

# smart

SUMMER TERM 2022 ■ ISSUE 17

## BRISTNALL HALL ACADEMY MAGAZINE

# SIMPLY THE BEST



### ALSO INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Platinum Jubilee Celebrations
- Baton Bearer
- Life after Bristnall







**Dear Parents and Carers,**

**The return of this form of publication fills me with great excitement and provides all of us a #bhamazing opportunity to celebrate the great work of all members of our Bristnall Hall family.**

I would like to offer a huge welcome to those fortunate, young people and their families who are joining us for transition events in July 2022. We are really looking forward to working with you when your child starts Year 7 in September 2022 at the highest performing academy in Sandwell. As your child embarks on their journey to their GCSE qualifications and ultimately, the world of work beyond, I'm proud to see the strong, professional relationships our young people share with our team of expert staff. This has been especially evident during the recent examination season and overall summer term so far, where students are being supported and encouraged by members of staff, peers, family members and governors to work to the best of their ability and achieve their true potential. Indeed, seeing how our community has come together during evening, weekend and holiday revision and enrichment sessions this academic year, further reinforces the great family ethos we share here at Bristnall Hall Academy.

As part of our wider offer, our young people have had some amazing opportunities in terms of visits and experiences of community initiatives, further education, the employment sector and much more. Much of this is reported in this edition of SMART and supplemented with information you can regularly read about on our social media feeds (@bhallacademy). Please also continue to check for emails from the academy which are sent to your registered email addresses via ParentMail.

I look forward to writing to you again via ParentMail prior to the summer break itself. However, for now, please enjoy the return of our coveted publication which pleasingly features our concerted efforts to return fully to our normal ways of working in the approach to the new academic year.

Mr Uppal  
Principal

# Charitable causes at BHA

## Race for Life

On the afternoon of Monday 20th June, our Prefect team organised a Bristnall Hall's 'Race for Life' for Year 11. Students ran or walked around the track to raise nearly £300 for Cancer Research UK.

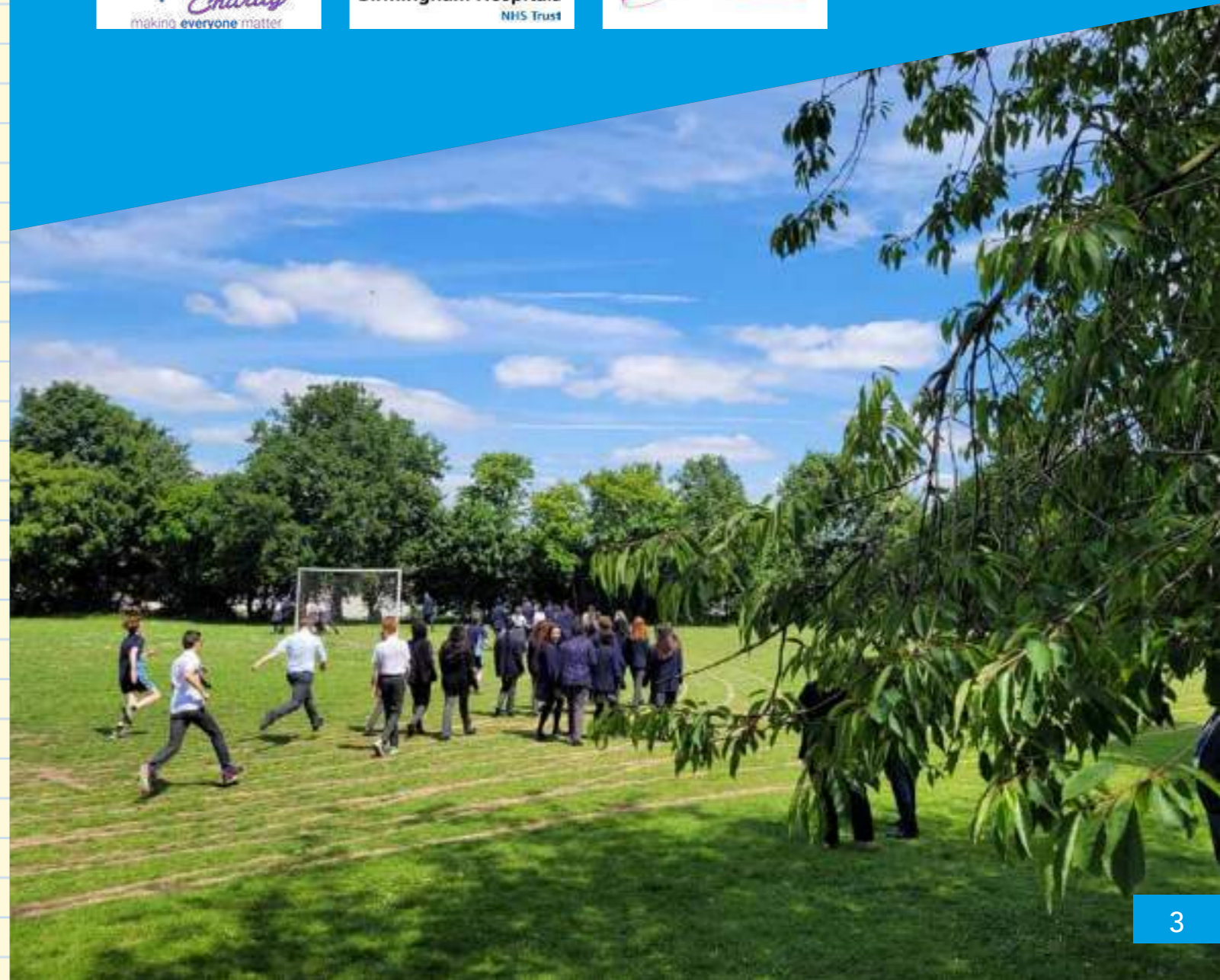
Congratulations to the whole year group as we prepare to bid them farewell as they embark on the next stage of their journey beyond the gates of Bristnall.



## Sandwell Hospital

Our chosen academy charity is Your Trust Charity, Sandwell West Birmingham Hospital. This academic year we have raised £800 towards enhancing the experience of our community if they need to seek help from the NHS.

During the past 6 years our Bristnall Hall family have supported us in raising over £8000 towards the hospital charity with various fundraising activities.





# Bristnall Hall Academy Celebrates **THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE**



On Friday 27th May 2022, Bristnall Hall Academy celebrated The Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022. We celebrated this auspicious occasion, with a 'Bristnall' themed tea party with an extended lunchtime period which also allowed our students to be treated to lunch and a free ice-cream too.

We appreciate that the actual days for the Platinum Jubilee fell within half-term itself and therefore wanted to ensure our students had an opportunity to celebrate the event with their Bristnall Hall family.

To mark this occasion, all students also received a commemorative coin, personalised for Bristnall Hall Academy. We hope that in years to come, our students will be able to look back as adults and remember the time they themselves marked this special occasion and where they were on the day.



## The Great Bristnall Hall Academy **BAKE OFF**



For the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, Mrs Pocknell organised a Bristnall Hall Academy Bake off competition.

We had some fabulous entries from our young people and staff alike which warranted a 'Paul Hollywood handshake'!

We had the pleasure of welcoming John Wood, Deputy Lieutenant of West Midlands to judge the entries.

All the entries were deserving of winning and we congratulate everyone who took part.

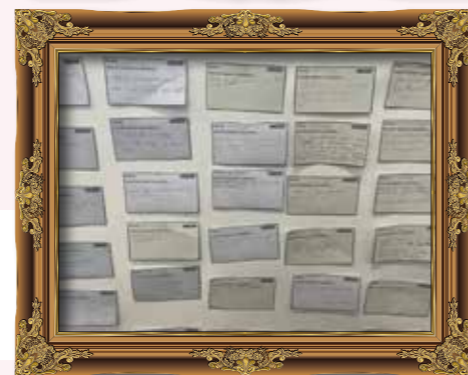
Congratulations to Aimee, Skyrh, Callum and Thomas.



# COFFEE FOR THE QUEEN

The cadets invited our community for a 'Coffee for the Queen'. They welcomed many of our families and local Police Officers from Smethwick and Oldbury to participate in games and a general chat.

If you require further information to join the West Midlands Police Cadets, please get in touch with your Achievement Coordinator. Please note, you must be aged 14 or over to join.



## West Midlands Police Cadet Unit marks the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

In honour of Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee, the Bristnall Hall Cadet Unit held some events to mark the occasion.



## QUEEN'S GREEN CANOPY

We welcomed John Crabtree, Lord Lieutenant of West Midlands to plant a tree with our cadets for The Queen's Green Canopy.

The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) is a unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 which invites people from across the United Kingdom to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee".

With a focus on planting sustainably, the QGC will encourage planting of trees to create a legacy in honour of The Queen's leadership of the Nation, which will benefit future generations.





# Congratulations Oliver

Oliver has been selected as a Baton Bearer for the Birmingham 2022 Queen's Baton Relay. He will carry the Baton in the West Midlands on Monday 25th July 2022. We will share further details about this on our social media nearer the time.



# Congratulations to our Commonwealth Youth Collective Volunteers

We are super excited to give you the news that Bristnall Hall Academy have been selected to offer a group of students and staff at the academy, one of the spots on the Commonwealth Youth Collective.

A team of 9 Young people, and 2 chaperones from Bristnall Hall Academy will have the opportunity to volunteer at the Sandwell Aquatics Centre during the Birmingham Commonwealth Games as Athlete Kit Team Members.

During Swimming and Para Swimming competition, Bristnall Hall Athlete Kit Team Members will work as a team under the guidance of the Athlete Kit Team Leader to move each athlete's kit from the starting blocks to the athlete kit collection area in an organised, timely manner. This ensures that the athletes can retrieve their items of kit post-race and that the competition schedule keeps on time to allow the next event to take place.

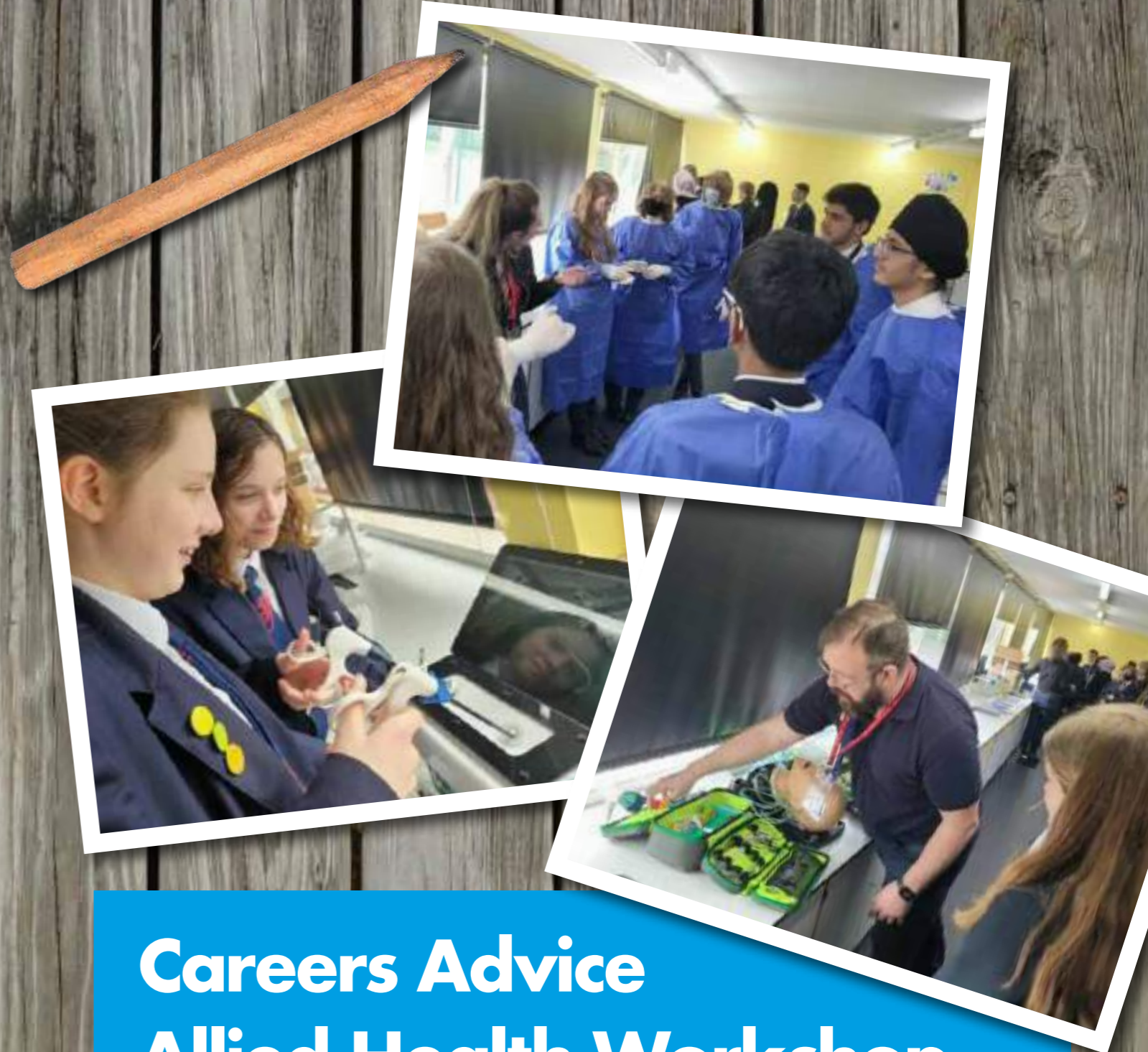




# ¡Hola Edgmond Hall!

The Modern Foreign Languages department have been successfully running a GCSE revision weekend at Edgmond Hall in Newport for the last decade.

This year was no exception. The weekend of 29th April, 35 Year 11 Spanish students spent their bank holiday in full Spanish mode in Shropshire. They were actively engaged in a variety of activities including a treasure hunt, orienteering with questions in Spanish and running translation activities; all designed to help our students ace their forthcoming examinations. As well as a packed programme of revision and learning, they were able to spend quality friendship time playing games and toasting marshmallows around a campfire. As always, our students did Bristnall Hall Academy proud, and thoroughly enjoyed their weekend.



## Careers Advice Allied Health Workshop

**At Bristnall Hall, we pride ourselves on our exceptional bespoke careers advice we offer our young people throughout their time with us at the academy.**

This ranges from virtual sessions, work experience and talks from leading professionals.

We offer some fantastic opportunities that our staff source from various sectors, including from Aim Higher and Birmingham City University.

Students had the opportunity to explore keyhole surgery methods to inspire the next generation career paths courtesy of Allied Health.



# Street Dance Workshops

**The Deaf Society CIC offered an amazing opportunity to students at Bristnall Hall Academy to take part in a brand new project for young people across Years 7 – 11.**

Deaf Street Dancer, Billy Read, visited Bristnall Hall Academy for 5 weeks to lead on street dance and hip hop workshops for our young people funded by SCVO.

Over the half term, students were joined by local deaf students (organised by Sandwell Deaf Community Association) for a joint project, making a street dance performance in just 3 days. Billy Read blended sign-language, dance and theatre. Inspired by flash mob style performances he encouraged young deaf people in Sandwell to co-create "Cog in the wheel" an outdoor street dance, about our ambivalence towards the human cost of technology.

Deaf Explorer uses dance to bring hearing and deaf performers and audiences together. The hope was that the excitement around deaf actress Rose Ayling-Ellis, winning Strictly Come Dancing, will encourage young people to make a brand new dance show for their families and friends

On Wednesday 1st June, Billy Read was joined by a team of professional dancers who performed with our young people. Sessions were led by Street dancer, Billy Read, Ariel Fung and theatre director, MaryJayne Russell de Clifford.

It was a spectacular performance in the sunshine.



# Dance Extravaganza

**It's a pleasure to be able to bring back our annual Dance Extravaganza.**

As always we will be keeping up the tradition of a Dance Extravaganza, an opportunity for lots of our young people to perform to an audience from our community, which also included matinee performances to local primary schools.

The performance always requires a vast amount of work and commitment from our young people. Once again this year, our young people were #bhamazing showcasing a variety of dance performances from: course work, Extra-Curricular Clubs and auditioned pieces choreographed by the students.



# Life Skills

Every Friday after school the SEND students take part in Life Skills cooking. They prepare simple recipes that they can use at home. These life skills are essential to their survival in the big wide world.





# New York June 2023

**In addition to being called the “Big Apple,” New York City is known as “The City That Never Sleeps.”**

Students at Bristnall Hall have been given the opportunity to visit this amazing city on the 26th June 2023.

We will be visiting many of the major sites and attractions around New York. Some of which will be visiting are the Rockefeller Centre, cruise down the Hudson River, High Line walk above the streets of Manhattan, American Museum of Natural History and the 9/11 Memorial.

We look forward to our students having amazing time.



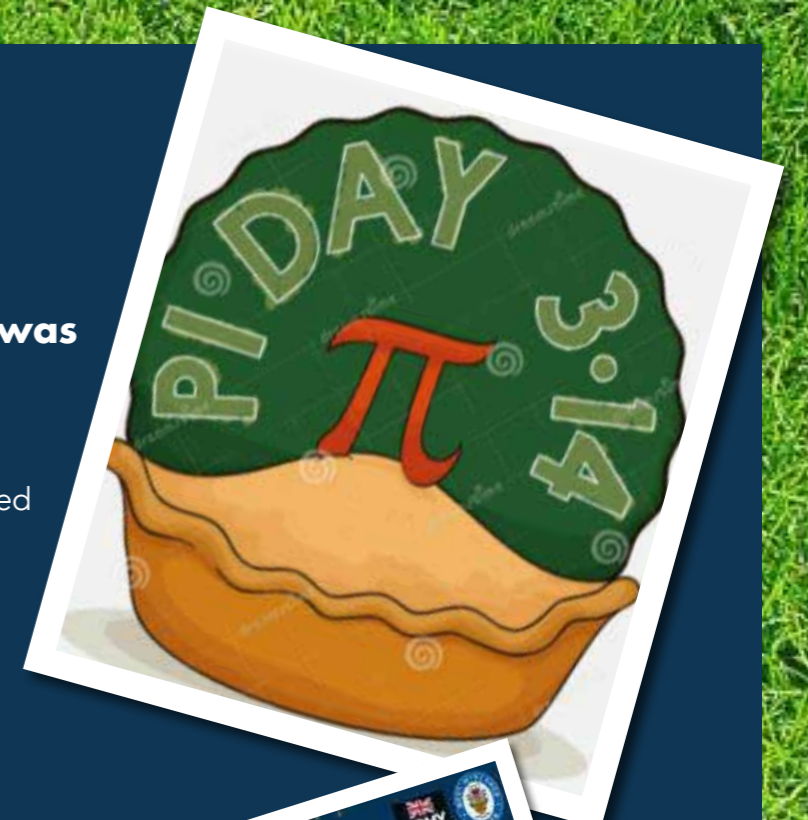
## Celebrating Mathematics in the real world

There's a lot going on in the Mathematics department; maths clubs, revision sessions and more.

# Pi Day

**Monday 14th March 2022 was Pi day.**

Students took answered dingbat's questions based around Pi day followed by a Pi day relay. Relay posters were placed across the academy, whereby students had to answer Pi related questions. Students were rewarded for their contribution and amazing efforts.



# Mini Games

**The Commonwealth Games Engagement Team at West Midlands Police have been working with their military partners to organise a Schools Sports Day.**

On the 8th June 2022, eight students represented Bristnall Hall Academy and competed against local schools from the West Midlands. There were various events, with the army bringing along some of their specialist training equipment which made it an exciting and insightful day for all the young people in attendance.



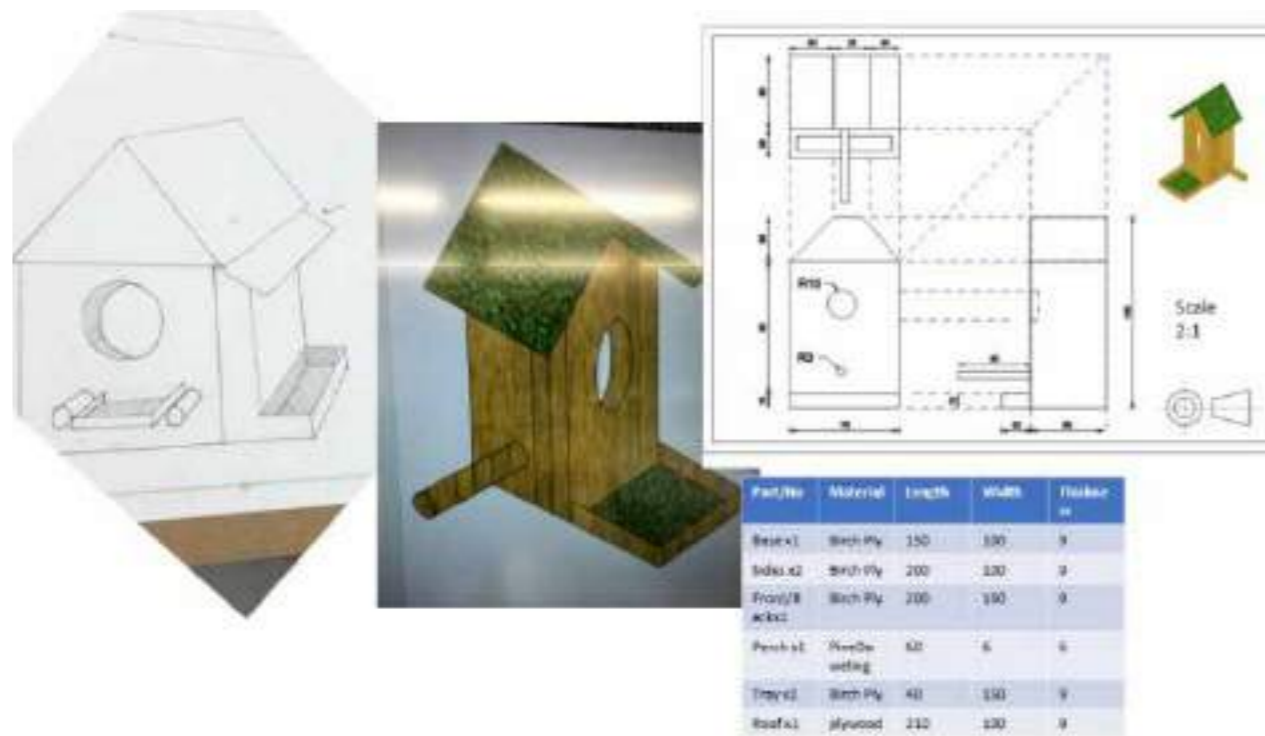


# Extra-Curricular Activities

We have an array of enrichment activities available for our young people which provide enriching experiences before and after school for all year groups. There is something for everyone, whether it be Chess Club, Book Club, Cooking Club, STEM Club or Sports Club to name but a few.

## Engineering Club

Year 8 students have been learning how to use technical drawing equipment to create their presentation work for their sustainable Bird Box



# “Prep the Pool” Event at Sandwell Aquatics Centre

As part of the preparations for Birmingham 2022, Sandwell Aquatics Centre hosted a test event for the Games, Prep The Pool, on Saturday 21st May 2022.

As Bristnall Hall Academy is located in close proximity to the venue, we were offered 100 tickets for this event to distribute to our Bristnall Hall families. The tickets were distributed as rewards to families and staff.

This was the first event held at the Sandwell Aquatics Centre and was a chance to check out the venue and support the very important preparations for the Games. On the day there was a full afternoon of swimming competition, featuring some of the brightest young athletes from Swim England’s talent pathway programme as the next generation of swimming stars battled it out in the pool. The competition featured swimmers who recently competed at the British Championships, and members of the team heading to the European Youth Olympic Festival this summer.





# Life after Bristnall

## Rebekah Jordan

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

I remember being a part of the dance extravaganzas every year whilst at Bristnall; gaining lots of awards, and being involved in many charity events. I clearly remember the day I collected my results and being so proud about what I had achieved through the great teachings of the many staff at Bristnall.

### Destination after Bristnall and subjects studied:

After Bristnall, I attended Birmingham Ormiston Academy (BOA) where I achieved D\*D\*D\* in BTEC Dance Level 3 Diploma in Performing Arts as well as an A Level in Art. Then I went on to study BA (Hons) Dance in London at Kingston University for my first year, before moving to study BSc (Hons) Dance and Fitness at Buckinghamshire New University (Bucks) for my last two years. I have achieved my Level 2 Fitness Instruction at Bucks and will be completing my Level 3 Personal Trainer next year.

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

Since leaving Bristnall, I have performed on stage at The Hippodrome and Her Majesty's Theatre. I have worked with dancers and actors in New York, London and Birmingham. I have been taught by Urdang, Bird, LIPA, and many more vocational schools during my time at BOA. I performed in a pantomime in London called Dick Whittington, where I was a singer and dancer. I was taught pointé by a soloist from the Russian Royal Ballet. And I am working voluntarily - before university starts - at Uplands Manor Primary School where I choreographed the year 6 end of year production and created an art mural for the new art, design and technology room.

### Future career path?

I plan to study in Liverpool next year for my PGCE dance teaching award whilst also working as a Personal Trainer. I would then possibly like to be a PT for a few more years or even move abroad to become a PT or choreographer. Many years into the future, I would love to work as a dance teacher at BOA or a similar organisation.

### Words of advice for students:

Strive for everything your mind dreams about, because in the end, you will be the one achieving all the success.



## Molly

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

My name is Molly and I studied at Bristnall Hall Academy, which is where my journey began. I began my studies at Bristnall Hall in 2010 where I thrived in year 7 and 8 and loved coming to school every day. My favourite subjects were Art and Geography, and I got on well with all of my teachers and built a strong rapport with them.

### Destination after Bristnall and subjects studied:

I left Bristnall Hall in 2015, where thanks to the LSU I achieved all my target grades in my GCSE's which prepared me to go to college to study my A Levels. I went on to study at Central Sixth College, where I achieved A Levels in Health and Social Care, Sociology and Film Studies. The LSU also gave me enough confidence to go to a college where I only knew one other student, pushing me to socialise and gain new friends. Both the grades and confidence then allowed me to study my chosen course at my first choice university. My final studies were at Newman University Birmingham, where I studied Working with Children, Families, Young People and Education. After my three years at Newman University I achieved a 2:1 degree classification in July 2020.

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

I completed numerous placements and worked so hard at my degree as this was an opportunity that I had worked so hard for and the LSU at Bristnall Hall Academy had given me another lifeline to. I came back to Bristnall Hall Academy during my final year to complete my dissertation research in 'The impact of the transition period from Primary School to Secondary School on children'.

### Future career path?

I have recently secured and began a job working in a combined primary and secondary school as the schools Attendance Officer, which is a job I am really enjoying and could only have imagined of. I love this role as I get to support students in their journey through school and also support families to encourage their children to come back into school and get the best out of their learning journey to become anything they dream to become! My long term goal within my career would be to continue to further study whilst working and hopefully one day join the police within a safeguarding role!

### Words of advice for students:

To believe, to become anything they dream to become!





# OPEN DAY

**Saturday 17th September 2022 10am - 1pm**

**No booking required**

**OPEN FORTNIGHT Mon 19th September - Fri 30th September**

**Morning tours available call 0121 552 5425 to book your appointment**

