

smart

SUMMER TERM 2019 ■ ISSUE 15

BRISTNALL HALL ACADEMY MAGAZINE



THE RESULTS ARE IN!

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WELCOME

As someone who has been closely involved with the outcomes Bristnall Hall students have achieved in recent years, I now write to you as the proud Principal of an exceptional academy which is at the heart of bringing about success for all stakeholders and maintaining a feel good factor for all of our community. I look forward to working with all of you as we embark on a journey together, ensuring no one individual is left behind.

It is with great pleasure that I inform you of the excellent 2019 examination results our BHA children and young people have achieved this summer. Strong progress and attainment scores indicate that students of all abilities have excelled and this is testament to the Bristnall Hall belief that all learners will receive the highest quality of education. The hard work put in by our students, supplemented and supported superbly by staff, parents and carers, has allowed Bristnall Hall Academy to deliver the quality of education we can all be proud of. The GCSE time period is often met with much trepidation and apprehension and many schools talk about the difficult times they face. However, at Bristnall Hall Academy, all key stakeholders continue to help defy these so-called odds and achieve not only exceptional, quality and robust qualifications but also, well rounded young people who are best prepared for further education, training and the world of work. For this, I thank the entire Bristnall Hall family for all you have done in supporting our children and reminding everyone that we can all achieve and succeed.

It was fantastic to see many students achieving the very highest grade 9 in GCSE English, Mathematics and EBacc qualifications. We were very happy to share our successful results day with local and national television and radio stations. Such media exposure helps to reinforce and reiterate the achievements made by all involved in the Bristnall Hall community. The Class of 2019 now have the qualifications, employability skills and attributes to set them apart from others as they embark on their next steps. We look forward to hearing of the many successes these exceptional young people experience over the coming months and years ahead.

The summer of 2019 has also seen an immense amount of work undertaken and completed to rejuvenate learning areas, including our Student Success Centre, Science block and multiple classrooms. We look forward to seeing the quality of education our children and young people receive being further enhanced by these significant improvements. Visitors to our site will now also have the pleasure of experiencing enhanced parking facilities due to the new additional car park completed to the rear of the site and accessible to staff via Bristnall Hall Road. When arriving at the academy, visitors will also receive a warm welcome in our new and much improved Reception area - a great way to start your visit to our exceptional learning environment.

The academy continues to go from strength to strength. Whilst other schools and academies often comment on their struggles with recruiting quality, specialist staff, Bristnall Hall has retained and recruited successfully. From this term, we have even more outstanding teachers who will further strengthen our remarkable team. As Principal, I am very fortunate that our academy attracts high calibre staff due to the happy, warm and hard working environment and the reputation of Bristnall Hall Academy as a great place to learn and work in. This year we will continue to focus on developing responsible, highly skilled global citizens who will have a positive impact on our community now and in future years. The academy remains committed to maintaining its strong links already established with charitable organisations, local employers and higher education establishments; these will be developed further to ensure that all students can benefit from these positive partnerships. Bristnall Hall Academy continues to be an inspiring, nurturing and successful educational establishment and we look forward to delivering an outstanding provision for our young people.

Kully Uppal
Principal

POB AWARDS 2019

On Tuesday 9th July, Bristnall Hall celebrated the achievements of students across the academy at the annual Pride of Bristnall Awards.

Steve Clamp, of ITV News, returned for his 10th year to present the awards to students who have excelled in academic and extra-curricular life at the academy. We welcomed students, parents and carers, staff, governors and members of our local community including the Deputy Lieutenant of West Midlands, Gurpreet Bhatia and Deputy Mayor of Sandwell who joined together to celebrate the achievements of our amazing young people. The evening celebrated the hard work and dedication of our young people across all year groups and all areas of academy life. All winners and nominees should be extremely proud of their achievements, as they are all a credit to the Academy and we are proud to have such a wonderful student body. Congratulations to all nominees and winners!

Linguist of the Year

Sara Naci

Most Promising Artist

Anna Hipkiss

Scientist of the Year

Bailey Collett

Technologist of the Year

Sabri Agri

Governor's Award

Kim Muca

The Most Promising Computer Scientist

William Mollett

Outstanding Achievement in Humanities

Brady Wilson

Principal's Award

Rajvir Sandhu

Sports Person of the Year

Joshua Jukes

Mathematician of the Year

Safiya Abdullahi

Outstanding Effort in Film Studies

Tom Frasier

Reader of the Year

Cienna Kounota

The Most Inspirational Student of the Year

Mitchell Goring

Outstanding Effort in English

Abigail Weston

Outstanding Effort in Performing Arts

Sophie Williams

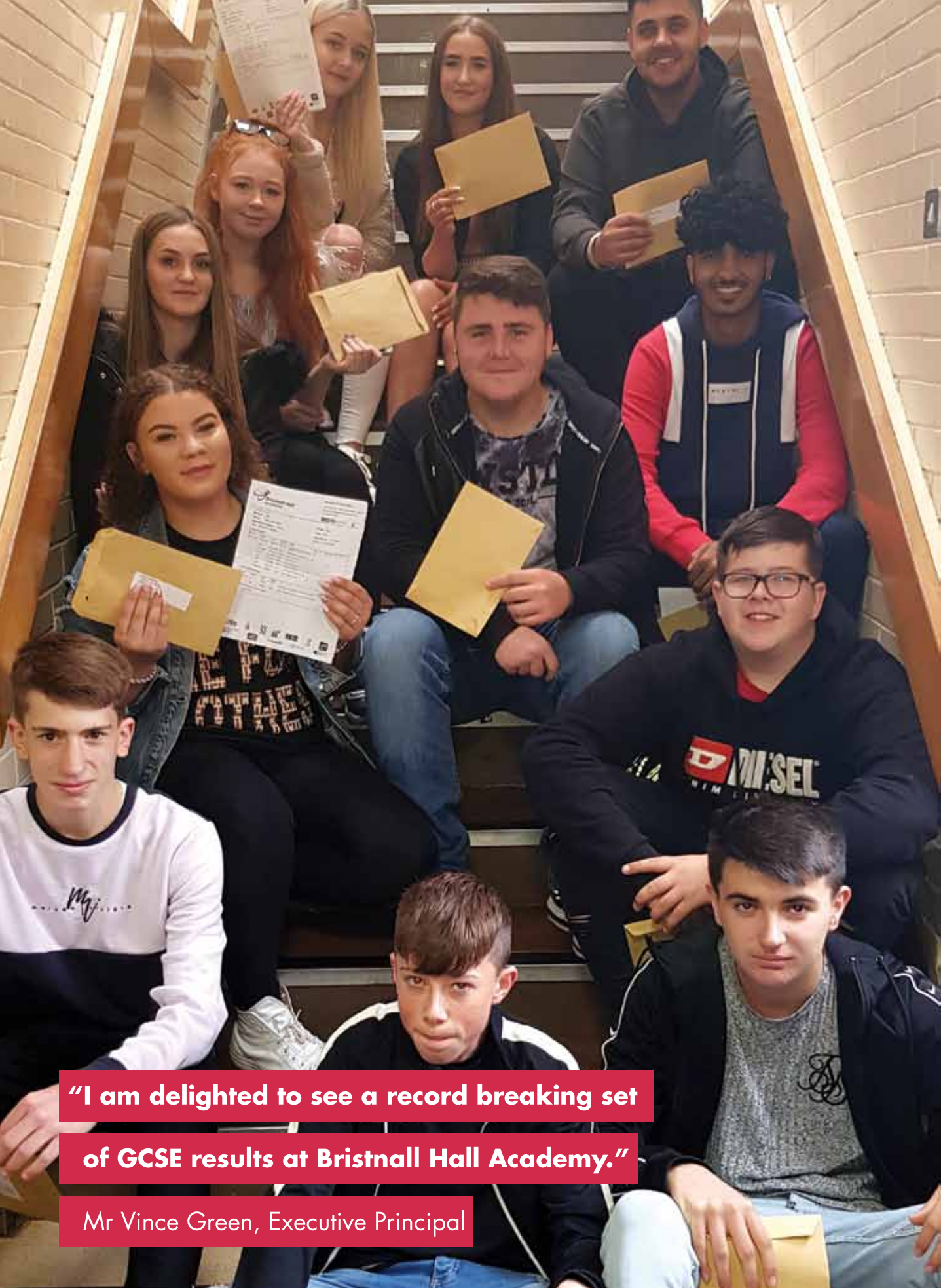
The Selfless Service Award

Serena Thompson

Tesco Community Award

Ellie





"I am delighted to see a record breaking set of GCSE results at Bristnall Hall Academy."

Mr Vince Green, Executive Principal

RECORD BREAKERS!

Pupils are celebrating their record breaking GCSE achievements at Sandwell's highest performing school. GCSE results show that Bristnall Hall Academy's 2019 Year 11 cohort has made outstanding progress in numerous subjects, including both English and Mathematics.

These results demonstrate success for the fifth consecutive year and once again reinforce Bristnall Hall Academy's outstanding performance. Attainment at the highest grades was particularly impressive, with several pupils achieving Grade 9 and Grade 8 passes in English, Mathematics and other EBacc subjects. As an SSAT Leading Edge school, Bristnall Hall Academy has successfully embedded the new, more challenging GCSE examinations across its entire curriculum offer. This has helped to ensure that students have been highly successful in their studies, regardless of background or ability, making exceptional progress as a result. Amongst the numerous Bristnall Hall Academy students who are celebrating their success are Ellie Sheward, Callum Esprey, Brayden Birch, Francesca Barker and Lillie-Mae Clewer. These students achieved numerous top grades, positioning them amongst the top performing students nationally. Kully Uppal, Principal at Bristnall Hall Academy commented: "Students from our academy have

achieved another excellent set of results and this success sustains the year on year rapid improvement and high performance at our academy. I am particularly impressed with these exceptional outcomes given the increased level of challenge in GCSE examinations. These outstanding results will enable our students to access exciting opportunities in further education, training and employment within our local region and beyond." Vince Green, Executive Principal, commented: "I am delighted to see a record breaking set of GCSE results at Bristnall Hall Academy and across the Academy Transformation Trust. We always go into each examination results season expecting students at the academy to make excellent levels of progress. This is testament to their hard work and to the dedication of the outstanding team of staff. Congratulations to all of our young people on their achievements and huge thanks to our families, governors and trust for their ongoing support."



Year 6 Transition

We welcomed our new cohort of Year 7 students for September 2019 for their transition days in July.



During the transition days, students experienced life at Bristnall Hall, including all the different subjects they will study with us during their time as Bristnall Hall Academy students. Both days were fun and action packed, including being treated to a professional magician. Following on from the two induction days, we welcomed parents and carers to our informative induction evening to support them in making their child's transition from primary to secondary school as smooth as possible. It was pleasing to hear the positive feedback from them and that how excited the students are to join us in September. We look forward to working with them on their transformational journey with us at Bristnall Hall Academy from Year 7 to 11.

A Trip Back in Time

In July, the English department organised a rewards trip for students who had been identified by their class teachers as being amazing in all of their lessons. The students visited Stratford-Upon-Avon to learn all about Shakespeare.

In the morning students visited the Tudor World museum to discover what life was really like in the Tudor period. During the visit, students were taught about the deadly plague, the conditions upon ships and the punishments at the time. In the afternoon students were treated to a walking town tour by William Shakespeare himself. Students were able to see where Shakespeare was born and even got to follow his journey to school! On the tour, students were able to gain a real insight into the life of William Shakespeare, which they will be able to transfer to the classroom when studying his plays.





Great Mathematics Bake Off

The Bristnall Hall Academy Mathematics department were excited to host the school's first Year 7 Great Maths Bake Off.

The entries were absolutely incredible and have set the benchmark for future bake off events. They tasted as good as they looked.

There were four winners this year, congratulations and enjoy spending your well-deserved vouchers.

PARIS

Another amazing trip to Paris with year 7, 8 and 9.

The students were able to experience real life mathematics in Paris. They experienced basic concepts such as currency, exchange rates, time difference, speed, distance and time and symmetry in the Eiffel Tower and Notre Dame Cathedral. All of the students came back with a positive experience. It is always a great pleasure to take our amazing Students to Paris. They represented the academy extremely well, showing a great deal of respect to the locals, tourists, peers and staff.



Volunteers Week

BHA celebrated Volunteers Week alongside Sandwell West Birmingham Hospital (SWBH) with students performing live at the Birmingham Treatment Centre situated in the Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospital.

The event had been organised by SWBH Volunteers Service to thank all their volunteers for the difference they make by giving up so much of their own time to help others.

As usual, our very talented young people gave some mind blowing performances. They entertained the staff and public attending appointments at the centre with great confidence. Feedback and comments patients made as they were leaving had me glowing with pride knowing that they are BHA's stars! The students were a credit to the academy and we are very proud of them. It was a real pleasure to be approached by SWBH volunteers requesting if we were able to support their celebrations during Volunteer's week, and why wouldn't we be! Our young people have made a huge impact in the community by performing at various events over time, it's like being on tour sometimes, but our musicians and vocalists absolutely love going out into the community to provide the entertainment. A huge thanks to the wonderful BHA staff who make this possible and to the amazing students.

Watch this space for our next concert...



Geography

Bristnall Hall Academy's newest geography recruit Miss Holden has hit the ground running to implement fieldwork into the Year 9 curriculum.

Along with Mr Thickett and her Year 9 Geography group, several sites were visited around the academy grounds to assess whether they had their own microclimates. Students marched around the academy (on the wettest day of the year so far) and used various measuring instruments to measure elements of the climate at each site such as wind speed, wind direction and cloud cover. Miss Holden and the students thoroughly enjoyed it although Mr Thickett moaned about his shoes getting wet!



Justice is Served

Immersive visit to the Nottingham Justice Museum was a huge success

Students were split into groups and had experiences in a court room where prisoners were sentenced to the death penalty. After this, students got the chance to look at historical evidence and based on what they found in the sources construct their own stance on the death penalty. Students also got the chance to witness the Gaols first hand and see how prisoners were treated by the Gaoler and take part in hard labour tasks completed by the prisoners as they served their sentences.

The day was enjoyed by all.



SOUNDS IN THE CITY

Year 10 RSL students visited Leeds College of Music on Thursday 4th July to take part in school workshops.

Students got a grand tour of the building and had the opportunity to select two main workshops that most appealed to them. Students were also given the opportunity to participate in a variety of other workshops including, Computer based music, Jazz Improvisation, Studio recording techniques, Music theatre singing and Pop music performance. All students had a fantastic time and were able to experience a variety of music based workshops.





THE PROM

2019

Class of 2019 Prom was hosted at the Malmaison, Birmingham.

It was a fantastic evening and it was amazing to see so many of our young people celebrating after working so hard towards their GCSE's, before embarking on their future paths. A truly remarkable and inspirational year group and class of 2019, we wish them well for the future.

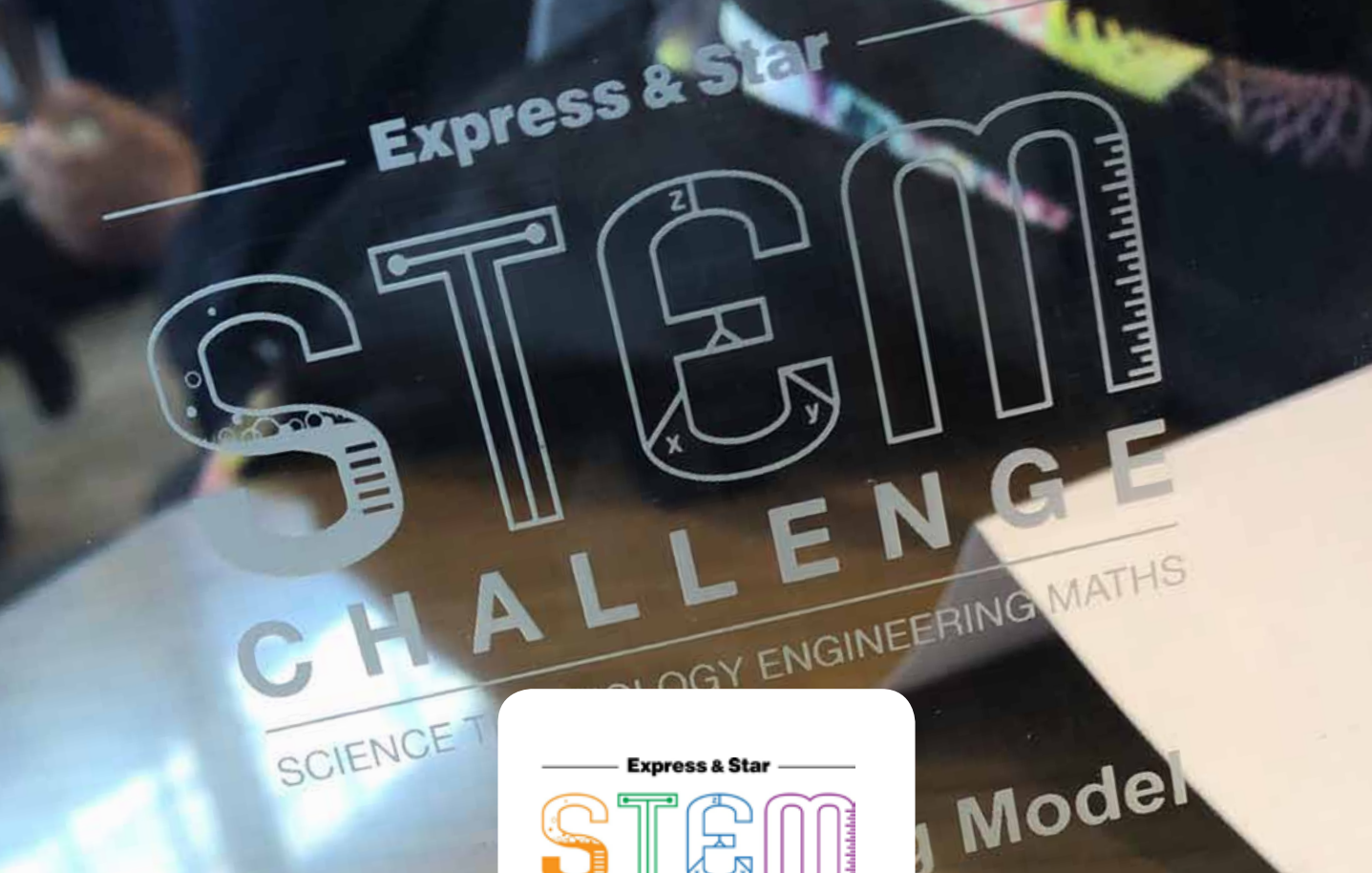


A Heads Up!

We are proud to announce our Head Boy and Head Girl of Bristnall Hall Academy 2019/2020 are Thomas and Rajvir.

"We are looking forward to representing all students to ensure everyone's experience here is the best that it can be!"





STEM CHALLENGE

During this academic year's extra-curricular enrichment offer of a STEM Club, students entered the Express and Star STEM Challenge to come up with a clever design to solve the dirty drinking water problems globally. Bristnall Hall Academy were mentored by AE Aerospace for the duration of the competition.

The STEM Sisters carried out some extensive research on how many countries do not have access to clean drinking water and used their findings to design and implement a model of their product. All their hard work and dedication paid off during the final at the Dudley College CAT where they pitched their design alongside other schools from the West Midlands. They were crowned 'Best Operating Model' sponsored by Laser Products, with three other schools also awarded for their designs. All four winning teams will have the opportunity of a guided

tour of a car manufacturing company in Telford which works closely with Wolverhampton University. Bristnall's STEM Sisters have also been invited to AE Aerospace and Laser Process for a guided tour of their factories and an insight into the products they manufacture. The judges were impressed with how confident the all-girl team were and their strong teamwork skills portrayed to produce such an innovative design. One of the competitions main objectives was to introduce more girls into STEM careers.



ARMED AND READY

On Tuesday 2nd July the Academy Transformation Trust (ATT) hosted the largest Armed Forces Covenant signing in the West Midlands. A total of 23 Armed Forces Covenants were signed at the event held at The Queen Elizabeth Academy in Warwickshire.

The signatories were the ATT and all 22 of their member Academies. Having this number of signatories at one event is previously unheard of in the West Midlands Reserve Forces and Cadets Association (RFCA) region. The West Midlands RFCA's Engagement Team have led on the organisation of this event alongside members of staff at the local Bristnall Hall Academy, whose Principal Vince Green was influential in getting ATT and its 22 Academies to sign the Armed Forces Covenant, demonstrating their commitment to and advocacy of the Covenant. Debbie Clinton, CEO of Academy Transformation Trust commented "This is a momentous day for ATT. Our partnership with, and respect for, the spirit and intent of the Armed Forces Covenant is hugely important. We are immensely proud to be part of such a vital national initiative. We will go on to celebrate loudly our support for such a significant national movement". Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Warwickshire, Mr Tim Cox, attended this first of a kind event. He was accompanied by his Lord Lieutenant's Cadet from the RAF Air Cadets, Cadet Flight Sergeant Lillian Marsh. The event was opened by Colonel (Ret'd) Richard Maybery QGM, Chief Executive of West Midlands RFCA who spoke about the Associations and what all thirteen do. He was followed by Colonel Rosie Stone VR DL, Deputy

Commander Reserves for 11 Signal and West Midlands Brigade who spoke about the Military Academic Partnership. Philip Sinclair, Regional Employer Engagement Director at West Midlands RFCA added "We are very excited about this event and delighted that all the member academies of the ATT have pledged support. We look forward to working alongside ATT and recognising their support in the future." The Armed Forces Covenant is a promise by the nation ensuring that those who serve or who have served in the Armed Forces, and their families, are treated fairly. The ATT and its member Academies have all committed pledges to demonstrate their support to the Armed Forces community, and to the principles of Covenant. The Academy Transformation Trust are a multi-academy trust of 22 primary and secondary academies based in the Midlands, East of England and East Anglia. Their vision is to ensure that all children and young people, regardless of their background, fulfil their educational potential and maximise their life chances. ATT are committed to working inclusively within their communities, embracing the varied localities they serve and are committed to honouring the Armed Forces Covenant and supporting our Armed Forces community.



Bristnall Hall Academy awarded £1000 grant

Once again this academic year BHA successfully secured a £1000 grant from West Bromwich Building Society (WBBS).

We will use the grant to further improve the outcomes and experiences of the young people in our care. We have been awarded the grant to be used for our intervention sessions and the free breakfast provision we provide at the academy to ensure every child has the same opportunities regardless of their socio-economic background which WBBS is proud to support. The building society helps charities in their branch network area and other parts of the West Midlands through a grant scheme, the Mercian Community Trust. Their grant is funded through their Community Account and administered in partnership with the Diocese of Lichfield. Grants are targeted at social wellbeing, disability, vulnerable children and various other charitable causes.



The Breakfast Show

On Friday 7th June Free Radio Birmingham came to BHA to interview us to find out why we offer breakfast provision at the academy.

Earlier this academic year we were again awarded a £1000 grant from Kellogg's Breakfast Club to use towards our free breakfast provision. Our breakfast provision provides an excellent springboard for students ensuring they start their day of learning with a healthy and well balanced meal. When students are fuelled and ready for learning they can concentrate for longer spans as research suggests and play a small part in supporting their wellbeing and outcomes. Following on from this Bristnall Hall Academy were selected in the West Midlands and given the opportunity to take part in Kellogg's campaign to look at breakfast clubs across the UK. BHA was part of a wider case study for a new research project led by Kellogg's and Childwise into the importance of breakfast clubs and how they can be a lifeline to families for various reasons.

**BHA Breakfast club open everyday
from 7:15am - 8:15am**

Alexus

In July 2019, our Key Stage 3 and 4 students were given an exciting opportunity to work with the Flexus Dance Company.

Students attended workshops to further strengthen techniques they already knew and learnt a lot of new ones to further develop their understanding of dance techniques. The Flexus Dance Company's students and staff inspired BHA students and worked collaboratively to produce an original dance piece. Bristnall students were invited to perform their piece a curtain raiser at the Arena Theatre in Wolverhampton, where they put on an exhilarating performance.

This was a fantastic opportunity for our students to be able to take part in.



Bristnall Brews & Bourbons

At Bristnall we have a weekly drop in coffee morning for the over 60's in our community and actively encourage new members to join us every Thursday morning to make new friends over a cuppa and a piece of cake.

During the drop in sessions support and advice is available from the local Police, and representatives from the Murray Hall Community Trust who offer advice and support on how to access benefits and additional support that may be available to over 60's to continue living independently.



smart SPORT

SPORTS DAY

Our annual Sports Day took place on 9th July 2019, with our students being involved in lots of different activities.

Overall results were: **Brindley** - 1st with 465 points, **Telford** - 2nd with 462 points and Darby 3rd with 404 points

Year 7

Brindley 1st
Telford 2nd
Darby 3rd

Year 8

Telford 1st
Brindley 2nd
Darby 3rd

Year 9

Brindley 1st
Darby 2nd
Telford 3rd

Year 10

Telford 1st
Darby 2nd
Brindley 3rd



LIFE AFTER BRISTNALL

Name: Abbie Caddick

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

I will never forget all the amazing opportunities I was given during my time at Bristnall Hall! From awards evenings to singing for the Mayor at West Bromwich Town Hall, as well as rewards trips, performing in Hairspray and competing in Bristnall's Got Talent.

Destination after Bristnall and subjects studied:

After leaving secondary school, I went on to study a 2 year BTEC in Musical Theatre at Halesowen College. College was an incredible experience - I was able to do the thing I enjoy the most every day whilst gaining a qualification and performing in a range of musicals including 'The Addams Family' and 'Chicago'.

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

A great achievement has been gaining an unconditional offer to study at my first choice university despite always believing university wasn't for me.

What are you currently doing?

Currently, I am working part time at the West Bromwich Albion Football Club as part of the hospitality staff. I am also enjoying my summer holiday before starting university in September by taking a Trip to Disneyland Paris!

Future career path:

From September I will be studying a joint honours degree in Drama and Psychology at the University of Worcester. When looking further into the future, I would like to pursue a career in Drama Therapy but at the moment, I am excited to see where the next 3 years will lead me.

Words of advice for students:

Enjoy and take everything you can from your time at Bristnall. Get yourself involved in every opportunity and believe you can achieve anything if you put your mind to it!

OPEN FORTNIGHT

Monday 16th - Friday 27th September 2019

Please call 0121 552 5425 to book an appointment.



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