

HIGHLIGHTS

M A G A Z I N E

INSPIRATION
FOR THE
MODERN
YOUNG
STUDENT

This Term's
HIGHLIGHTS



BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
BRENTFORD & FORM



EDUCATION

COMMUNITY

INSPIRATION

MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Parent/Carers

What a year it has been!!! There has been so much going on across the school this year as we have worked hard to make up for the last few years with the girls missing out on trips and activities across the school. This term is certainly no exception, with our Arts festival taking place, Sports day, activities week, the Year 11 residential, Duke of Edinburgh residential and a host of other events. It has been fantastic this term to welcome some of our new families who join us with their children in year 7 in September. Again, this year, we have been an incredibly popular choice for families, and will be welcoming a busy new year 7 into the school in September 2023. In June we said goodbye to our year 11 and year 13 students following a very successful summer exam season and a number of very emotional final events, including the year 11 Record of Achievement event, the year 13 graduation and 2 very successful proms (The year 13 one on a boat down the Thames!)

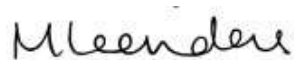
As they say, if you can't beat them join them! Earlier on this term I was contacted by the team at Ofsted to ask if I would like to become an inspector alongside my role as a headteacher. Given the poor press that Ofsted are getting, they are keen to involve more practising headteachers in school inspections. After two pretty intense weeks of training, some examinations I had to sit, and a shadow and sign off inspection, I am now a qualified inspector. The opportunity to be able to get into other schools and see what best practice there is, as well as understanding the Ofsted framework to support our staff and students at Brentford, will I believe be invaluable! It has already been such an eye opener being on the other side. The commitment isn't huge, a few inspections a term (4-6 days). I hope that you will share our view that being on the inside can only be helpful for our school and support us in our school journey!

A final thank you of the school year, I would like to thank staff and students for all of their hard work this academic year. I would also like to thank you as parents for your continuing support and commitment.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer holiday,

With the very best wishes,

Yours faithfully



Marais Leenders

MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Dear Parents, Carers & Students,

It's hard to believe that we are at the end of yet another school year, but I am sure that you are all looking forward to the summer break after a very busy term. I have been able to visit the school several times this term and I am always so amazed at the wealth of talents that our girls have. Whether it's one of the sports teams winning a tournament, the Duke of Edinburgh students completing their weekend camp or our many talented artists showing their talents at the Arts festival. There are so many reasons to be proud of each and every student.

Sports Day is always a lot of fun, and whether they win or not, big congratulations to all those who took part and thank you to their enthusiastic supporters. The sports teams have had a fantastic year and we all look forward to cheering them on to even greater successes in the new school year. Thanks should be given to the PE staff, a fantastic team who go over and above to ensure every student at Brentford finds a sporting activity to suit them.

It is always sad to say goodbye to our year 13 students as they move on to pastures new, but we wish them all the very best for the future and look forward to hearing all about their next adventures. We also said goodbye to year 11 but are looking forward to welcoming a lot of them back into the 6th form. Along with year 10 who took their GCSE English literature exam we wish all the Year 11 & Year 13s the best of luck with their exam results in August.

It was lovely to meet a lot of the girls who will be joining year 7 in September and we look forward to welcoming you all and sharing your achievements and successes over the coming years.

As always, there has been too much happening at school for it all to get a mention so I will end with a huge thank you to all the staff for everything that you all do to make Brentford the special place that it is.

Wishing you all a peaceful and hopefully sunny summer break.

Terri George
Chair of Governors

IN THE PRESS

NATALIE WEBB, HR OFFICER AT BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS RAISING MONEY

HR OFFICER AT BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS RAISES MONEY FOR WORTHY CAUSE.

27/04/23



HIDDEN POETRY TALENT AT BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS SOMERSET HOUSE

AT THE CENTRE STAGE OF SOMERSET HOUSE COURTYARD CHARNJIT PERFORMED A SPOKEN WORD POETRY SET ON THE THEME OF HOME AND BELONGING.

11/05/23



CONNECT WITH NATURE CREATE VIBRANT INTERIOR SPACES

STYLING THE SPACE SO THAT THE OVERALL ENVIRONMENT ENCOURAGES NOT ONLY ACADEMIC FOCUS BUT ALSO A WELLBEING MOOD.

15/06/23



IN THE PRESS

A SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE SPACE FOR
6TH FORM STUDENTS

THE TWILIGHT PROGRAMME

THANKS TO THE 6TH FORM TWILIGHT
PROGRAMME STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN
A WIDE RANGE OF WELLBEING ACTIVITIES.

25/05/23



INSIGHTS INTO THE WORLD OF WORK
LIFE BEYOND SCHOOL

"BEYOND BRENTFORD" EVENT AND THE
UCAS EXHIBITION WERE EXCELLENT
OPPORTUNITIES FOR THEIR STUDENTS TO
GAIN VALUABLE INSIGHT INTO THE WORLD
OF WORK.

04/07/23



SUCCESSFUL ARTS FESTIVAL
A GREAT SENSE OF
COMMUNITY AND POSITIVE
ENERGY

ON 29TH JUNE, BSfG OPENED THEIR SCHOOL
GATES TO PARENTS/CARERS & THE LOCAL
COMMUNITY TO SHOWCASE WONDERFUL
ARTISTIC TALENTS OF THE STUDENTS AND
ARTISTS IN THE LOCAL AREA.

06/07/23



SCHOOL REFURBISHMENT

WHAT IS NEW ?

Brentford School for Girls has embarked on a phased programme of refurbishment, which began in April 2022 and will continue throughout the summer of 2023. The school wanted to ensure that their students not only achieved academically but also thrived emotionally.

The school appreciates that many factors contribute to that sense of calm and the school wellbeing, not least the interior spaces. As a result of this, the school appointed local interior designer, Jacqueline Douglas, to lead this exciting design project and, having discussed the project with students, staff and governors, Jacqueline's objectives became clear:

1. Create vibrant interior spaces
2. Incorporate visual cues which reinforce core values of pride in the school, strong relationships, the school-being, and bold aspirations
3. Create schemes which add personality.

The school is also keen to mirror themes within the 'Vision of The Brentford Girl' focusing on the importance of sustainable living both locally and globally. Part of the design brief was to boost references to nature within the building. As a result, Jacqueline's designs focused heavily on the benefits of biophilia.

Biophilia can be defined as the human biological desire to connect with nature; this connection can be made via the addition of plants, natural materials, nature-based cloth palettes, and the use of natural light.

Biophilic design has been proven to reduce stress, improve cognitive function and creativity and improve a sense of the school-being. The first phase of the project included refurbishing the Year 11 Base, a common room exclusively for the year group which allows them an independent space to relax, eat and socialise - key to their school well-being in a key year.

Overall, the Year 11 Base design focused on:

1. Styling the space: making rooms feel 'designed' and with the school calming ambience, so that the overall environment encourages a relaxing mood
2. Decoration: adding bursts of colours to energise the space, focusing on colours found in nature
3. Introduction of plants: purchased new, robust, and comfortable furniture that set the tone and allows students to leave the classroom environment and enter a vibrant, social space
4. Stanced commercial standard furniture that was pre-used, this included a fabulous modular seating system that the school got for a fraction of the original price. Sold to them by a charity supporting young people.

Throughout this project the school was always conscious of maximising the school budget, whilst trying to work sustainably and supporting the circular economy:

- Sustainable, positive impact companies where possible
- Employ local trades, such as the joinery company, Wood Suite Furniture maker, located on Windmill Road, who supplied amazing seating. Another local supplier the school used was Studio Flox, a Brentford based upholstery small business at Waterman's Park that revamped old seating so that the school didn't have to purchase new ones
- Maintaining the investments: covering furniture with fabric throws that can be easily cleaned, reducing the need to purchase new furniture
- Moving furniture to different year groups to extend its life or donating unwanted furniture to a local charity, i.e. Hounslow based community hub: [The Loft](#).

The end result has been received really positively by the students and school staff, who are looking forward to the roll out of future amazing refurbished spaces!



Jacqueline
Douglas
Design

“ I was excited to turn my attention to the Westwood building, I'm a Textile designer so it was a department very close to my heart! ”
Interior Designer, Jacqueline Douglas



The school is very committed to the Arts and, therefore, the designer wanted this refurb to reflect the creativity and passion evident in the students.

The first goal was to re-imagine the space as a Gallery; the designer wanted staff and students to enter the building and sense that this was a place of creativity.

The idea was to encourage a sense of pride in the students; their work was valuable and should be displayed to the highest standard. The designer envisaged the space as ever evolving; constantly being curated to reflect fresh thinking so that the students could learn from one another.



The designer updated the display cabinets, basing her designs on the cabinetry found in My London's leading galleries and museums - only the best for BSFG students! The designer then approached a local joiner to create the furniture as this was a more cost effective option.

Consequently, the students now display their work to its best. Reference to Vivienne Westwood, the fashion icon (and namesake of the building) is prominent, so that students are inspired by the role of this fashion maverick.

By relocating the student lockers (which had dominated the area) more space allowed the area to feel more like a gallery - and provide space for the students to admire the work on display.

'FUTURE SCHOLARS' PROGRAMME

BRILLIANT CLUB 'SCHOLAR'S PROGRAMME'

UNIVERSITY-STYLE LEARNING

Congratulations to our high achieving students in Key Stage 3 for completing their 'Future Scholars' programme with the Brilliant Club. The programme launched in April with all students visiting SOAS, University of London for a campus tour and attending an information and advice session about university study.

Each student completed a 1000 word assignment and were graded at undergraduate level.

Our Year 8 cohort attended their graduation ceremony at Oxford Town Hall after a campus visit to Keble College (University of Oxford).

Fourteen Year 7 students took part in the programme attending seven tutorials with Maria, a PhD student and visual artist, to learn about Art: Power and Portraiture.

Similarly, Nuha, a PhD student at King's College London, led fourteen students from Year 8 through an interesting series of sessions called "Disease Detectives".



FOCUS ON: CAREERS WEEK

It's been an amazing Annual Careers Week! Activities included employer talks, tutor activities, games and activities across all year groups.



UCAS Exhibition in Birmingham

Careers Week got off to a flying start this year with a coach trip for all Year 12 students to the UCAS Exhibition in Birmingham, giving students access to 100s of universities, colleges, apprenticeship providers and employers.

FOCUS ON: CAREERS WEEK



Throughout the week all students attended careers exploration lessons using the Unifrog platform, which gives accurate labour market information about 1000s of jobs. The tool can also be used for students to record their skills, reflect on their interests, preferences and strengths and browse the on-line careers library. Every student has an account which can be accessed on-line at any time.

Our key stage 3 students also took part in sessions aimed to help them develop crucial employability skills such as team-work and communication. Finally our Year 7 students took part in an employer Q&A before a fun team challenge, involving creativity, team work and a lot of newspaper!

FOCUS ON: CAREERS WEEK

'I loved and enjoyed a lovely and wonderful day.

It was a fantastic, awesome, brilliant and funny day.'

'It was interesting and useful'

'Please repeat in the future'

'Had some very good activities'

'There was a good variety of activities '

'Would like it to happen every year'

'More of these'



Meeting 'The Recruitment Queen'

On Thursday, our Year 10 students took part in a mock interview with a local professional including representatives from BSI, the Bloomsbury Institute and Atkins.

They received some last minute tips on how to 'Take themselves to Market' by recruitment & business consultant Charlie Ryan, AKA the "Recruitment Queen".

FOCUS ON: CAREERS WEEK

Mock Interviews

On Thursday our Year 10 students took part in a mock interview with a local professional including representatives from BSI, the Bloomsbury Institute and Atkins.





'It was really fun. I enjoyed it a lot. It was really useful as now I know how an interview should go'

'My interviewer was really nice and it gave me a view of what it will be like in the outside world'



PRACTICAL LEARNING



The dressmaking task in Brentford School for Girls required students to work in small groups, promoting teamwork and communication. Working alongside their classmates helps develop social skills and teaches them how to collaborate effectively. It also prepares them for future team-based projects they may encounter in their chosen careers.

When working on the dressmaking task with limited resources, the students had to evaluate and analyze the methods they would utilize and the potential issues that could arise, ultimately fostering an environment for practical problem solving.

This super fun activity allowed our students to hone and develop vital life skills such as time-management, communication, and problem-solving.

Incorporating practical learning activities into our children's education can greatly benefit their future success.



Incorporating practical activities, such as dressmaking from newspapers, requires students to be creative and innovative in their approaches. These tasks stimulate the imagination and encourage them to think outside of the box, as they seek solutions to problems that require resourcefulness.

Practical learning teaches invaluable life and career skills that are difficult to obtain through traditional academic coursework.





FOCUS ON WELLBEING



“By scheduling in time to take a break to prioritise my mental health has benefited me greatly. I have found that I am more focused on myself during this time, rather than thinking about academia. By focusing on art, I have developed my precision and have learnt about colour theory, which is therapeutic.”

Joanna



WELLBEING

The pressure of exams can cause stress and anxiety, which can negatively affect students' academic progress and general wellbeing. Our 6th Form has created a safe and supportive space for 6th Form students to disconnect from academic demands and focus on their wellbeing with our Twilight Programme. The Twilight Programme has been created in line with the government's statutory post-16 additional hours.

The programme aims to tackle two of the main areas of concern for Year 12 & 13 students: Providing personal development support and focusing specifically on managing stress and anxiety. Brentford 6th Form understands that these feelings can be overwhelming and affect their ability to study effectively, so this programme helps to equip them with strategies to overcome these challenges.

Secondly, Brentford 6th Form provides subject-specific intervention and support to aid effective revision. As students transition from A-level study and move towards university or apprenticeships, it is crucial to acquire the necessary revision skills for future success. Thanks to our 6th Form's Twilight Programme, students participate in a range of activities such as board games, cookery classes, netball, drama and dance self-improvement workshops, self-defence classes, football and yoga. Brentford 6th Form have also invited specialist guest speakers to talk to the students about managing stress and anxiety effectively. One of their external speakers, James Peterson, delivered two weeks of excellent strategies on managing stress and anxiety, covering the 'WHAT, HOW and WHY' of Positive Mental Health.



YEAR 13 GRADUATION

We wished our Year 13 farewell over two key events; the Year 13 Graduation in school on Friday 23rd June and the Year 13 Prom on the evening of 27th June.

After their two years in sixth form, we were so pleased to have given them a lovely send off. The student sixth form leadership team did a fantastic job of planning for their year group and decorating the main hall, so it could be a memorable event for all those that attended.

The Graduation included speeches from Ms Leenders, Ms Agnihotri and Year 13 teachers. We also had the pleasure of hearing some great stories from their sixth form tutors: Ms Welsh, Mr Holloway, Ms Downton and Mr Garner. The students enjoyed some lunch, Year 13 Awards and an opportunity to say farewell to their friends.

The Prom was held on the Hurlingham boat, which was boarded from Kew Pier and enjoyed the views of London during the 3 hour event. The students enjoyed the evening away dancing to the fantastic playlist by the DJ.

All those that attended the events looked beautiful and we wish them all the very best in their next steps.



“May you flourish in all the goals
you set for yourself and
not let any barriers defeat you.”
Ms Agnihotri





Grad 2023

I'm

Grad 2023

Class of 2023

I'm so proud of you









YEAR 6 INTO 7 INDUCTION DAY

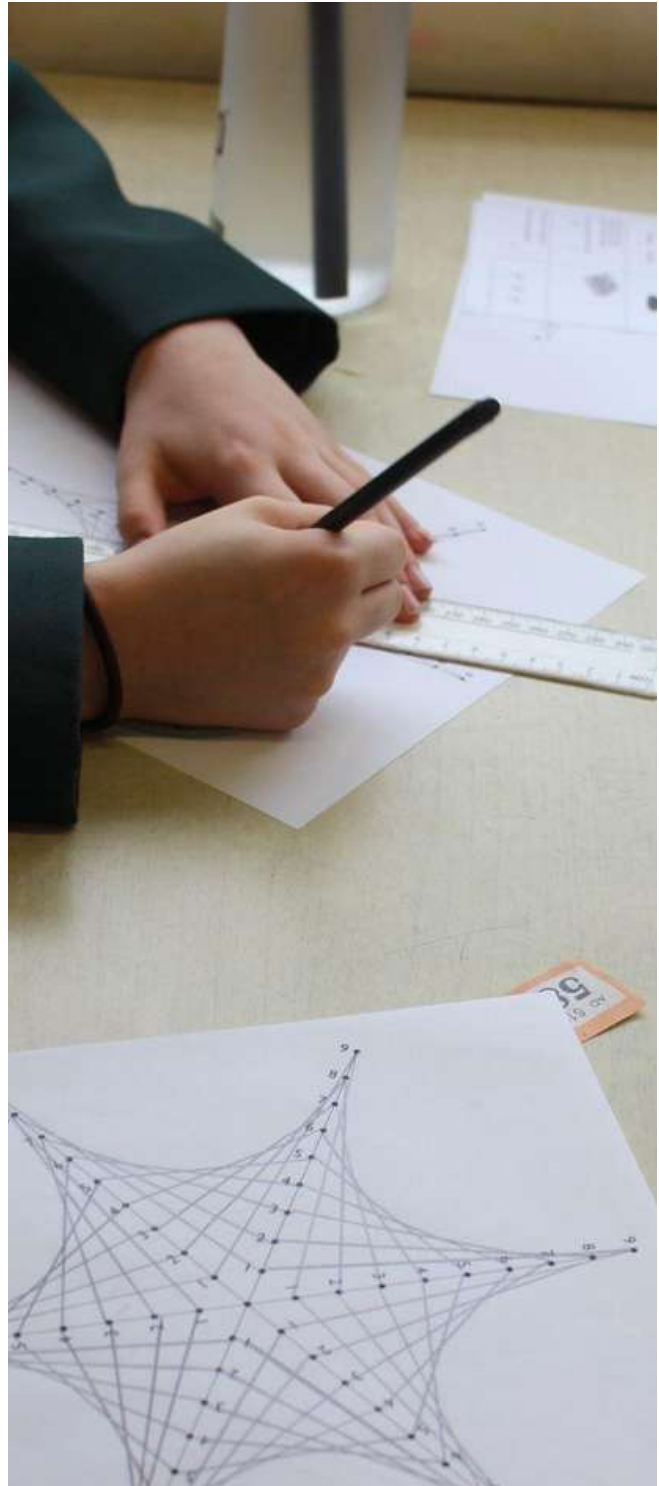
Thank you to all our prospective Year 7 students who attended the Year 6 into Year 7 induction day!

Students had the opportunity to tour the school site, experience lessons with subject specialists, meet their tutor and peers in their tutor group and participate in team bonding activities. Students were very complimentary of their experience, showed real enthusiasm in getting to know the school, staff and their peers. It was a lovely day filled with lots of excitement and inquisitiveness.

Year 6 Taster Sessions

Our prospective Year 6 pupils were invited to experience a lesson of their choice and take part in activities planned by subject specialists supported by our brilliant subject ambassadors and student leadership team.

The taster sessions gave our prospective students an insight into their chosen subject and what they can look forward to when they join us in September.



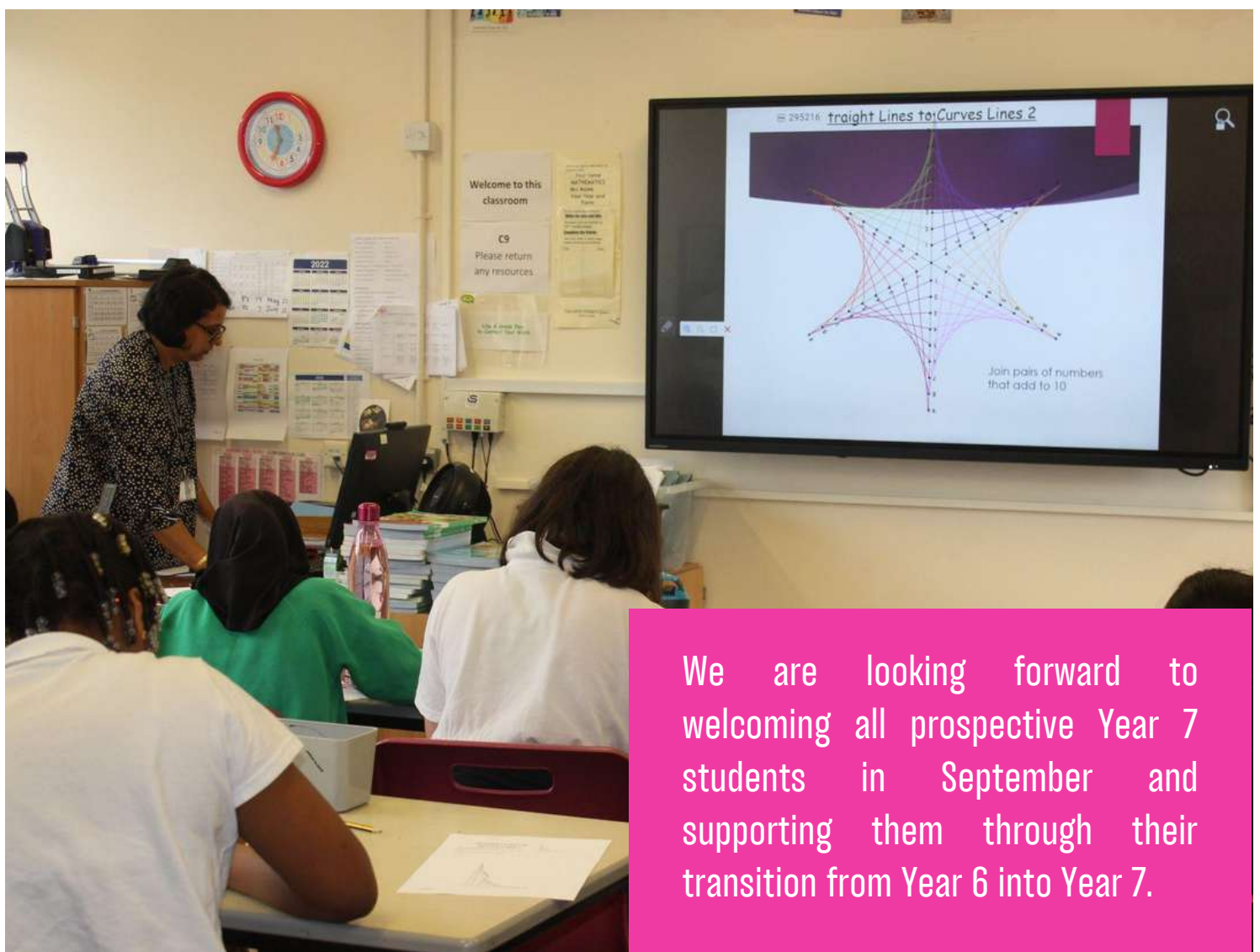


Date:

July 2023

Rewards

What does secondary
school Mathematics
look like?



TRIP TO ST MARY'S UNIVERSITY



IN JUNE, FIFTEEN YEAR 9 STUDENTS PACKED THEIR SUITCASES FOR A 3 DAY, 2 NIGHT SUMMER RESIDENTIAL AT ST MARY'S UNIVERSITY, TWICKENHAM. AS WELL AS ATTENDING AN INFORMATION AND ADVICE SESSION ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF A UNIVERSITY EDUCATION, STUDENTS TOOK PART IN TASTER SEMINAR SESSIONS (IN FILM, DRAMA AND PSYCHOLOGY) AND AN INNOVATION CHALLENGE. THEY ALSO VISITED THE HISTORIC (AND QUIRKY) STRAWBERRY HILL HOUSE AND TOOK PART IN A HOST OF FUN ACTIVITIES TO GIVE THEM A TASTER OF UNI LIFE. THE SILENT DISCO SEEMED TO BE A FIRM FAVOURITE!

ANNUAL HOUSE BAKING COMPETITION



IT IS ALWAYS HEARTWARMING TO WITNESS YOUNG INDIVIDUALS EXHIBIT THEIR PROWESS IN VARIOUS FIELDS. AT BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, A BAKING COMPETITION BETWEEN DIFFERENT "HOUSES" SHOWCASED THE IMPRESSIVE AND CREATIVE CULINARY SKILLS OF THE STUDENTS.

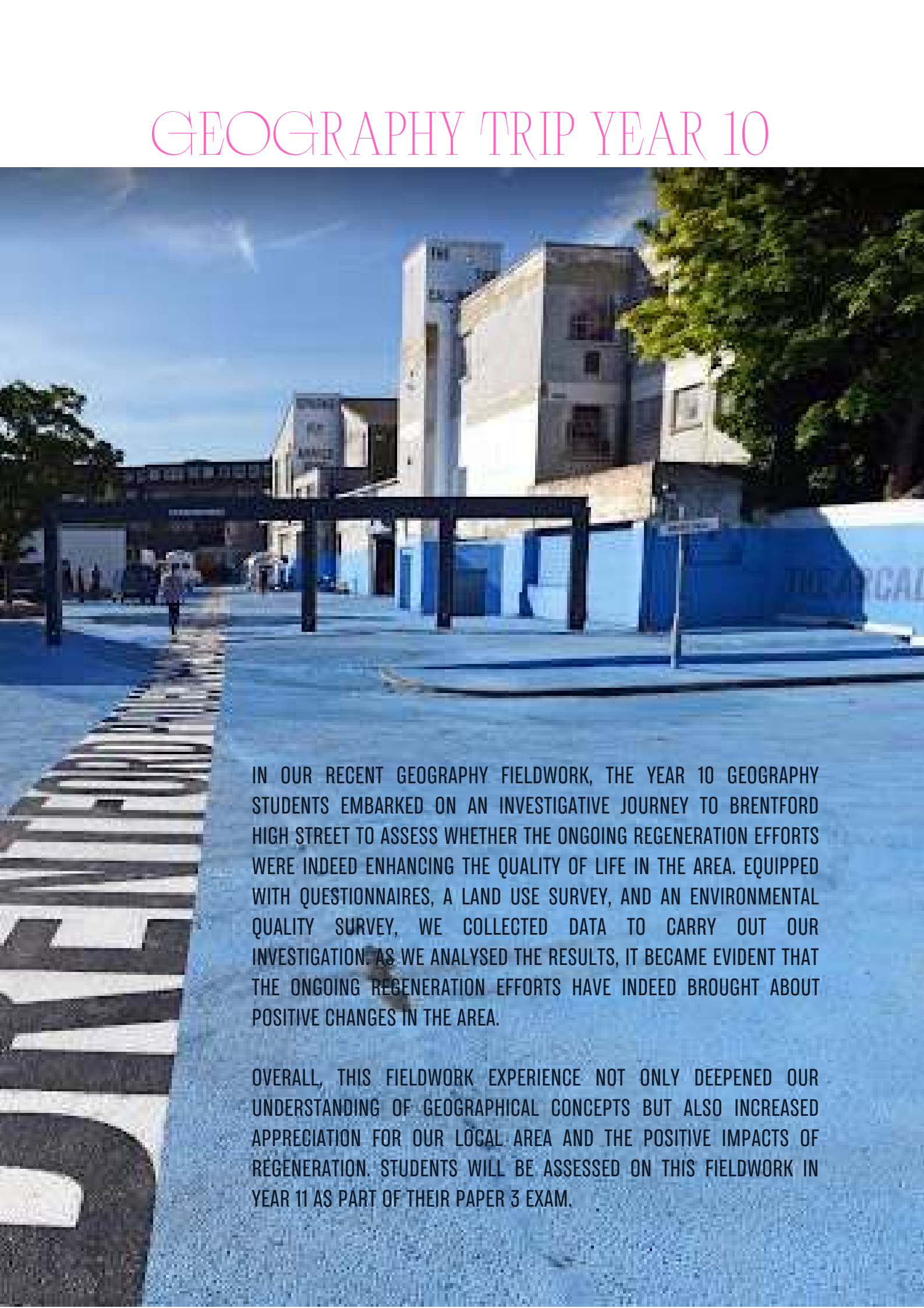
IT WAS FASCINATING TO WITNESS THE DIVERSITY IN BAKING TECHNIQUES AND STYLES. THE WINNERS OF THE COMPETITION WERE ANNOUNCED, AND EACH HOUSE HAD SOMETHING TO BE PROUD OF!

WE LOOK FORWARD TO MORE EVENTS LIKE THIS, WHERE OUR CHILDREN CAN SHOWCASE THEIR TALENTS AND MAKE LASTING MEMORIES.

ANNUAL HOUSE BAKING COMPETITION



GEOGRAPHY TRIP YEAR 10



IN OUR RECENT GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK, THE YEAR 10 GEOGRAPHY STUDENTS EMBARKED ON AN INVESTIGATIVE JOURNEY TO BRENTFORD HIGH STREET TO ASSESS WHETHER THE ONGOING REGENERATION EFFORTS WERE INDEED ENHANCING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE AREA. EQUIPPED WITH QUESTIONNAIRES, A LAND USE SURVEY, AND AN ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY SURVEY, WE COLLECTED DATA TO CARRY OUT OUR INVESTIGATION. AS WE ANALYSED THE RESULTS, IT BECAME EVIDENT THAT THE ONGOING REGENERATION EFFORTS HAVE INDEED BROUGHT ABOUT POSITIVE CHANGES IN THE AREA.

OVERALL, THIS FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE NOT ONLY DEEPENED OUR UNDERSTANDING OF GEOGRAPHICAL CONCEPTS BUT ALSO INCREASED APPRECIATION FOR OUR LOCAL AREA AND THE POSITIVE IMPACTS OF REGENERATION. STUDENTS WILL BE ASSESSED ON THIS FIELDWORK IN YEAR 11 AS PART OF THEIR PAPER 3 EXAM.

YEAR 11 LEAVING



"WE CELEBRATED AND SAID FAREWELL TO OUR YEAR 11S ON FRIDAY 26TH MAY DURING THEIR RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT ASSEMBLY. IT WAS LOVELY CELEBRATING THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS AND TIME AT BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS. SO MANY MEMORABLE MOMENTS! WE ARE SO PROUD OF HOW FAR THEY HAVE COME AND BLOSSOMED INTO THE 'BRENTFORD GIRL'.

I AM EXCITED TO READ ABOUT THEIR FUTURE ACHIEVEMENTS, ACCOLADES AND SUCCESS INCLUDING WHAT THEY HAVE CREATED, INVENTED, CURED, CONTRIBUTED, INSPIRED AND INFLUENCED. I WISH THEM ALL EVERY SUCCESS IN THEIR NEXT CHAPTER. I AM SO PROUD OF THEM ALL."

MISS OGUNFIDODO



Good luck!
You are the best
I'll miss you
Good luck!
You are the best
I'll miss you

Good luck!
You are the best
I'll miss you
Good luck!
You are the best
I'll miss you
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KING'S CORONATION CELEBRATION







As part of our Coronation celebrations in the school, we were proud to deliver a whole school assembly led by Year 13s about the significance of this historical event. Every student in the school also received a keepsake wooden coin and a coronation themed cupcake. In addition to this, we hosted a Coronation Tea party on Friday 5th May, which was attended by ten students from each year group. These students were put forward by their Heads of Year because they did the following:

- Those who contribute to the wider school community
- Recognition of achievements outside of school
- Exemplifies the Brentford Girl vision and school values all the time

This was a wonderful opportunity for us to celebrate some of the students in our year groups that don't always get the praise and recognition they deserve, so we wanted to remind them how much they are valued as part of the BSfG community.





THE QUALITY IN CAREERS STANDARD

WE WERE FIRST ACCREDITED IN 2018 AND THIS WAS OUR RE-ACCREDITATION. WE ARE THE ONLY SCHOOL IN THE BOROUGH OF HOUNSLOW TO HOLD IT CURRENTLY.

THE QUALITY IN CAREERS STANDARD THROUGH THE INVESTOR IN CAREERS MODEL IS DESIGNED AS AN EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK FOR ACCREDITING THE HIGHEST QUALITY CAREERS EDUCATION INFORMATION ADVICE AND GUIDANCE (CEIAG) PROVISION.

OUR INSPECTION IN MAY, WAS AN OPPORTUNITY TO DEMONSTRATE HOW WE ARE MEETING THE DUTY PLACED ON SCHOOLS TO ENSURE STUDENTS ARE WELL PREPARED FOR THE NEXT STAGE OF THEIR EDUCATION, TRAINING AND/OR EMPLOYMENT.



This is to certify that

Brentford School for Girls, Greater London

has been assessed and accredited as

***"Fully meeting all the accreditation criteria incorporating the
Gatsby Benchmarks"***

for the national quality award
for its careers education, information,
advice and guidance provision.

The award is for a period of up to 3 years,
expiring at the latest on 03rd June 2026

(Paul Hobson) CEO

CSW Group trading as *Investor in Careers*

Awarded on 03rd June 2023 by *Investor in Careers*

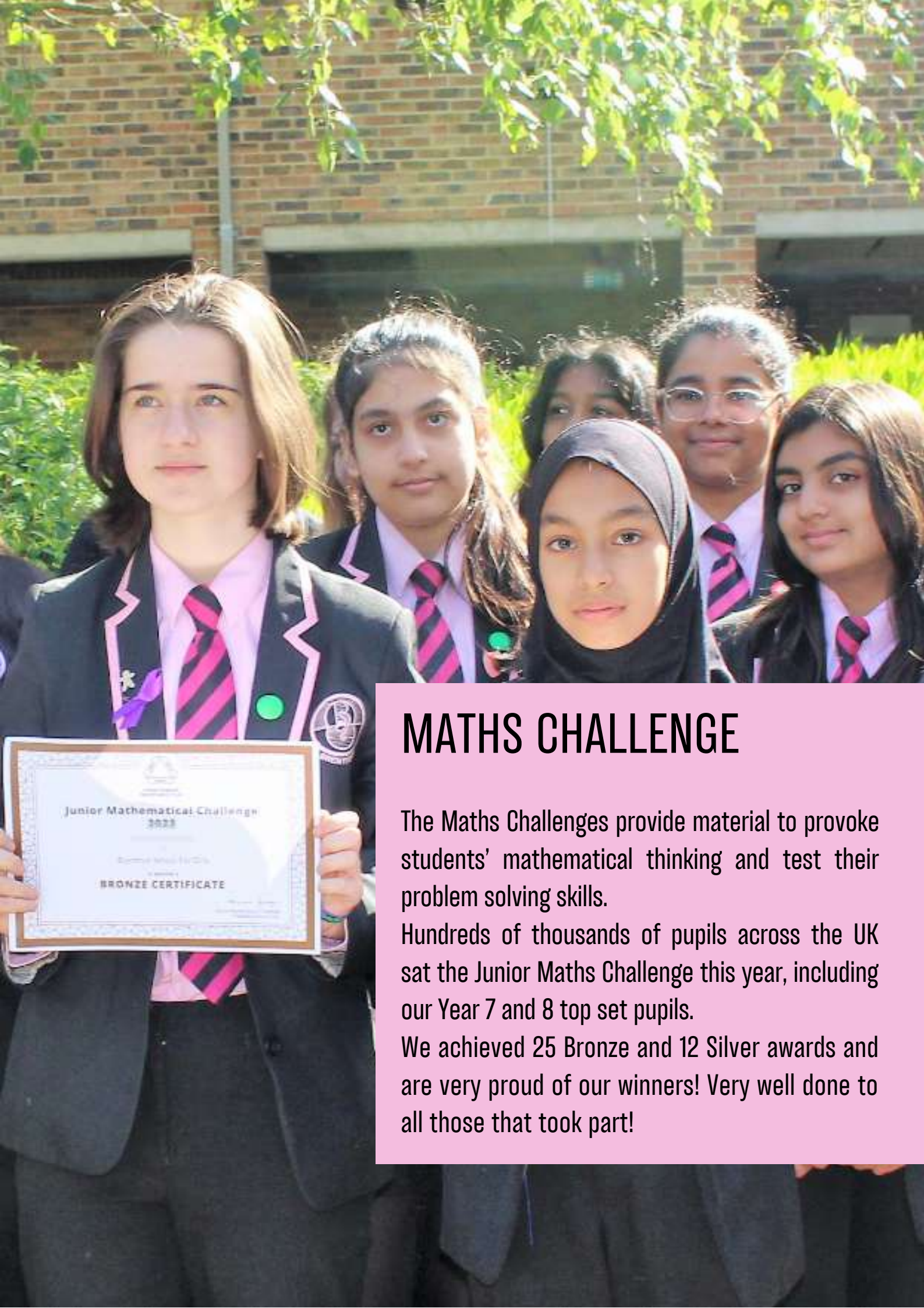


as a Licensed Awarding Body
for the national Quality in Careers Standard



ON MONDAY 3RD JULY, LOCAL HOUNSLOW SCHOOLS COMPETED TO WIN THE TITLE OF BEST BAND
AT GUNNERSBURY BAPTIST CHURCH.

REPRESENTING BRENTFORD WE HAD THE WONDERFUL 'FEM IV'
WHO NOT ONLY RECEIVED A SPECIAL MENTION FOR FANTASTIC
VOCALS BUT WERE ALSO NOTED AS A FAVOURITE FROM THE COMPETITORS AND STAFF.
UNFORTUNATELY BRENTFORD DIDN'T TAKE THE TITLE THIS YEAR-
BUT WE HAVE ALREADY BEGUN TO PLAN NEXT YEARS ACT.



MATHS CHALLENGE

The Maths Challenges provide material to provoke students' mathematical thinking and test their problem solving skills.

Hundreds of thousands of pupils across the UK sat the Junior Maths Challenge this year, including our Year 7 and 8 top set pupils.

We achieved 25 Bronze and 12 Silver awards and are very proud of our winners! Very well done to all those that took part!



DIGITAL SCHOOLHOUSE



**DIGITAL
SCHOOLHOUSE**
together with



Ingenious Computing.

ukie

PlayStation.

SEGA



UBISOFT



**Warwickshire
County Council**

Brentford School for Girls is **an active member of Digital Schoolhouse**, an innovative educational initiative that inspires and engages students in the field of computing and digital creativity.

As part of this initiative, the school provides immersive learning experiences, workshops, and projects that foster computational thinking and digital skills.

Brentford School for Girls also takes part in an annual Esports competition, encouraging teamwork, strategic thinking, and sportsmanship among students.

DIGITAL SCHOOLHOUSE



Additionally, the school demonstrates its commitment to supporting primary schools by offering ICT assistance and providing Continuing Professional Development (CPD) to teachers.

By sharing resources and expertise, Brentford School for Girls contributes to the development of digital literacy and promotes the effective integration of technology in education.



DIGITAL SCHOOLHOUSE

Summer Issue | July 2023

KEW GARDENS TRIP

Our Year 12 A level Geography class and our Eco Club had an amazing opportunity to attend an educational session on natural resources at Kew Gardens. This session was an outdoor practical session allowing the students to gain real life experiences with some of our most valuable native trees such as the oak. They learned about the importance of our native trees as a habitat for thousands of animals and insects. This knowledge gave students more appreciation for the nature around them. At the end of the session students were able to understand and give examples of:

- How the biosphere provides resources for people.
- Explain how environments are exploited in order to obtain natural resources.
- Describe the impacts exploitation of natural resources can have on the environment.
- Give UK and global examples of solutions to manage and mitigate this exploitation.

This session was followed by a scenic walk around the gardens where students got to experience their ecosystems geography curriculum in real life while visiting the tropical rainforest and temperate woodland biomes. Students also faced their fear of heights while completing the tree top walk providing scenic views of the gardens and the canopy of the deciduous trees.



ECO CLUB

Our Eco club has worked on many projects this year to improve the biodiversity and school grounds at Brentford School for Girls.

Our Bug Hotel

Our members researched what makes a bug hotel successful. As a result of research, our eco club members collected natural materials only, such as bamboo, wood chip, branches, acorns, bricks and unused wooden scissors holders. They then collaborated with our amazing caretakers and business manager to source an unused wooden bookcase and find a location for our bugs new home. Our bug hotel has been very successful in attracting spiders, wood lice, lady birds, ants, bumble bees and woodlice.

Our Bird Feeders

We were grateful to have donations from teachers and members of the local community who donated bird feeders to our Eco club. We now have four bird feeding stations across this school site. This has attracted many beautiful birds to our school site specifically around the oak tree at Pankhurst.



Our Hedgehog House

We researched a suitable location for a hedgehog home. Hedgehogs need to be away from drafts, direct sunlight, and cold areas. Therefore our members introduced our new hedgehog home into a suitable natural habitat outside of Westwood.

Classroom Plants

We have planted cactus, aloe vera, spider plants and succulent plants around the school. These have been located across the school site in classrooms in Moles, Pankhurst, Curie and the attendance office. This has improved the classroom environment as plants help to regulate temperature, improve focus and improve your mood.



ECO CLUB



All baked goods may contain traces of nuts, gluten, milk

All donations made today will be given to the Wings

Can you guess how many sweets are in the jar?

ECO CLUB



Growing Food

We are currently growing cayenne peppers and tomatoes in our greenhouse. This has helped our eco club members understand the benefits of growing your own food, how to care for plants and gain new skills for their future. These skills, such as teamwork, research, organisation and assertiveness, are fantastic skills to have for future careers.

Wings of Hope charity

Our Eco club students worked with Miss Spillane the Eco Lead and Miss Brown the Careers Lead to fundraise for the Wings of Hope charity. This will help make a difference to those less fortunate than us by giving them the gift of education.

A gift that we at Brentford School for girls value greatly. Our club members approached this project through an environmental scope while building students skills for future employability.



ARTS FESTIVAL 2023

On 29th June we opened the school gates to parents/carers and the local community to showcase the wonderful talents we have at Brentford.

With over 100 pieces of art work in the art exhibition ranging from all year groups including pottery, textiles, photography and paintings.

Whilst the exhibition was the hub of the festival, it was clear to see the talent within the school as people pursued the school sight watching year 7 Shakespeare performances followed by musical performances by students across the school varying in instruments and genre. One visitor to the arts festival commented "I enjoyed the variety of things to see. They were all great and it was lovely to see such a range of talents represented."

Another highlight was the wonderful textiles show displaying some wonderful creations, designed and sewn by the talented GCSE and A Level students. The festival also this year was a chance to see the hip hop group that have been working on choreography as part of The Royal Academy of Dance "Step into Dance" program. It was wonderful to see some of our newer students to the school beaming with confidence as they performed the choreography. With the arts team's commitments to showcasing future opportunities for students to develop these talents beyond their classrooms- we welcomed 30 external visitors ranging from local artists, universities, businesses and clubs where the students and community to access the arts beyond Brentford.

One attendee said "I loved the sense of community and positive energy was so lovely, and seeing all the teachers' and kids' enthusiasm was fab!"- whilst another parent commented:

"I loved it. It was such a pleasure to see so many students involved and the many opportunities for them to show off their skills and creativity. I loved celebrating that with them."







Refreshments











ACTIVITIES WEEK



Our annual activities days were again a success with all students having the opportunity to take part in two trips or in-school activities.

Students were able to increase their personal development by experiencing activities that allowed them to build team working skills, cultural capital, interact with new people and to have fun.

Thank you to all the teachers who led and supported on these trips and to the students who approached the days so well.

Trips and experiences this year included Go Ape, Whipsnade Zoo, Thorpe Park, trips to various museums and galleries around London, arts workshops and rowing experiences.

ACTIVITIES WEEK



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LITERACY MILLIONAIRES PARTY



LITERACY MILLIONAIRES PARTY



On Thursday 6th July, we had our annual Millionaire Cupcake party. We had fifty students from year 7 and 8, who had read over one million words, attending. This year, however, was exceptional as one student, Donia, had read 9.2 million words. The students received a certificate and a book for their hard work. The winner of the Kindle was Aneira in 7 Flexible. It was a fantastic afternoon. Thank you to all the staff who helped out and attended on the day.

SPORTS DAY AT OSTERLEY SPORTS TRACK

Our annual sports day didn't disappoint, taking place at Osterley sports track.

This was a fantastic opportunity for students to showcase their sporting prowess in a variety of athletics events. We kicked off the house competition week commencing 26th June with the house bench ball and tug of war for each year group which accumulated points towards the final score on sports day. This year we included some new races for 2023 by bringing back the skipping and a novelty egg and spoon race which also included the house leaders as well as the usual staff relay teams.

The competition was fierce this year and Confident House came out on top.

SPORTS DAY



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SPORTS DAY



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