

April 2025

## Welcome to this issue of "In the Know".

As you will see from this addition there has been so much to celebrate at Bournville this half term. This has all occurred around the hard work and dedication of the students to their studies, none less than the year 6 and 11 students who are now rounding the corner towards the final leg of their SATs and GCSE exams respectively. The year 11 students will continue their revision with the support of the Easter revision sessions the week commencing the 14<sup>th</sup> of April 2025.

A special shout out to the girl's netball teams who arrive early in the mornings before school and stay after school practicing as they get ready to compete with our local schools. It was a joy to go and watch them play against Bartley Green girls on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April where they played against very strong teams, but our girls held their own! Well done to them.

On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> of April, we were honoured to have our local MP Alistair Carns and Hannah Robbins the CEO of Aquarius come into school to open our new community hub room as well as judge some posters on vaping. They were blown away by our students and their work, it was a very proud moment for us all to showcase the talents of your children to such esteemed guests.

As you will see there is so much more to read so I will leave you to enjoy reading about all the things that have happened over this busy half term.

Please do enjoy the break and we look forward to welcoming your children back on 28<sup>th</sup> April as we begin the summer term a season of exams and assessments and preparation for next year.

Best wishes,

M Rooney (Principal)



## Enrich Community Hub Opens!



Our new Enrich Community Hub was officially opened yesterday by local Labour MP Alistair Carns and FMAT CEO, Simon Jones. The new resource will be used for a wealth of activities, workshops and school events. We look forward to welcoming in all stakeholders from Associates and parents to local organisations as we continue to forge strong links with the local community and provide services of benefit to all. Look out for a programme of future events.

## Aquarius Competition

After a special assembly on the dangers of vaping, students were invited to participate in a poster competition to demonstrate what they learned. Miss Walton was inundated with lots of incredible entries. Finalists presented to a panel of special invited guests such as Hannah Robbins, CEO of Aquarius. Students were able to present their designs, making the judging process impossible!

Congratulations to all the students that took part but especially Shakur who was eventually selected as the winner!



## Eco School



A group of volunteer Eco Warriors in KS3 are passionate about improving the environment. They have already started a weekly rota of litter picking to improve the school environment and took part in the 'Great Big School Clean'. However, this wonderful bunch are ambitious and have now started to work towards the Eco Schools Award. To start with this group are completing an audit to assess the school's Eco credentials from recycling to energy usage, they are investigating it all ready to put an action plan together. Fantastic work!

## Green Thumbs Up! Students Cultivate Change with New Garden and Pond

A dedicated group of students has been busy transforming a patch of our school grounds into a vibrant haven for nature. Their hard work has resulted in the creation of a beautiful garden and a thriving pond, both brimming with colourful wildflowers. This exciting initiative aims to enhance our school environment, deepen our understanding of food webs, and add a splash of natural beauty to our building.

The project, spearheaded by the students who attend our enhanced learning pathway. From planning the layout and digging the pond to carefully selecting and planting a variety of wildflowers, their commitment has been truly inspiring.

The new garden and pond aren't just aesthetically pleasing. They serve as a living classroom, offering a fantastic opportunity to learn about the intricate relationships within a food web.

Students will be able to observe pollinators like bees and butterflies attracted to the wildflowers, and potentially even spot small pond creatures taking up residence in their new aquatic home. This hands-on experience will bring science lessons to life and foster a greater appreciation for biodiversity.

The project has already made a noticeable difference to the look and feel of the school grounds, adding a touch of natural charm. The vibrant colours of the wildflowers and the tranquil presence of the pond offer a welcome contrast to the brickwork.

This fantastic initiative is a testament to the students' passion for the environment and their willingness to take action. The garden and pond will undoubtedly be a valuable asset to our school for years to come, providing a space for learning, observation, and simply enjoying the beauty of nature. Well done to all the students involved!



*P. Beaufoy*



## GCSE Exam season begins

Over the past half term Y11 students have continued to work hard in preparation for GCSE examinations which for most begin early in May. March mock examinations provided excellent preparation for students as they now know exactly what to expect from the actual examination period and how to focus their revision. Results are promising, giving students some confidence. However, we remind students there is still work to do. Period 6 sessions continue, and many students are signed up for Easter revision sessions. We wish our Y11 students the very best of luck!

## F2D ITC Enterprise Workshop

Bringing Business Studies to life, Y10 students have had a unique opportunity to work with entrepreneurs F2D ITC. Students are creating and designing their own sportswear using business theory and a range of employability skills along the way. Students are thoroughly enjoying themselves and will end up with their clothing being manufactured at the end of the process! Great work from students!



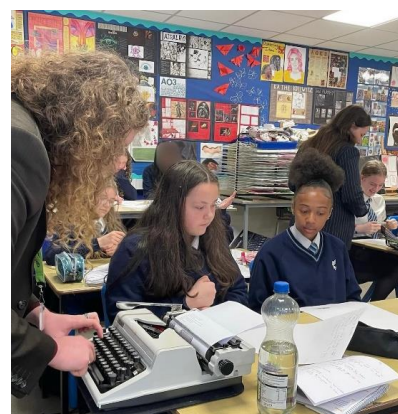
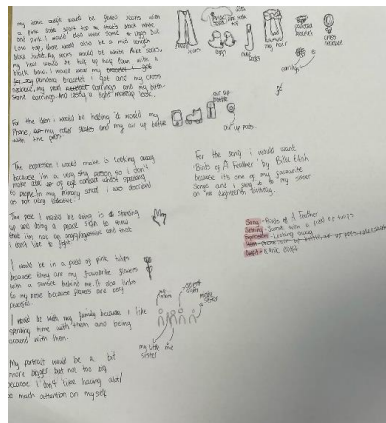
## Citizenship Award

We have a wealth of students volunteering their time and effort to the school community in a variety of ways. To reward these responsible students, we give them the opportunity to earn the Citizenship Award. If they can evidence five occasions where they have helped the school or community, they earn a unique pin badge. It's great to see so many gaining this award, we see many of them wearing these with pride!

## Creative Arts Workshop

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April Key Stage 3 students took part in a workshop delivered by Poet Bradley Taylor and staff from The Barber Institute of Fine Arts. Students were told about the history of the gallery and were treated to hearing Bradley Taylor read some of his poetry live. Students were then set the challenge of creating a written self-portrait which then formed part of a class collaborative poem. Students then shared their best lines with Bradley which was typed up and read to the class. There was a real buzz in the classroom during the morning and students enjoyed the time discussing their ideas. The poem is a work in progress and can be heard on our @bournville\_school\_art Instagram.

We look forward to our workshops next term delivered by Michael D. Kennedy and Carli Lloyd in collaboration with The Barber Institute of Fine Arts.



L. Walton

## Speak Out Challenge Assembly Final

On the 9<sup>th</sup> of April we held our assembly final for the Speak Out challenge. 30 Year 10 pupils completed the speak out workshop earlier in the year, and four pupils were entered as finalists. Our finalists were Immy who spoke about the education system, Carolina who spoke about fashion and beauty standards, Zoha who spoke about the Summer and its benefits, and Kimberly who spoke about attitudes towards poverty. Our audience of Year 8 pupils were very impressed with the speeches and highlighted lots of effective skills that they will put into practice next term. After much deliberation and a very closely judged competition, it was announced that Immy will be entered into the regional final on the 4<sup>th</sup> of June at George Cadbury Hall. We would like to congratulate all of our speakers who will have gained invaluable experience that will help them towards their speaking and listening component of the GCSE English Language course.



K. Walpole

## Sparx Maths

We're incredibly proud of the way students are using Sparx maths this year to support their learning in school. Congratulations to those students who have put in the hours and are currently top of the leaderboard!

Year 7 - Elijah Kidane  
Year 8 - Asmaa Abiodum  
Year 9 - Shanice Mahichani  
Year 10 - Sina Gebrehiwet  
Year 11 - Anusha Das



*C. Roberts*

## Attendance

At Bournville, excellent attendance is one of our top priorities. We encourage all pupils to take full advantage of every teaching and learning opportunity available to them, and for that to happen it is important they are attending school daily and that they are punctual.

To find out more about our attendance and punctuality work, please read our 'Attendance Matters' booklet which can be found on our school website OR click the link below:

[Attendance-Matters-Booklet-24-25-PDF-003.pdf](#)

As we come to the end of this half term, in our celebration assemblies we are recognising those students who have excellent attendance. Our 95% and 100% attendance winners each receive a certificate and enjoy a range of rewards from ice-llollies to vouchers. Congratulations to Year 8 student Jamie, our latest iPad winner, an outstanding student who has excellent attendance!

*R. Mullings*



## Netball Club

The Netball Club has experienced a fantastic surge in popularity this season, now with 45 active members. To accommodate the growing interest, training sessions were expanded across three days each week. Key Stage 3 players trained on Mondays; Key Stage 4 sessions took place on Tuesdays. On Wednesdays, we held an in-house tournament to prepare for upcoming fixtures, adding an exciting competitive edge to our training.



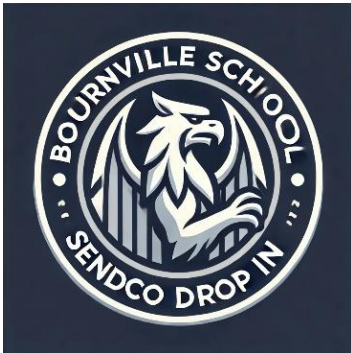
This season's training sessions have been focused and purposeful, preparing the team for fixtures against other schools. Although we didn't come away with any wins, the progress made has been truly inspiring. We're excited to work towards joining a netball league next season.



The netball season has now come to an end and will return in September. As we wrap up, we're also saying goodbye to our incredible Year 10 leaders. We'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you for their unwavering support throughout the season. They've been exceptional role models and will be truly missed.

*D. Mpofu*

## Need to speak to the SEND Team?



We just want to remind you about the 'new' SENDCo Drop-in sessions. The next drop-in session will be **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 8:30 and 11:00am**. During these times The SENDCO – Mr Archbold will be available to discuss any concerns you have regarding your child and SEND during these times. If you would like to see Mr Archbold, please arrange a time with Miss Kesziova our SEND Administrator ([d.kesziova@bournville.fmat.co.uk](mailto:d.kesziova@bournville.fmat.co.uk)).

The rest of the drop-in sessions are below for your reference:

<b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May between 8:30 and 11am</b>
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<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June between 1:30 and 3pm</b>
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We appreciate that sometimes things happen, and you need to contact the SEND Department outside of these times. If you need to contact the SEND department, please use the following means:



[bv-sendco@bournville.fmat.co.uk](mailto:bv-sendco@bournville.fmat.co.uk)



Reception: 0121 475 3881

The SEND department will aim to return on enquiries in 48 hours.

### SEND Parents Forum

Are you a parent or carer of a child with special educational needs or disabilities at Bournville School? We want YOU to be part of shaping how SEND support is delivered!

Our **SEND Parents' Forum** is a space for you to share your experiences, contribute ideas, and work in partnership with the school to **co-produce policies and improve provision**. Your voice matters, and together, we can create the best possible support for our children.

Join us and help make a difference!

If you are interested in joining our SEND Parents Forum please contact Miss Kesziova our SEND Administrator ([d.kesziova@bournville.fmat.co.uk](mailto:d.kesziova@bournville.fmat.co.uk)).



I just wanted to bring to parents and carers attention the range of support and activities that are available for families with SEND students. There is lots available in the local area and across the city. S.E.N.D Socials Birmingham are a great source of information.



# IN THE KNOW

BOURNVILLE SCHOOL PARENT/CARER NEWSLETTER



## THE SEND COLLABORATIVE

Complete SEND Support now has a name; Welcome to the SEND Collaborative

Get in touch with us, scan here for all of our contact details:  
info@sendc.co.uk



The SEND Collaborative Ltd, Company Number 14064793, Clayton & Brewer, 149-155 Canal Street, Nottingham, England, United Kingdom, NG1 7AP

## CLASSES & COURSES



**WEST MIDLANDS CIRCUS CENTRE**

### WEEKLY CLASSES

Classes for adults and young people from beginner to professional:  
Silk, rope, hoop, trapeze, contortion, stretch and parkour!



### FLYING NINJA SCHOOL

**NEW FOR 2024!**  
A unique experience for young people and families in Circus Arts.



### HOME EDUCATION & AUTISM FRIENDLY AERIAL

Run by a Home Educating family with neurodivergent teachers, WMCC is accessible and open to those with specific needs. Come just as you are...



### HALF TERM & SUMMER SCHOOLS

Unique experiences in circus and stage. Circus introduces aerial and acrobatics, and stage/screen schools focus on play and film creation.



“ I've been to so many different studios around the world and this is honestly one of my favourites. ”

CHARITY BOSUA

“ Professional, friendly, fun! Such a great space to train, and always get support from everyone. ”

REBECCA HEAD

West Midlands Circus Centre  
Edgbaston Quaker Meeting House  
St. James Road, Birmingham B15 1JP  
Tel: 07746 327 284  
Email: info@rogueplay.co.uk  
Web: westmidlandscircuscentre.com

Scan here to visit our website or follow us on social media




## FAMILY Boxercisen

For adults and children with disabilities and neurotypical siblings

### Autism Friendly Workshops



Accessible activities for people with additional needs to develop strength and focus, reduce social anxiety and build confidence. It's designed to support families to be more active together and enjoy a variety of targeted and fun activities including sparring, weight bearing, coordination and agility. Age 5+



£6pp if booking before starting date, £7pp thereafter  
1 adult must take part per family, term time only  
Online session Tuesday 5pm, £10 per session

LIMITED SPACES

## JOIN US!

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Mondays 5-6pm  
Fortnightly session  
Shelly Farm Community Centre,  
Farmhouse Way,  
Solihull, B90 4EH

Wednesdays 4.30pm and 5.30pm  
Fortnightly session  
Boldmere Methodist Church,  
104 Boldmere road,  
Sutton Coldfield, B73 5UB

Thursdays 4.45pm  
Fortnightly session  
Holycross Church  
Beauchamp Road  
Billesley Common, B13 0NS

✉ noraboxercise@hotmail.com ☎ 07707 931 439

envolve  
wellness




## SEND & SIBLINGS ADVENTURE DAY

Tubing  
Tobogganing  
Archery  
Bellboats  
Climbing  
Bouldering

**Saturday 26 April 2025**  
**10-3.00pm**

£35pp  
Participating parents £17.50pp  
Supporting parents free

Bring your own picnic  
Tea, Coffee & Cakes available to buy

Ages 6+

Scan the QR code to book



Ackers Adventure, Golden Hillock Road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham B11 2PY

[www.ackers-adventure.co.uk](http://www.ackers-adventure.co.uk)



# IN THE KNOW

BOURNVILLE SCHOOL PARENT/CARER NEWSLETTER



**S.E.N.D SOCIALS BIRMINGHAM**  
**MOOS**  
MORE OPPORTUNITIES OUT OF SCHOOL



**WEEKLY SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES**  
for children aged 5 - 18 who aren't accessing a full-time school based education or are home schooled


**Play** **LEARN**  
**make friends** **explore**  
**HAVE FUN** **ADVENTURE**

Send us an email to be added to our mailing list and to start joining in the adventures!  
[www.sendsocialsbirmingham.co.uk](http://www.sendsocialsbirmingham.co.uk)  
[hello@sendsocialsbirmingham.co.uk](mailto:hello@sendsocialsbirmingham.co.uk)



**S.E.N.D SOCIALS BIRMINGHAM**  
[www.sendsocialsbirmingham.co.uk](http://www.sendsocialsbirmingham.co.uk)  
[hello@sendsocialsbirmingham.co.uk](mailto:hello@sendsocialsbirmingham.co.uk)

S.E.N.D Socials Birmingham CIC provide social opportunities for children with special educational needs and disabilities and their families.



**S.E.N.D SOCIALS BIRMINGHAM**  
**PARENT / CARER SUPPORT**

[www.sendsocialsbirmingham.co.uk](http://www.sendsocialsbirmingham.co.uk)  
[hello@sendsocialsbirmingham.co.uk](mailto:hello@sendsocialsbirmingham.co.uk)

**COFFEE MORNINGS:** Join us for an informal gathering over coffee and cake! We rotate venues throughout Birmingham enabling you to meet like minded people in your local area.

**WORKSHOPS:** We provide useful workshops throughout the year to assist and empower you on your SEND journey.

**DADS GROUP:** A monthly social opportunity for male role models to spend an evening together doing an exciting activity of their choosing!

**WELLBEING:** We recognise caring children with SEND can leave little time for yourself so we provide some wellbeing sessions such as meals out and adult only activities to help you unwind and be yourself.

**YOUTH CLUB** **EPIC**  
**Eleven Plus Inclusive Club**

**YOUTH CLUB AND EPIC (ELEVEN PLUS INCLUSIVE CLUB) FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGE 11 - 18**

Our youth club runs fortnightly and is our only programme where parents / carers are encouraged to stay in a different room! This offers the young people some independence and the opportunity to socialise in a safe environment.

EPIC is a monthly social opportunity, we go bowling, laser quest, crazy golf, try our hand at sports, have meals out and more! Sign up to our mailing list today!

EMAIL: [HELLO@SENDSOCIALSBIRMINGHAM.CO.UK](mailto:HELLO@SENDSOCIALSBIRMINGHAM.CO.UK)  
TO BE PUT ON THE MAILING LIST!



## Family Support Service West Midlands

### Regular Cuppa & Chat Support sessions

(second Wednesday of the month)

for parents & carers.

Occasional face to face and evening sessions also offered



### Regular parent/carer Workshops

(eg Behaviour, Anxiety, Sleep, Wellbeing, etc)



### Family Wellbeing walks



### Signposting & Advice

Please fill in an enquiry form by scanning the QR code or email [Kelly@resourcesforautism.org.uk](mailto:Kelly@resourcesforautism.org.uk) for more information



## Key Dates:

We have a number of key dates already in the diary for next half term, please see below:

### Key Events/Dates:

Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	Break up for Easter
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Summer term starts at normal time of 08.30am
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	St Johns Ambulance First Responders Session – Y10 HB
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	May day closure
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Y11 written exam starts
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Barclays life skills – day 1
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Barclays life skills – day 2
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Bournville Twilight – Fintan O'Regan
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Culture Day
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Break up for half term
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Back to school at normal time of 08.30am



We are starting a Parent, Teacher and Friends Association and invite all parents to join us in arranging events and fundraising initiatives for the benefit of the school. If you are interested in finding out more or joining this group, please e-mail [h.poole@bournville.fmat.co.uk](mailto:h.poole@bournville.fmat.co.uk) All welcome!

## Communication

We are regularly posting on social media, celebrating school achievements and keeping you aware of what is happening in school. Please follow us on X (formerly Twitter) and Instagram @BournvilleSch. Our website is also a useful source of information: [Bournville School – Part of Fairfax Multi-Academy Trust.](#)