



28th March 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As we draw to the end of the Spring Term it is important to reflect on the hard work and effort that so many of our pupils demonstrate on a daily basis here at Broughton High School. Whether it is their passion to want to give their best academically or to showcase their amazing talents on the sports field, in the drama studio, in music or at one of our many extra-curricular clubs. Our pupils never fail to amaze me with their high expectations of themselves and their ambition to be the best version of themselves. I hope all the pupils have a wonderful Easter break and an opportunity to relax and rest away from school.

Over the last week, pupils in Years 7, 8, 9 and 11 have been issued with their 'Review 2' information highlighting progress against their last report. I am really pleased to see such a huge number of pupils making excellent progress since their last review showing that they had taken on board the feedback from teachers and acted upon it. Please take a few moments to talk through the review information with your child when you get chance.

Yesterday we held our first parents' evening for our current Year 7 cohort. I am pleased to say that attendance at the evening was over 90% with 167 families attending. Thank you to all the Year 7 parents who attended for their positive contributions and support at this event.

This morning we waved goodbye to 29 pupils and 4 staff who were setting off for the annual school ski trip. Mr Bailey and his team have meticulously planned an extremely exciting visit to Zell Am See in Austria. I am sure they will all have an amazing time and we wish them a safe journey.

On Tuesday we held our annual PTFA Year 8 Easter Bingo which was extremely well attended. It was a lovely opportunity to meet with parents' and pupils informally in school whilst raising money for the PTFA which goes directly back into our pupils. Thanks to all who attended and to members of our PTFA who supported on the night.

Congratulations to Thomas Halstead in Year 8 who spent last weekend in Blackburn at Westholme School at the annual music festival. It was a highly competitive and well attended event and I am pleased to say that Thomas achieved 2nd place in his singing section on Saturday and then won his classical guitar competition. Thomas was 3rd in the woodwind section with his flute and then won the open piano section with a piece by Debussy. Many of the competitors were 16 and 17 years old, which made the achievements even more impressive. Well done Thomas, a fantastic achievement.

Congratulation to Rowan Allison in Year 11 who competed in the National Schools Biathlon last Saturday representing Broughton High School and came 7th overall in his age group. He came first in the swimming discipline part of the event which is an amazing achievement. We are very proud of Rowan's achievement at national level, especially as this was his first year taking part.

It is impressive to see so many children achieving their 'Best of Broughton Award'. This is an award that aims to develop pupil character and the pupils will work on this throughout the year with the aim of completing all aspects of the challenge.

Headteacher: Mr David Botes

To achieve this award pupils will need to complete all eight challenges below.

1. Achieve at least a bronze award for academic and pastoral achievement in school.
2. Have great attendance: This must be across a term.
3. Evidence of reading at least 3 extra-curricular books.
4. Support a parents' evening, open night or event that shows willingness and commitment.
5. Attend a club or team activity over a minimum of 4 sessions.
6. Support a charity by promoting or helping raise funds.
7. Help out in a chosen area of school in the pupil's own time.
8. Feature in the school newsletter or receive a praise postcard.

Every pupil who manages to achieve this award will receive one of our 'Best of Broughton' badges to wear on their blazer. We have a significant number of children across all year groups who have now completed this award. Congratulations to those pupils that have achieved this award already. Form tutors will be working with those pupils who haven't yet managed to complete all the tasks through the summer term.

The pupils continue to look exceptionally smart in their uniforms and we have only had to remind a very small number of pupils recently about wearing their uniform correctly. Please remember that our uniform policy states that uniform should be worn correctly at all times. Ties should be knotted correctly and go to the waistband of trousers or skirts. Shirts should be tucked in at all times. Skirts should be worn correctly and at the knee. Shoes must be plain black (no trainers). Outdoor coats should be plain black or blue and must never be worn inside the school building. We do not allow coats or hooded tops with motifs or large emblems, or jewelry (apart from a single pair of plain studded earrings).

All uniform can be purchased from Monkhouse Schoolwear (Preston) or from The Uniform and Leisurewear Company (Garstang). We have an array of uniform items available for a small donation to the school's chosen charity. If you need a specific item of uniform please contact either Miss Cross or Mrs Dumbell by email (crosse@broughtonhigh.co.uk or dumbellr@broughtonhigh.co.uk) with the item and size required and they will check availability and respond to you. If we have the item in stock, you will be able to make a small donation on ParentPay and then the item will be bagged like all uniform deliveries to school and then collected in school.

Key dates are as follows:

School Closes for Easter	Thursday 28 March 2024
School re-opens	Monday 15 April 2024
Year 9 Parents' & Options Evening	Thursday 18 April 2024
Year 8 Parents' Evening	Thursday 25 April 2024


I hope you all manage to have a restful and relaxing break over the Easter holidays. School reopens on Monday 15th April at 8.40am.

Yours sincerely,



Mr David Botes
Headteacher

Learn it CHALLENGE

Every week, pupils in **Years 7, 8 and 9** are given  different, relevant facts, with the challenge of learning and remembering all ten facts for the following week, when they will be tested on them by their form tutor.

Pupils can access the challenge via notices on Synergy.

The next test will be on these days ...

Years 7 and 8
Wednesday
17th April

Year 9
Thursday
18th April

General Knowledge

1. Tooth decay is the most common non-contagious disease.
2. The Venus Flytrap is a plant which devours insects.
3. Dendrology is the study of trees.
4. The Taj Mahal is in Agra, India.
5. The two French words which give Velcro its name are Velour (velvet) and Crochet (hook).
6. There are 336 hours in a fortnight.
7. In computer terminology, HTML stands for Hypertext Mark-Up Language.
8. The carpal bones are found in the wrist.
9. The large walled area in a castle, where the soldiers and animals lived, is called the bailey.
10. A marathon race is run over 26 miles, 385 yards.

Every week there will be a new set of questions/answers set.

Why are we doing this?

- essential practice for exams
- learning relevant, factual information
- rote learning is good for pupils
- acquiring some general knowledge

Year 9 Options

The 'Options 2024' form for Year 9 pupils has been published this week and is available via the school website and at the back of this newsletter. Pupils were also sent an electronic copy via their Synergy account on Wednesday and given a paper copy during registration on Thursday.

This 'best fit' form has been created by considering the results of the preliminary survey completed using MS Forms by Year 9 earlier this half-term.

Publishing the form this week, will allow pupils and parents time to consider any questions they may wish to ask at the Year 9 Parents' Evening on Thursday 18th April. During the course of that evening, I shall deliver a short presentation about the options process at 4:15pm, 5:15pm and 6:15pm and I will also be available to answer individual questions; Year 9 parents are asked to factor one of these presentations into their appointment schedule for the evening. The presentation will last 15-20 minutes, no longer.

Pupils will then have until Friday 26th April to submit their final options choices.

Mr. Church

Option P		Option Q		Option R		Option T	
De	GERMAN	Ar	ART	BS	BUSINESS STUDIES	TS	TRIPLE SCIENCE
Eg	ENGINEERING	De	GERMAN	CS	COMPUTER SCIENCE	BS	BUSINESS STUDIES
FN	FOOD & NUTRITION	Eg	ENGINEERING	De	GERMAN	Da	DANCE
Fr	FRENCH	FN	FOOD & NUTRITION	Dr	DRAMA	Ft	FRENCH
Gr	DT GRAPHICS	Gg	GEOGRAPHY	Fr	FRENCH	Gg	GEOGRAPHY
Hi	HISTORY	Pd	PRODUCT DESIGN	Gg	GEOGRAPHY	Hi	HISTORY
Mu	MUSIC	Hi	HISTORY	PE	PE	IM	IMEDIA
Tx	TEXTILES	RS	RELIGIOUS STUDIES	St	STATISTICS	RS	RELIGIOUS STUDIES
		St	STATISTICS				
Reserve Subject							

SIGNED BY PARENT/CAREER:

U12 Girls' Football

Broughton v St. Cecilia's

10-0 win!

On Friday 22nd March, the U12 girls' football team played St Cecilia's in the **semi-final** of the **Preston Schools' Knockout Cup**. After an excellent performance, the girls came out **10-0 winners** with goals from **Mia McLennan (x5), Niamh Brown (x2), Megan Pye, Claire Nunn, and Bella Clark!**

The team have successfully secured themselves a place in the **final**.

Congratulations to all the players involved:

Emily Bretherton, Niamh Brown, Bella Clark, Ava MacRae, Mia McLennan, Claire Nunn, Megan Pye, Daisy Wilson.



Miss Hunter

National Schools' Biathlon

Rowan Allison (Year 11) competed in the **National Schools Biathlon** on Saturday 23rd March. He represented Broughton High School and **came 7th overall** in his age group.

Part of the event included a swimming discipline in which Rowan came in 1st place; a wonderful achievement. Rowan should be extremely proud of his accomplishments, especially as this was his first time taking part in the event.

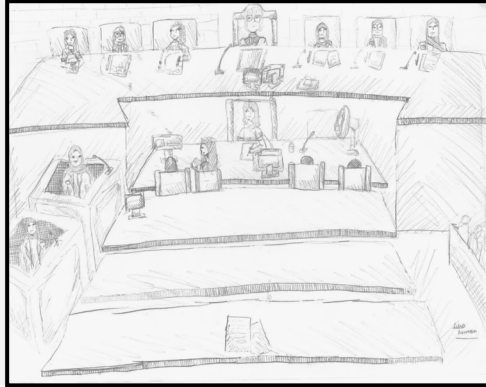
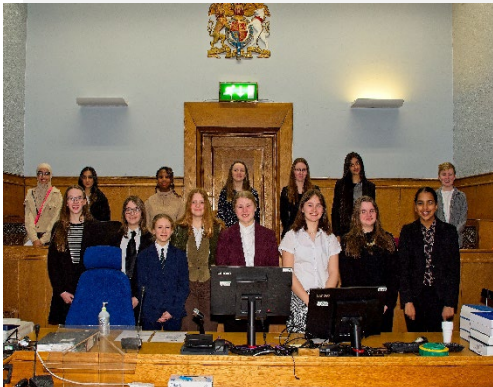
Very well done Rowan!



Magistrates' Court Mock Trial Competition

On Saturday, 23rd March, 15 pupils took part in the Magistrates' Court Mock Trial Competition, held at Burnley Magistrates' Court. Each pupil had a specific role, ranging from a lawyer, to an usher, to a court artist.

Pupils have been working incredibly hard over the last few months intensely preparing examination-in-chiefs, cross examinations and memorising witness statements. The team performance was superb and it was a great opportunity to develop, not only public speaking skills, but also gain an insight into the legal system.



Thank you to the following pupils for all their hard work:

1. Prosecution Lawyer 1: **Saira Ali**
2. Prosecution Lawyer 2: **Aiysha Aslam**
3. Prosecution Witness 1 (Chris Wheeler): **Tabitha Roberts**
4. Prosecution Witness 2 (Riley Carter): **Lucy Mitchell**
5. Legal Adviser (Statement of Prosecution): **Natasha Hamilton-Thorpe**
6. Defence Lawyer 1: **Rachael Eaton**
7. Defence Lawyer 2: **Priya Anantharachagan**
8. Defendant (Jo Goodwin) : **Elsie Kerley**
9. Defence Witness (Dani Carter): **Megan Wilcock**
10. Usher: **Alice Walmsley**
11. Magistrate 1: **Amanda Osakwe**
12. Magistrate 2: **Sophie White**
13. Magistrate 3: **Evie Eastham**
14. Court Reporter: **Charlie Craven**
15. Court Artist: **Aisha Hussain**



Nathan Parker Visit to School

On Tuesday 26th March, we welcomed Nathan Parker, a local writer, back to Broughton High to deliver an assembly to all of Year 10. It was a privilege to hear of Nathan's own journey into writing and hear him perform some of his own work. This was followed by a Q and A session with some interesting questions posed – some of which Nathan had never been asked before!

We were also luckily enough to have Nathan delivering some workshops, with a focus on poetry. The workshops included exploring the ingredients of poetry and culminated in a poetry collaboration, with an example below. Year 10 were an absolute credit: a brilliant day, enjoyed by all!



Thank you very much, Nathan!

Time

Here we go again,
Screen time to high.
Our mental battery low,
It's about to die.
Can't escape the media,
Don't know why.
Selling me things,
I don't need to buy.
Can't live up to expectations,
It's making me shy.
Apply another filter,
But it's just another lie.
Try to enter reality,
Access denied.
Whatever happened to people,
Upon which we relied?

What does humanity, social media
and a coin have in common?
They all have two sides.
The online world,
Like rickety rides,
Scrolling, searching, sniping,
No certified guides.
Just lies,
About how we visualise,
Ourselves.
Others.
And deprioritise,
Our health.
Our time.
Our lives.

School rules are weird;
We can't go to the toilet
During third period.
I mean, is it that serious?
Shhh ut up! Stay quiet!
But its in our nature to talk,
Anyone would think it was a riot,
In corridors we can only walk.
Got to be smart,
All day long.
But its just copy and paste,
Like a bird, without its song.

Mrs Armstrong

Young German Visitors at Broughton High School

On Monday this week, family friends of **Max Slater in Year 8**, Remy and Sora from Germany, joined us here at Broughton for a typical school day. Remy and Sora live in Meerbusch, near Düsseldorf, in North Rhine-Westphalia.



Remy shadowed Max in Year 8 taking part in a range of lessons from Maths to Food. Sora was accompanied by **Niamh Quigley in Year 9** and experienced lessons ranging from Games to Computing. They particularly enjoyed the food served at break and lunch and variety of lessons that they took part in.



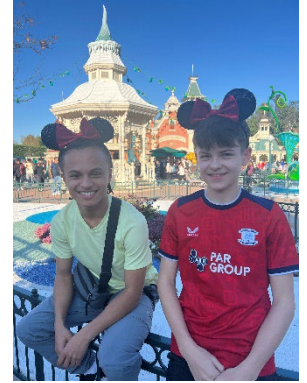
Mrs Newton



Paris Trip

Last week, Year 9 and Year 10 pupils enjoyed a visit to Paris. We were delighted to experience a taste of some summer weather with temperatures hitting 23 degrees as we spent 3 days packed with historical, cultural and fun activities.

We started with a beautiful descent into Charles de Gaulle airport viewing the Eiffel Tower lit up at sunset. Thursday was spent visiting all of the sites of central Paris and taking every opportunity to try out the pupils' amazing French on anyone who would listen! Friday was a sunny visit to Disney, including the spectacular light and firework show in the evening. On Saturday we returned to Paris to visit Montmartre and after a tour of the historic basilica we enjoyed a walking tour of the Montmartre area and its many artists at work and cafes.



The visit was a great success and everyone taking part had an unforgettable experience and a taste of real France. Many thanks to Mr Hughes, Miss Belcher and Mr Banks for accompanying the visit and to Miss Roskell for her organisational support.

Mrs Higham



Essay Writing in English

Sara Adam in Year 9 wrote the most fantastic essay this week in English. Sara argued beautifully about the character of Lord Capulet in a thorough and perceptive way. I was blown away by how she crafted her arguments and how well she demonstrated her knowledge of the whole text. Congratulations - your determination, hard work and tenacity has really paid off!

Mrs Smethurst

Assessment 18th March 2024

How does Shakespeare present the way Capulet treats Juliet in the extract and the play as a whole?

In Shakespeare's "Romeo & Juliet", Capulet's treatment of Juliet evolves from an indulgent father to an authoritarian patriarch, revealing the complexities of paternal love and societal expectations. Shakespeare illustrates Capulet's initial affectionate demeanor, which gradually transforms into an oppressive, controlling character, as he prioritizes familial honour over Juliet's autonomy, which ultimately contributes to the tragic fate of his daughter.

In scene 2, Capulet's attitude towards Juliet was kindly is portrayed as sympathetic and understanding. In Act one, he says, "My child is yet a stranger in this world." This was said in response to Paris asking for Juliet's hand in marriage. The possessive pronoun "my" shows how Capulet feels a sense of duty to guard Juliet and her innocence. This can reflect the idea during the Elizabethan time, which was that the father had a "duty" to protect their daughters until they were married, then their husbands would "protect" their wife. This portrays women to be weak and, in need of protection, but could also show Capulet's deep care which automatically comes with his role as a father.

This metaphor, shows that Juliet still had a lot to explore in the world, Capulet understands the integrity of women at this point.

Later on in the same extract, Capulet says, "Earth breeding stars that make heaven light." The words "dark heaven" are an oxymoron used to create light imagery. This technique, suggests without Juliet, all will be dark and ugly. This foreshadows the end of the play because once Juliet dies, Capulet realises how much he truly needed her. The noun "stars" could show Capulet's desire to make Paris her "star-crossed lover." Stars can also be referred to as "night candles" which could represent the eternal darkness Capulet will be trapped in once Juliet faces her fate. However, candles only provide temporary warmth, which shows she will eventually leave Capulet. Stars, after burning ~~out~~ for a long time, turn into black holes. This could represent the fact that after Juliet's death and Romeo's banishment, Juliet will slowly spiral out of control and drag many other innocent people down with her. (Paris)

Stars are also astrological signs and many people in the Elizabethan ~~times~~ era would have believed them to control many things. This entire section would have resonated with an Elizabethan audience. However, young marriages were common and by Capulet saying "Juliet was too young, would've sounded peculiar at that time, women were objectified and often seen as damsels in distress which needed rescuing. *

★ this three-
part
could
show
that
Capulet
has
changed
from
his
compassion
towards
Juliet
to
his
abusive
nature,
later
in Act 3

Capulet then transforms into a controlling parent in Act 3 Scene 5, he says "we have a curse in having her." This quote portrays Capulet's anger and (abusive) response to Juliet's disobedience. The use of the collective pronoun "we" shows how Lady Capulet had no say or opinion in decisions which were made. This further shows that in the Elizabethan era, men were viewed as superior & women were portrayed as inferior. This could suggest Capulet's aggressive treatment of women.

We also however cannot help sympathise for Capulet's desperation and despair at his families predicament. However this could also represent the irony of death throughout the play and foreshadow the ending. An

Bedrock Update

Well done to each of these pupils in the top 3 for the most amount of points scored in their Bedrock homework in March!

Year 7

Daniel Sange-Ahmed 847
Meer Modessa 416
Henry Smart 203



Year 8

Megan Wilcock 287
Ella Sanderson 224
Amanda Osakwe 193



Year 9

Harry Douglass 416
Hemanshu Kayam 226
Raeef Tanveer 213



Mrs Smethurst

On Sunday 31st March 2024 the clocks go forward!

HAPPY EASTER 🐣 🐰 🥚

Let's try and stay healthy at Easter! As we know this time of year can be very challenging with a temptation to overindulge on chocolate and tasty Easter treats. How can we keep this in check?

- Eat a healthy filling breakfast – go with a non-chocolate egg 🥚, scrambled or poached or look for a healthy egg recipe. Eggs are good for us and rich in protein.
- Try to snack healthily during the day (yoghurt, fruit etc.).
- Try to avoid sugary snacks.

FOOD SWAPS

- Try fruit instead of a sweet treat.
- Drink water instead of sugary drinks.
- Try a wholemeal hot cross bun instead of buttery hot cross bun.
- Go sugar free or low sugar.
- Boiled, jacket or new potatoes instead of chips or oily roast potatoes.

CHOCOLATE TREATS

- Enjoy your chocolate eggs and Easter treats but try not to overindulge, it's very tempting to dig in.
- Try the dark chocolate option, it is nutritious and a good source of antioxidants but again as with anything don't go over the top with your intake.

EGG-ERCISE

- Go outside with family or friends and create some Easter exercises.
- Try an Easter egg hunt or Easter treasure hunt.
- Keep up with the gym.

C Law Roots Counselling. 🐣

WORD OF THE WEEK

w/c 15th April

subsidise: verb

to contribute money,
to give a government grant to a company
or organisation to help it to function.

Example

The taxpayer won't **subsidise** his loss of income.

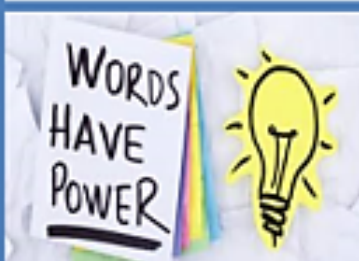
Synonyms

support, fund, sponsor.

Antonym

defund, disendow.

SCHOOL SYNERGY



Reading Recommendation



Trapped and alone on the salt marshes, Jodie is troubled by a haunting presence in this eerily atmospheric ghost story from multi-award-winning author Hilary McKay.

Jodie never wanted to come on the residential trip to the field centre. A loner at school, she's forced into a dormitory with other girls from her class who don't understand her and talk about her behind her back. Even though they're not trying to be mean, Jodie feels excluded and miserable, and eventually escapes out onto the salt marshes in search of a little dog she can hear barking in the distance. But the salt marshes are dangerous and Jodie gets trapped by the incoming tide. Stuck in the sucking mud, will anyone even notice that she's gone? And where is the little dog that keeps barking so mournfully ...?



Jodie
Short Story
Ghost story
Friendship

Our summaries are taken from the Goodreads website
which is a great website to discover your next book
<https://www.goodreads.com/>

It is always great to hear any recommendations you have.

If you have read a book that you think other pupils will enjoy,
please email Mrs Armstrong with the title, author
and why you recommend the book:

armstrongk@broughtonhigh.co.uk

Synergy points are awarded for all submissions and you will feature in the newsletter!

**A pupil who reads
is a pupil who succeeds.**

Late Bus

This term, the Late Bus will be running on

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

The service departs from Broughton at 4.25pm
allowing pupils to stay late to complete school work or participate in activities after school.

60p per pupil, per journey.

Pupils are able to use their bus passes and return tickets.



Prefects required!



We are currently looking for Year 10 pupils to apply for the prestigious roles of Prefect, Head Boy and Head Girl. This is great opportunity for pupils to serve the school and demonstrate their leadership skills.

It is important that pupils use the criteria to highlight why they are suitable candidates for the role. We would like to encourage all pupils to apply.

Successful candidates will be chosen after looking at a combination of their application, school achievements and attendance records, whilst also taking account of the recommendations from their teachers.

Essential Skills:

- Lead others.
- Work under pressure.
- Give verbal direction and/or instructions.
- Work with peers, staff and adults cooperatively.
- Work with limited supervision and show initiative.
- Organise time effectively and plan ahead.
- Adapt to changing circumstances.
- Be assertive, yet friendly.



Desirable skills:

- Excellent attendance and punctuality record.
- Excellent discipline record, following school rules (including wearing uniform correctly).
- Commendations for school reports.
- Regular and recent involvement in a range of clubs and extra-curricular activities.
- School awards.
- Undertaken roles as a tutor group representative or member of the school council.
- Involvement in tutor group assemblies.
- Responsibilities in and out of school.

Application deadline:

Friday 19th April 2024 (3pm)

The application has been set as a task on FireFly.

Once completed, pupils should put their application into an envelope, stating which role they are applying for (Prefect, or Head Boy/Head Girl).

Envelopes should then be put in the box which will be at Pupil Reception.

WORLD BOOK DAY - CAUGHT READING COMPETITION

As promised, here are a selection of the entries to this year's 'Caught Reading' Competition. Congratulations to all who took part but especially to our winners! Our top three all won a book, a bookmark and a sweet treat and synergy points were awarded to everybody for their fantastic efforts.

Mrs Whitlock



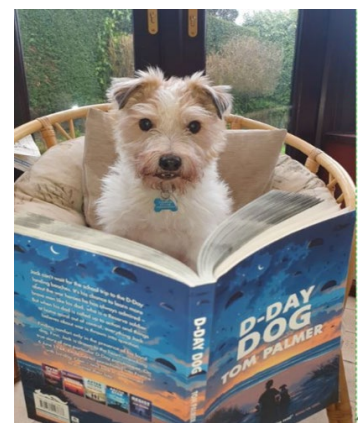
Jack Christopher's Dog 8R



Mia Harris 9S



Thomas Halstead 8R and his Tortoise!



Sienna Robinson 7R with her pets Kyro the Conure and Toffee the Terrier all enjoying a good read!



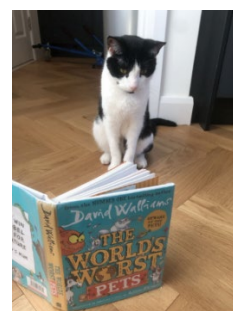
Ella Sanderson 8R reading everywhere - including upside down - deservedly won 1st prize



Will Rainford's (7C) cat Poppy



Elliot Kinley 7H reading on the run



Max Slater's (8N) Cat learning how not to behave



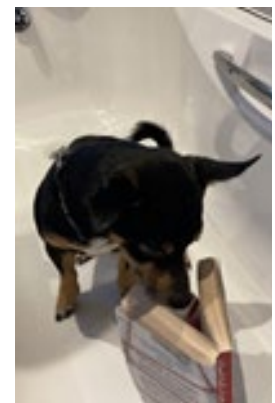
Georg Ilott 7S and dog Sadie enjoying H Potter



Alisha Chaudhry 7R, proving you really can read anywhere, came in joint second place



Nishi Thakkar 7C enjoying a book at meal time



Olivia McWilliam 8C tied in 2nd place doing a spot of washing?!?

Daniel Sange-Ahmed 7B doing a little car boot reading

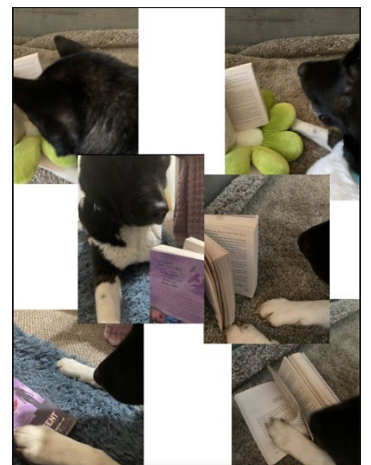
Aiden Scarisbrick's (7B) dog enjoying a good murder mystery



Mia Leyland's (8R) dog enjoying the world of the Hunger Games



Mia Woods 8C hiding out with a book



Samantha Humphrey's (8R) dog getting lost in a good story



This section of the newsletter informs pupils and parents of the latest careers news, events held in school and opportunities further afield. Links to external employers and training providers can be accessed by clicking on the links underlined. Any careers queries can be directed to Mrs Smethurst by email smethurstj@broughtonhigh.co.uk

JOB OF THE WEEK



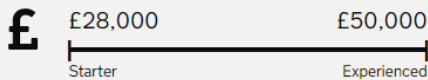
Physiotherapist

Sports physiotherapist

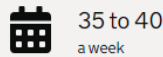
Physiotherapists assess and treat mobility problems in patients caused by illness, injury, ageing or disability.



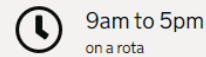
Average salary (a year)



Typical hours (a week)



You could work



Explore the different ways to get into this role

You can get into this job through:
a university course
an apprenticeship
working towards this role

University

You can do a [physiotherapy degree course](#) approved by the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy.

You can also do a postgraduate master's course if you already have a first degree in a related subject, like:

- biological science
- health science
- sports and exercise science

Once you are qualified and have clinical experience you could specialise in an area like sports injuries and rehabilitation.

Entry requirements

2 or 3 A levels, or equivalent, including biology for a degree
a degree in a relevant subject for postgraduate study



Ashbridge
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL & NURSERIES



**RECRUITING
NOW FOR
2024!**

EARLY YEARS APPRENTICESHIPS

Nurseries located near Penwortham,
Preston City Centre,
Cottam and Bilsborrow

- Full-time apprenticeship working towards your Level 2 or 3 childcare qualification.
- Protected off the job training and expert tuition provided.
- Guaranteed permanent employment on successful completion.
- Continued development to achieve further qualifications.
- Fantastic atmosphere, support network and employee benefits including uniform, meals whilst at work and local discounts.
- Fully supported and accredited by Runshaw College.

email: apprenticeships@ashbridgeschool.co.uk

**APPRENTICESHIP
PAY - OVER £150
PER WEEK**

**LEVEL 2 PAY - UP
TO £380 PER WEEK**

**LEVEL 3 PAY -
OVER £400 PER
WEEK**

**Contact
Ashbridge directly
or come and
collect an
application form
from Mrs Smethurst
in EN6.**



Year 10 and 11 –
have a look at the
webinars available
on Unifrog and sign
up. It is a great way
to enhance your CV!



Get work ready with a computing degree For students

In a world driven by technology, a computing degree is a valuable asset. Sheffield Hallam's Computing degree offers you a range of projects and experiences with employers, including industry work placements, ensuring you're work-ready. Join experts from Sheffield Hallam University to find out more!

> Wednesday 20 March @ 16:30 UK time - 45 mins - [Sign up](#) or [Share](#)
0 students from your school signed up to this session.



How to prepare for exams For students

Exams can be daunting, but effective revision can help cure some exam nerves and set you up for success! Join this webinar to hear some top tips from a Cambridge student, plus our very own Wellbeing Officer, Charlotte, on how to revise effectively and excel in exam season.

> Monday 25 March @ 17:00 UK time - 45 mins - [Sign up](#) or [Share](#)
0 students from your school signed up to this session.



Addressing global challenges with engineering: Why study bacteria? For students

Join Engineers Dr Evrim Celik Madenli and Dr Jenny Hanson from the University of Liverpool as they talk about the use of bacteria in Engineering. Nature's bioengineers, bacteria are used in many applications from water treatment, the food and drinks industry, the manufacture of bioplastics, breakdown of environmental contaminants and healthcare. We discuss these applications, consider the impact of when "good bugs go bad" and talk about how we can engineer innovative solutions to tackle these.

> Tuesday 26 March @ 17:00 UK time - 45 mins - [Sign up](#) or [Share](#)
0 students from your school signed up to this session.

Poppy Playtime

It is important that you are aware that whilst the name and characters suggest a playful game, **it is a survival horror game with graphics that may not be suitable for your child.** It includes characters such as 'Kissy Wissy' and 'Huggy Wuggy.' **Please view this game before allowing your child to play it as it may not be appropriate for them – particularly young children.**

Children may be playing the game or just watching videos of it on sites such as YouTube or playing replicated versions on Roblox for example.

Further information

Safer Schools NI have produced this informative:

<https://saferschoolsni.co.uk/huggy-wuggy-online-safety-review/>

Talking to strangers online

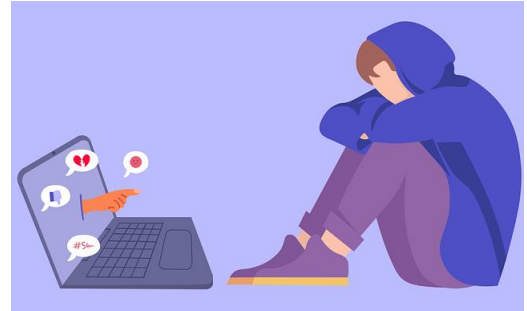
There are many apps/websites where your child may come across strangers contacting them. Some platforms will allow you to set who can contact your child as well as switch off communication so ensure appropriate settings are explored and set up. This article from ThinkUKnow talks about how to protect your child from adult content and contact:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Concerned-about-your-child/Online-contact-and-staying-safe/>

Cyberbullying

What is cyberbullying?

Cyberbullying is bullying online and can take many forms such as sending malicious messages, leaving nasty comments, excluding somebody from a group chat, blackmailing or setting up a fake profile. Cyberbullying can take place across many different platforms such as WhatsApp, Snapchat and on games such as Roblox and Minecraft.



What should I do if my child is being bullied online?

If your child is being bullied, then try to stay calm and let them know that it is not their fault. It is always useful to keep evidence of any online bullying and inform their school so that they are aware. Show your child how to block and/or report any users/content and review their privacy settings to limit what others can see. You may also wish to set up any parental controls that are available.

Further information

There is a vast amount of information available online about cyberbullying. The following links provide further information on types of online bullying, how to support somebody who is being bullied and who you can contact if you need any further advice or support.

- <https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/online-bullying/>
- <https://www.nationalbullyinghelpline.co.uk/cyberbullying.html>
- <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/coping-with-life/bullying/>

Group Chats

Group Chats are available on various messaging apps, social media apps and in some games. When your child is part of these groups, they may not know all the other members and it may even include people that they have previously blocked. Your child may come across inappropriate content and bullying can take place within these groups. Talk to your child about how they speak to others online and encourage them to talk to people online with kindness, like they would if they were face-to-face. The NSPCC provide further information about group chats here: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/chat-apps/>

You must be over 13 years of age to use TikTok.

TikTok is a social media platform for sharing and watching short video clips. Some of the videos may not be appropriate for your child to view and there is also the risk of strangers contacting your child. If your child is using TikTok then make sure appropriate security/privacy settings are applied.

Account set up

As always, it is important that when setting up an account, your child enters their real date of birth as accounts are tailored by age e.g., direct Messaging is disabled for accounts aged 13-15. In addition, advertisements are tailored to their age. By default, accounts for people under 16 are set to private and we would recommend keeping it as this. This means your child must approve follower requests. You can read more about the other settings available, such as switching off comments and switching on restricted mode here: <https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/account-privacy-settings>.

Family Pairing

This allows you to link your own account to your child's account. You can then set controls such as restricted mode. You can find out more here: <https://www.tiktok.com/safety/en/guardians-guide/>

Inappropriate content, themes and challenges on TikTok

Whilst against TikTok's guidelines, explicit and inappropriate content can be found on this platform, for example nudity/sexual content and hate speech. We often see viral challenges on social media, some of which can be dangerous. If your child is using TikTok, chat to them regularly about what they are viewing.

Trends and Influencers

We often see trends on social media, for example a latest trend found is around skin care routines, which can lead to children purchasing products that are completely unsuitable/dangerous for their skin. You can find out more here: <https://www.bark.us/blog/skin-care-tweens/>. Influencers are people who have a large following on social media who through recommendations and promotions, influence the behavior or buying habits of others. The NSPCC discuss what we need to be aware of here: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/2023-05-16-the-influence-of-influencers/>

Stranger contact

Talk to your child about who is following them online and ensure that they understand that people may not be who they say they are when online. It is important that children know not to share personal information.

Blocking and Reporting

Ensure your child knows how to use the safety features available to them, including how to report comments, direct messages and another user.

Further information

- <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/tiktok>

Online Challenges

Our children may not have developed the skills and ability to critically analyse all situations yet so **it is important to talk to your child about hoaxes and challenges** that may appear on the internet. Some challenges are fun and provide no risk, **however there will be challenges that are risky/dangerous.**

Just recently, a child sadly died after participating in a challenge - more information here:

<https://ineqe.com/2024/03/19/dangerous-challenge-safeguarding-risks/>

Your child may see others complete certain challenges online without being harmed and therefore may want to repeat them and not consider the potential risks to themselves. Make sure they know that they should talk to you (or another trusted adult) about what they see online, particularly if they plan to try a challenge.

We would always advise that if your child has not heard about an online challenge, then do not draw attention to it as this may lead to them searching for it out of curiosity, so just talk about challenges in a general sense.

Furthermore, reassure your child that challenges that suggest that terrible things will happen if they do not complete the tasks are not real.

The following link will provide you with further information as well as content to help you talk to your child:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/connecting-safely-online/advice-for-parents/tackling-the-hard-stuff-on-social-media-to-support-young-people/online-challenges-are-they-harmless/>

TikTok have also produced this resource to help you talk to your child about challenges and the potential risks:

<https://www.tiktok.com/safety/en-sg/online-challenges/>