) and Dambusters: Building the bouncing bomb (2011).



This March, six of our Year 9 students went to Aston University to partake in a Hispanic Cultural Day.

Students listened to presentations about different Mexican Icons and the Festival 'Day of the Dead'. Our students worked with others from different schools to create presentations in Spanish about what they had learnt and then presented them to over 100 people. Two of our students were on the winning teams for the best presentations.

Overall a great day was had by all!



MATILDA

25 talented students of Bristnall Hall Academy showed dedication and commitment to perform a two-night performance of Matilda, on 31st January 2018 and 1st February 2018.

The students were from an after school club but also worked both weekends and holidays to make the show amazing.

The academy also performed a Matinee for 95 children from Abbey Junior School on Wednesday afternoon and 120 children from Moat Farm Juniors on Thursday afternoon.

In the performance, our talented students showed off their dance, drama and singing talents. They really got involved in their characters and worked so well as a team. This included students (girls and boys) performing from Years 7-10. The students were given the opportunity to work with Laura Millward from Stage Coach, who also directed the final work.

— 90TH —

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

This year will see Bristnall Hall Academy celebrate its 90-year anniversary of having first opened in 1928 as a boys and girls secondary school as well as being a primary school for a short period of time.

As other schools have frequently changed their names, our school has always retained the 'Bristnall Hall' identity. Bristnall Hall Boys and Girls High School as it was known then was originally built to take students from the old Warley area who did not pass their 11+ exams. Over the decades many children have come through its doors past and present. Were you one of them – a student, a member of staff or a governor? If so, we would like to invite you to our 90th Birthday celebration on Saturday 14th July 2018 from 12pm – 4pm at the school.

Bristnall will be hosting an open event which will include tours of the academy, an alumni display and of course tea and cake. We hope it will be a memorable event for all to reminisce with your old contemporaries. If you have any old photos or memorabilia especially the earlier decades that we could photocopy to use or further information about the event, please contact the academy on 0121 552 5425 or email info@bha.attrust.org.uk.



Work Experience

Bristnall Hall Academy once again ran a successful work experience programme this year, giving students wonderful opportunities in pursuit of their future aspirations.

181 students took part, spending time in a huge variety of workplace situations, including retail, engineering, community support, education and the armed forces to name but a few. Our students behaved in an exemplary fashion and we have received excellent feedback from the employers, with several stating they would be happy to employ the students who worked with them! We would like to thank all the employers, parents and staff who supported us in our efforts to make this opportunity possible for our students and hope that you will do so again in the future.

Joe – Causeway Green Primary

'Joe was a pleasure to accommodate for his work experience. He was polite courteous and eager throughout. Everyone he worked with gave positive feedback. We wish Joe every success in his chosen career.

Tracey Tooth



Faith, Tehreem, Tamara – Browne Jacobson LLP

How impressed I was with professionalism and attitude of the three students we had (Faith, Tehreem and Tamara) who were able to deal with some tricky tasks and legal concepts for 15 year olds. I appreciate a commercial law firm can be quite an scary environment to walk into (especially on a quiet Monday morning!), but all three dealt with it well and were able to get a variety of tasks completed to a very high standard.

Aiden Southall

Women in Mathematics

An event organised by FMSP (Further Mathematics Support Programme) and the University of Wolverhampton.

A-Level Mathematics is normally seen as a subject taken predominantly by boys. The day was aimed at Year 10 and 11 girls who are potential A-Level students but may not be considering mathematics due to a lack of understanding or confidence in the subject. The event was to give the girls a different insight into mathematics. They were able to look further into different careers that required a high level of mathematics. The students were involved in a small number of workshops and short talks from women in various industries such as Royal Air Force (RAF) and Range Rover (aircrafts).





The play's the thing

On March 20th 2018, Box Clever Productions joined us to perform 'Romeo and Juliet' studied by Year 9 and 'Macbeth' studied at Key Stage 4 for Year 11 prior to the GCSE exams.

Both year groups enjoyed an impressive improvisation of the Bard's most well known plays. The actors ensured their audience thoroughly understood each play by including modern and relevant musical accompaniments, costume and staging choices along with asides to include all of the audience. Each performance was followed by an engaging interactive session afterwards.

Students were invited to perform and improvise key scenes to help them revise key themes, characters and quotes. The actors explained their performance choices and how they linked to key aspects of the play but also how it was relevant for them in today's world. Several members of each Year group entertained us with their own battle and romantic scenes – we certainly have some budding actors!

Box Clever will return next year.

Getting the creative juices flowing

Year 11 students commenced their GCSE Art & Design task by choosing one theme from the exam paper.

Students produced preparatory work and a personal outcome piece. Their outcome was based on investigations from a relevant starting point. The canvases of art are a selection of student work produced during 10 hours of supervised class time.

Amazing work Year 11!



Carding Mill Valley

On Thursday 3rd May, 20 Year 11 Geography students visited Carding Mill valley in the Shropshire Hills.

The purpose of this trip was to prepare Year 11 students for their upcoming Paper 3 Geography GCSE in June. Students and staff alike were blessed with clement weather and managed to conduct both river channel measurements and an environmental survey. Although some students needed a little nap on the coach ride home, the trip was a great success and students both made academic progress whilst having a great time in the countryside.

Life after Bristnall

Name: Jonathan Davies

Briefly outline your time at Bristnall. What do you remember about Bristnall?

- Serving as Bristnall Hall's Head Boy was a privilege and is one of my fondest Bristnall Hall memories.
- I regularly enjoyed Art Lessons with Miss. Flint, Maths lessons with Mr. Davidson, P.E. with Mr. Harris and Mr. Jones, and took a keen interest in Mr. Carrier's Science Lessons!

Destination after Bristnall (college/university) and subjects studied (A-level/Degree/apprenticeship):

After studying for my GCSE's at Bristnall Hall, I moved to Halesowen College where I studied Accounting, Graphic Communication, and Engineering. Following my A-Levels, I was awarded a place at the University of Birmingham to study Political Science.

Give a memorable achievement or experience since leaving school (academic or personal):

Since leaving school my proudest achievement has been my substantial weight loss. Over a period of three years, I have lost Ten Stone (64kg) in weight and 12 inches (30cm) off of my waistline. This weight loss has provided me with an abundance of newfound confidence, leading me to take on opportunities that I had once avoided.

What are you currently doing?

I am now in my Third Year of studying Political Science at the University of Birmingham and due to graduate in July 2018. Alongside this, I have a part-time job working for a national supermarket chain.

Future career path:

I intend to continue with my retail and management career, where I am working up the ranks at a national supermarket chain, through which I hope to attain high career success. However, with a degree in Political Science, I do not intend to rule out a career in politics during later life.

Words of advice for students:

Take advantage of all the opportunities that come your way as you don't want to regret a missed opportunity.

If confidence issues stand in your way rise above them through the expansion of your comfort zone, this ensures you will be confident when challenges come your way.

Never be afraid of failure and mistake, for these mistakes aid in our learning.

Never forget that hard work pays off.



The Karate Kid

Hello, my name is Phoebe and I do karate. I have been a student for 8 years and I enjoy it a lot.

I'm a black belt and part of the Great Britain squad. I go round the world fighting and competing for England. My joys of being a student at karate is fantastic. I'm also very proud of myself as I'm now a 2x World Champion. I wish to proceed as another World Champion on June 15th. I am also a 5x Malta Champion and I'm a European champion as well. I wish to be a Karate teacher in the future.

Phoebe's Titles

Gold - in team fighting under 16

Gold - in individual fighting under 15

Bronze - in pairs Kata under 16

1st Dan - Black Belt

Year 9

Area Champions

Well done to our Year 9 girls dodgeball team who took part in the Sandwell finals and were crowned champions.

Out of the ten schools who entered Bristnall Hall were split into a league of 5 teams where after wins against Phoenix, Holly Lodge, Wood Green and a loss to Oldbury Academy we qualified to the semi finals. In the semi finals a well contested game between ourselves and George Salter saw us progress to the final against Oldbury Academy. The last game went the distance with neither team being out but Bristnall took the win with 3 players remaining to their 2.

Well done to all involved!



Year 11 Football

Well done to the Year 11 Football Team who beat Q3 Academy 3-1 to advance to the quarter finals of the Sandwell Cup.

Goals came from Anthony and Nataniel (2), whilst there were also outstanding individual performances from Praise and Jake. They will now play RSA Academy with a place in the semi-finals at stake.



Open Evening

Tuesday 11th September 2018

6pm - 8pm

See Us
Learning

Open Week

Monday 17th - Friday 21st September 2018

Please call 0121 552 5425 to book an appointment



LEP
SSAT LEADING EDGE
PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME

**SSAT
EDUCATIONAL
OUTCOMES
AWARDS 2017**
SPONSORED BY **LEXONIK**

Ofsted
Good
Provider

