

# INTHEKNOW

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11<sup>th</sup> December 2020



Message from Miss Green:



## **Christmas Home Room Competition**

We are incredibly excited to celebrate the festive season with our students next week during 'Bournville's Four Days of Christmas.' We've already begun decorating our Home Rooms, and are continuing our focus on kindness, from this week's assemblies, by thanking those in our school communities who have helped us this term by writing notes of thanks. We are also showing our integrity and kindness by supporting the B30 Foodbank and local families in need through our annual Food Bank collection. Our 'Bournville Four Days of Christmas' has many exciting seasonal surprises, but the most exciting is Thursday's reading and workshop by the author 'Chris Russell' which will be streamed live to home rooms, along with a workshop and the Christmas Concert which is being streamed live from our Music Department across the school, and will

feature many of our talented students.

# The Bournville **FOUR** Days of Christmas...



Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	On the first day of Christmas...	There will a Home Room Christmas decorating competition. Christmas treats to be won for most festive room.
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	On the second day of Christmas...	'Tinsel Tuesday' - donate money to 'Mind' to wear some Christmas sparkle
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	On the third day of Christmas...	Christmas Post - cards given out to all students Film and popcorn for students with most Gold awards
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	On the fourth day of Christmas...	P1 - Chris Russell - Author reading and workshop in home rooms P2 - Deliberate Practice based on workshop in home rooms P3 and 4 - Lessons as normal P5 - 2-2.30 - Christmas concert via teams in home rooms, 2.30 staggered departure



This term we've also found lots of other things to celebrate, including the excellent attendance of our pupils, which has been improving despite the current national picture where fewer students have been able to attend school. We've been working incredibly hard to maintain COVID safe practices so that as many students as possible can stay in school, and we're pleased we've been fortunate in being able to stay open to everyone for the majority of this term. We hope our school community, and the wider local community, can join us in celebrating the values of kindness, thanks and integrity even in this particular dark winter. We also wish you all a merry Christmas, and look forward to having our students back for more learning in the new year! Below you will find some examples of how we have been supporting our students to succeed and flourish despite the challenges we all face because of the ongoing COVID19 restrictions.

## Bournville Family Breakfast



### Just some of the topics discussed in Family Breakfast this term:

- What can we do to demonstrate kindness?
- How do we best remember those who served in this country?
- Who should get the Covid vaccine first?
- Who will best represent our form as a student leader?
- What can we learn from Black History?
- How can we prevent bullying in school?
- How can I learn best?
- Why is taking personal responsibility important?



Everyone. Every lesson. Every day.

ENRICHING LIVES; TRANSFORMING FUTURES

We've been astounded this term by the popularity and success of our shared family breakfast. This is an opportunity for forms and form tutors to eat a free bagel together and discuss topical issues like a family. This has given our students an opportunity to understand current affairs, use their voices, and to explore their shared values.

Forms have also participated in a full programme of assemblies beamed into their Home Rooms and narrated by key members of our school community. We are also very proud of the students who have applied to represent their forms in Student Leadership taking on roles in promoting

wellbeing and becoming Form Captains and Student Council Representatives, their applications were excellent!

## Encouraging Aspiration and Rewarding Excellence

We are very proud of the many excellent students we have here who achieve lots of Gold rewards, have excellent attendance and work hard every lesson, every day. Some of these students have been rewarded with a 'surprise' golden envelope delivered to them in lessons. We have also arranged a 'Pizza Friday' reward where the year group with the best attendance; we want to reward those who show excellence.

One of our mottos is 'because we care' and we have been showing we care for our students in a range of ways. One of these is supporting them through these uncertain times by providing aspirational opportunities for them. We are excited to have had Birmingham Poet Laureate,



Professional Boxer, and ex-student Matt Windle join our Y10 students for a Poetry Workshop, Boxercise session, and mentoring with some students to show them what aspiration aligned with resilience, determination and practice can lead to.

Our fantastic Year 10 Aspiration programme has provided revision and study resources for students as well as a tailored programme of live sessions including the opportunity to ask questions with local colleges and careers professionals to enable them to plan the futures they aspire to.



We have also been able to offer our Y10 and Y11 students sessions with the amazing motivational speakers and revision experts from Action Jackson, this term, ensuring they are ready to meet their assessments with the right mental attitude and an understanding of what it takes to do well.



## Extra-Curricular Opportunities

We are also very pleased to have been able to offer students a range of extra-curricular opportunities which we have carefully planned around social distancing and COVID safe



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practices. Examples of these fantastic opportunities include Miss Brown's Drama club, 'Bournville's Big Debate' which has run in form times, and at lunchtime with a year 9 class in person, and the fantastic Instagram account, @bournville\_school\_art, run by Mrs Walton to showcase the fantastic work our students are producing, as well as running a Christmas card competition. Mrs Lewis in English has run a year 7 and 8 Christmas Writing competition, there have been opportunities for Y9 students to be Academically Mentored through the University of Birmingham, and students in music will be taking on a world record attempt with Mr Thomas on Wednesday 9th December at 2pm. They will be joining Jamie Cullum for a live music lesson via Youtube. It is an attempt to break the record for the largest music lesson ever held.



This week in Bournville Primary, children have watched a very special virtual pantomime about the adventures of Aladdin and Widow Twanky! Our children have shown great dedication and a have striven for excellence all throughout the term in their work, and staff are tremendously proud of them, they deserved a fun end of term treat. It was lovely to see and hear the children participate in the classic pantomime shouts and cheers, and hope that we can give our children this wonderful experience next year.

**BOURNVILLE SCHOOL** Y9 Friday Lunchtimes in E1 with Dr Burrells  
All other year groups at Family Breakfasts

Join us for Bournville's Big Debate

Debating is a formal way of having a discussion. It is a skill that allows you to argue your point of view. Sometimes in debating you have to argue for an idea you disagree with. This is useful practice in the art of rhetoric (persuading others).

In a debate you lose points if you:

- Shout
- Don't listen to others
- Don't speak clearly
- Don't wait your turn
- Use informal language
- Lose your cool
- Forget which side you're supposed to be arguing.

This is a great way to extend your vocabulary, improve your confidence, have fun, give your opinions and improve your C.V.



Everyone. Every lesson. Every day. **ENRICHING LIVES. TRANSFORMING FUTURES**

## Mental health for young people during Coronavirus and lockdown

If you're worried about the impact of coronavirus on your mental health, you are not alone. The COVID-19 pandemic is a new and uncertain time for all of us and will affect our mental health in different ways. However you are feeling right now is valid. With the right help and support, we can get through this. The Young Minds website gives valuable advice on things you can do to keep mentally healthy.

<https://youngminds.org.uk/>

### The Mix

- You can find information for young people about coronavirus and ideas for things to do while staying home on their website.
- The Mix's emotional support services are open as normal – and if you're under 25 you can talk to them about anything that's troubling you over the phone, email or webchat. You can also use their phone or online counselling service.
- Helpline open daily 4-11pm: 0808 808 4994 • Email service • Webchat open daily 4-11pm
- Counselling service

### Childline

- If you're under 19 you can confidentially call, email or chat online about any problem big or small
- Freephone 24h helpline: 0800 1111

### YoungMinds Crisis Messenger

- Provides free, 24/7 crisis support across the UK if you are experiencing a mental health crisis
- If you need urgent help text YM to 85258
- All texts are answered by trained volunteers, with support from experienced clinical supervisors
- Texts are free from EE, O2, Vodafone, 3, Virgin Mobile, BT Mobile, GiffGaff, Tesco Mobile and Telecom Plus.

We'd also like to remind all parents that our website has a dedicated safeguarding section which contains information on key safeguarding topics and links to find information and help:

<http://www.bournvilleschool.org/academy-life/safeguarding/> You can also contact one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads via email [safeDSL@bournville.bham.sch.uk](mailto:safeDSL@bournville.bham.sch.uk)

**If you or your family is struggling at this unprecedented time, support is available from the Birmingham City Council Educational Psychology team:**



Do you as a parent or carer at home with your children during the school shut down, feel that you need someone to talk to about how you can cope with this challenging time for families? Birmingham Educational Psychology Service is providing a telephone helpline for any parent or carers of children, who feel they would benefit from a consultation with a psychologist to support them with any concerns arising at this time, for them or their families.

Areas of concern you may wish to discuss could include:

Anxiety around the current situation and its impact on your children and family.

Supporting you to support your children's emotional needs.

Concerns about family relationships.

Concerns about friendships, learning, daily structure and activities.

How to best look after yourself so you can support your children.

The concerns can be related to school or family life. You will be offered an initial telephone consultation of 30 minutes with a psychologist and a potential follow up session of another 30-minute consultation at a later date. These will be Monday -Friday, within standard working hours. If you would like to access this service please email: **Stephanie.Bowen@birmingham.gov.uk** with the following information:

Your name

The telephone number you would like to be contacted on.

The name of your child's school.

Times and dates you are not available for a consultation.

Whether an interpreter is required for you to access this service.

We will aim to get back to you within 2 working days to confirm a time and date for your consultation.

This service will, as far as possible, be confidential.