



BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

SUMMER
HIGHLIGHTS
2013



BE AMBITIOUS
BE COURAGEOUS
BE CONFIDENT
BE FLEXIBLE
BE INQUISITIVE
BE RELECTIVE



HEAD TEACHER'S WELCOME

I am delighted to present to you the final Highlights edition of the year. It has been a tremendous year for the school, with our biggest successes being in student achievement and community. Our examination results in Year 11 look to be the best our school has ever seen. We all have our fingers crossed between now and August. Sixth Form results look equally promising, with many of our girls holding provisional places at some

of the very best universities in the country. We even entered two of our very brightest mathematicians in Year 8 for their GCSE in Maths, 3 years early, in a Year 8 pilot that has been organised by the Maths department. We have all been working hard this year to create the ambitious girl of our vision and over the last few weeks students have been working as hard as they can to meet their end of year targets. It is fantastic that the students have taken real ownership of their learning. They are always so keen to talk about what level they are working at and how far they have to go to meet their target, and even better, how they are going to achieve it! They really are becoming the independent women of tomorrow!

You will see from this edition of the Highlights, that our school has been very much at the heart of the local community this year. We have worked closely with many local schools and community groups. We have hosted business events for women and encouraged some of our older girls to get involved, we have continued to build on our partnership with Sky TV and develop our international partnerships with schools in Sweden and France. Our Summer Fayre and Art Exhibition were huge successes and we will end the year with our annual Activities Week. Our community work this year has brought a real richness to the school and enhanced the experiences and opportunities for our girls and their families.

As we come to the end of another busy year, I'd like to thank all of the staff, students and parents for making Brentford School for Girls such a wonderful community to work and learn in. I am so proud of what we have all achieved together.

Wishing you all a restful and peaceful summer break and I look forward to working with you all again in September.

Many best wishes,

Ms Leenders - Head Teacher

TERM DATES

Autumn Term 2013

- INSET DAYS - 2nd & 3rd September
- Start of Autumn Term - Yr 7s start 4th September. Whole school start 5th September
- October Half Term 28th – 1st November
- Christmas Holidays - 23rd December 2013 – 3rd January 2014

Spring Term 2014

- Start of Term - 6th January
- Half Term - 17th -21st February
- Easter Holidays - 7th – 21st April
- INSET Day - 24th February

Summer Term 2014

- Start of Summer Term - 22nd April 2014
- Bank Holiday - 5th May
- May Bank Holiday - 26th May
- May Half Term - 26th – 30th May

We will notify you of any changes throughout the year. Dates can also be found on our website:

www.brentford.hounslow.sch.uk

FACEBOOK & TWITTER

www.facebook.com/brentfordschoolgirls
www.twitter.com/brentfordschool

AS AND A2 PSYCHOLOGY REVISION CONFERENCE

In preparation for their exams in May/June, the AS and A2 Psychology students attended a revision conference in Central London. The girls had the pleasure of meeting Cara Flanagan and Mike Cardwell, two Principal Examiners, who are also the authors of the text books they used in class. They gained invaluable revision tips and received resources, which will help them further prepare for their exams and had the opportunity to ask questions. The feedback from this conference was positive; many students mentioned that the visit had increased their confidence for the Psychology exam this summer. Good luck!

By Miss Ogunfidodo - Psychology & Sociology

BRENTFORD SUNDAY MARKET

Sunday 12th May saw the first Sunday Market in Brentford. Brentford School for Girls was really pleased to be able to be a part of the Market. We took on one of two Community Stalls that are available to any local groups.

It was a lovely day and the weather held off. It was a perfect opportunity to meet lots of the local people and meet with businesses from the wider community of Brentford. We also raised over £135 with the sale of our handmade beads, which supports a school in Uganda. Thank you to everyone who came to say hello. Look out on our news pages for when we will be at the Market again.

The Sunday Brentford Market takes place in the Market Place and runs from 10am – 2pm every Sunday. If you would like to find out more about taking a food stall at Brentford Market, please contact:- Melissa Hayles, Market Co-ordinator; Email: melissa@sustainweb.org

If you are a local community group or social enterprise project and would like to take a stall, please contact: Julia Quilliam Email: julia@quilliam.co.uk

By Ms Gers - Community Co-ordinator

TIMELINE OF IMMIGRATION

The Gifted and Talented students from Health and Social Care created a Timeline of immigration to Hounslow. This was part of the Comenius project to help increase racial tolerance and promote diversity.

Miss Webster took the Timeline over to Sweden on the recent trip and both students and teachers commented on how well it illustrated the ethnic diversity of the Borough.

By Ms Webster - G&T

WOMEN IN BUSINESS EVENT

On Wednesday 27th March, Brentford School for Girls hosted Hounslow Chamber of Commerce's 'Women in Business' event. We welcomed members of the Chamber to join us on our school site.

Sally Smith, from the Hounslow Chamber of Commerce, did a fantastic job in bringing together business women from across Hounslow and some of our Business Studies students from Years' 11, 12, and 13 also attended the event and were able to ask questions and receive valuable advice from the business women attending. Head of Business Studies, Mr Charalambous, was also on hand to give support and encouragement to the girls.

On the night, we were very fortunate to hear a wonderful talk from Toni Ingram, Marketing Director of Pernod-Ricard, about her career to date and how she worked her way up to the position she holds at Pernod-Ricard. Khadija Read, a Year 11 student at Brentford School for Girls, said "I found the business event very helpful and interesting. We were able to talk to women in business about how they got to where they are today. Overall, it was a rewarding event".

Local business woman Sunita Bal, Marketing Manager from CP Cases, said "I found the event very refreshing - it was good to know there are a lot of well recognised companies within the Borough, and women leaders! The girls at the school were well engaged, with thought provoking questions, the event management was great and very professional; a fun evening all round and a great opportunity to network with like-minded people. CP Cases are proud to be sponsoring the next Women in Business event as a result of this".

Light refreshments and a wonderful buffet (which was provided by the 'The Bridge') were served...

...after the talk, after which there was a further opportunity for questions and networking.

Both members from the Chamber and the students at Brentford School for Girls had a wonderful evening. Headteacher, Marais Leenders, was thrilled with the event, adding "A totally inspirational event for our budding businesswomen of the future! It was fantastic hosting this event; many of the values that we are trying to develop in our girls were role modelled by our visitors. We have made some excellent links with local businesses, which I know will be the beginning of some longer relationships with some local successful women and we hope to hold many more events over the course of the year".

Sosi Ross (Colin Bibra Estate Agents) added "both Janella Barnden (UKMS Investments Limited) and I were delighted to meet some of the BGS Business Studies students at the Chamber of Commerce event held at the school. We were delighted to attend the event and to meet some of the students and to be amongst them and answer any questions they may have. It occurred to us that they probably didn't get much exposure to commercial people day-to-day and I thought it was such an inspired idea to bring us all together that it seemed a pity not to follow-up on a more personal basis, so we were thrilled to be invited to visit the students on a school day. On the day of the school visit, we were escorted to the classroom as if we were visiting celebrities and a photographer suddenly appeared to record the 'event' for the school website!



As an ex-Financial Adviser myself and Janella, an ex-Investment Banker, we were keen for them to feel able to consider financial services as a career path, that it wasn't about 'being good at maths' and that women were particularly under-represented in this sector. We discussed the possibility of future school outings to the Institute of Directors, local Business Expos or the Institute of Financial Services, so that the students could see for themselves what goes on 'out there'.

The girls showed us the tasks they were working on, where they had to devise and write an appropriate response to a difficult employment situation.

We were struck by the warmth and friendliness of the staff and students that we met and we knew our visit had been a hit when we were invited by 'Sir' and the girls to the departmental end-of-term outing... to Thorpe Park. We politely declined!

It was so inspiring for us to see such lovely, well-groomed, intelligent girls all looking forward to their future careers, starting with University in the Autumn. We would love to visit again.

If you would like to find out more about The Hounslow Chamber of Commerce and the events that are held around the Borough, please contact Sally Smith on [020 8326 6416](tel:02083266416). Additionally, if you would like to find out about hiring facilities at Brentford School for Girls call [020 8580 0230](tel:02085800230) for more information.

By Ms Gers - Community Co-ordinator

THE EXOPLANET PHYSICS PROJECT: JUDGES' FEEDBACK

Thank you for your presentation, I enjoyed the soundtrack! It looks like you spend a good deal of time experimenting with the transit method. I hope that helped you understand why this is currently the best method for detecting planets. Currently, astronomers (and some members of the public) have discovered over 860 planets in our Milky Way galaxy, but they think there are probably around a hundred billion left for us to find! Which is crazy when you think that the first exo-planet was discovered in 1995. 17 years ago we had no evidence that there were any planets outside of our own solar system!

It's great that you thought about WHY we might want to travel to another exo-planet. I don't think we are taking very good care of the Earth, but until we can travel much, much faster than the speed of light (300,000 km/s) we are not really going to be able to get to exo-planets fast enough.

But what about a little closer to home, in our solar system? Do you think there are any places suitable for humans to live a bit closer to home? Anywhere that life might exist already?

Our nearest neighbour, the Moon, would be a difficult place to live due to the lack of an atmosphere, but now scientists have evidence that water exists on the moon, it's quite possible that it could be used to make oxygen to breathe and hydrogen for fuel. Water can also be found in many places in our solar system (<http://io9.com/5827649/a-map-of-all-the-water-in-the-solar-system>).

It's complicated, but gravity doesn't have to be identical to earth, but it can't be too weak or too strong. Water needs to be present, but technology might help us do without oxygen. Being in the habitable zone would be great, but if we were a bit far out, we could probably manage if we had a good enough fuel source to keep us warm. Being too close to the Sun, on the other hand would be pretty difficult to deal with!

Many thanks for your entry, I hope you enjoyed creating it as much as I enjoyed reading it.

By Dr. Laura Whyte - Astronomer and Educator for the Zooniverse

Clearly, a large amount of work has gone into this project and I particularly liked the evidence of the extra work that you had done (for example the 3D goldilocks zone picture). Overall, your presentation had very good scientific content and you explained your processes well. It was nice to see a good set of your own calculations.

At times, the writing was a little hard to read (a hazard of photographing written work) and occasionally, there was a little too much information packed onto each page. Each 'bit' also went too fast on the video to read and so I had to pause the video a lot to get all of the information.

However, I particularly liked your description of the atmospheric requirements and your reasoning for the planets you would be looking at. It was also nice to see evidence of the experiments you carried out yourself.

So, overall, a very good presentation with good science – well done!

By Sophie Allen - Education Officer at the National Space Centre in Leicester

GOVERNORS UPDATE

It's been another busy term for the Governors:

- Two Parent Governors were elected and one re-elected; Staff and Community Governors were also re-elected.
- The production of a "Meet the Governors" video is underway and the development of a more user friendly School Website is on-going.
- The Governors were given a presentation on the impact of Pupil Premium on student progress and will share this information on the Website.
- The Governors looked at the budget and it is on track.
- Governors reviewed several policies including the Sex & Relationship policy and the Home-School agreement.
- There was discussion about the return to horizontal tutor groups; Pupil progress and the Curriculum throughout the school.

By Caren Benn, Clerk to the Governors

YEAR 7/8 GIFTED & TALENTED TRIP TO BRUNEL UNIVERSITY

On the 26th April, 36 Year 7 and 8 students (and 2 from Year 13) gathered in the rain, ready for their first visit to a university! I feel very strongly that everyone should get a taste of lots of different sorts of universities from Year 7 onwards, so that when they get to Year 13, they have the best chance of picking where they'd like to study.

When we arrived at Brunel, we were taken on a tour around the university and we were very impressed to learn that the campus has a Subway, a Costa and a Starbucks! A group of current Brunel students then told us a little about university life and answered the questions we had.

A special thanks goes to Ms Minors, Miss Peake and Miss Prabhakar for accompanying Miss Kathro and the girls on the world's most relaxing, stress-free school trip! The girls were an absolute pleasure. Polite, considerate and grateful were some of the words used by the coach company, Brunel staff and student ambassadors. They were a really excellent representation of the Brentford Girl and really enjoyed themselves.

A special mention goes to Hazna Noor, Zohal Mohammadi and Michelle Yang for their insightful questions during the trip.

By Miss Kathro - Science and G&T

YEAR 8 STUDENTS MEET DAVID BECKHAM!

Maariyah Atta in Year 8, was selected by Sky Sports to go to Paris to take part in a photo-shoot with David Beckham. Maariyah was the London finalist in the Sky Sports Living Awards, which took place in March. David Beckham is now an ambassador for Sky

Sports Living and Maariyah had the fantastic opportunity to meet him and promote this news. The pictures are fantastic and can be found on the Sky Sports Living for Sport website.

By Ms Littlefair - Assistant Head Teacher

'MY MUSICAL SUCCESS'

I started learning the clarinet in Year 6. I auditioned for Hounslow Music Service Saturday school and I got a bursary. During my time there I got all my music grades. I then auditioned for the N.C.O. (National Children's Orchestra) and I have been playing

with them for two years. In July, I am going to Germany on tour with Hounslow's Youth Orchestra. I really enjoy playing the clarinet and performing with the orchestra.

By Cara Doyle - Year 9

MUSIC LESSONS

We are now booking peripatetic music lessons for September 2013. The benefits of learning a musical instrument are manifold and far reaching.

There is evidence to suggest that learning and playing a musical instrument can increase students' success in examinations across the curriculum, develop time management and organisational skills, develop emotional intelligence, improve memory and provide excellent stress relief.

It is also worth noting that if your daughter is able to progress to Grade 6 and beyond in whatever instrument she chooses to learn, she will actually be earning UCAS (University) points. Playing an instrument can be used alongside her A-Level studies and can actually contribute to her successful application to university.

If your daughter would like group or individual lessons in any musical instrument or singing, please see Mrs Horsnell in the Heads of House office.

By Ms Ainsworth - Drama

COMENIUS PROJECT: TRIP TO SWEDEN

Our school is lucky enough to have won the International Schools Award and in doing this, we had the opportunity to set up a project in which nineteen pupils worked on presentations to create a database, which schools around Europe could use to help eradicate Xenophobia (fear of foreigners). On the 19th of April 2013, four carefully selected pupils had the chance to visit a school in Sweden and take part in their everyday lives.

Upon arriving at the school, we presented PowerPoints about traditions which had evolved in British culture to break the ice between the students. It was extremely interesting learning about other cultures, such as what festivals they celebrate. Our PowerPoints consisted of roast dinners, Diwali and Eid, which are all big parts in the lives we lead. After learning a bit more about each other, we had the chance to shadow the students in lessons. It was really good having the experience of their average school day, which you can see on the opposite page.

We were staying in Gothenburg, which is the second biggest city in Sweden, however, it was extremely different. They had no skyscrapers, but instead cobbled streets and small boutiques. The town the school is in is called Lindome and was just outside Gothenburg, so we had to get a train from our hotel to their school.

By Ayesha Khan - Year 9



I recently experienced a once-in-a-lifetime trip to Gothenburg city in Sweden, thanks to a system called 'Comenius'. The trip was amazing. We had the opportunity to look around their school and see how their day-to-day lives varied from ours. Their school only has slightly over 300 students and they got to wear their own clothes and were mixed genders, so already I noticed huge differences. Their lessons were different to ours – not just because of the language barrier, but also because the students seemed to have so much more freedom in lessons. They are able to get up in lessons and leave as they like, however, despite the freedom the students were given, they did not take it for granted and did not take advantage. All the students at the school were so nice, not just the students that were looking after us. We went to a couple of English classes and one of them was a younger class and they took the opportunity of meeting English students to ask a couple of questions. They were absolutely adorable!

Gothenburg, the city we were staying in, was beautiful. Although it was the second biggest city in Sweden, it was nothing like London. No skyscrapers but turrets. Even the cars seem quieter. On the first night, we had a chance to wander in and out of the vintage back streets and they were made of cobblestones, so it was really pretty and all the shops had nice antique pieces. We were lucky enough to have a guided tour of the city by the students, which was lovely because they could tell us their own experiences about the city and we even did a little bit of shopping, so they could tell us all their favourite shops. The hotel we were staying in was a boat that had been transformed into a hotel. They had hot chocolate which you could help yourself to all the time, which was a bonus! It was nice walking down the harbour every morning/evening because all the boats were full of mystery.

Overall, I loved the trip. The experience was amazing and I enjoyed finding out about the other school and how other teenagers' lives varied from ours. The city was beautiful and I am so grateful for everything.

By Evie Robinson - Year 9

MAGNIFICENT GENERATION

David McQueen, from Magnificent Generation, paid Year 11 a final visit. Between dancing and singing, he gave the girls some final golden nuggets to help them achieve magnificence in the exams and beyond.

David said he had been impressed by the change in attitude he had seen in our Year 11 girls since he first came in November, and that he would be joining us on results day to celebrate what will, hopefully, be a lot of individual 'Magnificent' successes.

On behalf of all the Year 11 girls, I would like to thank David and his team for the tips and advice they have given.

By Mr Roberts - Assistant Head Teacher

NEW SCHOOL SKIRTS

The new school skirt has arrived at BSfG. All girls should have received their very own free BSfG school skirt. The skirt will be compulsory from September, unless your daughter chooses to wear school trousers or a full length shirt for religious reasons. We think they will all look fantastic in their skirts!

By Ms Leenders - Head Teacher



SPORTS DAY

On a sunny summer's day, Sports Day began with Year 7 competing in a Benchball and Tug of War tournament, it seemed as though Athena and Demeter were dominating. Then Year 8 came out to do the same. All of a sudden Artemis began to take charge. When Years' 9 & 10 came to compete, there was so much competition and excitement on the Redgra, they could hear us at St Paul's Primary School! Athletics took place in the afternoon. With the sun still shining and spirits high, Mr McInnes on the microphone ensuring everyone got to their events on time and hearing all of the houses cheering their competitors on (Demeter being the loudest!), it was an electrifying atmosphere! Well done to everyone who took part and we are all looking forward to next year!

By Miss Brise - PE

COMMUNITY SUMMER FAYRE

Saturday 29th June saw our Summer Fayre. The Fayre was opened by Suzi Betlam, President of Brentford Chamber of Commerce. Activities ranged from a bouncy castle, face painting, smoothie making and BMX bike demonstrations. Additionally, there were lots of stalls selling handmade goods including cards, cakes and knitted goods. Local charities were also represented by The GLADS club and Age Concern. There were also refreshments and a BBQ (run by the charity 'The Bridge').

The Watermans Arts Centre came and told lots of young people about their Urban Ambush summer programme. On the day, Claire Rye, graffiti artist produced, with the girls a wonderful piece of community graffiti artwork which will be on public display later in the month at the Watermans.

We were incredibly delighted that the new and youngest ever Mayor of Hounslow 'Sachin Gupta' came and joined us. As a school, we look forward to working with him in his term of office. Mary Macleod MP (Chiswick, Brentford, Isleworth, Osterley and Hounslow) also joined us, again we were delight to welcome her.

The raffle was full of incredible prizes donated by individuals and local businesses. They included a spa day for two at the Syon Hiltons spa 'Kallima' and a wonderful summer arrangement of flowers by florist Daksha Pattni. Daksha is a parent of a student at the school. For a full listing of businesses who donated, please visit our website: www.brentford.hounslow.sch.uk.

Our Head Teacher, Ms Leenders, said "It was a wonderful community event and fantastic to be able to welcome lots of students, staff and their families to join us in what was a memorable day."

Last but not least, we would like to thank our sponsors 'Sainsbury's, GWQ' and Manager Tim Brown and Julia Quilliam of Quilliams Estate Agents. Thank you for all you help and support and we look forward to strengthening our partnership in the next academic year.

Lots of photos are on the school's Facebook page!

By Ms Gers - Community Co-ordinator

SKY SPORTS - LIVING FOR SPORTS TRIP

On Thursday 25th April 2013, a group of students had the chance to take part in the Sky Sports Living for Sports campaign. During this day, we had the chance to mentor and coach primary school children in a particular area of sport. There was a range of activities varying from sitting volleyball, Ikedo, martial arts, hockey and a few more, as well as including a healthy eating talk by two other students, Chynna Griffiths and Spojimye Ejetemaiyee.



I had the opportunity to coach the younger children in sitting volleyball, which is a completely new and different experience to the other leaders. I felt like I had a lot of responsibility to ensure the kids had a great time and enjoyed the sport that I so love playing myself. I would like to say that my partner, Kornelia Narzumska, and I were successful in doing this and made the teachers around us very proud of the role models we were during the day.

The rest of the group were assigned to teams, about 2 per team. They took part in leading their group and making sure all the children were engaged and enjoying themselves. The mentors were brilliant and really gave a positive light to the school.

On the behalf of the 28 of us that went, I really enjoyed this opportunity and was privileged to be a part in such a great thing. Even though you come home with a headache from screaming kids all day, it was completely worth it, so I would like to thank Miss Brise (Head of PE department) for making this day possible and allowing us to enjoy ourselves so much. I think she would say we set a good example to the school and she was incredibly proud of us. Thank you for another great opportunity at Brentford School for Girls.

STUDYING TRIPLE SCIENCE AT BSFG

Studying Triple Science, I will admit, means a lot of studying; of course it would, as with any subject if you added an extra 3 exams into the course.

However, as a student studying Triple Science and coming to the end of my first year doing the additional GCSE, I feel it is completely worth it and incredibly beneficial to not only your future but as a student. I have started to relax and not stress as much now, coming up to my exams, as I have learned to enjoy Science because of the depth Triple Science allows you to go into.

Triple Science at KS4 allows you to study Biology, Chemistry and Physics in more detail compared to Core Science. This is beneficial to any students wanting to progress to Science at A Level, as it prepares you for the depth and change of difficulty in the subject.

Parents should encourage their children to do well at KS3 to be able to be given the opportunity, come Year 10, to be able to do Triple Science. The demand for your 5 GCSEs at A* - C is increasing, and doing Triple Science gives you 3 GCSEs, which could further benefit you in later education.

Students are challenged to do their very best and pushed to get the best possible grades, which usually ends in As and A*s. I find doing this subject gives me a different learning opportunity to study science. So if you enjoy science, or you know your daughter does, it is definitely something that they should be encouraged to choose.

By Paige Butler – Year 10 – School Sports Leader

PSHCE THEATRE GROUP VISIT

On Wednesday 24th April, 'The Riot Act' Theatre group came to Brentford, should consider the environment on our journey to and from school. in to perform and deliver workshops to Year 7 students.

The theme of the project was to promote sustainable travel, to reduce carbon emissions and encourage healthy lifestyles, as well as improving safety and confidence when travelling independently. Groups now have the opportunity to pitch their ideas to representatives from the School Travel Advisory Team, with a chance to win £1,000 towards encouraging BSfG students to adopt a more sustainable way of travelling to school.

The girls enjoyed a fun performance by Tom and Craig and followed on with group workshops to identify ideas as to how we, Good luck to all girls involved. Watch this space!
By Ms. Rinzivillo - PSHCE

'LEARNING TO RESPECT' COMPETITION WINNERS!

In December 2012, four students from the Year 13 Health & Social Care group decided, as part of their Health Education unit, to devise and develop a small-scale health campaign to raise awareness of domestic abuse and violence in teenage relationships. In January 2013, the work they produced was then submitted to the local borough 'Learning to Respect' competition and in April this year, the group was announced as borough winners and awarded a 1st prize of vouchers and gift cards!

The group worked extremely well as a team to prepare resources for their campaign and delivered an outstanding presentation to Year 10 students within their PSHCE lesson, focusing on sex and relationships. Well done to Farah Awan, Safia Dawood, Angel Moore and Cherish Harris for their super research, planning and presentation of the campaign. Pattie Friend (the Domestic Violence Education Programme Co-ordinator) presented their certificates and prizes.
By Ms. Rinzivillo - PSHCE

FAREWELL TO YEAR 11

It felt a bit like giving birth. After nine long months since September, Year 11 students were having their last ever formal assembly before the exams. shirt signing, lots of cries of 'friends forever' and 'keep in touch' (even though they would be seeing each other in the exam next week) and, of course, plenty of tears.

As with all final assemblies, there were certain things that I could almost guarantee would happen: The enduring image for me is of Ms Stevenson, Ms Littlefair and Ms Frank trying to prove they still 'had the moves'. It's going to take a lot of time and therapy to erase that image.

- There would be embarrassing photographs
- There would be poor jokes from the teacher taking the assembly (me)
- And without doubt there would be tears

The assembly itself is all a bit of a blur now, except for the end. As Whatever you choose to do and whatever path you take after the results, on behalf of all the staff at Brentford School for Girls, good luck, Year 11 – 2013.
By Mr Roberts - Assistant Head Teacher

VISIT TO SKY SKILLS STUDIO

A group of 20 year 7 students were lucky enough to visit Sky Skill Studios, the 9th also happened to be International Women's Day. On arrival at Sky, we were lucky enough to hear from the following women who work at Sky, Louise Mutter, Production Executive, Scripted Entertainment, Maninder Massan, Software Engineer, Technology and Siofra Curtain, Affiliate Manager, Product Marketing. The girls were really excited to meet, hear the speakers and share their career journeys with them. Kajal Kanwar one of our Year 7 students wrote:

"Oh my gosh! I loved Sky Skills Studios. It all started when 7E (my class) went on an amazing trip to Sky Skills Studios. We were very lucky to grab this opportunity for our class and to visit something unique. When we got there, we were very excited and eager to get inside the building."

As we entered the building, the Sky Skills Studios staff walked us in to the entrance room and discussed the basic expectations/rules, particularly to listen to the members of staff. They also

introduced themselves and told us their past experiences as well as how they got to Sky Skills Studios. Additionally, we were told some great news - we had to create a news report for Sky in groups of 5 and we had to choose a job that we would be responsible and suited for! I chose the "reporter" and I wasn't too keen on going along with it, but suddenly as we got further in talking, I started to entertain and enjoy myself. We had one Sky Skill Studio member in each group and they were helping us create a Sky news report. After choosing our job, we started to head towards an incredible room; there was a change of lights, sparkled floors and an array of colours.

Next, we were with a Sky Skills Studio member who introduced the task of a news report and our intentions in further learning. Before we started our news report task, our group had debates on various topics, but because it was "Woman's International Day" we concentrated the debates on that topic. I led the debate in my group and I was really enthusiastic about debating, so I was quite confident with

agreeing and disagreeing. Ultimately, the debate came to an end and we focused on the news report that was set for us. We took on board our background place (where the reporter will be), thinking of what to say and making sure our props/clothes were smart and professional. We also practised several times to get the news report perfect, so it would be believable and realistic!

Finally, Arooj (a reporter too) and I were ready and performed in front of the camera! After filming, we gathered around to watch each other's news reports. My group watched ours and it was exactly the way we wanted it; it did look like a real news report! Eventually, we had to go, but before that the Sky Skills Studio staff were so generous that they had given us a news report wristband (it had a memory stick with our report to watch) and we were also given a pencil case. Overall, I really enjoyed this trip and the staff were very kind. I especially enjoyed creating the news report.

By Kajal Kanwar - Year 7

BRONZE DUKE OF EDINBURGH PRACTICE WEEKEND

On Friday 14th June, a group of Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh participants left Brentford for the peaceful countryside of the Chiltern Hills, for their practise expedition weekend.

After arriving at the camp site at around 6pm, the girls put up their tents and then set about preparing dinner, using their trangia stoves for the very first time.

The next morning, the groups set off on

their first expedition. On Sunday, they walked unaccompanied and all successfully navigated themselves back to the camp site in very good time. The girls walked a total of just over 20 km over the Saturday and Sunday. The girls have all greatly improved their skills of route planning, navigation and working as part of a team.

We now look forward to the assessed weekend expedition to Wareham, Dorset in the sunshine, fingers crossed!

By Miss Grant - PE



SCHOOL SPORTS LEADERS

The PE department is part of a new scheme called The Girls Innovation Project. We are working closely with 'Youth Sport Trust' to improve the participation of girls at extra-curricular clubs, between the ages of 11-14.

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been chosen as School Sports Leaders: Sophie Moore, Ashley Espiritu, Leda Azimi, Manisha Fourie, Paige Butler, Sana Kibra, CJ Hooper, Maariyah Atta, Alyssia Espiritu, Salima Najumi, Kausar Saeedi, Misty Burns, Ayana Reid and Kornelia Narzyska. The girls will lead at least one club per week, during lunchtimes and occasionally after school. During the clubs pupils will be taking registers, organising activities and coaching.

There will be training activities in the new academic year that will be arranged. They will also be asked to attend leadership events, such as 'Sky Sports Living' and other opportunities that could occur during the year, as well as school competitions.

THE IMPORTANCE OF PE

So, why is Physical Education so important to students? Well firstly, it offers a unique way of experiencing and developing the key Brentford values. These are, as you may or may not know, to be inquisitive, flexible and ambitious, reflective, courageous and confident. PE can help you develop these skills.

Firstly with confidence: now this is straight forward, as after practising in sports, you will become confident in taking part which can lead to confidence in other subjects. Then there is inquisitive; so every time you come to an extra-curricular club you are being inquisitive to find out what the sport is and how it is played.

By taking part in competitions outside of school time you are being flexible with your own time and showing willing to do things. PE allows people to be ambitious in careers, as they may start to strive to win in a game which can lead them to strive for achievement later on in life. Being courageous - to put your hand up and take part in clubs and put your name down to be in a sports team. Finally reflective, reflecting on your match or your PE lesson and seeing how you could have improved your game

These girls have been chosen due to their dedication to the PE department and their leadership skills and willingness to work hard. We have been given the opportunity to work with The Green Dragon Primary School. The 'School Sports Leaders' have been asked to help out with their sports day on 28th June as well as a 'Fit Club' for Year 4-6 the leaders to run one lunchtime a week at Green Dragon.

To set up the 'School sports Leaders' team, each girl is given a pack which included stationary and a whistle; they will also be give a polo shirt and hoody which they will wear when they are leading and they will be allowed to wear the t-shirt during PE lessons.

Please support the School Sports Leaders by attending their lunchtime clubs they run sports from running to rowing. See the extra-curricular timetable to see who is running which sports.

By Miss Brise - PE

play or how you could have worked better as a team. All of these things can be improved through Physical Education.

PE is also a vital part of your education and allows you to get out of the classroom and develop skills in different ways. This means that you're not just sat there writing and listening to your teacher all day long, but you are getting out there. You are getting active and adventurous and learning through different means. PE can also bring out a different sporting side to people which they didn't know they had and help them develop their skills in that specific sport or activity.

Finally, PE can build on team work and help with communication in classes. This can then help in other lessons where you may have to work together or in a team, for example, at the start of the year, especially in year seven, you may feel quite self-conscious around people but in your PE lessons you will be working on communication and team work which will not only help you get to know everyone in your class but will make you feel more confident when talking to them.

By CJ Hooper - Year 8

'MY BRENTFORD'

AN EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHS BY STUDENTS FROM BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS ON WHAT BRENTFORD MEANS TO THEM.

What do you like about Brentford? What is different about Brentford? What does Brentford offer? What makes Brentford your neighbourhood? What makes Brentford 'home'? These questions were put to a group of our girls from Brentford School for Girls, as they worked with Waterman's Arts Centre over a series of sessions, learning and practising photography techniques with local photographer Jai Tyler. The project was to encourage local young people to get out and about in Brentford, taking their own photographs to express what Brentford means to them.

The project culminated in an exhibition, hosted by the Docking Station, Brentford's community space on Brentford High Street. Local residents and business owners, the student photographers and staff from our school turned out to support the event. Fresh food, cooked on site, was laid on by catering trainees from the Bridge and expertly served out by their front of house trainees.

Nadia Nervo from the Watermans said "This is a great opportunity for participants to identify what is important to them in Brentford and express this through photography, working alongside a

professional artist. One of the many benefits of taking part in this type of creative project is the confidence and self-esteem that students gain from being able to have their view heard and seen"

Debbie Valman from Groundworks said "It was great collaboration between local groups and businesses, the Docking Station, Brentford School for Girls, Waterman's Arts Centre and The Bridge. This project is funded by Ballymore, who, on arrival at the exhibition, immediately commissioned a set of framed prints from the exhibition to be given to the school and ordered an A0 sized print of their favourite image for their offices in central London"

This event was part of Brentford Blooms, a programme of community events to celebrate and reinforce positive views of Brentford, which also included the Chelsea Fringe pop-up garden 'Max Height' on Brentford High Street. As a result of the success of this first series of projects and the great attendance at the event, Ballymore have commissioned further 'Brentford Blooms' activities. Ballymore also supports the Docking Station, the community hub for this project. For more information see [Facebook.com/BrentfordDockingStation](https://www.facebook.com/BrentfordDockingStation).

By Ms Gers - Community Co-ordinator

READING MILLIONAIRES ACCELERATED READING

Huge congratulations to Simran Garcha Year 7 who has read 5,434,013 words during this academic year! In total, Simran has read 70 books and achieved 90% on 70 quizzes. For this outstanding achievement, Simran will receive a Kindle. Well done!

Congratulations to the following pupils for reading over **1 MILLION** words this year. They will all receive a £10 book voucher!

By Ms Evans - Literacy Co-ordinator

Year 7 Millionaires	No of words	Year 8 Millionaires	No of words	Year 9 Millionaires	No of words
Arthika Pushpanathan	1,031,498	Tamana Noori	1,238,465	Amy Patterson	2,867,039
Marwa Rashad	1,122,967	Sarah Fatih	1,566,909	Niruja Shanmugathas	1,133,675
Aleysha Caffo	2,017,057	Madina Akbari	1,003,035	Sonia Amany	2,148,757
Aisha Choudhry	2,551,667	Whitney Muwazi	1,136,415	Isma Ismail	1,704,513
Zonera Zaheer	2,331,501	Taraawhat Ghias	1,544,473	Layosa Kakar	1,402,994
Husna Argandiwai	1,861,070			Harwinder Mangat	2,727,741
Zenab Irshad	1,509,641				
Aimee Lucas	2,441,154				
Biha Saeed	2,066,522				
Hannah Thornton	1,255,650				

ART, PHOTOGRAPHY & TEXTILES EXHIBITION

From the perspective of a student exhibiting at BSFG, I have helped to set up the exhibition and thoroughly enjoyed the 'opening' where friends and family came to look at the work. I think the exhibition was very professional; all of the work was well presented and showed a high standard of skill and varied techniques.

There was a variety of pieces of artwork from Aboriginal Art to Portraiture, Painting, Ceramics and print making. As for Photography and Textiles, the work was equally as interesting and you could clearly see the time and effort that each student had taken to create their work.

I am looking forward to my third and final exhibition at BSFG, which will be next year. The creative work which is produced each year gets better and better!

By Mignon Nixon - Year 12



Visiting the Art, Textiles and Photography exhibition has definitely been the highlight of the year as I was finally able to stand in front of my work with pride. It has been a truly rewarding experience because the hard work and dedication from all students has brought memorable success. I strongly believe that the collection of work throughout the exhibition was very diverse and inclusive, showing a variety of different styles of art.

The Art in the exhibition has definitely covered a range of visual arts, including the creation of images and objects in fields of painting, sculpture, print making, photography, and other visual media.

Both GCSE and A level students from Brentford School for Girls have shown great talent and potential through their amazing pieces of work and have developed their ideas using the knowledge and skills gained through lessons. I am also very pleased to hear that a collection of work from the exhibition has been selected to go up in the Waterman's Art Gallery in November - the challenging hard work has finally paid off!

By Tayaba Arain - Year 12

VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONS

Year 10 girls have been working incredibly hard; they have had bruised knees, some tears of frustration and a great deal of determination. They are unbeaten in Hounslow and represented Hounslow in a London Borough tournament at the University of East London on the 19th March. It is an incredible achievement; the effort and time that the girls have put in is really something to be proud of. They were ready and raring to go at 7.30am. They had to travel by train, tube and DLR to the other side of London.

On arrival, the room was filled with boys' and girls' teams from all over London playing and practising volleyball. The girls were put into a really tough group, playing The Cardinal Wiseman School first. It was a tough game to start with. It was level for most of the game and a nail biting game finishing off 21-25; this was unlucky but they didn't let it affect them. The next game was against The Rook Academy. They were 2-12 down within the first 5 mins. They were

beginning to lose hope, then all of a sudden they were serving, going in and really showing their talent, with some amazing rallies, blocking and some really wonderful play, they went on to win the game 29-25. The next game was Thomas Moore School, again tough, the final score 21-25. The final two games would decide if we progressed through to the quarter finals. With Leda suffering with a sore toe, Paige with a sore arm, the girls fought and fought to valiantly win their final two games. With the group being so tough we were not sure what would happen.

We finished joint 2nd but missed out on the quarter finals by a 5 point difference. The girls worked so hard and have set themselves a target to train Year 9 next year to get them to the event next year. Please congratulate the following girls for an amazing effort: Paige Butler, Kornelia Narzyska, Wiktoria Zietara and Leda Azimi.

By Miss Brise - PE

SCIENCE OUTREACH PROJECT

My Year 9 Science class, 9X1, have taken part in the Climate Science Outreach project run by the Science Museum. The girls did extremely well and I was so impressed with their enthusiasm and maturity during the whole project. The girls made a YouTube video to increase the awareness of climate change and its affects. One of the aims is to have the most views, so please take the time and have a look at what they did (<http://bit.ly/11gsitQ>). They also produced a display outside M5. The girls all worked so well together and really showed teamwork.

On the 25th June, I took the girls to the Science Museum for the final celebration day and they were amazing. Their behaviour was exemplary and they really were shining examples of a Brentford girl. While they were so busy being great, they had loads of fun too. We were treated to an awards ceremony, where Zuhra Khan won the award for the pupil who put in the most time and effort. She was given an iPod shuffle. We then watched a Punk science show and the girls even had the opportunity to taste what real edible crickets taste like, which apparently taste like a mixture of soap and salt, according to the brave Isabel Gray who tasted one. The girls then had the opportunity to explore the Launch Pad and the Museum. It was a great day and enjoyed by all.

By Ms Lansley - Science



VOICE IN A MILLION

On Tuesday 12th March, a group of 13 eager students embarked on a trip to Wembley Arena to take part in the Voice in a Million concert. As part of a choir of almost 5000 we sang, danced, swayed and bopped along to a large and eclectic mix featuring hits such as 'Perfect Day, Let Me Entertain You and Edge of Glory'.

The whole experience was incredibly enriching and one that won't easily be forgotten. The concert aimed to raise awareness of Adoption and Fostering and I only hope the

reaction to these serious issues was as positive as the reaction to the thousands of singing and dancing young people!

The girls are already pestering me to sign up for next year, so let's see if we can increase the size of our choir by then. We left sporting our very own 'Voice in a Million' souvenir t-shirts, a little bit tired but definitely enlightened! A huge well done to the girls involved and a massive thanks to Ms Nairne for being such a marvellous sport!

By Ms Massey - Music

STUDENT SERVICES STREET ART TRIP

When we went on the Art trip to London, we saw lots of different sorts of Street Art; some were really good and creative, but some were just people writing their name or their tags.

It was nice that we all got to go as a group and eat food from an East End takeaway and chat about the art and have lots of fun. Although the walk was long, it was well worth it as we saw different sorts of street art such as Spray painting, modelling clay and many more, some crazier than others.

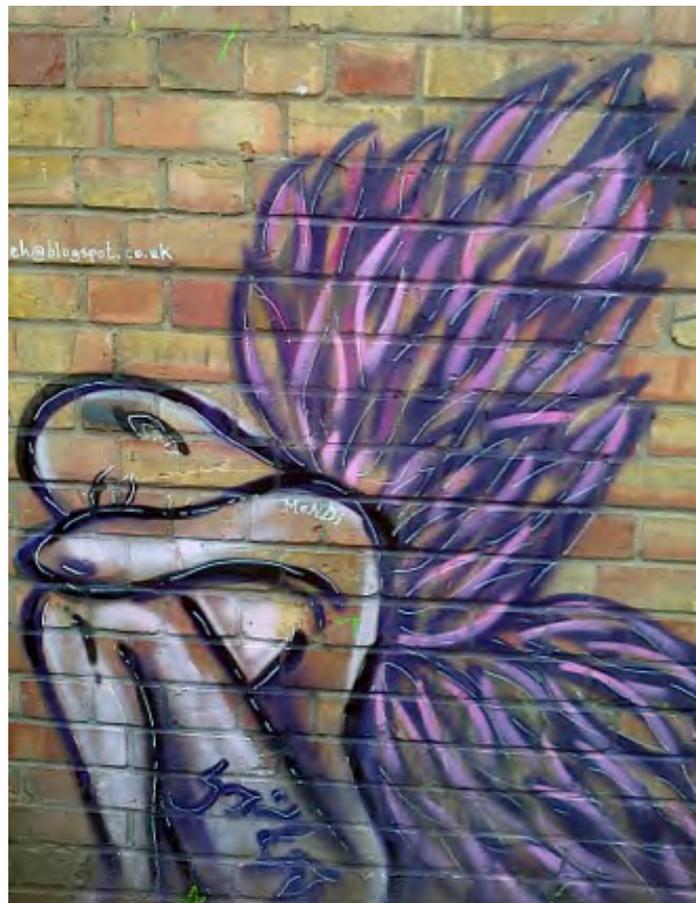
One of the things that were amazing was a huge bow and arrow that had been made out of chrome. The bow was on one building and had been made to look like it had shot several arrows in a building across the road.

I also liked the small family of clay people that were up high on a wall. The detail on the small family was amazing and it was so clever. I'm not sure how they got them up so high, it must have taken a lot of concentration and time putting it together.

There was one spray painting on a wall that I really liked and it seemed to really touch me. It was of an angel pulling her knees into her chest with a sad expression on her face. She had no hair. This picture made me think it was trying to portray a message of a girl who had died of cancer, who had gone to heaven.

The whole day was very interesting and I would love to go back and visit and hopefully get to meet some of the artists one day.

By Shannon Flanagan - Year 9



STUDENT POEMS

Some of our students are extremely talented writers of poetry. Zonera Zaheer, in Year 7 says "I have had a passion for writing stories and spilling my thoughts onto paper since I was in Year 1, when my mother bought me an English book and I learned my vowels and literature on my own."

"My parents are from Pakistan and did not know a lot of English, so over the years I have become a sort of tutor for them! Poems are so beautiful, the way they rhyme with each other and go with the flow. One of my main inspirations is the writer, Roald Dahl, as his poems were really amusing."

"I like to write poems which concern loss. I really wanted to make my ideas go into other people's minds as well, so I decided to publish it via the internet. I found a website saying Story Star, and I loved it at first glance!"

MY MOTHER

*How can a world,
Once so full of laughter and cheer,
Change so suddenly to darkness and despair?
Misery, pain, closer they leer
To battle against your good times and fill them with fear*

My Mother

*Black and white are the colours that paint the world,
Dark nightmares, around me they curl
Pain and misery course through my heart
As I realize we have yet to part
The memories turn me insane
As reality stabs me again and again
Everywhere I seem to go,
There is always the name I so painfully know*

My Mother

*I have only pictures to remember you by,
The old mum,
Not the sad, unconscious one
The one who once used to laugh and play,*

*To me a shower of love she used to pay
"My lovely daughter" are the words she used to say
In hospital, unconscious do you lay
My half-brother mourning day by day
Your homely smell is long gone,
Your face no longer shines as bright as the sun
I wish you get better,
How I would give anything for that*

*My Mother
Mother Rose.*

By Zonera Zaheer - Year 7

THORPE PARK VISIT

On the Wednesday 8th May, twelve students from the 'Edexcel BTEC Extended Diploma in Business course (Level 3) 'Course were lucky enough to spend the day at Thorpe Park.

The trip was organised by Mr Charalambous (Head of Business Studies).

Although a fun day out, one of the main aims of the trip was for the girls to understand the importance of conducting a Risk Assessment of Physical Resources, which incorporates unit 20 'Managing Physical Resources in a Business Environment.'

These assessments included both the assessment of the rides and also the Risk Assessment of ensuring the necessary checks and risk assessments were made prior to even boarding the minibus.

I was lucky enough to accompany Mr Charalambous on the trip; I was really impressed by the way in which the girls conducted themselves throughout the day and they got a lot out of the excursion.

All the students said what a great day they had and thanked Mr Charalambous.

By Ms Gers (Community Co-ordinator)

THE HEART DISSECTION

On Tuesday 1st of May, the Science Club dissected a heart. A lamb heart. Some people thought it was quite off-putting, but others were excited about the experiment. We found out that the left side of the heart is actually larger than the right side. This is because the right side of the heart only pumps blood around the lungs, whereas the left side of the heart pumps blood all around the body. At the sight of the heart, you could see white fleshy "things" surrounding the heart. This is called muscle.

After identifying the outside of the heart we had objects which we used to cut open the heart such as scalpel, mounted needle, tweezers, scissors and gloves. We discovered the inside of the heart which was amazing because we found out where blood travels. This was truly an incredible experience.

By Zenab Irshad - Year 7

YEAR 11 PROM

The highlight of the Year 11 social calendar took place on Friday 5th July. The ROA assembly finished at 2.30pm, leaving a mere 4 hours to get ready! Despite the time constraints, all of the Year 11 students who attended managed to look stunning in their prom dresses. The evening had an air of sophistication as the young ladies sat at their elegant tables eating fine foods and chatting. All of this came to an abrupt halt as the DJ started and 100 screaming girls hit the dance floor at once and began to party hard. This continued for the duration of the evening, with the occasional tactical sit down to rest feet that had been jammed into killer high heels (but enough about Mr Honeybul). Everyone, staff and students, had a great evening. As they made their way home tired but happy, there were 3 main topics of conversation:

- How did Shante manage to stay upright in those heels?
- Where did Kane get that dress?
- Where did Mr Roberts learn to dance like that!?

By Mr Roberts - Assistant Head Teacher

2013 JUNIOR MATHS CHALLENGE SUCCESS

Selected Year 7 and 8 pupils at Brentford School for Girls sat the Junior UKMT Maths Challenge in April 2013. This is an hour paper sat in exam conditions.

The Challenge comprises lots of Mathematical problems which need to be solved without a calculator.

We have just had the results in and are very proud to announce our first Gold certificate winner, Michelle Yang from Year 8.

As a school, Brentford School for Girls achieved 1 Gold, 4 Silver and 7 Bronze certificates.

We will include all certificate winner details in the next Highlights issue.

By Mrs Malek - KS3 Mathematics



IMAGINE THE FUTURE BRENTFORD GIRL;
SHE THRIVES ON CHALLENGE AND HAS A
DESIRE TO FULFIL HER LEARNING POTENTIAL;
SHE IS ABLE TO THINK INDEPENDENTLY
AND IS CONFIDENT IN HER SOCIAL AND
ACADEMIC CAPABILITY; SHE IS EMOTIONALLY
AWARE AND EMOTIONALLY INTELLIGENT;
SHE IS CAPABLE AND DEPENDABLE; SHE
IS RESOURCEFUL AND INQUISITIVE; SHE
EMBRACES THE TECHNOLOGICAL WORLD AS A
GLOBAL VILLAGE AND IS READY TO INTERACT
WITH OTHERS IN THE LOCAL AND WORLDWIDE
COMMUNITY; SHE ACCEPTS THE WELFARE
OF OTHERS AS HER RESPONSIBILITY; SHE
UNDERSTANDS THE NEED FOR SUSTAINABLE
LIVING BOTH LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY; SHE IS
READY FOR LIFE IN THE FUTURE – WHATEVER
THAT MAY BE.

SHE IS THE CENTRE OF OUR VISION AND WILL
REMAIN THE VERY CORE OF OUR BEING AND
PURPOSE.

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