



## March 2023



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### Headmistress's Message

Dear Parents

This has seemed like a short half term but I think you can see from the newsletter that we have enjoyed a lot of activity to enhance and support our curriculum!

We have had Science Week where pupils have been enjoying experiments and asking scientific questions about the world around them. Year 6 enjoyed a Science Fayre at a local school where they could try lots of activities to support their scientific understanding.

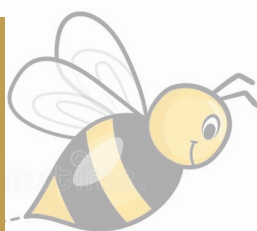
Year 9 were able to experience careers in robotics and artificial intelligence at The National Museum of Computing this month by using specialist equipment in a workplace setting. Year 11 completed their GCSE fieldwork study in London so that they are fully equipped for their Geography exams.

I can't write this letter without mentioning the amazing performance of pupils in the Juniors in Cinderella Rockerfella. The children worked so hard and enjoyed the evening so much. Thank you for coming to support your child.

Best wishes

Mrs Chloe Moon





## Oak-Tree Spelling Bee

Pupils from Oaklands, Braeside and Coopersale Hall competed in this year's Spelling Bee. The children worked in their teams to complete boggle and anagram games in order to win points. Then in their year groups they tackled the more traditional spelling challenge, with Oaklands Headmistress, Mrs Copeman, reading out some very tricky words for the pupils to spell.

It was lovely to see the schools coming together and taking part in some friendly competition. Well done to everyone who took part, you should all be very proud of your efforts!



## Science Trip To Bancroft's School

As part of British Science Week, Year 6 attended a Science Fair at Bancroft's school. It was lovely seeing the children's excitement and enthusiasm as they tried out the various experiments which brought their learning to life.



## Year 6 Create Dramatic War Art

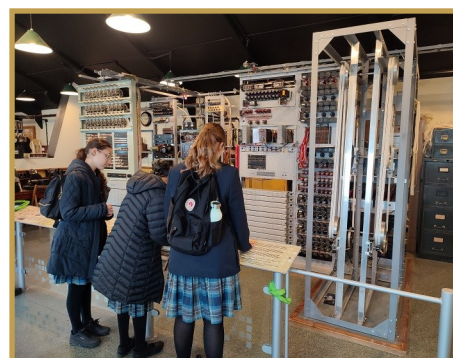
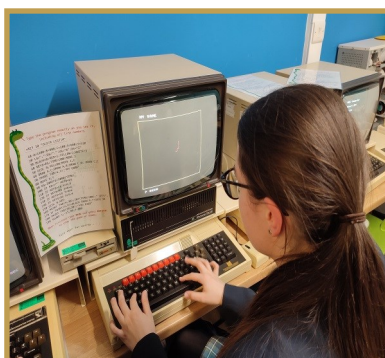
Year 6 have enjoyed exploring a range of mediums and techniques for their most recent unit of work and the outcomes have been truly magnificent. As well as working with pencil and charcoal, pupils have tried working with inks. They have explored washes and sprays to create atmosphere and light and dark to create both subtle and dramatic shapes to create a sense of time and space on the battlefield. Great work Year 6!



## Year 9 get Inspired by Women in Technology

Year 9 recently visited the National Museum of Computing in Bletchley Park. The museum features the largest collection of computing hardware dating back as early as the 1940's, all the way to present day.

During their trip, the pupils attended a special event to celebrate the contributions of Women in Technology and Science. As part of the day, they took part in VR Surgical Training, Coding on a BBC Micro Computer from the 1980's, as well as observing the original Colossus Computer, which was set up to intercept and decrypt messages from Germany during the war. Many of these secret messages were decoded by servicewomen also known as the WRENS. It was a fantastic day out for our pupils to see that Computing is a field that everyone can thrive in and to appreciate the rich history of the contributions women have made in technology.



## GCSE Geography Field Trip

The Year 11 Geography pupils carried out their Human Geography fieldwork on Tuesday 14 March. The weather was a bit drizzly at first, but then the sun came out. The pupils carried out an Environmental Quality Survey on Whitechapel High Street and Old Spitalfields Market. In order to obtain a reasonable sample size for comparison purposes they carried their investigations out at several sites at both locations, starting at the infamous Blind Beggar Pub on Whitechapel High Street. They also conducted questionnaires to gain people's opinions of the areas, where they came from and why they were visiting the area. In addition, they gave their own impressions in order to produce a word cloud for both places.

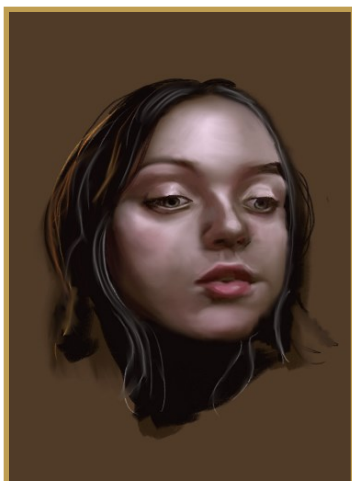
The pupils all worked extremely hard to collect their data and all had a thoroughly enjoyable day.





## Digital Art - Our World

GCSE pupil, Rebecca, took inspiration from world-famous master artist Leonardo da Vinci when creating this beautiful digital artwork. She is investigating how the artist uses formal elements in his work and has tried to capture that here. Fantastic work, Rebecca!



## Fossils

Year 6 learnt that fossils are not just bones, and they don't just come from dinosaurs. In this lesson, pupils learnt about different types of fossils and how they form. They also understood how fossils give us clues about Earth's past and the specific conditions that are needed for fossils to form.



## Kidzania

On Friday, the children from Years 2, 4 and 5 had a great time visiting Kidzania, an immersive, interactive learning centre, which gave them an up-close look at different career paths and connected their learning to the real world. The children were able to independently choose from a number of real-life activities and test their skills in a variety of professions. A fabulous way to build upon their knowledge following our Careers Day!





## Cinderella Rockafella

Wow – What a performance! We were treated to a spectacular performance this month from some of our talented pupils. Boos, hisses, cheers and laughter filled Lopping Hall in Loughton as the children took to the stage and showcased their rendition of Cinderella Rockerfella.

All pupils in the Juniors were involved in the production, including most of our youngest pupils who danced, sang, and had a great time providing the backing for all the songs. Thanks to the senior pupils who helped out with sound, lighting, makeup, and back stage.

Pupils put a lot of effort into their rehearsals, and all the hard work really paid off with some excellent singing, perfectly timed comedy, and great acting. Songs included toe-tapping 'Tonight's the Night', 'If I had One Wish', and 'Happy Ever Afters' to name just a few.

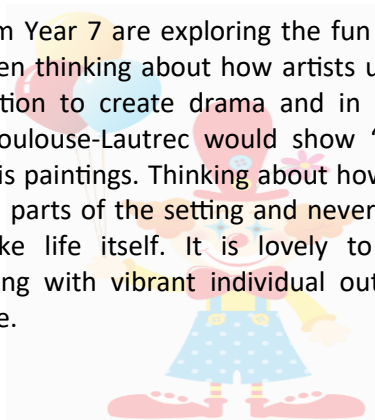
Well done everyone!





## Year 7 Are Clowning Around In Art!

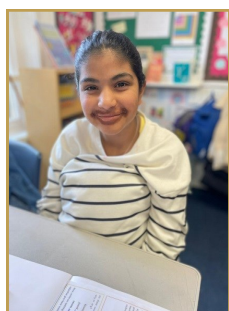
This term Year 7 are exploring the fun of the circus. They have been thinking about how artists use perspective and composition to create drama and in particular how the artist; Toulouse-Lautrec would show 'snap shots' of life within his paintings. Thinking about how we generally only ever see parts of the setting and never the whole picture, much like life itself. It is lovely to see pupils' work developing with vibrant individual outcomes. Well done everyone.



## World Book Day 2023

Junior pupils and their teachers took inspiration from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory for this year's World Book Day. We saw every character parade around the playground before posing for a picture, even a squirrel!

Kindergarten and Reception got their inspiration from The Very Hungry Caterpillar! We loved seeing some of the children dress up as the delicious fruit the caterpillar chomps his way through!



## Getting Social





## Careers Day At Braeside

Braeside pupils recently experienced a highly engaging and informative Careers Day. We welcomed several special guests into the school for the day, who kindly gave up their time to speak to the children about their chosen careers. Their talks included what made them choose that career path, how they got the job, and what the job entails day to day. They were then happy to answer any questions the pupils had. Children as young as Lower Kindergarten took part in the discussions, and had some very interesting questions to ask!

### Special guests included:

**Mr Barrett** – Director of European Product Development & Licensing; VTech Electronics Europe

**Mrs O'Shea** – Dog Trainer and Dog Day Care (JJ's VIP Pets)

**Mrs Honeyben** – Midwife and Nurse

**Miss Celentano** – Passenger Service Agent

**Mrs Willemse** – Previously a journalist before becoming a teacher

A huge thank you to all of our guest speakers, you certainly gave our pupils a lot to think about as they look towards their futures. A special thank you to Mr Barrett for donating lots of wonderful VTech electronic toys to the schools, they are already getting a lot of use from our excited children.





## Braeside Sports



### ISA Cross Country

Years 5-9 took part in the annual ISA Cross-Country event in Hemel Hempstead. It was a tough, hilly course with a bitter wind! The girls gave it everything they had and encouraged each other around the course. Special mentions to Nicole, Ava M and Eliza M for their excellent performances.

### Oak-Tree Swimming Gala

Braeside swimming team put on an amazing performance at the Oak-Tree swimming gala coming 3<sup>rd</sup> overall! Summer-Rose and Alina did brilliantly in the Year 4 boys and girls races and Nicole came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Year 5 front crawl and 1<sup>st</sup> place in the boys breaststroke race! Zara and Ahana deserve an extra special mention for swimming butterfly. Well done!



### Junior House Cross-Country 2023

Pupils from Years 4-6 took part in the annual Junior Cross-Country event on the cricket field/ in the forest adjacent to the school. It was great to see the girls supporting one another and encouraging each other to finish. Bronte House won the overall competition and Brogan in Y6 came 1<sup>st</sup> place, Nicole in Y5 came 2<sup>nd</sup> and Daisy in Y6 came 3<sup>rd</sup>. Well done everyone!





## Mini Athletics

Kindergarten enjoyed a session with 'Mini Athletics for Pre-schoolers' this week. The children played lots of fun games that worked on their gross motor skills, then received stickers and stood on the podium to applaud each other.



## Year 9 & 10 Prepare For Their D of E Challenge

The pupils in Year 9 and 10 who are taking part in the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award had their practice weekend at Lambourne End. The assessed expedition will take place in June which is sure to come around in no time, so pupils did all they could this weekend to prepare themselves for when the big day arrives.

They took part in various sessions, including putting up tents, learning the country code, planning routes and a menu, scrubbed up on their first aid knowledge, used Trangia's and discussed what they will need to pack. They also went orienteering and practiced map reading in their groups.

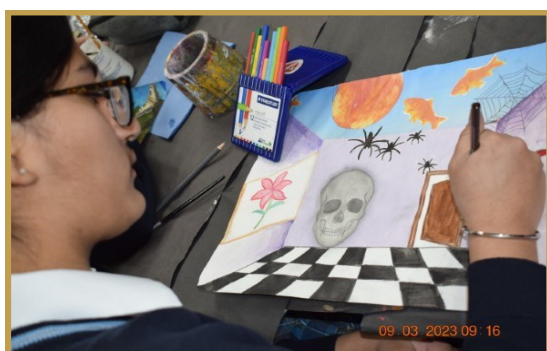
Everyone left feeling more confident in their skills and looking forward to taking on the challenge later in the year!





## Year 9 Create Amazing Surrealist Artwork

Year 9 have been exploring everyday objects and surrealism in Art. They have enjoyed studying the eccentric Spanish artist, Salvador Dali, and you can clearly see how they have taken on board some of the bizarre and crazy ideas of the surrealist artists. They thought a lot about how to create depth in a picture and how to create a balanced composition. Great work everyone!



## Celebrating Spring Time

Early Years have had a busy few weeks celebrating Spring time together. The children took a nature walk looking at all the changes in nature, taking clip boards with 'Spring time check lists' to tick off what they could see. They collected lots of leaves, buds and sticks and used these and collage pieces to make an enormous butterfly picture. Mikael said our butterfly has "come alive now".

The children have been using their sensory tray filled with water for capacity experiments. They have been using different sized cups and jugs to see how much water they hold.

The garden corner is bursting with life, with the daffodils in full bloom. Early Years enjoyed having a go at planting their own seeds using garden tools and compost. They can't wait to see what the seeds grow into!





## Comic Relief—Red Nose Day 2023

The senior school charity committee planned a non-uniform day, cake sale and games at break time to raise money for comic relief. They decorated the school with red nose day bunting and delivered assemblies to the juniors and seniors. We raised a fantastic £402 for the charity!





## Year 6 Dinosaur Investigation

After their exciting investigation looking at dinosaur coprolites, the pupils were asked to solve the mystery of why pieces of rotting wood have been found in the coprolites as well as looking for clues about the habits of dinosaurs at that time.



## Fun At Marsh Farm

Reception had a fantastic time on their recent trip to Marsh Farm. The children got to meet lots of different animals and even got to hold some very cute guinea pigs. They rode on tractors, had a picnic style lunch and had a go on the fairground rides.





## British Science Week

British Science Week ran from the 10 – 19 March this year. This year's theme was 'Connections.'

"Nearly all innovations in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths are built on connections between people; two (or more) heads are better than one, after all! But as well as exploring the importance and joy in connections between individual scientists, research groups and institutions, you could discover the different ways connections appear across all areas of science. Evolution, for example, shows us the ways that animals, including humans, as well as plants and bacteria, are all connected in a family tree stretching back millennia."

Braeside pupils and teachers were involved in participating in lots of fun Science activities which involved making connections.

**Year 1** pupils have been learning about the human body. They looked at the human skeleton and labelled the different bones. The children had fun making their own moving skeletons using split pins.

**Year 4 and 5** pupils participated in the 'Oxo Challenge.' The pupils were split into groups of three and were given a tray which contained a large selotape, 40 straws, a newspaper, an oxo cube, scissors, a pencil and some plain paper. The task was to build the tallest and sturdiest tower which could hold an oxo cube. Pupils were given 45 minutes to complete this task, they had to present their final product to the rest of the group and the judges with explanations.

**Year 6** pupils investigated insulating materials and carried out the huddling penguin experiment. They were able to make the connection of why penguins huddle together and were able to relate this to which material reduced heat loss.

**Year 7** pupils were involved in using quadrats in the Braeside garden to see the ratio of organisms co existing in an ecosystem. They were able to make connections between plant and animals living harmoniously in a garden habitat.

**Year 8** pupils were learning about how exercise affects pulse rate. They learned how to take their pulse rate correctly, they then participated in a form of exercise such as jogging or star jumps and then took their pulse rate again. They were able to make clear conclusions and understand the connections between how the heart and muscles require more energy during exercise and therefore the pulse rate increases.

Mrs S Razzak



## Autumn Painting

This fantastic autumn painting by Eva in Y9 really shows her passion for painting. Eva is spending time developing her painting technique and it is really paying off. It portrays a beautiful serene calmness and we will be entering it into The Royal Academy Young Artists Summer Exhibition this year. Good luck Eva.



## Mini Beast Ice Sculptures

Kindergarten experimented mixing colours, painting different media and feeling the cold texture of the ice "it's cold like ice cream!"



## Friends of Braeside School (FOBS)

Dear Parents

As the spring term draws to an end, we wanted to say thank to parents who have offered to help at our events. The children will be receiving a lovely Easter treat this week organised by FOBS. Our next FOBS meeting will be taking place on Tuesday 2 May at 6pm via zoom.

We wish you a lovely spring break.

FOBS