



Shining Lights Newsletter

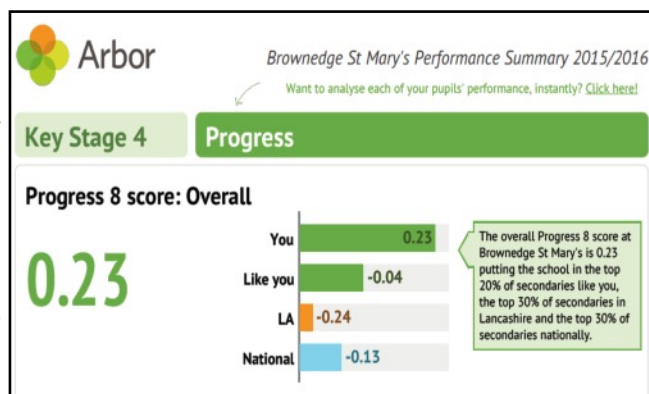
April 2017

Celebrating success

Although it's only been 8 weeks since our last Shining Lights newsletter there is SO much to celebrate this term. From charity fundraising to individual and team excellence we hope you enjoy reading all about the activities and events that took place during the Spring Term.

GCSE Results Officially Top Class

Earlier this month, The Department for Education confirmed how superb our results were last year in the published School Performance Tables. We knew they were good at the time but looking at the table opposite only serves to remind us how great they truly were. Progress 8 is the new measure for secondary schools and our result of +0.23 simply means that on average our pupils got a quarter of their GCSEs grades higher in each subject compared to all other pupils nationally. A great achievement!



Teacher of the Year 2017 - Mrs Hall, we love you!



A huge congratulations to Mrs Hall on becoming Teacher of the Year 2017. The award, presented by Rock FM, celebrates heroes from across Lancashire who have been honoured for their courage, selflessness and charity endeavours. This year's award ceremony for the annual Rock FM Cash 4 Kids Time to Shine awards took place at the Blackpool Tower Ballroom. We are extremely proud of Mrs Hall and want to celebrate and thank her for all that she does in and out of school. She is truly amazing!

Journey to Sanctuary Exhibition

During the first week of Lent we hosted the 'Journey to Sanctuary' exhibition in school. It was an audio visual experience of a refugee and we travelled through eight small rooms from a safe peaceful home, through a war situation, displacement camp, right through to a detention centre and eventually a bed-sit in a city. It was a really powerful experience which touched many of our students, staff and members of the local community who were invited to join us. We learnt much more about the experiences of refugees. As a result, we have a 'promise wall' on which students have committed to pray for refugees, educate others with the truth, make donations and appreciate that we have more. We have also sent messages of hope through CAFOD which will directly be handed to refugees. When asked about their experience one student said, "I felt sad for the family as they did nothing wrong. I also felt shocked that this happens."



Top Attitude to Learning Students

Congratulations to the latest group of pupils who have received an amazing grade 2 for their Attitude to Learning from every one of their teachers. Alison Rigby (11T), Kate Danby (10D), William Lancaster (10T) and Melissa Robertson (10K) equally shared the £200 prize. It is great to see this group growing, and with so many so close, Mr Reynolds may need to increase the reward pot! Well done.



Gone to the Dogz!



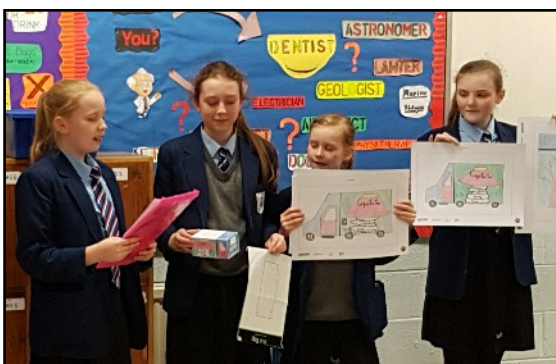
Chris Martin, children's author and Murder Mystery writer, joined us again in March for a lively whodunit starring some of our very own Year 8s as the principal characters and main suspects. Samantha Turner played Drama teacher, Miss Lucinda Plott who called on Year 8's talents to deduce who had trapped her on the set of St Bernard's latest school production 'Dogz!'

Having recently completed a Detective Fiction unit in English classes, students were quick to spot the red herrings, identify plot devices and piece the clues together. Six budding Sherlocks in our audience managed to crack the case, winning a name check in Chris's latest Inky Stevens book.

A huge thanks to Chris and a big congratulations to the performers - Kristina Walker, Jonathon Hawkyard, Samantha Turner, Luke Davies and Toby Holt - who put on an excellent show.

British Science Week

The Science department celebrated British science week in school 10-19th March with various experiments being carried out across all year groups. Activities included: year 8 investigating convection currents using coloured water and jam jars and then making their own snake spirals, year 9 making copper sulphate crystals and performing chemical analysis and year 7 finding out about exothermic and endothermic reactions.



Leyland Truck STEM Competition

Year 7 pupils took part in a STEM competition run by Leyland Trucks and South Ribble council to design a delivery truck for 2050. Pupils needed to include their innovative ideas on reducing emissions, what fuel to use, the materials that the truck will be made from and overall cost.

House Feast Day Celebrations

During this term we have celebrated three of our five House feast days. Bosco, Drexel and Romero House have all spent time as a family, working and learning with and through each other for a morning or afternoon.



From bingo to a beetledrive, St. John Bosco's feast day on 31st January was an opportunity for all members of Bosco House to bond in an atmosphere of fun and merriment that their patron saint would certainly have been proud of. Silly games were the order of the day –

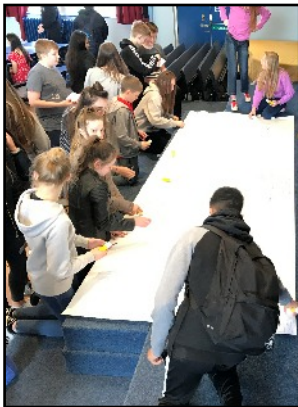
including an epic game of Wink Murder that could

almost have made it into the Guinness Book of Records – but there was a serious intent beneath the silliness: fostering bonds and relationships across year groups and giving thanks for St John Bosco's enduring spirit.

A specially designed cake shared amongst us all was a perfect end to a great day.



Drexel day was celebrated on 6th March to honour our Saint and reflect on her qualities. We began with an assembly during which each form brought a selection of images they had created: either drawings or poems or prayers which recognised the life's work of Katherine Drexel, in particular, kindness, education, respect and racial equality. We then worked together to create a giant montage of all their work. Then it was celebration time with games and cake.



Romero Day was celebrated on 27th March to commemorate all that Oscar Romero achieved and stood for. Pupils in Romero House came together for a celebration which involved the baking and sharing of Romero themed cakes and the highly contested 'Pizza Challenge'. Pupils worked in mixed year groups in a series of team-work based challenges to see who could earn the most points. After scoring highly in Talent Bingo, a musical game of 'Look Away', the team quiz and showing amazing speed in 'freeing the hamster', 'Team Cheese' were crowned the winners and will be receiving take away pizza one lunch time as their prize!

Court in Action

In February, magistrate Andy Shorrock invited our mock trial team into Preston Magistrates' Court for a guided tour of a courtroom, to experience first-hand how the law works and to see the justice process in action. Students explored the workings of the court and a follow-up visit was arranged by magistrates Dorothy Jones and Susan Ling who came to Brownedge a few weeks later to teach students about the etiquette of the court and how to conduct themselves formally in a variety of roles, including lawyer, usher, legal adviser, magistrate and as witnesses.



Students had the opportunity to ask questions whilst being guided through the process of questioning and working out appropriate ways to examine witnesses, including the use of leading questions. Some of us also realised how easy it would be to end up in contempt of court!

Magistrates' Mock Trial

The excitement and drama of a criminal trial was experienced by 13 of our Year 8 students who represented Brownedge in the local heat of the Citizenship Foundation's national Mock Magistrates' Court Competition. Burnley Magistrates' Court was the setting on a cold and wet March morning in deepest, darkest East Lancashire.

Aliya Corkindale was represented by a strong defence team - Rhiannon Garfield-Lane and Patrick Rogers - whilst Jonathon Hawkyard and Rhiannon Bradshaw worked hard to prove beyond all reasonable doubt that the opposing team's defendant was guilty and deserving of a tough

sentence. Kristina Walker, Sammy Arnold and Lucy Wright all swore on oath to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth and demonstrated excellent confidence and composure under strong cross-examination. Professional performances were also evident from our usher, played by Adam Schorah, and our Legal Adviser, Louana Avison, who provided a summary of the law. Magistrates Phoebe Anderson, Owen Black and Jonathan Rigby had the tough task of coming to a verdict in the retiring room, assisted by real life judge His Honour Judge Gibson. Thanks also to James Knell from Year 11 for mentoring the team and supporting on the day.

An excellent performance from a committed team, highly praised by magistrates and the competition judges - the whole team were a credit to themselves and the school – well done!

A huge thanks to Chris and a big congratulations to the performers - Kristina Walker, Jonathon Hawkyard, Samantha Turner, Luke Davies and Toby Holt - who put on an excellent show.



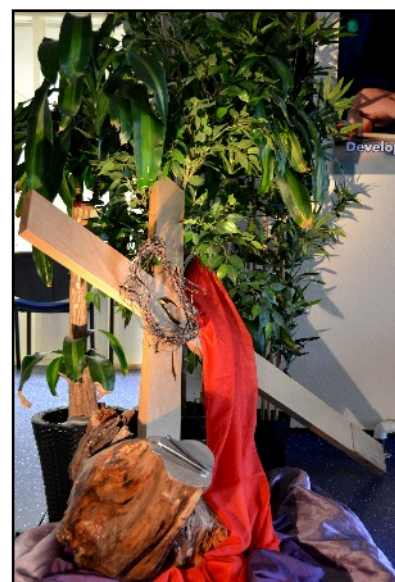
Maths Weekender

Last weekend a group of 22 Year 11 pupils spent the weekend at Borwick Hall preparing for their forthcoming Maths Examination. Over the weekend the pupils participated in several small group intervention sessions broken up by an afternoon in the sunshine on the low ropes course and raft building.

The group were an absolute credit to the school with staff at the centre commenting that they were the 'most attentive' and 'polite' group they had ever had! Both a beneficial and fun time was had by all. 😊

Lent Days of Reflection

During Lent we have been taking some time to think about Jesus' journey to Calvary. We have been reflecting in year groups on the Stations of the Cross and taking part in some creative workshops, each focusing on a station. We've used collages to place ourselves in the crowd (Station 11: Jesus is nailed to the cross), prayed about times when we feel we can fall under the burden of our crosses (Stations 3, 7 and 9: Jesus falls) and thought about people we love, and people who love us (Station 4: Jesus meets his mother). Thanks to Brendan from CAFOD, who came and ran a workshop on Station 6 (Veronica wipes the face of Jesus) and taught us more about Blessed Oscar Romero. We will use our own responses from these days to form our end of term service before Easter.



Youth Speaks!

Nine pupils represented Brownedge in the Rotary Club Youth Speaks competition local heat in January at Walton le Dale High School. The three teams of three, one senior team and two junior teams, were made up of a Chair, a Speaker and a Proposer of the Vote of Thanks. We were delighted that one of our junior teams, made up of Year 8s Kristina Walker, Rhiannon Bradshaw, and Aliya Corkindale, made it through to the district final held at Windermere School in the Lake District.



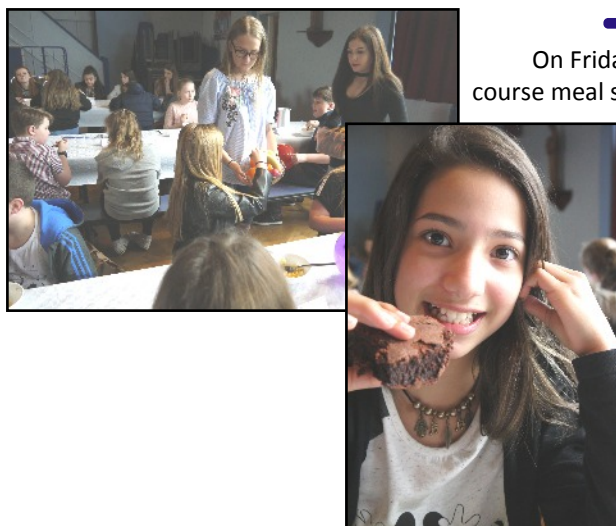
The first team chose to answer the question 'Is reading still relevant?' The second team of Louana Avison, Jonathon Hawkyard and Josie-Mae Ralphson chose the controversial subject of fracking and impressed the audience with their research. Our seniors, David Hawkyard, James Knell and Kaitlyn Rogers, spoke passionately about the ban on footballers wearing poppies during international matches. All the teams did a brilliant job with some students not using cue cards and just doing it from memory. Two of our Brownedge pupils were commended and received individual awards; Aliya Corkindale was awarded the best Proposer of the Vote of Thanks and Louana Avison was the best Chairperson.

We would like to thank Richard Lea who came in and helped us prepare by giving us some of the tips and tricks of public speaking and also to the judges who made the students feel comfortable and gave great feedback to help students improve their speeches for next year. Report by Louana Avison 8T

Meal of Service

On Friday 10th March Year 7 pupils won the opportunity to have a 3 course meal served to them by Year 10 Leaders. This special meal helped to raise money and awareness of hunger and service.

By serving the younger pupils Year 10 realised the importance of serving others as part of Lent. At the same time the Year 7 pupils became aware of the inequalities of a world where some have plenty and others have nothing. Older pupils supporting younger pupils is at the heart of the school's House system.



South Ribble Gym Competition 2017

This competition was held at Worden High School, and was a popular event attended by over 50 gymnasts. Brownedge walked away with 10 medals, 4 gold, 2 silver and 4 bronze.

Year 7 vault: Gold - Niamh Murphy

Year 7 floor: Gold - Madison Ogden, Silver - Niamh Murphy

Year 8 vault: Gold - Caitlin Ward, Bronze - Phoebe Anderson

Year 9 vault: Bronze - Sophie Proctor and Beth Baldwin

Year 9 floor: Gold - Sophie Proctor, Silver - Mia Black

Year 10/11 vault: Bronze - Chelsearose Butler

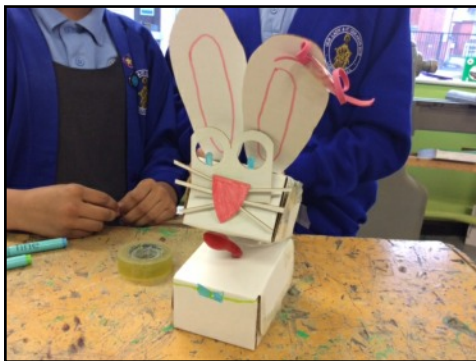


MFL Language Leaders

Just before the February Half Term, 12 of our best French and German Language pupils were presented with their badges for Language Leaders 2017. They are already working with key pupils in Year 7 and 8 sharing their fantastic organisational, presentation and homework skills. They will also be contributing to other Modern Foreign Language activities throughout the year.



Year 5 Taster Days



Over 250 Year 5 children from our feeder primary schools had a taste of life at Brownedge when they joined us for half a day of fun activities including their favourite game: 'Wink Murder'. They all had a chance to imagine their ideal school and then to take part in a variety of specially adapted lessons in Art, Computing, Technology, Music and History.

We pride ourselves in making transition from primary school to secondary as smooth as possible. These days are part of that journey. From a school perspective, we loved having their company even if just for a few hours.

Lytham St Annes Festival of Performing Arts

On Saturday 25th March Jess Bentham and Elizabeth Evans took part in the Lytham St Annes Festival of Performing Arts. Congratulations to both of them on their outstanding achievement.

Jess Bentham - 3rd in Musical Theatre

Jess Bentham and Elizabeth Evans - 2nd in Duet

Jess Bentham - 1st in Our Choice where Jess sang "Maybe I like it this way" from The Wild Party



Lancashire Indoor Athletics - Year 8 Finals

The Lancashire Indoor Athletics Championship was held at Blackpool Sports Centre on the 23rd March with 30 different schools taking part. Brownedge came a creditable 10th with some notable performances.

The team consisted of Faye Houghton, Grace Brown, Ellie Wolstenholme, Abbie Sellers, Mia Kay, Macy Cura, Kirsty Cura and Daisy Hulse.

South Ribble Trampolining

This competition was held at Brownedge with over 50 trampolinists from different South Ribble schools being involved.

Results

Advanced category

Lucy Wright - 2nd

Yr7/8 Intermediate

James Danby - 2nd

Charlie McKenna - 3rd

Jack Heise - 4th

Novice Yr8

Chelsea Singleton - 1st

Leah Kennan - 2nd

Lily Singleton - 3rd

Chloe Alder - 4th

Ellie Mae Wolstenholme - 5th

Yr9/10 Intermediate

Daniel Duerden - 2nd

Megan Heise - 3rd

Novice Yr7

Jade Vickers - 1st

Bradley Norwell - 2nd

Seb Mellis - 3rd

Amelia Barnes - 4th

Nakitta Barber - 5th

Novice Yr9

Sophie Proctor - 1st

Beth Baldwin - 2nd

Bethany Hetherington - 3rd

Novice Yr11

Chelsearose Butler - 1st

Leanne Yeomans - 3rd

Erin Holt - =4th

Emily Wylie - =4th



PE Clubs, Activities and Interhouse

Once again this term the PE department has provided various clubs and opportunities for pupils to improve their skills and fitness. These have included spinning, fitness and table tennis at lunchtimes, along with 5-a-side, badminton and cricket. In addition, trampolining, gymnastics, netball and circuit training have also been available for pupils. Interhouse activities on offer for the pupils from the PE Department have included Year 7, 8 and 9 table tennis and an interhouse sports quiz. Staff and pupils were also involved in the 500m rowing challenge.

BAE Rotary Technology Challenge

The annual BAE Rotary Inter-school Technology Challenge took place on the 17th March in Leyland.

Sixteen pupils from Years 9 and 10 tackled a really exciting design-and-make challenge which was judged by BAE engineers. The task was to design and build a 'mole' which could travel through drain pipes to clear away debris. Pupils had to work out ways to move the mole and control it using simple motors and switches. The Year 9 girls didn't win but came in a strong 4th position and all the children had a great day.



This term we once again had great success with the school football teams who are currently performing very well in all leagues and cups. Years 8 to 11 have all reached the semi finals of the cup and the Year 7 team have a quarter final coming up. We therefore have a chance of all year groups getting to the finals. Recent results this term in the league have been very positive and if you wish to view the school's results and league position you can see these on the following website:

www.leaguewebsite.co.uk/southribbleschoolsport

Results of note

Year 7 beat Walton Le Dale A and B teams

Year 8 beat Walton Le Dale 3-1 in the Cup

Year 9 beat Leyland St Mary's 10-1 and Priory High 2-1 (Cup and League)

Year 10 beat Worden 2-0 and Lostock Hall 4-1 and drew 1-1 with All Hallows

Cross Country

Lancashire Schools XC

5 pupils from our school represented South Ribble in the County Schools XC at Witton Park in February.

Inter Girls - Kate Danby came 18th (South Ribble County Champion team)

Junior Girls - Faye Houghton came 13th and Grace Brown 24th (South Ribble County Champion team)

Year 7 Boys - Regan Wilkinson 9th, Luke Duffell 36th (South Ribble County Champion team)



Lancashire XC

This event happened on a cold misty day in January and many of the events had to be delayed as the flights for the Isle of Man competitors arrived later than expected. In the U15 event Kate Danby came 15th and in the U13 event Faye Houghton came 9th and Grace Brown 19th. Preston Harriers won the U13 team event.

Mid Lancs XC

Faye and Grace have been involved in the U13 Mid Lancs League which runs from October to March with 6 races of 2.5k distance. Preston Harriers are County Champions for this age group.

**May we take this opportunity
to wish you a very Happy
Easter**

School reopens on

Tuesday 18th April at 8.50 am

Any news? Send it to Mrs Oddie
oddie@st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk

We are on the web!

Website: www.st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk

Twitter: @BrownedgeStMary

