



# Shining Lights Newsletter

July 2018

*Celebrating success*

Welcome to our summer edition of Shining Lights. In a long and busy term, school has managed to continue to ensure all of our pupils have amazing opportunities to develop their talents. Next year, we plan to ensure even more of our pupils participate in the wider life of the school. We expect every child in school to do at least one extra curricular activity next year. Hoping the sun continues to shine and wishing all our readers a restful and happy summer.

## Magistrates' Mock Trial

Courtroom drama was recreated at Burnley Magistrates' Court on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March by 11 Year 8 and Year 9 students representing Browndedge in the local heat of the Citizenship Foundation's National Mock Magistrates' Court Competition.

His Honour, Judge Gibson, presided over this year's competition and although Bacup and Rawtenstall Grammar took the winning spot, students put in an excellent performance and were highly praised by magistrates and fellow competitors.

A brilliant team effort with students rising to many challenges during the day - well done! Looking forward to next year's competition already...



## Come Dine with a Refugee



On July 11<sup>th</sup>, Browndedge teamed up with the Red Cross in Preston and hosted a meal for refugees in school. Thirty four adults and children from eleven countries were welcomed into the Browndedge family with a meal, entertainment and even the England World Cup semi-final on the big screen in the hall. With staff volunteers and over thirty of our pupils helping with food, hospitality, waiting on and entertainment we had a truly international evening. Many of our guests had experienced traumatic displacement from war, disease or persecution but found the warmest of welcomes in our school.



Mr Reynolds said, "Evenings like this, when staff and pupils work together in service, show the best of the Browndedge spirit. These meals have, up to now, been small scale events in homes. Browndedge is the first school to upscale the idea into a community event. We want this to be an enduring partnership with our refugee friends in the future. Thank you to the amazing staff and pupils who made it happen."

## Duke of Edinburgh 2018

2018 saw 11 students complete their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. Emma Connolly, Becki Standring, Elizabeth Winstanley, William Lancaster, William Lang, Annabel Darlington, Vicky Brennan, Troy Hesketh, Lewis Kay, Lucas Hampson and

Julia Grzedzicka showed commitment, teamwork and leadership skills in order to complete four sections to gain the award. Students had to volunteer, learn a skill, complete a physical activity and an expedition in order to meet the criteria for the award. Students organised their own activities and this included completion of a circuits course, completing an Open University Astrology course and working with young disabled people. A massive well done to all the students for completing this challenge.



## Vocations Day

For Vocations Day this year we welcomed 11 guest speakers into school to share with us how they have answered God's call in their lives. We heard from inspirational people who talked about marriage, Holy Orders, missionary work and working for social justice, along with some very moving personal testimonies. Students between Years 7 and 10 all spent some quality time with speakers, and we ended the day with Mass celebrated by Fr. Mark commemorating the lives of Saints Peter and Paul.

## Brownedge Festival

A group of our finest singers had the opportunity to perform alongside Fr. Colin at the annual parish festival in May, serving up a selection of songs from popular musicals such as Matilda and Les Miserables. Solo turns from Year 7's Isabelle Evans and GCSE Music student Kacey Corless were highlights, and not to be outdone even Mrs Bland belted out a solo of her own. Mr Hunt was on hand to provide musical accompaniment for what all agreed was an exquisite evening of entertainment. The church had earlier played host to a flower-arranging competition, and the display of colour provided a spectacular backdrop to the performance. We look forward to being invited again in the future and thank the parish for their kind donation to the school.

## STEM at UCLan

Year 7 attended a STEM day at UCLan in Preston. The pupils were treated to lab coats and undertook activities in the laboratories with university professors. They made their own (placebo!) cream for a patient with a skin condition, identified human cells under microscopes, measured their heart and breathing rates on specialist equipment and found out about the factors that doctors would like to know about when diagnosing illnesses. The pupils then had a tour around UCLan and thought about their aspirations to attend university when they are older.

## Mary Day

As a Catholic school, we particularly celebrate Mary, mother of Jesus, during the month of May each year. This year, our day focused on the Gospel value 'courage' and when the Angel Gabriel said to Mary "Do not be afraid" (Luke 1:30). Years 7 – 10 took part in courageous activities run by different faculties, including building lots of spaghetti and marshmallow towers! We had the usual tug of war, and students were inspired by Mary through prayers, reflections and House assemblies too.





## Maths Escape Room Trip



10M1 went to the Escape Room in Preston as a way to use their mathematical skills in a problem solving skill and team building situation. Two of the groups managed to solve the puzzles and escape with the other group coming extremely close in a new room where, according to the Escape Room staff, most groups get stuck at the first puzzle!

Well done to 10M1 on having a generally great year in Maths!

## Battlefields Trip, Belgium

During trip week, pupils from Year 8-10 visited the trenches and war memorials in Belgium, Ypres. We followed the journey of the WW1 soldiers from South Ribble, through France and Belgium. Over a busy few days, we visited the town of Poperinge; British and Allied trenches at Hill 60 and Caterpillar Crater; Hill 62 and Sanctuary Wood plus the German trenches at Bayernwald. We also visited a casualty clearing station at Essex Farm, in preparation for the environment study component of the GCSE! We were also able to visit the Commonwealth cemeteries at Tyne Cot and the Menin Gate, and the German cemetery at Langemark. All pupils were incredibly respectful. We finished our trip with a visit to the grave of Corporal John McNamara VC from Walton-le-Dale. Isabel Council-Thomas 8D wrote a beautiful poem, which was read by Louana Avison 9T, as Jack Wachowski 10K laid the wreath from our school. A wonderful experience for the pupils who represented our school brilliantly.



## Prize Night 2018

Our 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Prize Night took place on the 27<sup>th</sup> June and saw over 100 pupils rewarded for their exceptional progress and attitude to learning. The guest speaker, Mrs Louise Harlow-Ashworth, wife of former pupil Ben Ashworth, gave an inspirational speech to all that embodied our School Mission, 'Let your light shine'.

During the evening, musical performances were given from musicians across the school including the School Choir, vocal duets and trios from Year 10 and 11 girls and our newly formed EAEPS band. Congratulations to all prize winners. Commitment, determination and perseverance really does pay off!

## CAFOD

Throughout the year our CAFOD group have covered lots of themes and activities! We started the year by joining the Parish group with their Connect2: Peru project, building relationships both locally and globally. We also ran the 'Bob Box' project bringing families together by building homes for birds or bats to care for our environment. We have also helped prepare for the Refugee Come Dine With Me meal, held cake sales, had a non-uniform day, ran assemblies, and promoted healthy eating in solidarity with children in Kenya getting a



The group have been inspirational, and their hard work has been recognised by the CAFOD Salford Office, and in the Lancashire Evening Post! Chloe Aspin received the CAFOD Award at Prize Night for her creative leadership throughout the year, and the award was presented by Linda Swarbrick from the Parish CAFOD Group.

## Year 6 Induction Days

On the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of July we welcomed our new Year 7s on their Induction Days. Great fun was had by all in a series of workshops that shared our school values, high expectations and introduced the pupils to our Gospel Values and House pastoral system.

Over the two days pupils took part in various Growth Mindset sessions that taught them about the power of YET! The intention of this was to set the scene for how we want them to embrace challenge and be resilient and determined in their attitudes once they join us in September. The pupils definitely rose to the challenge!



I said a prayer this morning  
I prayed I would find the way  
To another day, I was so afraid  
'Til you came and saved  
You came and saved me  
And the rain was pouring  
'Cause the sun faded away  
Now I'm in a better place  
No longer afraid  
Blinded by your grace  
You came and saved me

## Reflection Days 2018

Around Easter Years 7, 8 and 9 all took part in reflection days looking at God's grace. The day was focused on Stormzy's song 'Blinded by your Grace' and included workshops using art, music, drama and meditation. We all went down to Church for a Reconciliation Service, which Fr Mark led with other local priests, and made promises to share grace with others in our local community too.

## Hay Festival 2018

It was a rainy one this year but what the Hay Festival lacked in sunshine it made up for with great speakers and ice cream!

Eric Ngalle Charles, a poet and playwright who claimed asylum in Wales, told us about his journey from Cameroon when he was 17, surviving being a victim of human trafficking and living on the streets in Russia before eventually arriving in Wales. Jack wanted to know how Eric felt about living away from Cameroon and had the chance to ask when he was given the mic – great question, Jack! Patrice Lawrence shared her experiences and showed us that no matter what your background is, if you really want to do something then follow your dreams and make it happen. We definitely have some writers of the future at Brownedge – you know who you are...

Bali Rai was the last writer we saw; his ideas about prejudice and how we treat each other definitely gave us a lot to talk about on the way out. Our students love a good discussion! And the ice cream? Delicious. We hope we get the chance to go back for more flavours next year.



## Books for Gambia- The Jinack Project

Pupils and departments have been very generous in donating reading and class text books for a school that is being built purely from donations from England. The project believes that all children should be able to develop their own thinking and to engage with a range of values such as empathy, respect, compassion and fairness. The aim is to set up pen-pal schemes through exchanging letters, drawings and videos. The Mystery Tea Shop on Cannon Street in Preston has links with this school and ship out the equipment. Any further donations of books would be gladly accepted.

Follow the journey on facebook at /thejinackproject. Please contact Mrs Higham in school if interested.



## Share the Journey

A grand total of 109 people took part in our walk for CAFOD's 'Share the Journey' campaign, walking in solidarity with refugees. Our staff and students were joined by members of the Parish CAFOD group and from CAFOD Salford and walked one mile around the astroturf to join with others from England and Wales who together are walking 24,900 miles – the distance around the world!

We began with a prayer, and whilst we walked we read stories of refugees and talked about all kinds of journeys. The sun was shining brightly and we finished our walk in prayer, and completed campaign cards to the Prime Minister calling for the two new UN agreements on refugees and migration this year to respect the human dignity of people like those whose stories we had read.



## Valedictory Dinner 2018

On Tuesday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July, Year 11 attended their Valedictory Dinner at Shaw Hill Golf Club, Chorley. The night was a great success. All of our pupils looked stunning and there were some beautiful and smart outfits. Many pupils arrived in fancy cars and vehicles, with too many sports car makes and models to mention! Pupils had earned their place through good ATL and effort throughout Year 11 and places at the event were well earned.

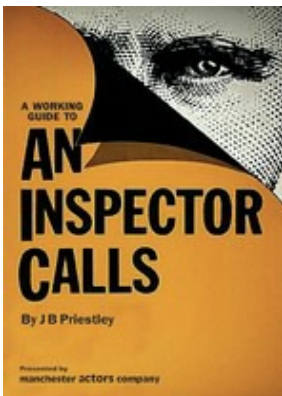
Mr Reynolds, Head Boy and Girl, Will Lancaster and Caitlyn Rimmer and Mrs Bland (on behalf of all the Heads of House) gave their speeches reminiscing on an eventful year. A special thank you goes to Mrs Gray for organising the event and a huge well done to all who attended for their excellent behaviour. They did us proud. It was a great way to say a final farewell to the class of 2018.

## Preston's College Celebration Awards

Another great year of partnership with Preston's College culminated in a host of awards at the 14-16 Celebration Awards, held at Preston North End on 2<sup>nd</sup> May. It was a lovely evening, seeing all the success of our learners who benefit from the diversity in our curriculum offer. All our learners have shone this year for their dedication, work ethic and resilience at college and that is why we were awarded the Eric Wright School of the Year award in recognition of their collective endeavour. Well done to all and particular congratulations to our individual winners:

Construction Self Development Award	-	Tyler Baron (Y10)
Automotive Innovation Award	-	Keeley Hennesey (Y10)
Automotive Self Development Award	-	Corey McKenna (Y10)
Automotive Employability Award	-	Alex Hartigan (Y11)
Motor Vehicle Overall Winner	-	Alex Hartigan (Y11)
Childcare Overall Winner	-	Petreece Matthews (Y11)

## MANACTO



Manacto performed An Inspector Calls to a packed hall of Year 10 and Year 11 students in March. The performers really understood what Priestley was trying to achieve. They linked the characters to the social and historical background students had learnt about in their English lessons.

Our students agreed that this was one of the best performances they had seen and complimented the actors on their ability to create tension and engage the audience. The performers answered questions at the end, showing great knowledge of the play's context and one of the actors gave us excellent advice for remembering quotations as she explained how she had to overcome difficulties learning her lines caused by dyslexia – a real inspiration.

## Beacon Of Hope

On Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June all schools in Salford Diocese were invited to our local Church to a day called 'Beacon of Hope' which celebrated everything we do as a school to be a beacon of hope to those around us in our local community. How perfect with our school mission being to let God's light shine! We also heard about new suggestions for ways we can further develop links with our Parish and local community. Bishop John presented our school with a San Damiano Cross to bring back to school, along with cards with the following prayer on:

**God our loving Father, we thank you for blessing our parish communities with all that we need to respond to our vocation to be missionary disciples.**

**We ask you to pour out afresh the gifts of your Spirit upon each one of us, that we may be inspired to serve you in new and creative ways, bringing your light to the world.**

**We ask your blessing upon us as we journey together in hope through Christ Our Lord. Amen**



## Race for Life - in memory of Mrs Astley

In order to remember a great friend, and colleague, Alex Astley, staff celebrated her life by raising funds for Race for Life at Sefton Park, Liverpool on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> of July. The total raised so far is over £1,000 with donations still coming in. The sun was shining and a great time was had by those who took part.

## Iceland

On 8<sup>th</sup> July 33 pupils and three lucky members of staff toured the amazing geographical landscape of Iceland. Over a busy four days, the group walked back and forth between two continents clocking up over 40 km in four days. Some of the highlights included climbing a Volcano (Stora Eldborg), standing behind a waterfall (Seljalandsfoss) and next to exploding geysers. Pupils swam in the Secret Lagoon hot springs, saw the crashing Atlantic waves on the atmospheric Vik volcanic beach and watched wonderful puffins on the cliffs. The group visited a geothermal power station and discussed climate change at the retreating Sólheimajökull Glacier. As one parent kindly commented: "Our daughter made lots of memories that she will remember for a very long time."



## Year 9 Buddies

The Year 9 Buddies have done a fabulous job of helping our Year 7 through their first year here at Browndedge, from the early days of induction and Welcome Mass to helping with homework and playing games in the lunchtime Buddy Club. It's now time to pass on the baton to Year 8 and with the guiding hand of our retiring Buddies we started our new Buddy Group. Their first role was supporting pupils on their recent induction days, where they confidently worked with Year 7 and gave them a most warm welcome. We look forward to walking alongside our new pupils in September and we thank the retiring Buddies for their support and guidance as they focus on their GCSE studies.

## Trampoline Successes

### Chloe Cattanach

Chloe competed in many events this year namely the English National Championships Series 1 and 2 events and an international competition in Germany. In series 1 she came 3<sup>rd</sup> in synchro and 11<sup>th</sup> in the individual event. In series 2 she came 1<sup>st</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> respectively. She will compete in the English National Finals this October.

### Daniel Duerden

Since the last edition of Shining Lights Daniel competed in Northern Ireland at Newtonards in the National School's Final. He had two clean routine and came a creditable 6<sup>th</sup> place. A fantastic achievement Daniel!

Daniel was also nominated for the Lancashire Evening Post Sports Achievement Awards which was held at Preston Charter Theatre in June. He was shortlisted and attended the rewards evening along with his mum.



### Lucy Wright

Lucy was nominated as a Young Volunteer of the Year for the South Ribble Sports Awards at the end of June. She is a member of Jump UK and has competed in the regional finals but more recently Lucy has taken on the role of volunteer coach. Lucy coaches 6 hours a week and has recently received her British Trampolining Club Judge qualification which means she can judge at North West level competitions. She has intentions of becoming a Level 1 coach when she reaches the age of 16.

## Year 7, 8 and 9 South Ribble Athletics

Around 65 pupils competed in this full day athletic event on a glorious day in Wigan against the other 10 schools from South Ribble.

All the competitors performed to the best of their ability and the notable performances were;

### Year 7 girls

Katie Orrell 100m - 3<sup>rd</sup>, Niamh Hopla 800m- 2<sup>nd</sup>, Robyn Kelly 1500m- 1<sup>st</sup>, Ester Ince Discus- 2<sup>nd</sup>, Laura Cottam Shot- 2<sup>nd</sup>, Sprint relay-Lucy Dolphin, Niamh Hopla, Robyn Kelly, Katie Orrell - 3<sup>rd</sup>, Team position 3<sup>rd</sup> overall

### Year 8 girls

Alex Porter 100m- 1<sup>st</sup>, Shae Kirkpatrick- 300m- 3<sup>rd</sup>, Jess Lane- 800m- 3<sup>rd</sup>, Sprint relay- Alex Porter, Caitlin Ward, Annabel Price Bilham, Shae Kirkpatrick- 3<sup>rd</sup>, Team position -4<sup>th</sup> overall

### Year 9 girls

Faye Houghton 200m- 2<sup>nd</sup>, Grace Brown 300m- 1<sup>st</sup>, Faye Houghton 800m- 1<sup>st</sup>, Grace Brown 1500m- 1<sup>st</sup>, Sprint relay-Maddi Howarth, Ellie Wolstenholme, Grace Brown, Faye Houghton- 3<sup>rd</sup>, Team position 3<sup>rd</sup> overall

### Year 7 boys

Jack Deacon 1500m- 3<sup>rd</sup>, Reuben Woodward Discus- 1<sup>st</sup>, Team position 9<sup>th</sup> overall

### Year 8 boys

Marcel Etienne Triple jump- 3<sup>rd</sup>, Ethan St Louis Javelin 3<sup>rd</sup>, Reece McKenna shot- 3<sup>rd</sup>, Team position 8<sup>th</sup> overall

### Year 9 boys

Louie Temperini shot- 3<sup>rd</sup>, Team position- 8<sup>th</sup> overall

The school with the combined girls and boys results from years 7-9 came 3<sup>rd</sup> overall. Well done to all competitors



**We are on the web!**

**Website: [www.st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk)**

**Twitter: [@BrownedgeStMary](https://twitter.com/BrownedgeStMary)**



Any news? Send it to Mrs Oddie  
[oddie@st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:oddie@st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk)

## Sports Day 2018

We had a glorious day for sports day this year and the pupils rose to the occasion in behaviour, attitude and performance. The field events went ahead in the morning for Years 7, 8, 9 and 10, and the track events were held in the afternoon with the whole of the school outside spectating. Several Year 10 pupils helped with the officiating on the day, recording, timekeeping and stewarding etc and did so very efficiently. The results are given below for each House and House points have been awarded for the end of term trophy.

	Bosco	Drexel	Kolbe	Romero	Teresa
Track	79	89	109	88	113
Field	98	87	112	83	96
<b>Overall</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>209</b>
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>

## Wimbledon 2018

Nine pupils from Years 7, 8 and 10 went on this annual trip down to London. We set off early in the school minibus arriving at Wimbledon at 10.30am and had seats on both No1 and Centre court. We were treated to a 3 set stunning match with the No1 ladies seed Halep being knocked out. We saw Nadal, British player Edmunds and Djokovic all in action on both the courts. The pupils behaved impeccably and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

## Sister 4 Sisters

We had speakers from Sisters 4 Sisters, a Preston Muslim women's group, into school to discuss Islam with pupils. Year 8 are currently studying Islam as a unit of work in Religious Education. All Year 8 pupils had the opportunity to ask questions, find out about what it is like to live as a Muslim in the UK and to examine artefacts. Pupils even had the opportunity to dress up



## Lancashire Schools' Athletics

Four pupils from our school had been selected to represent the District in the County Schools' Track and Field event held at Blackburn Witton Park. Kaylah Cottam came first- District champion in the inter girls shot put event with a throw of 9.63m. Faye Houghton and Grace Brown ran in the 800m junior girls' race. Faye came 2<sup>nd</sup> with a time of 2.22secs and Grace came 9<sup>th</sup>. Will Lancaster competed in the Inter boys discus and came 4<sup>th</sup> with a throw of 27.52m

# Happy Summer to you all

**School reopens on**

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at 8.50 am for Year 7  
and 10.00 am for Year 8-11**