



PADGATE ACADEMY JOINS TCAT



PADGATE ACADEMY

Padgate Academy – formerly The University Academy Warrington (UAW) – was given permission to transfer to TCAT by the Government on December 1.

Pupils have designed a new badge for the school that will now benefit from being part of the successful trust, which also includes Beamont, Bridgewater, Sir Thomas Boteler Church Of Engand High School and Penketh high schools.

“This was the right move for Padgate Academy and one that I am sure will benefit both our children and staff,” said head teacher Misia Barclay.

“The pupils were excited about designing a new badge for the school because it will be their lasting legacy. Our goal is to raise standards and ensure the school remains rooted in the local community.”

Padgate pupils will not notice any difference in the day-to-day running of the school and will continue to wear the same uniform. However, they will now have the chance to take part in activities such as the TCAT Parliament, more educational visits and benefit from industrial links with companies such as United Utilities, Barclays and Solvay.

The school will create a local governing body for parents and staff while teachers and managers at Padgate Academy will have access to the TCAT School Improvement Hubs where they will work with colleagues to share the best practice.

Matthew Grant, CEO of TCAT and Principal at Priestley College, said: “When it was set up TCAT became one of the biggest and most inclusive academies in the country and having Padgate on board continues that theme.

“It makes the transition and support between primary school, high school and college as seamless as possible and therefore gives pupils an even greater chance of fulfilling their potential.”

TCAT MUSIC CONCERT

The TCAT Concert was held on Friday 19th November at The Parr Hall in conjunction with the River Reeves foundation.

Performers from all the TCAT institutions wowed the audiences from start to finish. To be able to showcase the talent within the TCAT collectively was a clear demonstration of how TCAT staff and students are all working together across all the phases in true collaboration. The Parr Hall was at capacity and it was a pleasure to see the students all cheering and supporting each other. Events such as this are testimony to the young people, their abilities and confidence in performing. It also enabled them to have a platform where they can work side by side and celebrate the diverse range of musical opportunities across the trust.

It was also great that the TCAT Parliament were on hand to meet and greet all the Parents, Carers and Families. Again, another demonstration of how the young people are working together. They are doing a huge amount of work on Plastic and are really making a difference in terms of awareness and recycling within Warrington.

The concert is just one of the many collaborative aspects of TCAT and that this feeds into their vision of "nurturing challenging and inspiring young people to achieve their very best for themselves and their communities".





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tcat.uk.com

TCAT PARLIAMENT

TCAT Parliament have been busy this past term with supporting the TCAT Concert at the Parr Hall. Members of Parliament enjoyed welcoming guests to the evening.

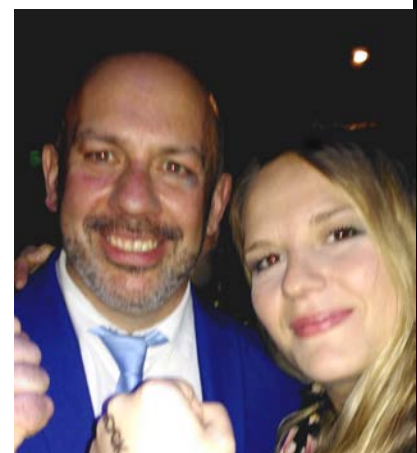
In the last meeting, students were given a talk by Amelia Cullen, Deputy Head Girl at Sir Thomas Boteler Church of High School on Youth Parliament. She made the group more aware of Youth Parliament and what its role is alongside Parliament. Students learnt how to get involved and which positions they can apply for in Youth Parliament. They also looked at what projects Youth Parliament are involved in at the moment. They also got to listen to a rehearsal for the TCAT concert during their break where many of them were taking part.

Parliament then continued to establish their work on 'single use plastic' and a way forward in establishing this in their own schools.



TCAT STAFF FIGHT FOR THE BIGGER FIGHT AGAINST CANCER

Two members of TCAT staff – Ian Farrar from Penketh High School, and Alice Roberts from Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School both recently competed in an Ultra White Collar Boxing event, to raise funds for Cancer Research UK. They both trained for many weeks leading up to the event, then the big night was on the 17th November at Halliwell Jones. There were 27 fights taking place in total; and Ian and Alice (though not fighting each other!), were both in the Blue Team: significant as both Boteler and Penketh's colours are blue! Between them they raised £707 for Cancer Research UK.





EDUCATE STEM AWARD

A pioneering partnership to make Warrington a hotbed for new engineering talent has picked up a top NW education award.

Beamont Collegiate Academy's 16-week link-up with water company United Utilities gave 64 young teens a yearning for learning and earned a prestigious Educate Award in a ceremony at Liverpool Cathedral on November 16. The Masterclass initiative was named as Educate's top school science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) project after interest in engineering among participants soared.

The project – which pitted teams against each other to solve a real-life engineering conundrum – is now being repeated with an emphasis on attracting girls into science. Around two thirds of the youngsters recruited for this year's masterclass are female. United Utilities social impact manager Lynn Johnson said eight teams of Year 9 and 10 pupils from Beamont, Bridgewater, Sir Thomas Boteler and Penketh high schools worked weekly with the company's graduate engineers.

Their challenge was to devise a scheme to find and pipe water from the Cumbrian fells to a fictitious new community centre in Coniston.

"It was a great project for us as well as the students. The two winning teams spent a day with us at our sewage works in Davyhulme, Manchester, which is home to some of our most advanced engineering," she said. "When the project finished nearly two thirds of the participants said they had much more interest in pursuing engineering as a career and it helped some of our engineering graduates in their professional development as well."

Masterclass was the brainchild of TCAT Leaders Keiron Powell and Chris Hillidge, who approached United Utilities and Engineering lead, Jimmy Ingman, was invited to spend a week at the company's HQ at Lingley Mere touring engineering disciplines and talking to experts.





Beamont Collegiate
Academy

BEAMONT COLLEGIATE ACADEMY NEWS

It was put together on behalf of The Challenge Academy Trust (TCAT) which incorporates the four participating schools and Beamont Collegiate Academy – the UK's only STEM Assured Status high school.

Principal of BCA, Mr Andrew Moorcroft said 'Working with a leading water supplier like United Utilities was a huge bonus. The project we generated is the first of its kind from within any multi academy trust nationwide, that set out to develop industry-led, education-inspired project-learning from across the various STEM disciplines. The award is the icing on the cake,' he said.

United Utilities' Engineering Delivery Director Richard Ratcliff said: "It's vital to stay connected with young people, keeping them informed about the range of science and engineering opportunities available to them. Over 45% of students said they were more interested in a STEM related career as a result of being involved. That for me is a real result."

"Beamont Collegiate Academy are dedicated to STEM with inspirational projects, trips & opportunities, amazing children & clubs and awesome staff that go above & beyond. Congratulations!" – All About STEM.

Warrington Fablab have been involved in many exciting projects which have drawn local and national media attention. In yet another exciting and innovative project, Fab Lab staff are working with Lee Mcstein, an expert in ancient Egyptian historic monuments and 3D scanning and printing. The team are working on producing a unique exhibition combining objects from Mrs Goodison's collection with masterpieces from the UK and international collections which will be exhibited in Southport.

Evoking the bustling Egyptian tourist scene of the 1890s, loans of sketches, letters, and objects will link Mrs Goodison with pioneering female collectors, writers, and excavators, including Amelia Edwards, founder of the Egypt Exploration Society. Within this collection is an incomplete (damaged) artefact from an ancient Egyptian artist. We will be working with Lee McStein to complete a restoration of this artefact – complete a detailed CAD drawing and 3D printing this so both old and new parts can be combined for the first time to give the audience the experience of the complete object.

Mr Ingman, Fablab manager told us 'this is one of the first historic commissions we as a Fab Lab have been able to be part of. This is an amazing idea that completes and restores old historic monuments and artefacts that are damaged/ incomplete using completely new technologies including 3D printing.'

"Beamont Collegiate Academy are dedicated to STEM with inspirational projects, trips & opportunities, amazing children & clubs and awesome staff that go above & beyond. Congratulations!" – All About STEM.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP @ BCA

Earlier this term, members of the BCA Student Parliament facilitated sessions at the 'Heads Up' conference held at the Halliwell Jones stadium.

The 'Heads Up' conference promotes positive mental health amongst young people in Warrington and was attended by local secondary schools. The students gave up their own time to be trained over several weeks by the Warrington Wolves Young trustees with the project culminating in the conference.



Neill Kelly, Foundation Director at Warrington Wolves will be providing individual evaluations to the leaders over the coming weeks. We were delighted to hear that they were a credit to the school and that they are now fully trained 'Heads Up' ambassadors.

The team also recently acquired 'Anti-Bullying Ambassador' status through the Diana Award and have been putting their training to good use. During anti-bullying week they delivered assemblies to Years 7 and 8 as well at a local primary school. They have big plans to train up more ambassadors across the Student Leadership Team.

WARRINGTON CENTRAL MASTERPLAN - BCA SHAPING THE FUTURE

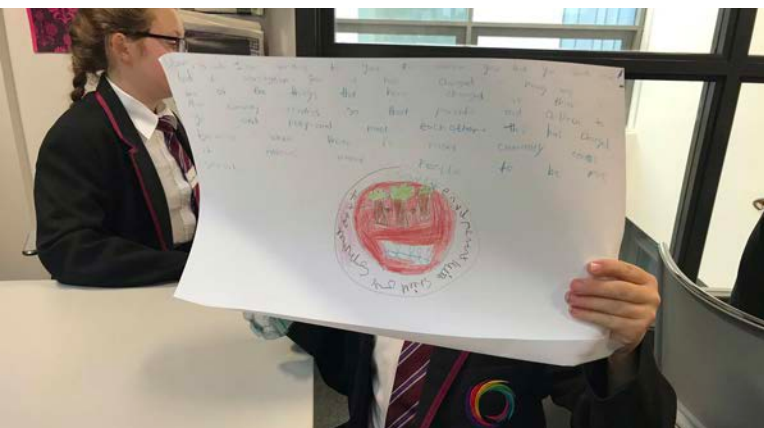
BCA are involved in an exciting long term project focusing on the regeneration of the Central 6 wards of Warrington. The Warrington Central 6 Regeneration Masterplan will produce a plan to guide development, investment and projects in the central wards of the borough for the next 25-30 years. The main wards covered are Bewsey and Whitecross, Fairfield and Howley, Orford, Latchford East, Latchford West and Poplars and Hulme.

BCA are one of two schools, and the only secondary school, involved in this major consultation project.

The academy was keen to get involved in this long term project as the focus areas are transport, housing, recreation and employment.

The student representatives met with the consultancy team to provide suggestions and solutions for improvements. The Principal received this feedback: '...the students really engaged with the exercises but also with the issues being discussed, they had a genuine understanding and appreciation of the problems and possible solutions. Their feedback was considered, caring and thoughtful and achievable.

The students were smart and very polite, a credit to all the staff and great ambassadors for the Academy. We thoroughly enjoyed our time with them and hope they did too. We look forward to returning next year (hopefully around March) with an analysis of the feedback received from this first stage and some ideas, proposals and projects that the Council may wish to progress.'





BRIDGEWATER HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

BRIDGEWATER'S BTEC STUDENTS PERFORM 'THE TEMPEST'!

On Friday 9th November, I and the rest of the Year 11 BTEC class performed 'The Tempest' for the Shakespeare Schools Festivals at Z-ARTS theatre in Manchester. The Shakespeare Schools Festival is a performance in which a number of schools participate by performing different Shakespeare plays. This year, we performed 'The Tempest'.

In July when we first received our scripts, we started to bring our ideas to life, each of us contributing towards the show. We found inspiration by first watching the film version of 'The Tempest' and this helped us to discover and explore our characters and personalities. This also helped us to add the visual and vocal details to our show.



We started rehearsing in September and spent our lessons developing and composing our ideas as a class. In October, we went to Z-ARTS to take part in a workshop, helping us to develop our chosen scene. This is where Trinculo (my character) and Stephano are introduced. They soon come to meet Caliban, the monster on the island. The Workshop helped a lot and was fun to be involved with. The reason why it was helpful was because it was a comedy scene. At first we weren't sure how to bring the comedy out but we were given tips on perfecting certain accents and the way we moved. For example, Stephano is supposed to be drunk so we really emphasised the way he would walk and talk in a drunken manner.

On the show day, we headed to Z-ARTS theatre around lunch time. We took part in a technical rehearsal before watching another school perform their dress rehearsal. They then watched us perform ours. Later on, we took part in the show. We were all very nervous before we headed on stage, but afterwards we were all relieved.

I found that performing The Tempest was very different to what we had performed before. Initially, it was hard to understand, due to Shakespeare's challenging language. We all needed to work hard to understand both the language and story. We did this by translating some of the words and scenes into modern English. It was very challenging but it was fun. We all had to push ourselves but the end result was worth it. The show was a great success and we all had a lot of fun.

I think that The Shakespeare Schools festival is something that all schools offering Performing Arts should take part in. I hope that Bridgewater can carry on this experience for Performing Arts students as we all gained so much from the experience.

Grace, Year 11.

WORLD WAR 1 CENTENARY - LOWER SCHOOL LIBRARY

To mark 100 years since the end of World War 1 and to raise awareness of this historical date, Bridgewater's Lower School Library, in conjunction with the English and History departments, hosted a week of WW1-themed activities. These included a WW1 Quiz and a film-show featuring clips from 'Blackadder' and 'Horrible Histories'. A WW1 Fiction reading list was available and Mrs Gardner made some eye-catching Remembrance displays in the Library.





Over the week, teachers came into the Library to give a moving reading of entries from the diary of Harry Drinkwater, a soldier who fought on the front line. These readings gave pupils insight into the horrors of the trenches and the gruelling daily realities of the young men who went to war. Pupils were also able to sample some home-made WW1 trench biscuits, based on an authentic recipe by Huntley and Palmers. In spite of the basic ingredients, pupils and staff resoundingly gave them the thumbs-up!



Mrs Hughes also very kindly brought in her grandfather's war medals and some poignant family mementos, ranging from photographs and hand-written letters which pupils were able to examine first-hand. Mrs Mottershead took time out to bring in some photographs of the war cemeteries and to tell us about her visit to the WW1 battlefields in France.

Many thanks to all the staff who freely contributed their time to help mark the Centenary, and congratulations to Benjamin (8JEB/JRB) who achieved the highest score on the Quiz!

YEAR 7 CHOOSE FREE READING BOOKS WITH 'BOOKBUZZ'

This term, Bridgewater's Y7 pupils were able to choose a free reading book from Bookbuzz, an initiative run by the reading charity, BookTrust. The aim of the scheme is to support secondary schools in encouraging a love of reading. Every year, a range of titles suitable for 11-13 year olds are specially selected by a panel of teachers, librarians and book experts. The book that pupils choose forms the basis for classwork in English and for general reading.



After a session in the library looking at how to choose Fiction books, pupils were able to have a look for themselves at the selection of 14 titles available from this year's Bookbuzz and watch a video featuring the authors of the books. Ranging from adventure books, stories about the environment, ghost stories, thrillers, mystery, real life and humour, and including popular authors such as Rick Riordan, Neil Gaiman and Robin Stevens, there really was something for everyone, including even the most reluctant of readers! Bookbuzz is always a popular event in the library calendar and generates much book-related discussion as pupils talk about what they like to read!

If you would like to know more about Bookbuzz, BookTrust has a very informative website with competitions, quizzes, author blogs and information on what books to read next.





BRIDGEWATER HIGH SCHOOL NEWS



APPLETON COLLEGE - RESTART A HEART

Aaron Cawley, Bridgewater's Health and Safety Co-ordinator and First Aid Trainer, delivered a Lifesaving session to Bridgewater's Sixth Form students. It covered topics such as how to deal with choking, burns, severe bleeding, fits, nose-bleeds etc, and actions to take whilst awaiting the emergency services. He then went on to show us how to

perform CPR and everybody was able to practise the technique. Hopefully it will never need to be put to use but at least everybody is prepared.

BRIDGEWATER GIRLS FOOTBALL

Bridgewater girls have been busy this term with lots of football fixtures.

U14s Cheshire Cup

On the 02/10/2018, Bridgewater's U14s squad travelled to Macclesfield's Fallibroome High School as part of the Cheshire Cup fixture. Our girls put on a display of phenomenal football, taking the lead within the first five minutes, with Claudia and her fantastic 20 yard 'screamer'! After the first goal, the girls really upped their confidence and played some excellent football, working out from the back. By the end of the first half, the girls were 7-0 up with Hannah scoring a hat-trick, Aleesha a brace and Emma claiming her first goal for the team. After a half-time team talk, the girls knew they would need to work hard to maintain their lead and they did so! Within the first ten minutes of the second half, Aleesha received a lovely through ball from Hannah and secured a hat-trick. The game finished 13-0 to Bridgewater with Aleesha scoring her fourth goal of the game and Hannah sealing the game with her fifth goal. The football on display and attitudes from all girls were fantastic. They truly represented Bridgewater High School and put on a superb performance both individually and as a team. Well done to all!

U13s Cheshire Cup

On the 16/10/2018, our U13s squad travelled to Congleton High School as part of the Cheshire Cup fixtures. This was the first game in which all of the girl have played together. The first half was nail-biting with really good chances falling to both schools, but sadly we saw the second half end 0-0. After a confident team talk delivered by Mr. Heaward the girls started the second half all fired up and pushing to score that first goal. Congleton's team was equally determined and after ten minutes into the second half, they took the lead. Two minutes later, Emily responded with a superb half volley. Again, Congleton responded within minutes and took the lead with a fantastic through-ball and unstoppable shot. Bridgewater didn't switch off and Erin ran through the defence, scoring her very first goal. The game ended 2-2 which meant penalties. After some fantastic saves by Olivia and penalties from the girls, it was Congleton who managed to score the extra goal and won 6-5 on penalties. All agreed that it was a fantastic game and a credit to both schools. Congratulations to Congleton and good luck in the next round!

A huge thank you to Miss. Parker and Mr. Heaward who have been helping with the girls football training afterschool with Miss. Price.

GREAT SANKEY PRIMARY SCHOOL



WE ARE ARTISTS

During October, GSP was a buzz of activity as all the children took part in our theme week, 'We are Artists.' The children produced some outstanding art creations linked to our pledge to support the environment as part of the TCAT promise to reduce plastic in Warrington.

In EYFS the children used only recyclable materials to make a wonderful and extremely colourful garden. They made flowers, butterflies, bees and snails. Students from Priestley College also supported classes in producing large art pieces for the hall display.

In KS1 the children also used recycled materials to create sea creatures and had a messy but exciting time. Some children also worked with a visiting artist to create pieces for an exhibition to commemorate a hundred years since the end of World War One.

In KS2 the older children took on the theme of extinction and how plastic is destroying out sea and the animals that live in this habitat.



LEGO WINNERS!

The whole school had a wonderful and enriching time taking part in the many activities which commemorated 100 years since Armistice Day. They developed their understanding around World War 1 and its effects on the soldiers and their families. The Friends of Penketh Library enhanced this learning through their research on local soldiers and we discovered that some of these soldiers went to our school. Classes also managed to locate the graves of many of these servicemen at St Mary's Cemetery.





GREAT SANKEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Every child painted a pebble, which is now permanently displayed in our stunning poppy mosaic at the front of our school. They also made a poppy to go on to our weeping window cascade which is suspended in the entrance hall along with another fabulous display of examples of work done throughout the school and our special silk centenary canvas that the children helped to create.

Some of the poppies we made were gratefully received by St. Mary's Cemetery. KS2 classes entered a World War 1 poetry competition at the library many of these are now displayed there. One of our year 6 pupils, James Wright, won the competition – a huge well done to him.

We were astounded by the positive response from the whole community with regards to our Remembrance week. This was such a special topic and it was a privilege to see how it captured the interests of all our children, across all ages. They not only learned about the Great War but also about local soldiers from Penketh and Great Sankey, so that they have become more than just a name, many of whom attended our school. Our special Remembrance assembly was a fitting way to end the week; children shared their learning and in a moment of quiet reflection, we gave thanks to those that gave their tomorrows for our todays. #LestWeForget

TOGETHER WE LEARN AND GROW

As part of our first topic, 'Together We Learn and Grow,' we (bravely!) took nearly 300 children from Years 1-6 to Formby Point for the day. It was a wonderful sight seeing the children of different ages working together to build sandcastles, make sand sculptures and splash in the waves. We had a wonderful day and brought lots of ideas to launch our environmental work back to school. What a fantastic way to start our school year!



THE GSP GOLDEN MILE

September 2018 saw the launch of the GSP Golden Mile with each phase being timetabled to run around the purpose-built track each afternoon for a minimum of 10 - 15 minutes. Our aim is to not only improve children's level of fitness and stamina, but to also positively impact on their well-being so that they start their afternoon lessons energised and raring to go. It has been a great success so far.



SNOWBOTS

We've been fortunate enough to work closely with Warrington LiveWire Libraries to offer some FREE digital creative workshops. These sessions, conducted by SPARK @ Penketh were offered to everyone through Orford Library. We're passionate about providing everyone with the opportunity to digitally upskill and extend their learning beyond classroom based subjects. Whilst our pupils are lucky to have this opportunity at Penketh, the first state school to open a makerspace, we're pleased to be able to extend these opportunities to the wider Warrington community.

PRIMARY PARTNERS

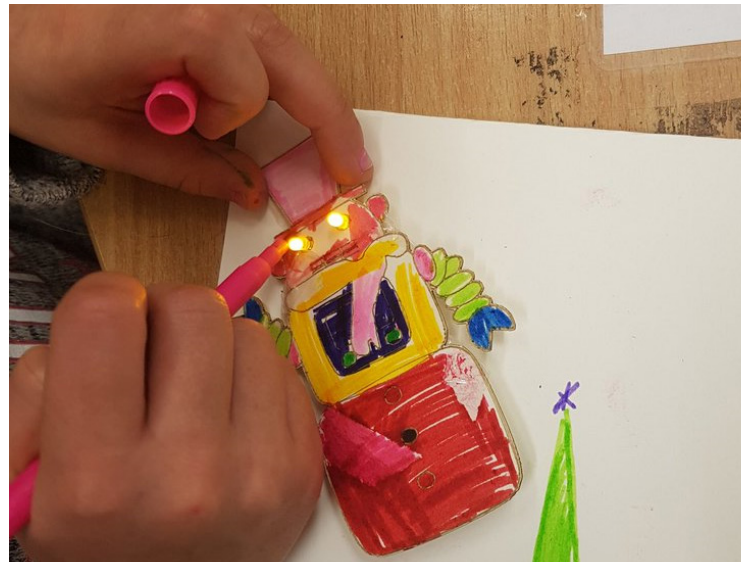
It's always pleasing to be able to work with other local schools and collaborate to provide young people in our community with opportunities to engage in learning. Working with Great Sankey Primary to set up a coding club for their pupils has been very rewarding and well received, with the club being oversubscribed! Work to establish a coding club in another local primary is well underway!

SPARK IN THE CURRICULUM

This year, pupils across Year 7 –10 have been able to access digital upskilling sessions as part of their classroom based learning. For an hour each half term pupils have challenged themselves in engaging with concepts and learning opportunities not offered by traditional classroom based learning. First up this half term was rapid prototyping, with pupils being able to design and then refine a digital product. This focuses on learning characteristics with an emphasis on resilience; getting things wrong but persevering to achieve a goal.

LUNCHTIME ENRICHMENT

The school were keen to be able to offer pupils an enhanced lunchtime experience and access to clubs and enrichment sessions to make this part of the day more productive and engaging. We also have a wide and varied set of skills and talents amongst our staff who were keen to offer enrichment experiences within these areas. Across the first term of the year 54 different enrichment clubs have been available to pupils ranging from Chess Club, Chinese Mandarin and Latin to running club, golf, badminton, debate club, homework club, unity coding club and knitting club amongst many others. There are even more clubs planned for next term and pupils will be able to sign up when they return in January.





PENKETH HIGH SCHOOL

ENTREPRENEURS

Andrew Hibbert, local entrepreneur and owner of Real5 Networking group came in to school to do a talk about becoming an entrepreneur and the journey he has travelled to be a success in Warrington. He invited 4 lucky students to attend his networking event in November. The students eared the the opportunity from posing questions to Andrew which he felt were outstanding with a lot of thought and effort.

Dan, Sophie, Emerson and Weronika represented Penketh High School perfectly. They supported Andrew setting up the event, experienced the business discussions and then circulated asking local entrepreneurs plenty of questions about how to start a business, ups and downs of being an entrepreneur as well as networking to set up work experience. They are all now members of Real5 Networking group and the feedback was astounding; the students are very mature and focused, they are all dedicated to business and their futures. Andrew said " they are a credit to Miss Madden and Penketh High School"



EASYPET BRANDING

Helen Davies, local entrepreneur and Buy It Now celebrity set students an amazing business challenge of creating a slogan or strapline for her brand Easypets.

Helen firstly shared her experiences of setting up in business, the highs and lows, reiterating the point of building resilience and never giving up. Helen went on to share her experience of starring on Buy It Now and how she successfully secured orders for her silicone based children's weaning products.

Helen Davies "I read through all of the submissions. They were real fun to read. I actually went over them twice in case I missed anything, a few stood out as having really grasped the task."

Dan from Year 9 was the overall winner and he was awarded a £50 Odeon voucher. Daniel wrote an excellent "ideal customer" analysis showing a good grasp of the brief, product range and intended audience. The slogan Dan came up with was "Pawsitively Easy Travel" and demonstrated that he had listened to the brief an carefully considered the range aimed at travel solutions for pets.





MARY POPPINS

This term pupils from the school performed our annual production. This year it was Mary Poppins and over 50 pupils contributed to putting on a spectacular show. The quality was exceptional with many of those in the audience commenting on the professionalism and talent of our outstanding young people!

We were also pleased to be able to welcome some local senior citizens to the performance, with a group of pupils providing an afternoon tea service before the show, which included cakes freshly baked by pupils.



REMEMBRANCE

We were honoured to be able to represent our young people at this year's local Remembrance service which commemorated 100 years since the end of the Great War. Pupils from the school were keen to pay respects to those from our local community, as well as those from around the world, who have fallen in conflicts. We are a community school and are proud to be part of this community. We were therefore honoured to be asked to lay a wreath during the service at the cenotaph.

MATHS CLUB

A group of a group of 12 Y11 students were invited to the University of Chester, Warrington Campus to take part in a Maths Club.

Maths Club offers maths support and learning opportunities to improve attainment, confidence and motivation and to help learners attain the best possible grade at GCSE. It's a programme of practical, tried-and-tested maths activities designed to strengthen pupils' understanding of key curricular topics across the ability range (for example fractions, problem-solving, algebra) and enhance their preparation for their GCSE.

DOUBLE SUCCESS

The Year 5/6 boys' football team from Penketh South were winners of an E.S.F.A. Under 11s qualifying competition held at Orford Hub in October. The team were undefeated throughout the competition and did not concede any goals. They will now represent Warrington in the Cheshire county finals in Crewe next term.

Some of the boys were also members of the school's successful basketball team who were winners of a primary schools league competition held at Penketh High School. The team received medals and a trophy to mark their victory. Congratulations to Declan Brown who received an additional trophy for his excellent team work throughout the competition.



SCHOOL ALLOTMENT

Pupils at Penketh South have been busy rejuvenating their school allotment. The hard work started at the end of last year, with some of the school's Year 6 pupils preparing the site before they moved on to high school. Tasks included cleaning the greenhouse, adding extra soil to the vegetable beds and clearing a path to the compost bins.

This term, pupils in Years 2 and 4 have removed large quantities of weeds that had grown over the summer holidays. They have also planted garlic and onion sets and sowed hardy, winter varieties of pea, broad bean and lettuce. The latest task for Year 4 has been to sow some sweet pea seeds in pots in the greenhouse, ready to plant out in the soil when the weather improves in the spring. This should add some much needed colour to the allotment and will be a task for Year 1, who take over the running of the allotment next term.



PENKETH SOUTH COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL



A VISIT TO WARRINGTON MUSEUM

Year 6 visited Warrington Museum to learn about WW1. We had an amazing session as we had to research using army archives to learn about particular soldiers from Warrington. Arthur Goulden was a soldier from Penketh and we researched all about his life from the army records. The children were really interested and loved researching him as he was their local soldier.

We also explored the exhibition and we had to march and learn drills as if we were on parade. We practised many skills the soldiers would be trained in such as putting on the protective wear that they carried round and bandaging their own injuries! We thoroughly enjoyed the workshop.



PRIESTLEY COLLEGE

QUESTIONS FOR HOUSE OF COMMONS LEADER

POLITICS students from Priestley College met the Leader of the House of Commons on Thursday and questioned her on some of the day's big issues.

They enjoyed the Liverpool John Moores Roscoe lecture by Andrea Leadsom called 'The #MeToo wake-up call' but it was afterwards they managed to question her in person.

"We stayed behind in the hall to take some pictures and she came over to answer some questions from us," said former University Academy Warrington pupil Lucy Bretherton, who also studies Economics, Geography and Spanish.

Andrea Leadsom is the Cabinet minister responsible for overseeing the progress of Government legislation, as well as leading on and shaping the major projects of Parliament. Following the #MeToo scandal she secured cross-party consensus to establish an Independent Complaints and Grievance Scheme, and continues to push for further reforms so that everyone in Westminster can be treated with dignity and respect.





ADAM'S MISSION IN KENYA

FOR many teenagers it is the latest blockbuster in the Marvel or Star Wars franchise that gets them excited about film.

Not so for Joel Whitaker whose passion for the movies was sparked by the French New Wave when he was just 14, particularly titles like *Band of Outsiders* by director Jean-Luc Goddard.

It was a love that led to him taking Film Studies at Priestley College and now becoming one of only eight people accepted onto the National Film and Television School's Masters course in Film Studies, Programming and Curation.

"We look at film and film theory and apply that to programming an event such as a festival," said Joel, who is 22.

"The school's links with other institutions provide a great opportunity for the students on the course." Those links include a partnership with the British Film Institute (BFI), which opens doors to extraordinary venues and events such as the Barbican and the London Film Festival.

Part of his course required him to write 200-word review of each film he saw during the festival – no small feat considering he watched dozens of films during the event. His thoughts on one a movie, *Monrovia, Indiana*, were published by independent film review magazine *Dog and Wolf*. The festival experience was essential for Joel and those with whom he has studied as they will be expected to stage a festival of their own at the end of the course. His talent and passion for film was evident at Priestley College where he combined an A-Level in Film Studies with Drama, History, English Literature and the Extended Project.

He secured an A in Film with 100% in his coursework and took home the prize for Film Studies at the college annual awards. He attributes his understanding of how to analyse a film to his time at Priestley. Joel went on to secure a First at the London South Bank University before starting his Masters. One day he hopes to be scheduling the films he loves for a venue such as a cinema.

"I already believe anything is possible if you put yourself in the position to achieve something you dream about doing," he said.

WESTWOOD INTERNSHIP FOR KIRSTY

22 year old Kirsty Owen, an ex student at Priestley College is now working on an internship in London with Vivienne Westwood.

Prior to Priestley, Kirsty attended Padgate High School and whilst at college studied A levels in Maths, Biology, Textiles and Art.

Having completed 2 years studying at Sheffield Hallam University, Kirsty is now spending her placement year working with the famous designer, before returning to university to complete her studies.



Kirsty stressed the importance of having a good relationship with your tutors in college, and explained how they can be very useful when it comes to giving you advice for the future, and helping you achieve your goals.

Kirsty is hoping to apply for a job at Vivienne Westwood after her graduation, and says she is working with an amazing team and thoroughly enjoying each day! We wish Kirsty all the best and hope that her inspiring story puts hope in some of our students' eyes, that with hard work and passion you can do anything! Does fashion interest you? If so maybe you could be working on an internship at Vivienne Westwood in the years to come!



STUDENTS CRITIQUE ANTHOLOGY FOR BBC

STUDENTS from Priestley College were chosen by the BBC to critique the five tales shortlisted for the BBC Short Story Award.

They were given early access to the anthology featuring the shortlisted titles alongside BBC Radio 4 recordings of each story.

Former University Academy Warrington pupil Bryn Mitchell, who studies English Literature, English Language, Media Studies, and Film at Priestley, said: "Our role was to have a critical discussion about the stories, which we recorded and sent back to the BBC.

"It was great to think we were some of the first to read the anthology in its entirety."

Four English Literature students volunteered to take part in the enrichment activity, which saw them read the 137-page anthology in just a week.

They then shared their thoughts in class and the discussions were filmed by the college as further evidence of their contribution. The BBC National Short Story Award with Cambridge University (NSSA) is one of the most prestigious awards for short stories in the UK with previous winners and shortlistees including Hilary Mantel, Zadie Smith, Sarah Hall, Jackie Kay, William Trevor, Rose Tremain and Naomi Alderman.

The shortlist for the thirteenth award was announced on September 14 on BBC Radio 4's 'Front Row'. For the first time students from 40 schools and colleges were invited to take part in the BBC Student Critics' Award with First Story and Cambridge University; an initiative created to encourage 16 to 18-year-olds to read critically and build confidence in expressing opinions.

English Tutor Kristen Ryder, who applied for Priestley students to take part, said it had been a valuable experience.

"What really impressed me was the students read the anthology in their own time and when they came back to discuss it they had clearly put a lot of thought into their critiques," she said.

The short story prize was won by Trinidadian writer Ingrid Persaud (pictured).

SIR THOMAS BOTELER CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL



ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER WINS TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HUGE congratulations to our Assistant Headteacher Mr Leonard for winning the Teacher of the Year Award at the Warrington Guardian Inspiration Awards. We are very proud of him and how he goes above and beyond for all our young people every day.

Mr Leonard said: "It was a surprise to be nominated so it's a surprise to win. For the past four years, I've been doing pastoral care so that's probably where this award has come from because we shape the structures to meet the needs of every student coming from all ranges of backgrounds. I think the pastoral team really need to be recognised for this award because it's all because of their relentless approach to meeting the needs of our students."

Parents said he is a real inspiration to the children he teaches and his approach to teaching is 'the stuff of legends'.

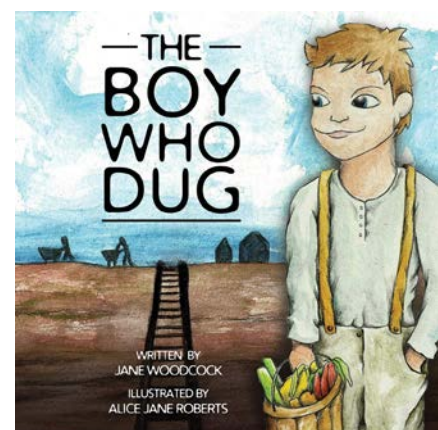


SENIOR ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER RECEIVES CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP QUALIFICATION

Congratulations to Mr Koltan who has been presented with his Catholic Leadership Qualification at Salford Cathedral. Mrs Scott-Herron attended the service and said "we are very proud of Mr Koltan's achievement and it is very well deserved. He has a strong moral compass and his Christian values underpin all aspects of his practice. Our students are very lucky to have him as part of our 'Boteler Family'".

BOTELER DUO PUBLISH CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOK

Two members of staff have teamed up to publish a children's picture book. English Teacher Jane Woodcock has written the story in rhyme, about a young lad leaving home to work on the build of the Manchester Ship Canal. Graphic Designer Alice Roberts has produced all the illustrations and artwork. While this is Alice's 4th children's book to be published, it is a first for Jane and the book aims to present a real celebration of some key northern history. The Amazon description reads: "This is a story that is 36 miles long and took 6 years to create. The ordinary people who built the North of England feature in these colourful pages. Rooted in a desire to provide for family, Davy experiences friendship, hardship, disaster and joy in the pursuit of his dream to build something big. A tale embedded in the earth, this story celebrates the engineering majesty of the industrial revolution and upraises the unknown champions who enabled it."





STUDENTS LEAD WORSHIP AT DIOCESE CONFERENCE

Students from Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England Worship Group led Collective Worship at the Chester Diocese Headteacher and Senior Leaders' Conference on the 23rd November. Headteacher Mrs Scott-Herron says: The students were so inspirational and moved the congregation to tears through their singing. We are very proud of them."



AN EVENING WITH THE OLD BOYS

On Friday 9th November, Mrs Scott-Herron, Head Boy Josh Gosney and Head Girl Lois Smith attended the annual dinner for the Boteler Old Boys. An evening steeped in history, stories and memories which we must preserve.



SIR THOMAS BOTELER CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL



OUR REMEMBRANCE SERVICE - LEST WE FORGET

We held our annual Remembrance Service on Friday 9th November. The service was attended by the 'Boteler Old Boys', some now retired, and others from the services, along with other past students and Deputy Mayor Cllr Wendy Johnson. The school was also privileged to be joined by students from St Barnabas CE primary and St Elphin's CE primary school on this important occasion. In the service, led by Revd. Stewart McTaggart, the school community remembered many of the 'Old Boys' who fought in past wars and current conflicts. Boteler's Student Leadership Body took responsibility for many of the readings and prayers.

To commemorate the men and women who served and fought for us, Head of Art Sam Joice designed a new section to the school's Peace Garden, and along with Graphic Designer Alice Roberts, painted two giant 'shadows' of a land girl and soldier. The area was also decorated with metal poppies and plants. The poppy dress which Sam Joice created last year, made from over 500 individual poppies made by students across all year groups, again made an appearance being worn by Year 11 student Jess Smith.

Many students attended the service, and the young people who are members of uniformed organisations attended in their appropriate attire. Moving performances were given by Year 11 student Emily Bull, school worship group Sounds From Above, and a further group of students who sang In Flanders Field.





The **TCAT**



Choir

**FOR SINGERS FROM ALL
THE TCAT SCHOOLS**

RUNNING ON SPECIFIED WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS

**2-4PM AT SIR THOMAS
BOTELER CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH
SCHOOL IN THE MUSIC ROOM.**

**FIRST 2 REHEARSAL DATES:
JANUARY 16TH 2019 AND
FEBRUARY 13TH 2019.**

ACLARKE@BOTELER.ORG.UK FOR MORE DETAILS

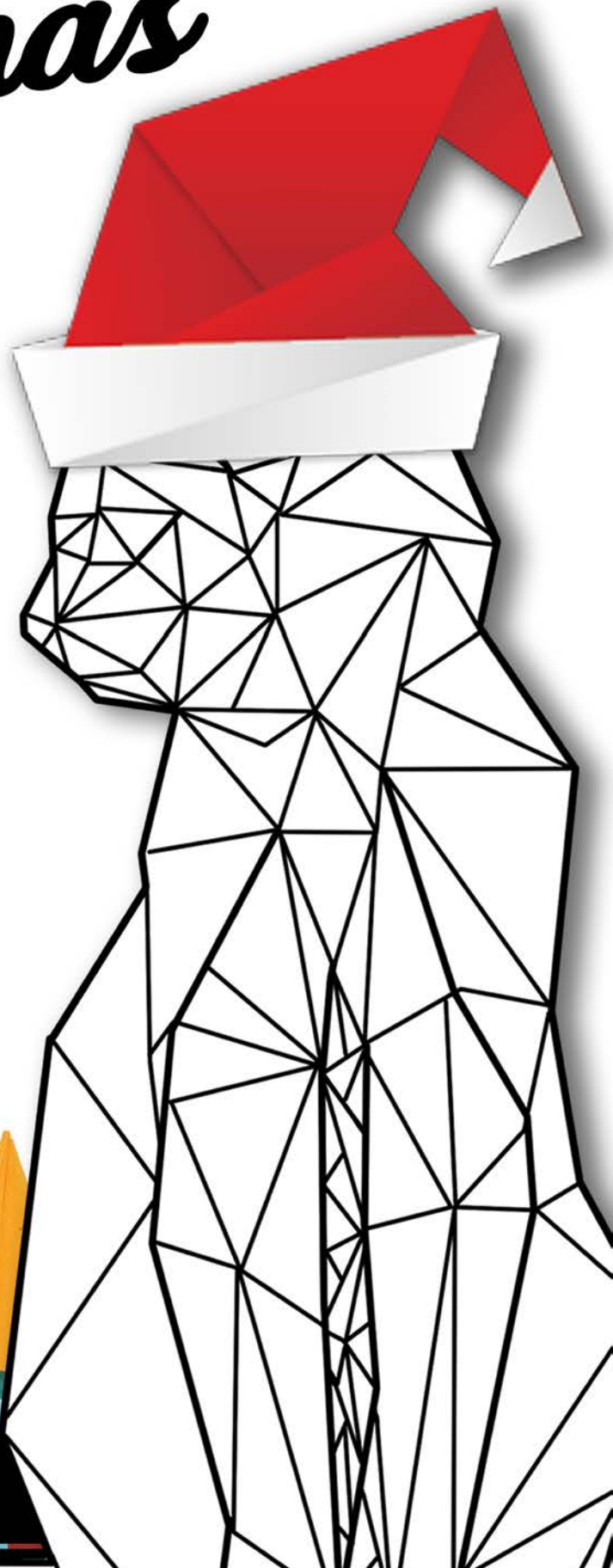
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**SIR THOMAS BOTELER
CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL**

Merry Christmas

FROM ALL THE
STUDENTS
AND **STAFF**
ACROSS ALL THE
TCAT SCHOOLS



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