

END OF HALF TERM
MARCH - 2024

NEWSLETTER



THE
BRIAN CLARKE
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY



A Message From The Headteacher

I hope our newsletter finds you well. The students and staff have had another fantastic half term. I am delighted to share with you that we have appointed to all teaching positions for September 2024. I am now on with recruiting to support staff roles. All are equally vital in continuing to establish the very best school for your children. Do please continue to share any vacancies in your own networks.

Thank you as always to the staff and parents/carers for supporting with all the events and opportunities.

Thank you to all parents/carers that have contributed to the school survey and those that gave up their time to support at the parent/carer forum. We absolutely value feedback as we continue to develop as a school. All staff at Brian Clarke work tirelessly to do their very best by the young people and the families. The results of the survey follow later in the newsletter as do actions where appropriate.

Advanced notice that on **Wednesday the 17th of April** Sir Brian Clarke is coming to formally open the school. School will finish for all students at 2.40pm to facilitate this ceremony.

The half term has finished with a lovely Easter Service delivered by the Trust Chaplain Mr Richard Ford and Invitational Communion led by Reverend Jean Hurlston and our school Worship Coordinator Jenny Carey. As always it is lovely to come together as a school community to reflect on our faith.

Wishing all our families a lovely restful Easter break and our Muslim families a wonderful Eid when it arrives. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on B week.



Key Stage 3 Assessments

Students at Brian Clarke are assessed continuously in terms for their progress in relation to the curriculum and all students have now received school reports regarding their Attitudes to Learning and Progress at Key Stage 3.

All year 7 and 8 students are sitting in class assessments in Maths, English, Science, Religious Studies, History, Geography and German. Each assessment is no longer than 50 minutes.

- Assessments begin for year 7 on Friday 3rd May
- Assessment being for year 8 on Monday 20th May

Miss Bezer has delivered a study session to Year 7s and 8s on how to effectively revise for these assessments. Students have comprehensive knowledge organisers for all the topics covered. Mr Bradley (SENDCo) is also working with identified students and parents.

These more formalised assessments are part of our whole school approach to assessment to understand what students know, understand and can do at Key Stage 3.

For further information on how you can support your child in the upcoming assessments please see the following link to the school website. [Revision Tips and Resources - The Brian Clarke Church of England Academy \(brian-clarke.org\)](https://www.brian-clarke.org/revision-tips-and-resources).

Safeguarding

Monitoring your Child's Social Media Activity over the Easter Break

Please can we ask that you check your child's phone over the Easter break and continue to educate them about appropriate language, behaviours and activities. We educate them repeatedly in school and also have a zero tolerance to mobile phones in school. We still however continue to deal with fall outs / events outside of school that are generated through group chats and apps. As you can imagine this consumes a tremendous amount of school pastoral time, much of which could be dealt with through parental/carer vigilance and the children knowing you perform regular phone checks.

If you need to report anything/need any support whilst the school is closed, please do not hesitate to contact us.

You can find two links below which include several websites to support you.

<https://www.brian-clarke.org/wellbeing/family-support/>

<https://www.brian-clarke.org/safeguarding-v2/>

Catering/Cucina

Please click the link below to access our new Cucina menu for April-July 2024.

<https://www.brian-clarke.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/BCA-school-menu-April-24-July-24.pdf>



Parent/Carer Voice Feedback

Thank you to all parents/carers that filled in the survey, we had a 40% response rate.

Question	% Strongly Agree or Agree
My child is happy and settled at Brian Clarke Academy (BCA).	95%
YEAR 7 PARENTS/CARERS ONLY: Transition arrangements and communications were helpful in enabling my child to settle into secondary school.	98%
My child feels safe at BCA.	98%
BCA makes sure that students are well behaved.	97%
My child has been bullied and staff dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively.	94% my child has not been bullied 80% dealt with effectively
When I have raised concerns with the staff at BCA, they have been dealt with promptly and effectively.	86.3%
My child has SEND (special educational needs and/or disabilities), and the school gives them the support they need to succeed.	80% (of parents with child has SEN)
BCA has high expectations for my child.	99%
My child is doing well at BCA.	97%
BCA keeps me informed regarding my child's progress.	87%
BCA communicates well with parents/carers.	91%
My child can take part in clubs and activities at BCA.	99%
BCA supports my child's wider personal development (wellbeing lessons, pastoral curriculum, co-curricular and extra-curricular experiences, trips and visits)	97%
I would recommend this school to another parent/carers.	97%

Some parents/carers also left qualitative comments which raised individual questions for their child. These will be followed up separately. A couple of general comments to address:

You said	Action/Response
My child would like a locker as they don't like carrying coats/PE kits when they have co-curricular	When we built the school we chose only to purchase a small number of lockers for very vulnerable children who might not have space at home to store items/equipment. We opted for space on the corridors to support movement as the school intake increases rather than walls of lockers around the school. We will discuss at the next governors regarding students wearing PE kits when they have co-curricular.
I'd like to see my child's class teachers at parents evening	As discussed at the information evening as we only have 2 year groups some staff currently teach all 480 students. This makes individual parents/carers evenings possible. In year 9 we will have added capacity for subject parent/carers evenings. As always stated, if you would like to speak to an individual member of staff regarding your child's progress please email info@FAO the relevant member of staff.

Thank you also to those parents/carers who left messages of thanks for staff at the school. These are really appreciated.



Careers Week 2024



This year we celebrated our very first Careers Week at Brian Clarke Academy. Miss Bohgal Wood- co-director of Skills for All delivered an inspiring speech to start careers week on Monday and we had guest speakers all week informing students about future pathways at post 16 including technical awards, T-Levels, Apprenticeships and Advanced Levels.

We are very grateful to all guest speakers from Blue Coat 6th form, Oldham 6th form and Oldham College for coming into school to share information and guidance about option choices at GCSE and how different subjects can lead to specific career paths in the future. Students from Blue Coat 6th form talked passionately about their enjoyment of the college and what they were hoping to go onto study at University.

We were also very lucky to have a drop in from NHS careers, presenting information on the multitude of different careers available in the NHS as well as Mr Miah, Associate Director of a Pharmaceutical company Intertek based in Manchester.

Throughout the week all students learned how different subjects link to career pathways and how the skills and knowledge they gain in lessons can support them when moving into the world of work. They also took part in a virtual fair, exploring different businesses and education providers from across the UK.

Students have said about careers week;

"I loved Careers Week- it was nice to think about my future early!" Anjola- Year 7

'I learned a lot from the guest speakers about what I can do in the future and the amazing opportunities'- Abdul- Year 7

'Careers Week has intrigued all of us and given us an understanding of careers more'. Davina- Year 8



Worship

Our weekly Collective Worship themes this term have included respect, ambition, honesty and integrity.

Mrs Nuttall and a group of year 7 students led our Collective Worship which introduced STEM week.

Some of our RS Ambassadors made prayer jars for our staff work rooms.

Mr Ahmed and Miss Ali led Collective Worship on the theme of respect and Ramadan, which we followed up in form circle time. We have a space available each lunchtime for students who would like to pray or quietly reflect.



Our whole school Easter service was led by Trust Chaplain Richard Ford on the theme of sacrifice. We finished with an uplifting version of 'This Little Light of Mine' sung first in 'house' groups, then by staff and finally by everyone singing together. Students then had an Easter themed form time where they looked at forgiveness and enjoyed creating Easter paper chains. 73 students chose to attend invitational communion which was led by Reverend Hurlston, our school governor.



Poetry Club

Recordings for our poets who are entering the national Poetry by Heart competition are underway. Learning a poem by heart is a gift for life – thank you for supporting your young person in this challenging but rewarding task. Why not have a try yourself with this short poem by Lemn Sissay?

'How do you do it?' said night.
'How do you wake and shine?'
'I keep it simple,' said light.
'One day at a time.'

Year 7 Wellbeing

We have had a number of celebration assemblies to highlight the drive to be ambitious, striving for excellence and fostering community spirit. Our celebration assemblies have included tug of war, penalty shoot outs and dodge ball to name a few ways we make our assemblies fun.



This half term, in one of the Wellbeing sessions students looked at our core value of 'Ambition.' Wellbeing took place during National Careers Week so we asked students to explore what skills do they possess and think about any that they would like to acquire. We looked at how employers value ambitious candidates that have a wider array of soft skills. Students were able to formulate their own career goals. Students have looked at core British Values in particular focusing on exploring legislation around the Equality Act (2010) with a particular focus around hate crime. Students will explore a series of case studies around the many protected characteristics and work done to challenge prejudices and discrimination.

Looking forward into next half term, continuing work on exploring gender stereotypes, the students look at how roles have evolved over time and how this can be considered negotiated following the rise in women entering the labour market. We also look at healthy lifestyles with a focus on emotional wellbeing in particular as our Year 7 students undertake assessments in EBACC subjects.

Year 8 Wellbeing

Wellbeing – what is coming up next half term?

Next half term we will be looking at the following topics:

- Being a bystander
- Hate crime
- Managing online pressures e.g. linked to gaming / online money

As always, resources will be available on SharePoint so parents and carers can look through the PowerPoint being delivered.

We have placed emphasis on why it is important not to be a bystander linking back to the idea of what it means to be a part of a community. We will be looking at what could happen if people are bystanders and the consequences of this. When we move on to look at hate crime, this is building on what students started in Y7, we will be focusing on Racism in particular, again with reference to the importance of being a part of a multi-cultural, diverse community. We will be moving on to then look at the pressures around online gaming, many of our students talk about gaming often and in particular 'buying' things on games, sometimes 'fake' money on the game and in other instances this can end up being real money that is used. We will look through the dangers and concerns around this and how to stay safe online.

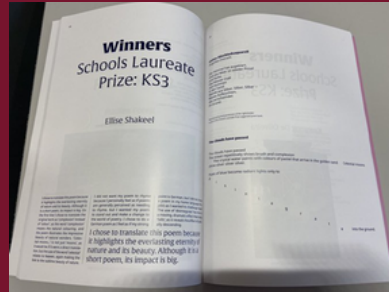
German

Virtual exchange

The virtual exchange is certainly up and running. Every fortnight a committed group of Year 8 German students are giving up their lunchtime to talk to their German partner at Bischöfliches Abtei - Gymnasium in Duisburg Hamborn.

The Stephen Spender Prize

The Stephen Spender Prize have released a book containing all the winning entries from last year's translation competition. Ellise Shakeel was a winner of the Schools Laureate prize for KS3 and her work has now been published! Pupils in German are so ambitious and make us very proud.



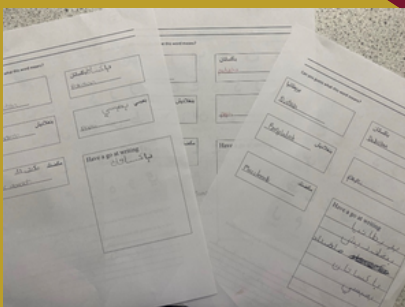
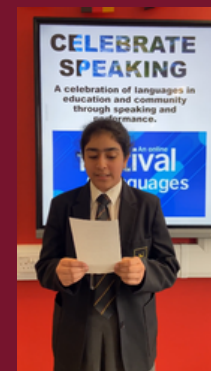
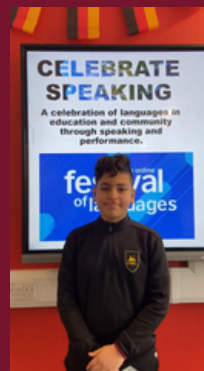
Languagenut

In February, Languagenut ran a world competition for a two-week period and one of our pupil's Sumayyah (Y7) worked so hard that she got nearly 9 million points and was 9th in the World. She was awarded with an Amazon voucher. Congratulations!!!

Rank	Name	Points	Certificate
9	Sumayyah	8905400	

Celebrate speaking

On Wednesday 14th February, five students from Year 7 and 8 showed off their multilingual skills for the Celebrate speaking festival. The festival, ran by the British Council, promotes language learning and home languages. Students had to perform a poem, song, rap or play in a foreign language of their choice. We heard Korean, Urdu, Arabic, Persian and Italian. Thank you to Hareem, Rukan, Kian, Abdul and Poya for performing for us. Videos of the performers will be shared on social media.



Arabic Club

Due to the success of World Arabic Day, we launched our Year 8 Arabic club on Tuesday 12th December. Pupils were so eager; they were queueing up outside!! In the first session, pupils learned about the alphabet in Arabic, and they practised writing it. They have spent this half term recognising letter formations to gain fluency in reading.

Culture Club

Members of the Culture Club have been very busy this term. On returning to school, they came up with new year's resolutions in German, read and watched some German fairy tales and even learnt about Valentine's Day in Germany and making German Valentine's cards to send to friends and family. Most recently they enjoyed learning about the German festival of Karneval/Fasching

Geography

🦋 Year 7: Our Year 7s have been on an incredible journey this term, transforming into true geographers! They've delved deep into their local area, uncovering the fascinating layers of Oldham's history and its dynamic present. From exploring migration patterns to dissecting urban regeneration, these budding geographers have truly amazed us with their insights. And let's talk about their mid-year assessments—jaw-dropping results! We're witnessing the rise of some exceptionally talented geographers in Year 7!

🌟 Year 8: Our Year 8s have embarked on an exhilarating exploration of Africa and now have their sights set on Asia! From the effectiveness of the Great Green Wall to the complexities of deforestation in Borneo, their thirst for knowledge knows no bounds. And with GCSE readiness in mind, their recent mid-year assessments have been nothing short of spectacular. We're thrilled to see so many students considering geography for their GCSEs—what an incredible testament to their passion and dedication!

🌱 Upcoming Competition: Get ready to roll up your sleeves and unleash your creativity because Earth Day (April 22nd) is around the corner! Our BCA students have an exciting opportunity to participate in a competition focused on repurposing disused plastic. Whether it's crafting something artistic, practical, or downright innovative, the sky's the limit! And with fantastic prizes up for grabs, this is one competition you won't want to miss. Plus, stay tuned for a week filled with earth-themed quizzes, games, and more—it's going to be out of this world!

♻️ Eco-Captain Updates: Our Eco-Captains have been the driving force behind our green initiatives this term, and their passion knows no bounds! From designing and promoting our sleek new BCA metal bottles to spreading awareness about the importance of reducing, reusing, and recycling plastic, they're leading the charge for a greener future. Let's not forget their incredible tree-planting efforts on our school site—30 trees and counting! And their recent visit to the Renew Hub in Trafford Park has ignited a fire in many of them to champion environmental causes and explore careers in the waste industry. Talk about inspiring change-makers!

Let's keep the momentum going as we continue to explore, learn, and make a positive impact on our planet. Together, we're shaping a brighter, more sustainable future—one adventure at a time! 🌍💚

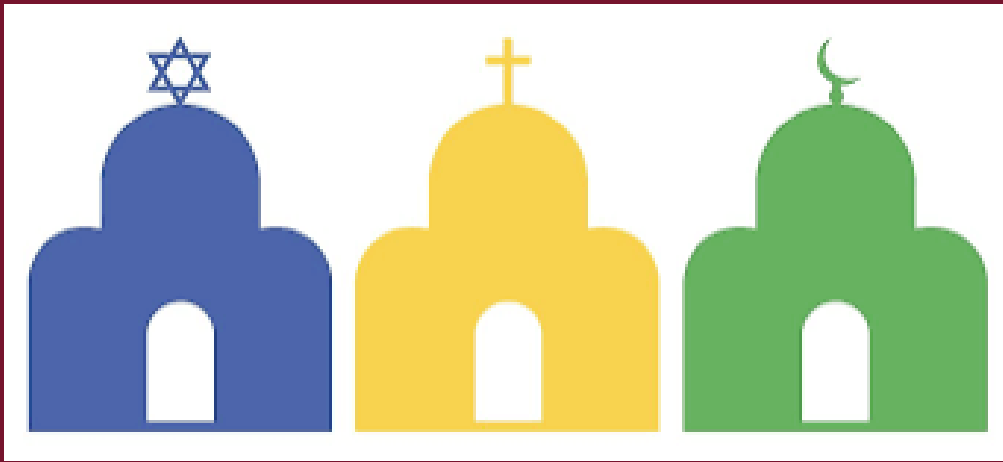


Religious Studies

This half term in RS Year 7 students have started looking at Islam. They are building on their previous knowledge of Abrahamic Faiths and they are drawing out key themes prevalent in all of these religions.

They have explored the importance of scripture in Judaism, Christianity and Islam and the influence it has on the followers today. Students have also made concrete links to how important figures including Abraham, Moses, Jesus and Muhammed have all contributed to the respective religions.

We intend to continue to look at the role of Muhammed in the widespread and development of Islam.

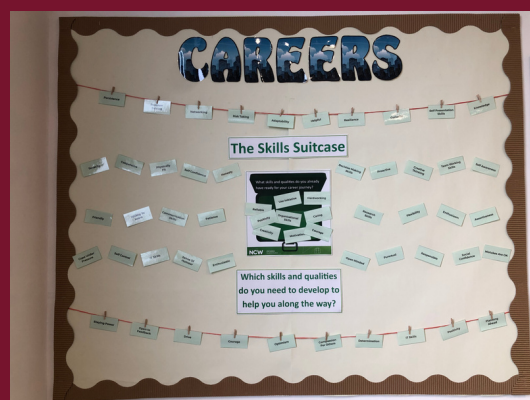


This half term, Year 8 have been exploring 'who has authority in religion?' They have looked at the formation of the early church with a particular focus on the events of Pentecost and analysis of the religious "go make disciples of all nations."

Students have explored the events post the resurrection and the role of the Holy Spirit and Jesus' ascension in influencing Christians today.

Students will go on to explore St Paul's views on moral and ethical issues.

All students have explored some of the transferrable skills studying RS leads to which can open up opportunities for future studies in philosophy, theology, social sciences, politics, law, literature and History.



English

We celebrated national careers week in English by delivering some exciting 'Do Now' activities to our Year 7 & 8 students relating to professions that link with English as a subject. We had budding barristers, fantastic forensic linguists and spectacular scriptwriters. Our students also enjoyed our link up with Miss Hamlin's friend Kelly, who works in the creative sector as a Content writer. She shared her experiences with the students through a video message that many found inspirational.

Year 8 have moved on to the study of *The Book Thief* and are enjoying this bildungsroman novel (ask them about this genre, they should be able to tell you all about it!)

History

During this half term in History, students have been developing their skills as historians. In particular, we have been working on writing like historians and examining sources from the topics we have been learning about. As always, Miss Bezer and Mr Bradley have been incredibly impressed with the dedication and the positive attitude to learning of the students during the different topics.

Year 7

Year 7 have been learning about the Islamic Golden Age. This has included the inventions which happened as a result of the Islamic Golden Age. They have also examined the reasons that Christians went on Crusade. Next half term, they will continue studying the Crusades before moving onto looking at Henry VIII and the Tudors.

Year 8

Year 8 have been learning about the MAIN causes of WW1. This has involved them looking at the unification of Germany, alliance systems and the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand. Next half term, they will continue chronologically to look at WW1 and look at the key events of the war.





Library News



Our library is a welcoming, calm space for all.

World Book Day

We organised a range of activities including a Book Quiz featuring our lovely staff, an author talk, teachers reading aloud a book extract at the starts of lessons and every student was gifted a free book.

WORLD
BOOK
DAY



Author Talk

JENNIFER KILLICK

Newspaper

We have subscribed to First News which is released weekly and is full of current impartial, independent news for children. Lily is a huge fan!



A group of avid readers from Year 7 and 8 have been invited to meet in the library every Monday after school 3.30-4pm. We have formed a 'shadowing' group that reads and discusses the books shortlisted for the Yoto Carnegie Writing Medal. We will be completing activities and book reviews and eventually vote and submit our winning book. If any other students would like to join the group, please see Mrs Carey.

Medal for Writing

Shortlist 2024

#YotoCarnegies24 | YotoCarnegies.co.uk



The yoto
Carnegies

Pi Day

March 14th was Pi day. Students all tried to remember as many digits of pi as possible. They also took part in a dinbats quiz, which the staff also found tricky!



Challenge Events

This term, some of our Year 7 and Year 8 pupils were invited to participate in a challenge event at Blue Coat school, alongside some Blue Coat pupils. This was a fantastic opportunity to explore activities and subjects beyond the school curriculum and really test our thinking and reasoning skills.

Pupils participated in two sessions, one on pattern seeking and reasoning and the other on Latin. Both sessions were very enjoyable and thought provoking and the pupils who attended represented our school wonderfully. All engaged throughout and made thoughtful contributions, demonstrating their skills in reasoning.

Our thanks go to Mr Ballantyne and Mrs Frazer-Davies from Blue Coat who delivered the sessions and the Brian Clarke staff who gave up their evening to accompany the pupils: Mr Loveless, Mr Ahmed, Mrs Dickinson, Miss Robinson, Mr Stringer and Mrs Nuttall.



Sparx Maths Superstars

Our superstar mathematicians have been continuing their incredible hard work on Sparx Maths this term, completing an incredible number of questions and learning hours since September.

Congratulations to the top 5 XP scorers in Year 7 and Year 8 for demonstrating our values of ambition and excellence in their independent learning every week.

806 772 (nearly 1 million!)
questions answered correctly

7674 hours of personalised practice

1 287 469
total XP

232 pupils have
improved their
times tables

Half Term Heroes Y8 – Most XP since 1st Jan 2024



Since September you have achieved...

20 weeks of Sparx Homework

20 weeks in the TOP 50 world wide

Highest ranking 21st place

Half Term Heroes Y7 – Most XP since 1st Jan 2024



STEM Week

During the week commencing 18th March, we celebrated all things STEM here at Brian Clarke!

We started the week with the Year 7 STEM club and Mrs Nuttall leading the collective worship with the theme integrity. We shared several examples of women who made fantastic contributions to the STEM field, but sadly, due to a lack of integrity, many of these women were not recognised for their work at the time.

We learnt that more women are now studying STEM subjects beyond their school years, however, they are still underrepresented compared to men. At Brian Clarke, we have a number of female STEM teachers and so many of our girls excel in these subjects which is wonderful!



Women in STEM Lise Meitner (1878-1968)



Lise Meitner was the first woman in Germany to become a professor in Physics in 1926.

With Otto Hahn, she led the research group that discovered nuclear fission – a hugely important process now used in nuclear power stations.


During Hitler's rise to power, Lise's position as an Austrian Jew became very dangerous and in 1938, she fled to Sweden. This meant that Hahn was able to carry out experiments that would prove nuclear fission, while Lise was only able to contribute by letter.

Hahn won the Nobel prize for the discovery of fission, while Lise was overlooked. This only became apparent in the 1990s! Despite Hahn nominating her for other Nobel prizes, she sadly never won one.

THE BRIAN CLARKE
SCHOOL OF ENGLISH AND ARTS

LUCEAT
LUX VESTRAM

In our lessons throughout the week, pupils had the opportunity to learn about how STEM linked to the different subjects they study in school. For example, pupils saw how STEM contributes to the making of books in English and how the making of materials such as paints used in Art utilises STEM.




How does STEM link to Art?

Many of the materials used in Art, such as paints and pastels are made using scientific processes.

The art of glass making also involves scientific processes of heating and cooling!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v:czxG7BfnQLWM>



How does STEM link to English?

The process of making a book involves a lot of STEM!

From measuring and cutting the paper, to the heat and pressure needed to bind the book and the machines used to print the book!

[How Are Books Made? A Look Inside a 2021 Commercial Print Shop - YouTube](#)


STEM Week

We enjoyed a visit to the science show at Blue Coat school. The show included demonstrations of exciting experiments including a whoosh bottle and a hydrogen balloon! We were also able to participate in some of the experiments! As well as enjoying the show, our Brian Clarke pupils behaved wonderfully throughout – they were all an absolute credit to our school!



We ended the week with our Year 7 STEM club back in action at Blue Coat school for the science fair! The children had been working on a variety of projects, including coke and mentos reactions, a melting chocolate investigation, capillary action, bath bombs and bubbles! Each group presented their project to other pupils and staff. They were all

British Science Week 2024



Bath Bombs!!!

Does the amount of cream of tartar used in a bath bomb affect how long it fizzes for?

Method

Firstly, we made a trial batch of bath bombs to check that our method and recipe would work. We recognised that the oil and water ratio needed to be just right, so that the bath bombs would mould together but were not too wet.

We then made three different bath bombs using 1 teaspoon, 2 teaspoons and 3 teaspoons of cream of tartar.

We kept the volume of oil used the same.
We also used the same amount of cornflour.



Bath Bomb recipe
Cream of Tartar
Oil
Food colouring
Scent
Cornflour

British Science Week 2024



Melting Chocolate!

Does the type of chocolate (milk, dark or white) affect the time it takes to melt?

Prediction

Based on the information we had, we predicted that the white chocolate would melt in the shortest time. We predicted that the dark chocolate would take the longest amount of time to melt.

Making a fair test

To ensure our experiment was a fair test, we:

1. Used the same number of chocolate pieces for each type of chocolate.
2. Ensured the different chocolates were all the same brand.
3. Held each beaker the same distance above the candle



Physical Education

This half term may have been the shortest, but it has been jammed packed with activities and events. The PE team are delighted with our students ongoing enthusiasm and willingness to take part in all the opportunities that we offer.

Dance

Our very own dancers entered their first competition in the "Gotta Dance" Easter event 2024. All dancers were incredible and danced their hearts out. It was amazing to see our students shine outside of their academic studies and we were privileged to see them shine in this competition environment. Mrs Hargreaves was beyond impressed and in awe of the talent we have at this school. A huge congratulations for Lacey receiving 3rd place, Georgie for 2nd and Autumn on 1st place for the solo KS3 category, you all were outstanding.



Girls Football

Our Year 8 footballers have also had a great half term, they have been training hard in school and outside school with the majority of our team now playing for a club in their own time. This demonstrates their dedication and passion for the sport and the community they are building together. Year 8s also had a great win against Failsworth who a very strong side with some very talented players. This game demonstrated the girl's ambition, determination and teamwork to get Brian Clarke over the line with a 2 – 1 victory. Well done to all involved.



As a school community we also entered the biggest girls football campaign in history with our participation in the "Let Girls Play" event on the 8th of March. Our girls participated in penalty shootouts during break time and mini matches during lunch. We had over 160 female students take part in both break and lunch time activities and due to its success, we now have girls only football on the astroturf during lunch times every Friday. It really was a day to celebrate how far female football has come and empower all students to understand that sports should not be based on gender. Congratulations to all that took part.

Netball

Our netball girls have finished the season in style with all Year 8 teams Hawks, Ravens and Owls winning their leagues. Team Ravens also finished 1st place in the Oldham Schools rally. Team Owls finished 2nd place in the Oldham School rally, and this result came down to a nail-biting finish as first and second place was determined by goals scored. Unfortunately, teams Hawks are yet to play their rally as the good old Oldham weather decided to throw a spanner in the works however, we now have a rescheduled date for this event and our girls can't wait to get back on court.



Year 7s have also been in action in the Oldham school rallies. Team Hawks placed a very commendable 3rd place and team Ravens placed 2nd! All girls are playing some really good netball and their development from September to present is exceptional. We will continue training throughout the year, and we will finally see team Owls in action with some friendly matches which will prepare them for joining a competitive league in Year 8.

Physical Education

Handball

Year 7 represented BCA in their first handball tournament of the year and did brilliantly. Some true teamwork and skill were showcased. The boys really enjoyed their time, and we will be looking forward to other matches soon.



Rugby

Year 7 recorded their first win of the season in a dramatic fashion winning 28-24 in a tight game versus Radclyffe. Great performances all around with special mention to those making their debut. Man of the match was Lukah B.

Year 8 have trained exceptionally hard this half term and was eager for their first match. Unfortunately, the opponents failed to raise a team on the day, but it didn't stop our lads. We split in half and involved played a match against each other as our first trial game on grass. A brilliant showcase of their hard work and dedication.



Boys Football

The Year 7 boys have been training tirelessly this term and performed exceptionally well. Albeit our first match resulted in a loss the teamwork and comradery were brilliant. Our 2nd match vs Saddleworth resulted in a 4-1 win. A brilliant way to finish our year of fixtures. Man of the match goes to the hat-trick hero, Leo Mcdonald.

Year 8 boys played another fixture this half term against Royton and Crompton. It was fantastic to see some different students playing for their first ever football game. The team has made progress again, conceding fewer goals and doubling our goal tally. Excellent effort by the Year 8 boys. It was an absolute pleasure taking them to another football fixture this half term, well done boys.



Computing

Year 7

This term students have had a gentle introduction to programming using Microsoft KODU, they have been introduced to the basic programming concepts in a fun and interactive way before moving on to Python after Easter. As part of the work pupils created their own multiplayer games based upon a client brief. Mr Mkandawire was extremely impressed with the games every student created and enjoyed playing them! Below is some sample code created by some of the pupils:



Year 8

The students in year 8 have also been extremely busy hard coding HTML websites, no drag and drop here, every student had typed each tag by hand. They made a website based up Cyber Security and Malware – reinforcing what they learnt last year. Below is an example of a website created by a student.



Cyber First Trip

30 Lucky year 8 pupils visited Media City to take part in a Cyber First Day delivered by the National Cyber Security Centre, the day was an immersive workplace experience designed to expose pupils to the future of technology and cyber security. The students engaged with innovative content, gamified learning and interactive debates which sparked imagination and opened their eyes to a world of inspiring possibilities within Computing.



iDEA Award

Pupils in both year groups are making excellent progress towards their Bronze and Silver iDEA awards. So far this year, 85 pupils have achieved their Bronze award and 9 their Silver. With many more on the cusp of achieving their awards! Below is a selection of pupils proudly displaying their hard-earned certificates.



Celebration Assembly and Key Calendar Dates

Here are a few highlights from the last Celebration Assembly of the year. We are so proud of all our students this term, well done for all their successes they have achieved this year.



Key Calendar Dates For Next Term

Monday 15th April	Start of Term - School Re-Opens
Wednesday 24th April	Y7 & Y8 Online Parents Evening
Friday 3rd May	EBACC Assessment Week Y7
Monday 6th May	May Day Bank Holiday
Monday 20th May	EBACC Assessment Week Y8
Friday 24th May	School Closes for Half Term
Monday 3rd June	School Re - Opens

