

July 2025

Welcome to this issue of "In the Know".

It's been a long summer term packed with many activities and exam preparations.

Firstly, again this year all the students have shown incredible resilience and tenacity as they prepared for end of year exams. We have watched as students have studied hard for GCSE's, Yr 10 Mock GCSE exams, Yr 6 SAT's and KS3 BASE end of year assessments. These exams are important as they prepare our students for the reality of formal education which is measured by exam success whether that be GCSE, A levels, Apprenticeships, bachelor's degrees or other. This only comes with hard work and resilience to endure the intensity of doing public exams and our students have shown during this exam season they have what it takes to excel in these exams.

You will receive a report at the end of this term, to inform you of how they have done. We do encourage all students to look at their exam papers and do some work over the summer to catch up on any areas they have not quite mastered yet, so they are better prepared as they move forward into their next programme of study.

However, building good character is also important and in this edition of "in the know" you will see the wealth of other experiences that the students at Bournville have also had access to. These include- volunteering at transition day, trips such as Drayton Manor and Alton Towers, Year 7 NHS volunteers visit to Birmingham Children's Hospital, Year 10 visit to South and City College, voting for our next year student leader, the FMAT games, the PROM, Art exhibition "Rail 200", the year 10 work experience week, rounding off with a fantastic Sports festival.

The past year I have had the honour to watch the students grow and the school go from strength to strength. We are in such a strong place which was recognised by a DfE (Department of Education) advisor in a recent visit who described what she saw as "Exemplary". This is testament to the excellence of your children and the dedication of the staff who work relentlessly to ensure your child's success.

I hope you enjoy reading this term's edition of "In the Know" to give you some examples of the successes of our wonderful children and young people at Bournville.

M Rooney (Principal)



Summer Sports Festival

Sports day this year was an excellent day of competitive sport with students in each of the four Houses competing in track and field events. We saw some excellent performances from students and even better lots of support and cheering for those involved. Events included the traditional sprint and long distance races as well as shot put, javelin and high jump. The afternoon finished with egg and spoon, relays and even a teacher race! Something for everyone to enjoy and get involved in.



During the day students also got to have a go on an inflatable obstacle course, which proved to be a huge hit with staff and students, additional fun to an already joyous occasion. Congratulations to all those who represented their Houses on the day and earned valuable House points, especially to **Boulton** House who won overall!



Y7 NHS project and visit



Y7 students have had the privilege to work with colleagues from the NHS this year. On their first day of school, students were set a challenge to find out about diet and nutrition. Students applied a range of skills to this project from planning to the application of research skills and team work. They also found out for themselves what a healthy diet looks like. The culmination of this project took place at Birmingham's Children Hospital last week. A representative group, presented their findings to an audience of experts with great professionalism.

The day gave students first hand experience of a range of careers in the NHS, speaking to experts and through completing a number of engaging workshops. What a fantastic experience for them!

Miss H. Poole (Assistant Principal)



Rewards Trips – Drayton Manor and Alton Towers



We were really pleased to reward students for their hard work and effort this year with days out at theme parks. KS3 students enjoyed a day at Drayton Manor Theme Park and for our older KS4 students went to Alton Towers. It was a beautiful, sunny day and full of celebration and joy. Nearly the entire school were invited and joined in, relishing the opportunity to go on the latest rides and spend time with their friends. An excellent experience for all involved!

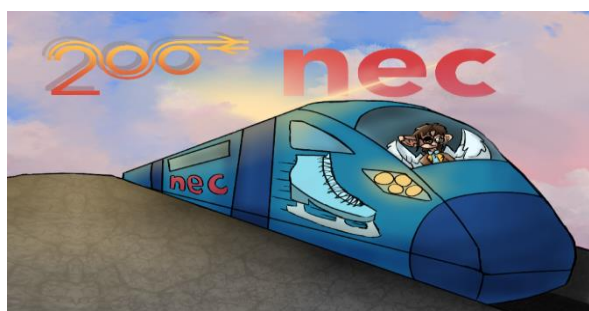
Y11 Prom Night!

We gave our Y11 cohort the fantastic send-off they deserved in an incredible Prom. Nearly the entire year group attended as well a large number of staff, in what proved to be a very successful evening. Mrs Meaney and Miss O'Donnell have been fundraising for Prom all year and organised the best Prom the school has seen for some years. From the decorations to the food, the DJ and extras such as an ice-cream van and Magic Mirror, it all came together in an event that staff and students will remember for some time. We wish you all the best Y11, next stop results day!



Art- Summer 2

We started this half term with a very exciting visit to New Street Station for the unveiling of a collaborative artwork. Our Year 8 students have created this as part of the Rail 200 celebrations. The artwork is still on display outside New Street Station. Well done to Alice, Connor, Jackson and Oliver, we are so proud of you!



This half term we also ran a design a mural competition and I am pleased to announce that Ibrahim in Year 5 won with this fantastic nature inspired piece.

I love the composition and use of colour. Well done, Ibrahim!

A reminder- There are only a few days left for the RBSA Young Artists 2025 competition and the RSPCA Young Photographer Competition- More details are on Satchel One.

Art Exhibitions on in Birmingham Summer 2025

- 'Watch Us Lead'- Christopher Samuel at Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery
- 'Amazing ArtBoxes' at The Midlands Arts Centre (MAC)
- 'RBSA Watercolour Prize 2025' at the RBSA Gallery

RSPCA Young Photographer Awards

Serious about photography? If you're under 18, have an eye for a good shot and love taking pictures of animals, the RSPCA Young Photographer Awards is for you. The competition is now open and closes on Wednesday, 13 August 2025.

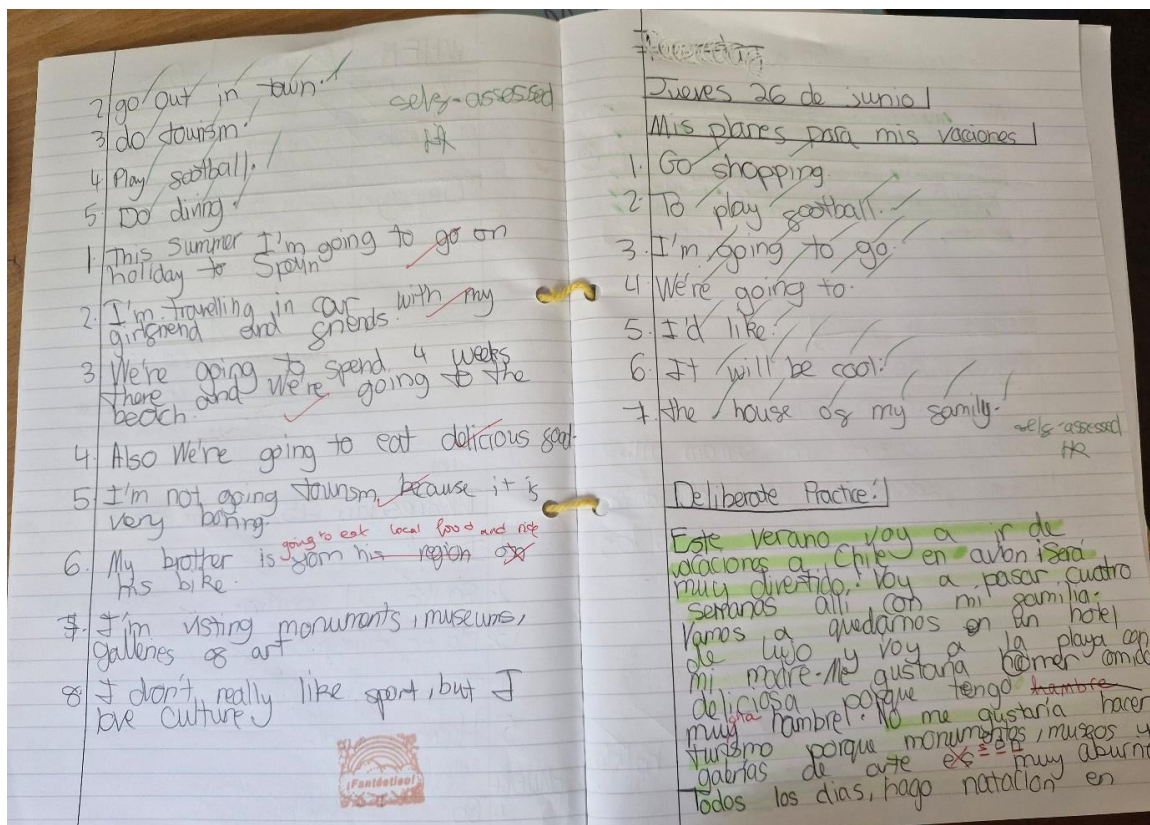
Have a great Summer everyone!

Miss Walton



Spanish

What a busy and lovely term we've had in the Spanish department! Year 7 have been learning about stationery and classroom objects. Year 8 have been learning vocabulary about future holidays and our year 9 students have studied vocabulary and structures for free time activities including the dangers of Social Media and learning about the Hispanic world. This is an example of a piece of work by Harrison King in Year 8 on the topic, 'Holidays'. Great to see the pride and dedication he is showing...



Home Languages

At Bournville School we celebrate students' excellent opportunities for those students who are confident in listening, speaking, reading and writing in a different language. They are our Home Languages students. On top of their GCSEs, they will be doing an extra subject in their own language as part of their final exams. If you haven't done it yet, come and see me in E26 to find out more.

successes. Amongst these, we provide



Mrs Flórez-Abad (Spanish department)

Bournville Students Explore Physics in Action!

National Physics Week was a blast at Bournville School, and our students dove into some amazing projects! From budding engineers to curious scientists, everyone got hands-on with the wonders of physics.

Students enjoyed a whole range of exciting activities. Some became rocket scientists for the day, designing and launching their own **rockets** to see how high they could go! Others turned into super-sleuths, investigating the fascinating **states of matter**. They explored how solids, liquids, and gases behave differently, conducting cool experiments to see these changes up close.

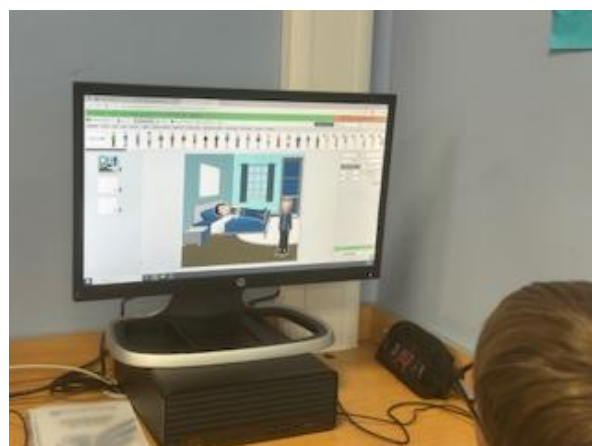
It was fantastic to see so much enthusiasm and teamwork. These projects helped bring physics to life, showing everyone how it's all around us, from the smallest atom to the biggest rocket launch. What a great way to celebrate science!

Mr. P Beaufoy

Computing Department – End of Year Update

I joined Bournville School last July, and what a brilliant year it's been! From day one, the warm welcome from staff, the support from parents, and the energy and enthusiasm of our pupils have made this a truly rewarding place to teach.

This term has been a busy one! Our KS3 pupils have been working hard on their BASE assessments, while KS4 students took on their mock exams with real focus and determination. While pupils were revising, I was equally busy marking all of those assessments!



In the classroom, it's been fantastic to see the progress pupils have made. Year 7 have been developing their understanding of cybersecurity and cybercrime, learning how to stay safe in an increasingly digital world. Year 8 have been mastering spreadsheets and getting to grips with programming concepts, building essential digital skills for the future. Meanwhile, Year 9 have been exploring the evolution of artificial intelligence and machine learning, sparking some really thoughtful discussions about the technology shaping our lives.

Beyond these topics, pupils across all year groups have been building confidence using the Microsoft Office suite and its many applications—skills they'll use again and again. Above all, I've aimed to inspire a love of learning to program, encouraging pupils to get creative, solve problems and think like real computer scientists.

It's been a fantastic year of learning, discovery and hard work. I can't wait for next year, when we'll dive even deeper into the exciting world of Computer Science.

Mrs N. Mirza (Subject Lead)

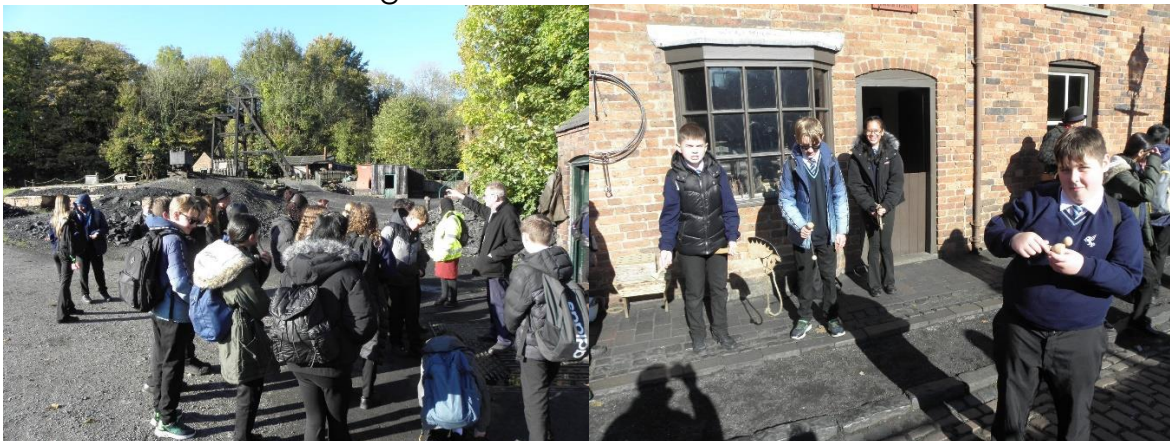


Careers - Y10 South and City College Visit

In what is becoming an annual tradition, Mrs Field arranged for all of our Y10 students to visit South and City College for a taster day. There were a number of workshops they could participate in; hair and beauty, engineering, health and social care, art and design, travel and tourism to name but a few! Students were exemplary in their behaviour and attitudes, relishing the opportunity provided and thoroughly making the most of it. Students gained a real insight into post-16 education. An excellent day!

History at Bournville School

At Bournville School, students are given regular opportunities to learn outside of the classroom. In the Autumn term, 82 students in Year 8 visited the Black Country Living Museum. They had a great day out, travelling deep into the mines and exploring the historical site with a tour guide.



If you are in Year 8 next year, you can look forward to coming on this trip in October!

In the Spring term, 50 of our Year 11 students were taken to see 'The Doctor's Show' at the Redditch Theatre. It is an entertaining theatre show that helps them revise for the Health and the People GCSE unit, as well as providing revision materials they can take away with them. The pupils highly recommend it!



If you are in Year 11 next year, you can look forward to coming on our Redditch Theatre trip, Hitler on Trial, in February!

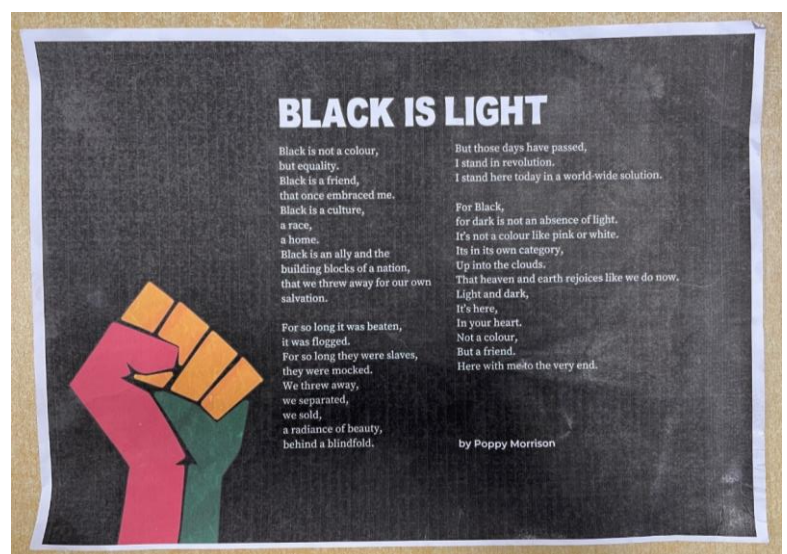
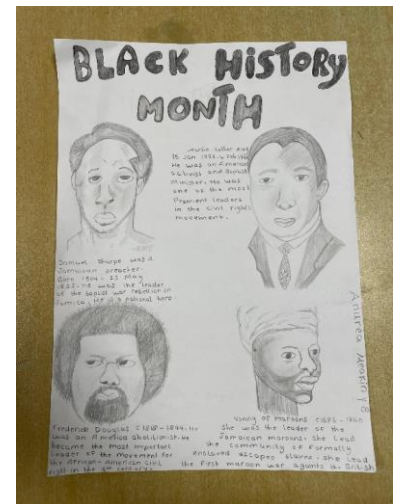
Black History Month

In October, students created poems and artwork to celebrate black history. The Black History Month theme for 2024 was: 'Reclaiming narratives.'

All entries won House Points. The winners also won Love to Shop vouchers, and their work has been displayed around the school. We look forward to seeing this year's entries in October! Congratulations to all entrants and the winner of 2024:

1st Place - A Song of Legacy by Victoria Aleksiuk, Year 10

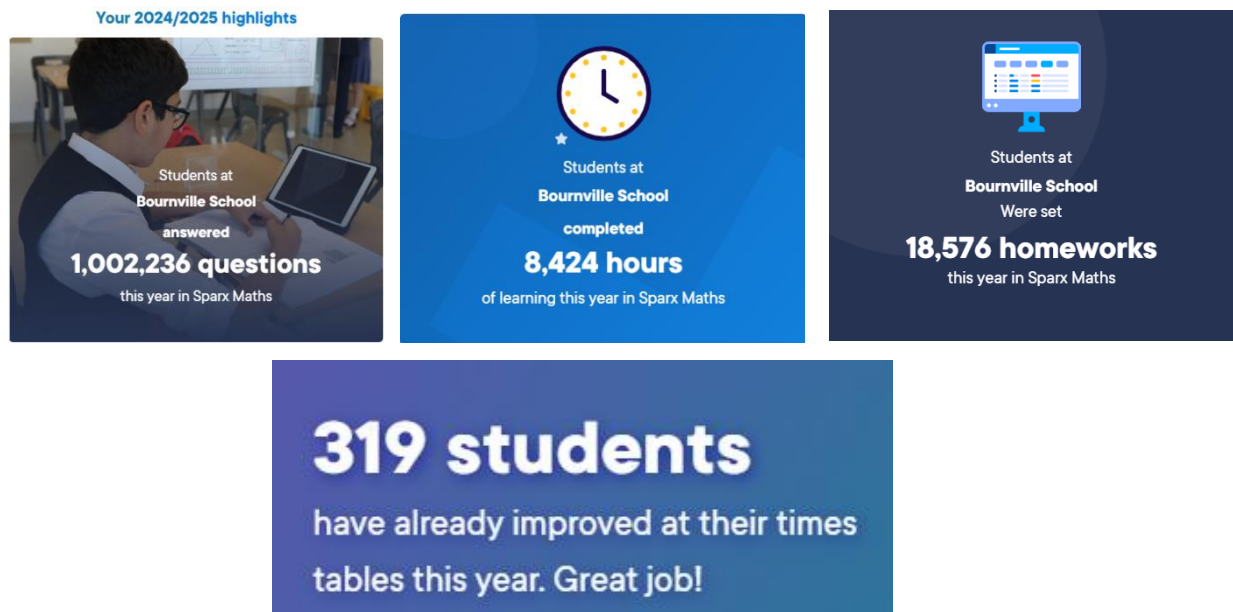
In the soil of struggle, our roots run deep,
Carved by hands that refused to sleep.
From Africa's shores to fields of pain,
Through storm and fire, we rose again.
In chains they came, but not in spirit,
The song of freedom, we could hear it.
Harriet's whispers on moonlit nights,
Guiding our hearts towards justice's light.
Oh, kings and queens with crowns unseen,
The builders of dreams, the keepers of green.
From Malcolm's fire to Martin's dream,
We marched with hope, a steady stream.
With every step, we broke the mold,
Our history shines in stories untold.
The poet's pen, the singer's song,
In every heartbeat, we belong.
Through Rosa's courage and Mandela's fight,
We claimed our truth, our sacred right.
Not just a month, but centuries strong,
In Black history, we all belong.
A tapestry woven with pride and pain,
We rise, we fight, we love, we reign.
In every face, a tale of might—
Black history is our endless light.



Mr J. Reynier (Subject Lead – History)

Maths – Sparx

Students have enjoyed another year on Sparx maths and are realising how much it has helped them understand and extend their maths knowledge this year. We are excited to continue our Sparx journey into next academic year. Below are some of our key highlights and the top performing students this year!



Yearly Leaderboard This academic year		
1	Adhitha Senevirathne (Adhitha the Well-wisher)	70,563 XP
2	Melodie Molak (Melodie the Foodie)	64,681 XP
3	Siddhu Dumpa (Siddhu the Power broker)	57,646 XP
4	Isabel Habilaj (Isabel the Life-of-the-party)	49,563 XP
5	Asmaa Abiodun (Asmaa the Aficionada)	43,306 XP
6	Shanice Mahichani (Shanice the Miracle)	41,428 XP
7	Sina Gebrehiwet (Sina the Survivor)	40,775 XP
8	Sesen Teclemichael (Sesen the Designer)	40,560 XP
9	Kimberly Chibika (Kimberly the Sweetheart)	39,188 XP
10	Connie-Grace Walton (Connie-Grace the Icon)	37,723 XP

We congratulate students on our top 10 Sparx leaderboard, students who have done more on Sparx maths than any other student at Bournville. A special mention goes to Adhitha, Melodie and Siddhu our top 3 Sparx users who have shown great ambition and dedication this year!

C. Roberts
Subject Lead - Maths

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 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-lollies to vouchers. Congratulations to Year 7 student Sophie,, our latest iPad winner, an outstanding student who has excellent attendance!

R. Mullings





SEND at Bournville

What a brilliant year it has been for SEND at Bournville School! We are so proud of all we've achieved together, and I want to take a moment to share our successes with you.

Our EnRich Community Room Opened!

This year, we were excited to open the brand-new EnRich Community Room! This space is used by school and the community – a calm, friendly place where everyone can feel welcome, supported, and included. I will continue to keep you updated about Community events we are running in this space.

SEND Online Parents Evenings

We held special SEND online parents' evenings to give you updates on what was happening in the SEND department and to gather your ideas to develop our offer even further. It was great to meet so many of you, and your feedback has helped us improve even more.

SENDCO Drop-Ins

We also ran monthly SENDCO drop-in sessions, giving you a chance to chat with me directly. I really enjoyed meeting so many of you and chatting about how we can support you and your young people, and I hope you found them helpful too!

We Won an Award!

We are so proud to have won the Bronze Birmingham Council SEND Co-Production Award! This award shows we are working closely with parents, carers, students and our community to make SEND better together. Keep watch, as we are already working on achieving the Silver SEND Co-Production Award.

We Were Shortlisted for a Big Award!

We were also shortlisted for the Midlands Education Awards in the category "Transforming Lives through Partnerships." This was a huge honour and shows how much we care about working with others to support our young people and our community.

Our SEND Family Picnic

A big highlight of the year was our SEND Family Picnic! It was so lovely to see students, families, and staff come together to have fun, chat, and enjoy the sunshine. Thank you to everyone who came along. Hopefully we will be able to organise more events to get together next year.

Looking Ahead

Next year, I will continue to be available through our SEND Online Parents Evenings and SENDCO Drop-Ins. I hope to see even more of you there!



SEND Parents Forum

Would you like to have a say in how we run SEND at Bournville School? We'd love to invite you to join our SEND Parents Forum. I am keen to get this group up and running in school. This group will help us co-operate, co-design and co-produce the direction of SEND at our school. If you're interested, please contact Ms Kesziova by email at:

✉ d.kesziova@bournville.fmat.co.uk

Thank You!

Finally, I want to say a big THANK YOU to all our parents and carers for your support during my first year as SENDCO here at Bournville School. It has been a pleasure to work with you and your amazing children, and I can't wait to continue our journey next year.

Mr Archbold – SENDCO

EAL success!

Our brilliant Bournville EAL students worked hard this academic year! Through their work with the Flash academy programme, EAL lessons and their motivation for development and learning, they have made great progress in understanding English language. They gained positive self-esteem, confidence, and they need to feel proud of their bilingual/multilingual abilities. As we do! It is so lovely to see them interact with other students and come out of their shell. Thank you for working extra hard, appreciating your English Language lessons and for putting in lots of effort by joining our EAL reading club.

D. Kesziova



BOURNVILLE
ALL-THROUGH SCHOOL

2025 OPEN EVENING
WEDNESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER, 6-8PM

Come and see us in action at one of our Open Mornings!

Book your place today through **Eventbrite**. Scan the QR code or see our website for further details.

www.bournvilleschool.org

SCAN ME

Pupils value the **positive environment** they say that teachers know them well and that this helps to make them feel safe.

We warmly invite you to our **Open Events** in September if you are looking for a place at our school. A reminder we have provision for students from Reception all the way through to Year 11. The school has gone through a period of rapid change and improvement, we are incredibly proud to share this with you.



BOURNVILLE
ALL-THROUGH SCHOOL

COME AND SEE US IN ACTION
OPEN MORNINGS
9:30AM - 10:30AM

THURSDAY 18 SEPT
THURSDAY 25 SEPT

BOOK YOUR PLACE USING THE QR CODE BELOW

YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR
OPEN EVENING
6PM - 8PM
WEDNESDAY 17 SEPT

Scan the QR code to book your place or visit our website for more details.

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