

## Principal's Message

The last half term at Bournville has been packed full of activity. GCSEs, SATs and year 10 exams have come and gone, our new Y6 students have begun the transition process to join our increasing school community and students have experienced a wide variety of trips, activities, and taster days. Please do enjoy this latest bumper edition of 'In the know' to get a fuller overview of recent events.

I must congratulate our Year 6 students for an excellent performance in their SATs, with reading and writing results a particular strength. Students achieved in line with or above national standards. Year 11 students too, have been a true credit to the school during the GCSE exam season. They approached their exams in a purposeful and calm manner and I'm sure they will all achieve the grades they fully deserve when we welcome them back to school to collect their exam results on Thursday 25th August.

We are already looking ahead with anticipation to what promises to be an excellent academic year starting in September. Recent visitors, including the local MP, Steve McCabe have given us excellent feedback from their recent school tours. We will continue to put plans in place to ensure we drive the school forwards in all aspects.

I would like to thank all members of the school community for their support and hard work this year and wish you all a restful and enjoyable summer!

Miss M. Green - Principal

## Key Dates:

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July** – end of summer term

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August** – GCSE Results Day

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September** – Y7 and Y11 return to school

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September** – all year groups in school



MP, Steve McCabe, visits and meets students to discuss the local issues that matter to them.



The **School Games Mark** is a government led awards scheme to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community. Bournville School has recently been awarded the Gold Award, having demonstrated excellence in each of the four key areas:

**Participation** – how many young people at your school are being engaged in sporting activity?

**Competition** – how many different sports are being played and how many competitions are being entered?

**Workforce** – how many pupils are involved in leadership activities alongside taking part in competitions?

**Clubs** – how many local links does your school have with clubs or establishments from the area?

We are a school games organiser (SGO) school and the PE department run weekly sports activities for local primary schools as well as the wide range of enrichment opportunities offered to our own students.

We're immensely proud of the award, in recognition of the hard work put into sport at Bournville.

Mr M Payton – Subject Leader for PE



We want to congratulate our **Year 11** students who have now completed their GCSEs! Students and staff had worked tirelessly throughout the year with intervention sessions taking place before and after school and even on Saturdays! During the final few weeks of school it was only right and proper that we celebrated the efforts of the students and we did this through our Year 11 Leavers Assembly. A video montage showing how students have changed during their 5 years at Bournville School brought numerous “aaahs” and giggles from the audience. We celebrated their many achievements too and organised a celebratory barbecue, where staff and students gathered for the traditional shirt-signing and good-byes.

The highlight of the year for many Year 11 pupils has to be prom. This year it was held at the H Suite in Edgbaston. As hoped, it was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Students looked glamorous and giddy with excitement danced till late. It was a fitting end to their school career. Mr P. Lowe – Head of KS4

Results Day: Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August



## Venture Force Expedition - 2024



Year 8 students have had the opportunity to apply to be part of a group of students and staff who will visit The Gambia. This is a Trust initiative and we are working with ‘Venture Force’, an organisation experienced in travelling to this area. By no means is this a holiday but what students will get instead is a life-changing cultural experience and the opportunity to contribute to a local community. We will be doing lots of fund-raising prior to this unique adventure!

Miss H. Poole - AP

## EPIC Engineers STEM Workshop

In this unique workshop, Year 8 and 9 students engaged in exciting engineering design and make projects, that brought to life the ‘EPIC’ challenges real life engineers face in the transport infrastructure industries. Students enjoyed working in teams to:

- Design a futuristic train station
- Design, build and test a tunnel structure
- Construct a rail network

The workshop also enabled students to explore career opportunities in transport infrastructure, and to hear directly from STEM ambassadors who work in this field.

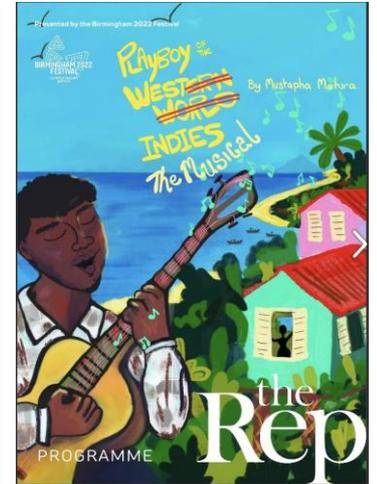
Mrs R. Field – Subject Leader Careers



## Young Birmingham Poets 2022: Commonwealth Games Edition

This term, we were selected to be part of a National Literacy Trust programme, focusing on improving students' writing through poetry. Year 5, 6 and 7 took part in the programme which had a three-pillar model for writing:

- Create memorable experiences
- Work with a professional writer
- Write for a real audience and purpose

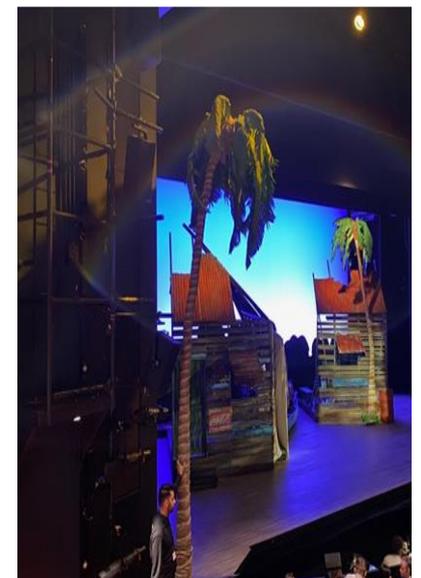


## Memorable experiences

On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June, we took almost 150 students to see a performance of the musical 'Playboy of the West Indies' at the Birmingham Rep. Students thoroughly enjoyed the show – especially clapping along to the songs.



On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June, a member of the Education Team from The Rep came to Bournville to deliver workshops based on the show. The workshops focused on using physical theatre to explore the vocabulary used in the songs from the musical. Students worked in groups and discussed how to perform the lines with their movements before adding the words to their performance. Students showed excellent creativity and team work skills in the sessions, and their confidence in performing increased throughout the session.  
Mrs J. Dovey - AP



## Work with a professional writer

Students then had the opportunity to work with professional poet Jasmine Gardosi, a slam poetry champion. Jasmine uses beatboxing in her poetry, and students loved seeing Jasmine perform. Under Jasmine's guidance, students were able to edit and improve their work.



## Why poetry?

Poetry is becoming more popular amongst young people. Its rise in popularity has been attributed in part to the ease with which it can be shared on social media and the success of 'InstaPoets'.

## Write for a real audience and purpose

On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July, a group of students performed their poetry at the University of Birmingham at a Poetry Festival. In addition, students will now have their poems published in an anthology via Kindle Direct Publishing. Examples of their poetry are below:



### Polska, (Poland).

The blood  
The scars  
Locked behind wired bars.  
Auschwitz.  
Cold and lonely  
How?  
Before it was green and lively  
Ah yes, the Holocaust  
No  
That was in the past  
"We can forget"  
Unacceptable.  
Why does it matter if it was eighty years since?  
It happened. Why forget?  
Forevermore, the angels burned.  
For what? A second's worth of pity?  
Yeah, this is Poland.  
P for the Past  
O for One and Only  
L for Loved and Lost  
A for Alive  
N for Never forgotten  
D and D for the Dust left behind.  
Poland.  
The flag waves proudly with red,  
symbolising the bloodshed and the white for  
the scars left behind.

**Sarah Zaman**

### Life

Life is something you never give up on  
Life is someone's companion  
Life is someone's pain, happiness and love  
Life is someone's memories.

Sometimes pain can make you feel there is no one  
In the world who loves you

Sometimes crying helps you feel happy

Someone's joy is someone's sorrow  
Someone's sorrow is someone's joy

Do you know why sad people love rain?  
Because they are not crying alone anymore.

**Joanna Poruthukkaran**



Each year group in key stage 3 enjoyed their own **Sports Day** last week. Students competed in track and field events, activities ranging from javelin to mixed relay. It was wonderful to see athletes showing skill and determination and enjoying their moment in the limelight. Other students can be commended for having a go to gain points for their team. Best of all the atmosphere was supportive and encouraging as spectators applauded and cheered. Congratulations to all who took part.

Mr M. Payton – Subject Leader PE



### Matilda theatre Visit

There are significant benefits for students in going to the theatre and seeing live performances from developing social skills, enhancing literary knowledge and of course, enjoyment! Students at Bournville School are given many opportunities to go to the theatre. This week it was the turn of students in years 5, 6 and 7, who went to London to see an RSC musical production of Matilda. Students behaved impeccably and thoroughly enjoyed themselves!

Mrs J. Dovey - AP

### Summer Diversity Programme

In response to student feedback, we have invited into school a variety of inspirational role models to raise aspirations and motivate them. A highlight has been the assemblies given by Cordell Jeffers, a local entrepreneur, who faced adversity in his youth but has since gone on to lead a successful business with the support of the Prince's Trust.

Miss N. Finch – Head of Y9



## Careers Education

What an incredible term it has been for raising aspirations and promoting ambition. Just a taste of recent careers events...

**Careers in the curriculum for National Careers Week:** -all teaching staff were asked to take 5 minutes in each lesson to talk about careers linked to their subject using Unifrog, an online careers platform, as a resource. Many subjects sent evidence of this being done really well, science, geography, MFL, RS, drama, Business.

**Epic Engineers STEM event with HS2** - In this unique workshop, Year 8 and 9 students engaged in exciting engineering design and make projects, that brought to life the 'EPIC' challenges real life engineers face in the transport infrastructure industries. Students enjoyed working in teams to

- Design a futuristic train station
- Design, build and test a tunnel structure
- Construct a rail network

The workshop also enabled students to explore career opportunities in transport infrastructure, and to hear directly from STEM ambassadors who work in this field.

**Birmingham 2022 'Bring the Power' workshop** – Year 7 students looked at local heroes and how they had made a difference to their communities and then students were encouraged to think about how they could make a difference in school, nationally and world-wide.

**PwC finance workshop** - a hour workshop for Y9 on finance and money management

**Aldi workshop apprenticeships** – a Y10 workshop on apprenticeship opportunities at Aldi

**Trips and visits** – Halesowen College, Birmingham University, practical workshop at South and City – a variety of taster days for Y10 students helping them consider post-16 options

**Work experience preparation** – 84% of Y10 students enjoyed a week of work experience



Thank you to all of you who also responded to our parent survey, we were pleased to receive your positive feedback and will also use your suggestions to help us to improve careers education further. A reminder there is more information about our careers provision on the school website, link below:

[Careers Education – Bournville School](#)

Lastly, a reminder that all students have login details e-mailed to them enabling them to use Unifrog, an excellent resource for careers research. We encourage all students to do this!

Mrs Field – Subject Leader - Careers

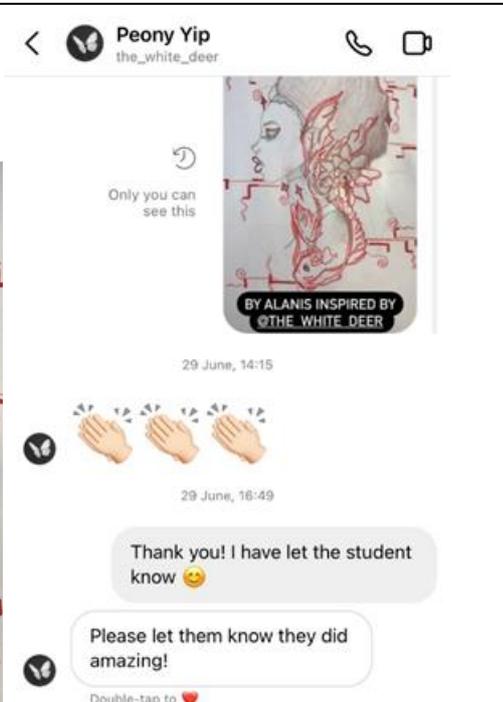




Rose Cassidy Year 7- Relief sculpture inspired by AJ Fosik



Lilly Cooper Year 8- André Derain Study

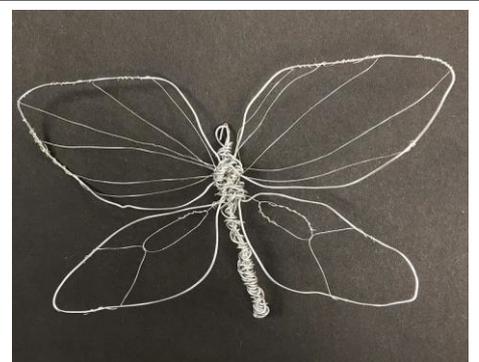


Year 9 Alanis Wiseman- Peony Yip Study- The artist even contacted us on Instagram to let us know how much they liked it.

## Summer term Art Gallery

These are just some of the examples of the fantastic art pieces students have created in the last half term. There is one for each year group to give you a taste of the curriculum covered at each stage.

Miss Walton – Subject Leader Art



Year 10 Courtney Maddocks- Wire drawing