

# The Bridge Centre School Newsletter

Summer Edition July 2019



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Head Teacher - Mr Andrew Burton

Deputy Head Teacher - Mr James Morris

Assistant Head Teacher/SENCo/DSL - Mrs Amy Punnett

## Head Teachers Comments

*As we are nearing the end of another School year it is time to make some reflections on what has been achieved.*

### Ofsted 2019

As you all know, The Bridge Centre was inspected by Ofsted under Section 5 on the 18th and 19th June 2019. We were absolutely delighted to receive a 'Good' judgement in all areas! Please take a look at the report on our Website or the Ofsted Website.

This judgement is a testament to the incredible work that each and every one of the staff at Bridge does every day. I am so proud to lead such a talented and motivated team of staff who put the needs of our learners first at all times. Our child centered approach shines through in the report, in particular the way we keep our learners safe. The inspection team saw strong teaching across the whole school and adults dealing skillfully with the challenges that our vulnerable learners present. In addition, I would like to thank all of the Management Team who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to support our School.

I would also like to thank our Parents and Carers, who without your support our efforts would be futile. The partnership between home and school is vitally important if we are to help guide our young learners on to success in their lives.

In the setting and sector we work in, we face the highs and lows together as a team. This report is, unequivocally, a true representation of where we stand now as an organisation. We are very clear on what we need to do to keep improving and we will ensure that we are relentless in providing the best quality of education for our learners.

### Staff Farewell

We say goodbye to and also welcome to the Bridge a number of staff. Fran Parra, our primary teacher is returning to live in Spain. Fran started out as a TA in the Secondary phase at Bridge and then made the seamless move to our primary provision in 2017. Fran will be greatly missed by staff and learners but we wish him well with the next phase of his career.

Dawn Silvertown has been with us in various guises from September 2017, most recently as Primary Lead. Dawn has worked tirelessly to ensure that our Primary provision runs smoothly and has had a huge input into building sustainable relationships within the primary network. Dawn is respected by all staff and parents and has provided excellent leadership to all of the team. We wish Dawn all the best for the future

Jo Muzzell has worked at the Bridge Centre for the last five years. She has worked tirelessly with our learners and is a champion for every young person who has attended Bridge. She is valued by teachers for her support in the classrooms and has more recently been supporting learners one to one offsite. Her calm and sensitive approach will be sorely missed at the Bridge but we wish her all the best with her new position at Eagles Nest. I am positive we will be seeing Jo again in our work with the young people of Lichfield.

Sheila McMahon has provided counselling sessions for learners and also staff at the Bridge for the past 4 years. Her bubbly nature and incredibly positive outlook will definitely be missed by all at Bridge. We are looking at inviting Sheila in to provide some targeted support on mental health over the coming year so we look forward to seeing her again really soon!

Andy Thompson and Nigel Johnson have been working as Driver's for the Bridge Centre for the last 2 years. Without them, we wouldn't have been able to run the Primary Provision. Their commitment to the role has been there for all to see. They have been a real asset to the Bridge and we wish them both all the best for the future.

### We welcome the following new staff to the Bridge Centre:



**Lynn Heeler (Maths)** – Lynn actually started at Easter but has made a superb start in her time at the Bridge Centre. Lynn is a dedicated and knowledgeable Maths teacher and we are very lucky to have her working with our learners.

**James Nation (Inclusion Manager)** – James also joined us at Easter and has settled in extremely well. He has a great vision for our new Inclusion Hub and has proved that he can adapt to anything that is required of him in the Centre.

**Helen Brooks (Inclusion Support)** – Helen joined us from the Friary School after May half term. Her main role is to support and be the link for our Looked after Children.

**Karen Wicks (Primary Assistant Head/Senco)** – Karen will be joining us in September from New Leaf PRU in Walsall. Karen's main role will be to provide daily operational leadership to the Primary Provision. She has already made an impact with her vision for the new centre and we are very much looking forward to having her on board for September.

**Kyrsty Robinson (Primary Teacher)** – Kyrsty joins us from the Rugeley School. She has strong background in SEMH and will be an excellent addition to the Primary team.

**Adam Wheldon (Student Support Officer Primary)** – Adam joins us with a wealth of experience supporting vulnerable learners and will be a welcome addition to the pastoral primary team



### New Structure for September 2019

Due to the Primary provision moving to new premises in September; it has been necessary to make some changes to the Leadership structure. James Morris, our current Deputy, will take over the role of Head of School for Secondary. James has been instrumental in the success of the Bridge over the past 18 months and will provide the daily operational leadership of the Secondary Site. As stated above, Karen Wicks, our new Assistant Head for Primary will lead the daily aspects of the Primary provision.

This means I will be moving to an Executive Headteacher role across both of our sites. I am very much looking forward to building on our recent success. We know that if we are going to provide an even better education for our young people, then we will need to keep growing and expanding our network. This new structure will give us the best possible opportunity to do this and I look forward to working together with all parents/carers and governors over the coming year.

*Finally, can I take this opportunity to wish everyone an enjoyable and relaxing summer. We all know that this time of year can be very difficult for many of our learners as they lose the stability and continuity of coming to School. So it is even more important that we have enough rest to be able to come back in September and carry on the amazing work that happens here.*

Andrew Burton, Executive Head Teacher

***“Believe, Inspire & Set No Limits”***

Here is a snapshot of our Summer Term Educational Visits & Curricular Activities

## BEYOND BLACKBELT



BANER: A banner for Beyond Black Belt Martial Arts School. On the left, a black and white photo shows two men in martial arts uniforms practicing. The text in the center reads: 'BRAZILIAN JIU-JITSU ♦ M.M.A ♦ KICKBOXING ♦ MUAY THAI ♦ FITNESS' and 'BEYOND BLACK BELT MARTIAL ARTS SCHOOL'. Below this, it lists '4 - 6 YEARS', '7 - 13 YEARS', and 'ADULT CLASSES'. On the right, there are three circular logos: one for M.M.A (Mixed Martial Arts), one for MUAY THAI, and one for BRAZILIAN JIU-JITSU (Gracie Barra). At the bottom, contact information is provided: 'CONTACT: 01283 542213', 'WWW.BEYONDBLACKBELT.CO.UK', and two Facebook links: 'FACEBOOK.COM/GRACIEBARRABURTONONTRENT' and 'FACEBOOK.COM/BEYONDBLACKBELT'. A small photo of a young boy is on the far right.

The students have been attending regular boxing and mixed martial arts sessions at Beyond Black Belt Burton every Friday this school year.

The sessions have consisted of fitness workouts, bag work and specialised pad work. The students have developed as the year has gone on, earning belts for their kickboxing.

As the year has developed it has been nice to see the progress the children have made and many are now at the stage where they take part in controlled sparring sessions.

***“Boxing is a great tool for our students it teaches self-discipline and basic life skills which can be used in all areas of a student’s life”***

**Mr Lightfoot HLTA**





The students have been taking part in the Prince's Trust Award since I started at the Bridge Centre in November. They have been working on the participating in sport unit and career planning unit.

The students have been working incredibly hard with 21 students completing units.

A special mention to Daniel Tipper, Aiden Buckley, Ashton Grey, Yasmin Aspley and Dom Steerment, who have completed two units, therefore gained the full Prince's Trust Award.

I have big plans for the Prince's Trust moving forward with the ultimate aim for the Bridge Centre to be awarded Centre of Excellence standard in this field.

**MR LIGHTFOOT - HLTA**



This year's Art Department Exhibition was the best yet! Visitors were able to view the fantastic art work from Year 10 and 11 students. We had a range of art including Graphics, Textiles and Fine Art. Everyone who came to see the exhibition was amazed by the talent and obvious hard work from The Bridge Centre Students.





Did you know you can follow our students' work on our art department Instagram Page? Search for [bridgecentreart](#)



**BANK HOLIDAYS - 2020**

<b>Good Friday</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> April 2020
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> April 2020
<b>Early May Bank Holiday*</b>	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2020
<b>Spring Bank Holiday</b>	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2020
<b>*please note change due to anniversary of VE day</b>	

2019-2020 Academic Year	First day	Last day
Inset Day Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2019		
Inset Day Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2019		
Autumn Term 1	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2019	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2019
HALF TERM HOLIDAY	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> October 2019	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2019
Autumn Term 2	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2019
Inset Day Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> November 2019		
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December 2019	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2020
Inset Day Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2020		
Spring Term 1	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2020	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2020
HALF TERM HOLIDAY	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2020	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2020
Spring Term 2	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February 2020	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2020
EASTER HOLIDAY	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> April 2020	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2020
Inset Day Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2020		
Summer Term 1	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2020	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2020
HALF TERM HOLIDAY	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2020	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2020
Summer Term 2	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2020	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July
Inset Day (Twilight) Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2020		

FUTURE DATES CAN BE FOUND AT: [https:// www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/termdates](https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/termdates)

*Every Student Matters and Every Lesson Counts*





### **Year 11 Leaver's Celebration**

Staff and students enjoyed a very pleasant evening at TGI Friday's in Sutton Coldfield to mark the end of a chapter for our Year 11 leavers. We all wish them well for their onward journey.

## **GOOD LUCK**

**TO ALL OUR YEAR 11 2019 LEAVERS FROM STUDENTS AND STAFF**

**REMEMBER, BRIDGE SCHOOL IS ONLY A STEPPING STONE TO  
WHERE YOU WANT TO BE IN YOUR FUTURE LIVES**

*"You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough" (Mae West)*

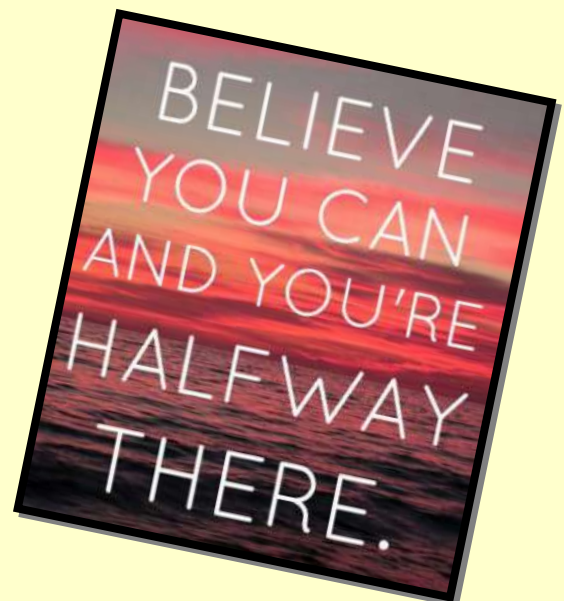
*"Inside of a ring or out, ain't nothing wrong with going down. It's staying down that's wrong."  
(Rocky Balboa)*

*"Everyone has inside of them a piece of good news. The good news is that you don't know how great you can be. How much you can love! What you can accomplish! And what your potential is! "  
(Anne Frank)*

*Good luck Year 11, never underestimate you -Mrs Punnett*

Examination Results  
available in school on  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August from  
10 - 12pm

**ANYONE UNABLE TO COLLECT  
RESULTS IN PERSON MUST  
MAKE SCHOOL AWARE  
BEFOREHAND AND  
ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE  
FOR POSTING.**



# We've had a very busy term in Rothko!

We started the term in maths learning about position and movement, left and right turns, directions and following journeys. Brae is really thinking about which way to go for this



Callum is enjoying himself figuring out how to move the bears, step by step, to create an animation in ICT. He had lots of ideas and took photos of each step.

We do lots of cooking in school; this is to improve our life skills- to prepare food, measure ingredients and learn about healthy eating. We always take home what we have cooked to share at home too.



Corey and Liam really impressed us all with their drawings and paintings of trees as part of our 'Earth Day' focus. Here you can see the boys trying to learn a method to draw with a paintbrush following instructions from a website and Mrs Hollis of course- who loves art!

primary



As part of our learning about looking after animals this term we have visited Bourne Pool to enjoy the wildlife and natural habitats of many animals. McKenzie loves all animals and was getting very friendly and brave approaching this little duck.



# MATISSE MATTERS primary

*The Matisse Primary class students have been keeping themselves very busy this term. Take a look at the gallery below showing photos of our favourite activities*

1. Library
2. Beacon Park
3. Mile walk at Stowe pool
4. Lichfield Cathedral
5. Hot chocolate reward.





### What is PiXL Edge?

As a school that never stands still and is always looking to improve, we want our pupils to follow our footsteps and strive to be the best they can be. To support that development, we have introduced the PiXL Edge programme.

PiXL Edge is a framework for secondary schools and sixth form providers to develop and accredit in our students the attitudes, attributes and skills essential for employability and life.

The PiXL Edge programme will enable students to develop five key attributes, which have been especially chosen for their formative qualities in character development.

The 5 key areas the pupils will be focusing on are:

**Leadership, Organisation, Resilience, Initiative and Communication**

### How will PiXL be delivered at The Bridge?

All students are introduced to the PiXL Edge programme and will log their activities and provide evaluations for each one. We hope this will encourage them to get involved in as many extra-curricular opportunities as possible, both in and out of school some of which they may have never even thought of before now! The aim is for the pupils to gain confidence and new skills ready for KS4 and their GCSE exams.

Pupils have taken part in a wide range of activities and written work over the year around the 5 key areas. Examples of the activities, where pupils have been able to show off their development are: Mountain biking, climbing, sailing, ice Skating, laser tag, trampolining, football, orienteering, walking, volleyball, badminton, fitness circuits and projects.



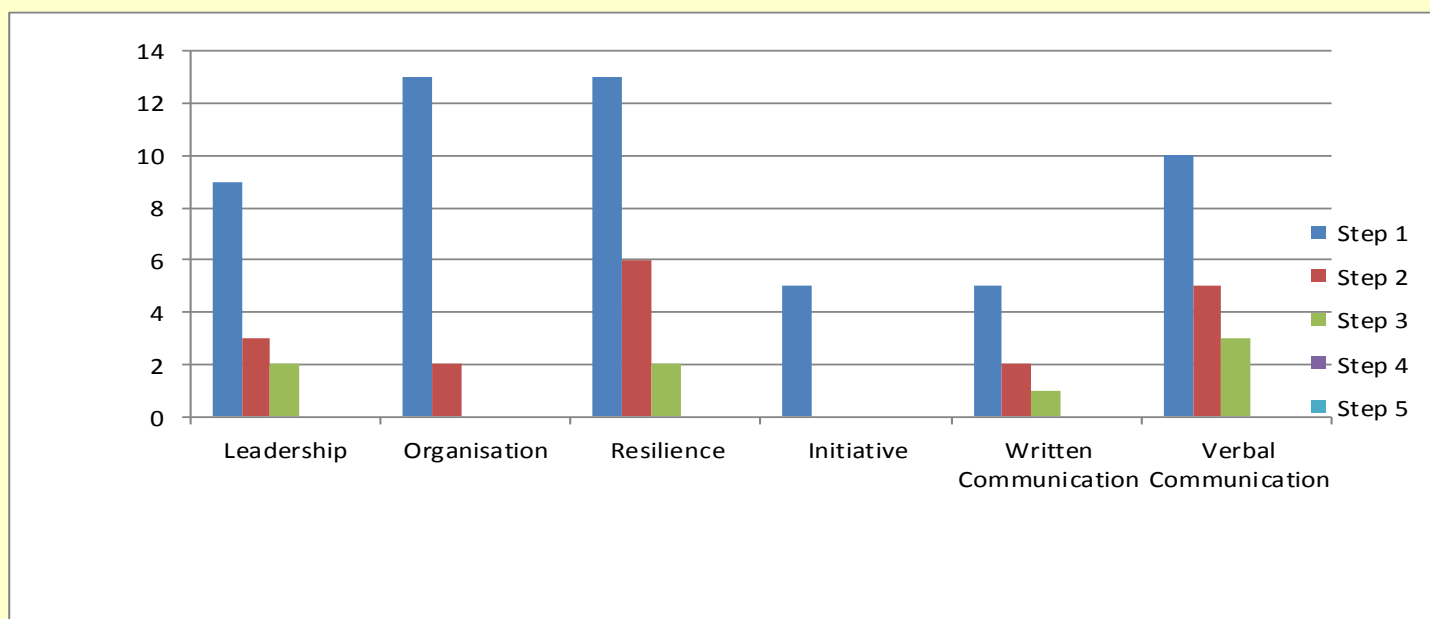
The PiXL Edge





Pupils are assessed in PIXL using a progress grid. By using the grid pupils are able to see the progress they are making throughout the year and which areas they need to improve on to develop as a person. Below are some key figures from PIXL this year:

- 100% of KS3 pupils have accessed PIXL in 2018/2019
- 80% of the pupils have managed to make good progress in at least 3 of the attributes.
- 100% of pupils have developed their resilience around school and through offsite activities. For example all KS3 pupils have completed a 5km walk on Cannock Chase which many found very challenging.
- Initiative is the area we are still working on but during the summer term with activities including mountain biking, sailing and DofE we are confident these will improve drastically.



## BRIDGE VICTORIOUS AT SPORTS DAY

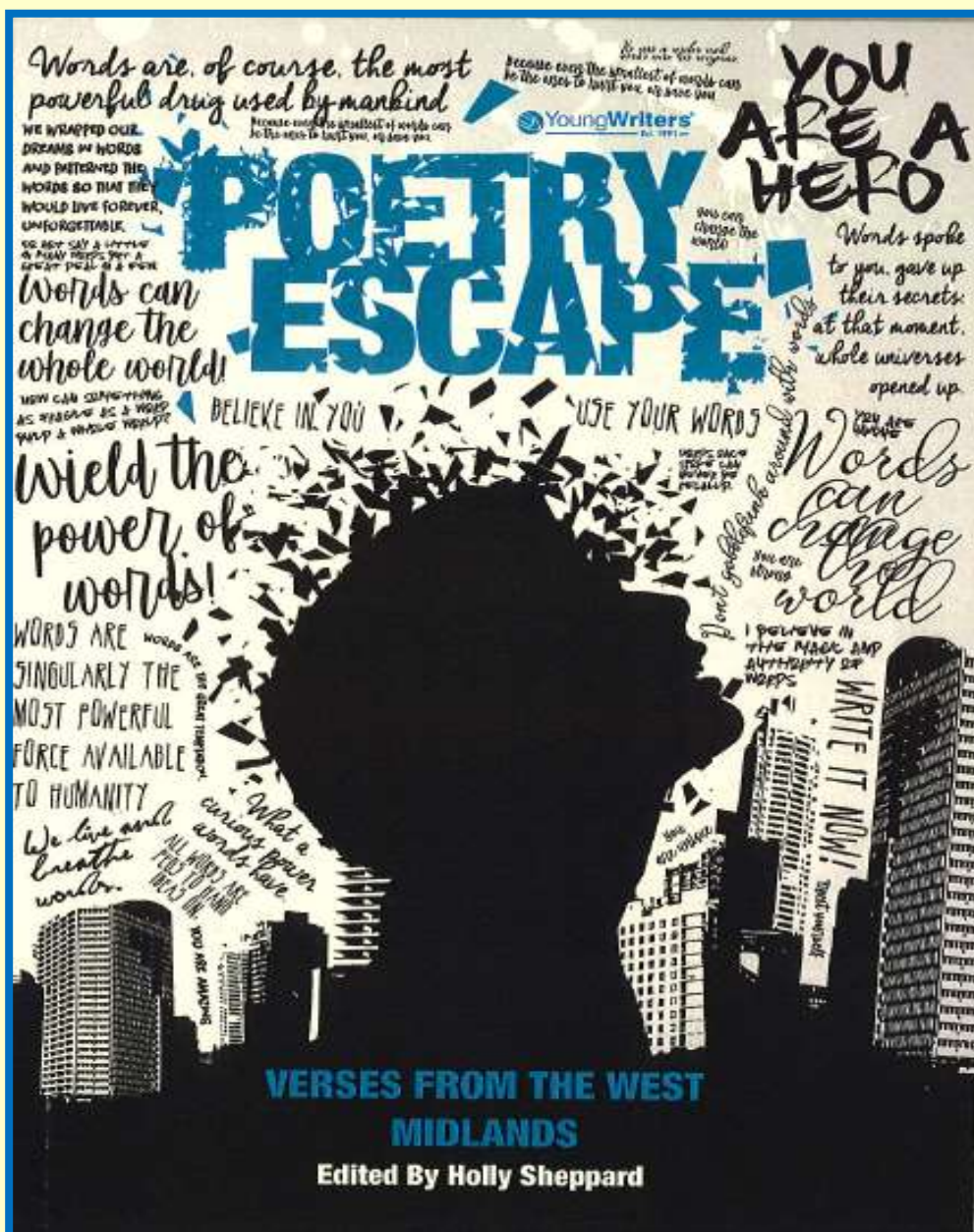


On the 16<sup>th</sup> July Mr Morris, Mr Lightfoot and Mr Gabbittas took a strong Bridge team to the local inter-PRU sports day at Shobnall athletics track in Burton.

Stand out performer was Connor Jones winning the 100m, 200m, Long jump and 800m.

The children were excellent during the day; we managed to enter at least two children in every event and entered 3 teams in the relay.

When the final points positions were added up the **Bridge Centre won the sports day for the second year running!**



We are very proud of 4 Bridge students, who, with the help and encouragement from our English Teacher Mrs Torzney, have written some excellent poetry, so good that it has been published. Well done to our young authors - Jack Lamb, James Cowie, Jacob Bloomfield and Aiden Buckley.

WELL DONE TO ALL  
OF YOU.

Lewis Carroll watch out!





## Reminder to parents

**In case of an emergency  
with your child**

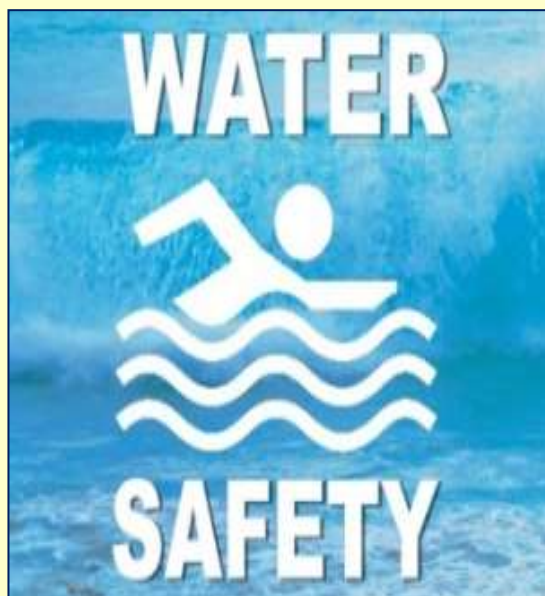
**If you change your  
address/telephone  
number (especially  
mobile number), please  
advise school so that we  
can change details on  
our computer system**

## STOP PRESS

- Have you changed your mobile phone number?
- Have you changed work recently?
- Have you moved house?
- Do we have a current e-mail address?

**Then, please contact us so that we can update our records to enable us to contact you quickly and efficiently should we need to do so.**

**Many Thanks**



As the weather is getting warmer, and hopefully staying warmer as we approach the summer holidays, please find below some useful links to advice - for parents and young people regarding water safety.

<https://www.rlss.org.uk/summer-water-safety>

<https://www.riss.org.uk/open-water-swimming-safety-guide>

<https://www.rosipa.com/leisure-safety/water/advice/children-young-people/>



Space 2019 will blast off on 22<sup>nd</sup> July! The summer Space programme provides free, fun activities for 8 to 17 year-olds to help build confidence, develop life skills and improve health and general well-being. Activities are added daily, so keep checking [www.staffordshirespace.uk](http://www.staffordshirespace.uk) to see what is happening where you live.

### REMINDER - Student Medication

If the school holds medication for your child to self-administer, could you please ensure that these medications are kept up to date. If your child is unable to self-administer the medication, a parental agreement form, which may be picked up from the school office, must be completed.

If unsure please telephone Mrs Abell on 01543 255872



## DIGBETH STREET ART

This term, students visited Birmingham. We saw the Knife Angel which is a 27ft sculpture made from 100,000 blades handed into police across the country. Artist Alfie Bradley, who created the sculpture at the British Ironworks Centre, said it was a "monument against violence and aggression".

We also visited Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery and saw the impressive street art in Digbeth. We all had a fantastic day and the students were a credit to the school.





## ADVENTURE MADE EASY

Beaundesert Outdoor Activity Centre provides outdoor experiences for young people from all backgrounds. We offer life changing experiences and help to develop confidence, teamwork, leadership and communication through outdoor activities.

**Beaundesert**  
Outdoor Activity Centre

On Tuesday 9th July the good weather took us to the Beaundesert Outdoor Activity Centre where pupils had a go at crate stacking. They had to wear harnesses and work as a team to create the highest tower.



After the physical activities pupils then enjoyed sausage sandwiches cooked on the open fire!







Over the past few weeks, school have taken advantage of the warmer weather with the Hub Group led by Drew spending time in parks and nature reserves across the West Midlands. Whilst enjoying the sun, students (and staff) have taken part in mindfulness and relaxation in the great out-doors as well as taken the opportunity to have some fun. It is important for our students to have access to outdoor leisure activities - as access to healthy mind exercises and contemplation. The Bridge promotes mental health as much as physical health and these adventures are a perfect mix of the two!



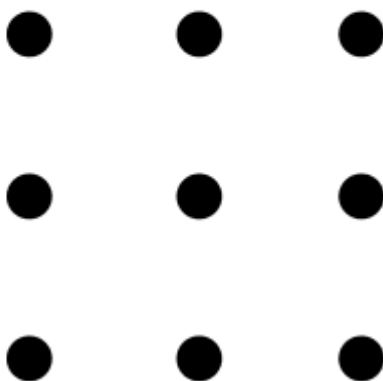


It has been a lively and interesting first term at The Bridge for me as the new maths teacher. I have been very impressed with the quality of work produced by several students and am looking forward to continuing to work with all of the students in the new school year. Many students have mastered the Soma Cube and we have a few of the KS3 boys able to complete the puzzle in less than 5 seconds!

The Soma Cube is a 3D puzzle made of seven distinct pieces which can be assembled in 240 different ways to make a  $3 \times 3 \times 3$  cube. Finding just one way takes some patience and time, but our students persevered and became experts pretty quickly.



**Try to connect all 9 dots using only 4 straight lines. You may not lift up your pen.**



Here is a puzzle for you to try at home.

Solution will be given in the next newsletter!

Mrs Heeler





## ALTERNATIVE PROVISION



One of our Y11 students has embarked upon a horse grooming course starting a qualification at Hawthorn Farm (Horse Care- NVQ). She is interested in a possible future working with animals and has hugely enjoyed the opportunity to do a practical qualification alongside her other schooling. Michelle Howlett (Farm Manager) is really impressed how the student has progressed in her skills and confidence in caring for the horses as she has always enjoyed working with and caring for animals.



**BLACK COUNTRY  
LIVING  
MUSEUM**

Students from the HUB had the opportunity this term to pay a visit to the Black Country Museum where they learnt about life before smart-phones and I-pads. They enjoyed the sights and smells of a bustling Victorian town and here they watched a blacksmith busy at it manufacturing tools by hand the good old fashioned hard work way.





This term a select group of KS3 and KS4 students have taken part in a mountain biking programme on Cannock Chase. Over the last 5 weeks, pupils have learnt new mountain biking skills and techniques allowing them to ride different technical trails, over very challenging terrain. The group has tackled water crossings, single tracks, jumps, uphill challenges and downhill racing. I think it is safe to say they have loved it and the good weather always helps!

# MOUNTAIN BIKING



## Attendance Matters!



Every Student, Every School, Every Day

No days lost	10 days lost	19 days lost	29 days lost -the same as half a term!	38 days lost	47 days lost
100%	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%
190 School days each year	180 days of education	171 days of education	161 days of education	152 days of education	143 days of education
<b>GOOD</b> Best chance of success - get your child off to a flying start		<b>WORRYING</b> Less chance of success. Makes it harder for your child to progress		<b>SERIOUS CONCERN</b> Not fair on your child Possible court action	

## LATENESS

How much time can you lose?

IN ONE SCHOOL YEAR

**5 minutes**  
late each day



## APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE DURING TERM TIME

- only emergencies or exceptional circumstances will be considered
- holidays or family gatherings will not be authorized
- fixed penalty notices can be issued