

NEWSLETTER

Friday 4th February 2022

DEVELOPING LIFE SKILLS-



Dear Parents/Carers,

Helping our students to build a set of skills which will help them find success throughout the rest of their lives is a privilege and we work hard to ensure that our students gain the core skills to enable them to flourish in all aspects of the curriculum and outside of school.

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Developing strong literacy skills is a vital part of this, enabling our young people to access set texts, exam papers and learning resources as they chase their ambitions. Literacy is a main focus in The Bridge and we aim to set students up with a strong foundation in Year 7 to help them succeed as they continue on their seven year journey. Our English department, targeted intervention sessions and mentoring all play a part in this, alongside Library activities, some of which I am delighted to share an insight into in this newsletter. Our 'Book Talking' sessions,

Reading Rampage competitions, Accelerated Reader programme and millionaire reader awards are all designed to captivate the imaginations of our young people, helping them to expand their vocabulary, improve their literacy and develop a life long love of reading for pleasure.

I look forward to meeting with students, parents and carers at our KS4 Options Evening on Tuesday 8th February as we share more about our exciting new KS4 curriculum. Offering a broad range of opportunities for all, we have invested in our offer and introduced new courses for 2022 such as Creative iMedia. Myself and subject leaders look forward to discussing the options process at our Year 9 community event next week and to supporting students as they make their decisions.

Best wishes,

Lisa Hickman, Head of School

Congratulations to Our New Word Millionaires



Year 7 students Rosie, Layla and Jack joined our prestigious '1 Million Word Reader Club' this week and were awarded certificates in assembly by our School Librarian, Mrs Crisp.

The trio were also congratulated for being this week's top three readers, having read 1.228.586 words between them!

In addition to our three new word millionaires, students Connor, Layla, Sophie, Freddie, Rory, Edward and Sophie also received a round of applause during The Bridge assembly on Friday for being in the top ten Bridge readers this week.

It is wonderful to see our students developing a passion for reading for pleasure and enjoying taking part in the Accelerated Reader programme. Year 7 and 8 students regularly share how much they enjoy their Library lessons and spending time in the area during break and lunch times finding new books and completing quizzes.

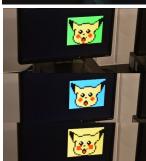
Students First, It's About Learning, No Barriers

STUDENTS CREATE IMPRESSIVE PIXEL GRAPHICS

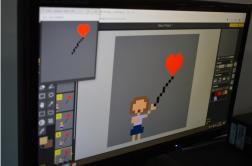
Students in The Bridge have been getting creative in their IT lessons with Mr Holmes this week by working on pixel graphics. The next step is now to animate their designs!

Mr Holmes, Head of Computer Science and IT said, "The classes have been using Piskelapp to bring their graphics to life and these animation beginnings will help them to embed the skills needed for the GCSE iMedia course and beyond. Students have been really engaged with the unit of work and we have some highly creative, future graphic designers and animators in our Year 7 cohort! Excellent work by all."







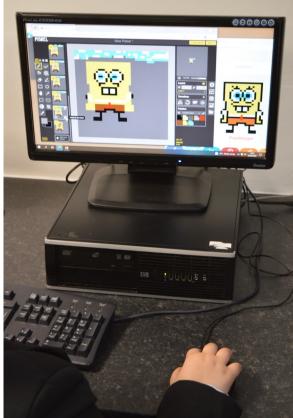












Students created impressive pixel graphics in The Bridge with Mr Holmes

STUDENTS ARE ON A 'READING RAMPAGE'!







Students are being encouraged to get involved in a series of competitions as part of 'Reading Rampage', an annual event aimed at creating a buzz around books for students in Year 7.

Reading Rampage encourages young people to take part in a reading challenge while introducing them to new and exciting titles and authors. Mrs Crisp, School Librarian said, "Reading Rampage is a book group that the whole of Year 7 are invited to. We have lots of exciting activities in store for the students including a virtual author talk by Ross Welford author of 'The 1,000 year old boy' and 'The kid who came from outer space'. Students are really enjoying the titles on offer, with some already half way through the 12 books available"

Congratulations to Rosie in Year 7 who received a certificate this week for her entry into a competition to review a book in 280 characters or less. Well done to everyone who is taking part in Reading Rampage challenges!

A Broad and Exciting KS4 Curriculum

All students in Year 9 received a copy of the new KS4 Options Guide on Friday this week, ahead of the KS4 Options Information Evening on Tuesday 8th February 2022.

The guide contains details about the options process and timeline, as well as information about each of the core and option subjects available for students to study in Year 10/11.

To view the new guide online, please click here.



Aspirational Atmosphere at Bustling Futures Event



Alongside our Year 12 Parents' Evening, Year 11 and Year 12 students were invited to attend our Futures Fair this week. The event took place in our purpose built sixth form centre and allowed guests to speak to representatives from 16 universities, apprenticeship providers and programmes.

Those involved shared how delightful it was to be holding this event again face to face and that there was a fantastic atmosphere throughout the evening as students discussed their ambitions and future plans.

Thank you to everyone who attended and helped to make the event such a successful evening.

BOOK TALKING EXPLORES MAGIC AND DREAMS



Marissa from Creative Learning Services visited our Library this week to introduce Year 7 to a series of new books and authors all centred around the theme of 'Magic and Dreams'. The theme is in keeping with the book students are currently studying in English, 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' by William Shakespeare.

All Year 7 students got involved in the session and all books Marissa read extracts from are now available for students to loan from the Library to enjoy in their own time.

If students would like to find out more about any of the books they heard about during the Book Talking session they should visit the Library and speak to Mrs Crisp.





GREASE IS
THE WORD...
DON'T MISS
OUT!
TICKETS ARE
SELLING FAST!



COMBINING CULINARY SKILLS

Year 7 students cooked up some tasty treats during their Food and Nutrition practical this week! The class made delicious chocolate muffins by combining and mastering several skills including, mixing, whisking, weighing ingredients and even using a probe to check whether they were cooked inside. Students were really engaged and staff were thoroughly impressed with their work and shared that it was a 'fabulous lesson'.









