

A U T U M N 2 0 2 2

NEWSLETTER

BASTON
House School



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MESSAGE FROM THE INTERIM HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fantastic Autumn 2 Term we have had! From the London Excel Careers event to visits such as Ikea, rock wall climbing, Pizza Express and even the local church, our pupils have continued to build confidence, contribute to our community and achieve both inside and outside of the classroom. Some excellent learning has been taking place and we are very proud of everyone's achievements.

A special thanks to you all, and our dedicated staff, for your understanding, help and support during the plummeting temperatures, snow and ice this term. It has been a real team effort, with everyone working together and playing their part to keep our school community warm and safe. The school looked truly magical in its sheet of white snow, and staff and pupils enjoyed making snow angels on the field.

On the theme of festive fun, Thursday afternoon saw the much-awaited Baston House School Christmas Performance. I was upset to have been required at an offsite course but I did get a sneak peek in rehearsal! Well done to all children who contributed, either individually or as a collective, and a huge thank you to Ms Opoku-Adjei and Ms Oldman for putting together such a wonderful show.

Opportunities to support local and national charities have been ongoing this term, including Children in Need, Christmas Jumper day and DofE Christmas food parcels being delivered to local food banks. It is such a pleasure to see how our pupils engage in these events with pure respect and empathy.

Next term brings an overabundance of exciting opportunities for pupils including offsite visits, DofE overnight stays and 'joy moments' in each subject which have been specifically planned by the teaching teams. We also have a great opportunity to welcome you at our next Parents' Evening, which takes place on 2nd February 2023. We plan to offer a hybrid evening as we did before.

Lastly, I want to say a huge thank you for your continued support of the school and staff here. Recruitment has been a key focus this term and I am incredibly proud of the way pupils and staff have welcomed the many new members of our team. Wishing you and your families a very 'Merry Christmas', a happy holiday and a peaceful New Year.

Mrs Gibbs
Interim Headteacher

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APPLEGATE CLASS REWARD TRIP



As a reward trip, Applegate class took a trip to Biggin Hill War Museum.

It was such a fun experience: we got to dress up in the different uniforms, go on a hunt for answers to questions and even got to light a candle to pay respect to fallen soldiers/family members.

We then celebrated with a McDonalds.

It was a lovely day out to celebrate the hard work of the whole class.

- MISS WOODHEAD
Applegate Form tutor

REMEMBRANCE – HAYES VILLAGE CHURCH



On 14th November, several Baston House students took a walk to our lovely local village church, where we were met by a lovely lady who took us inside the church for a story behind remembrance.

Students had the opportunity to lay their wreaths outside on the memorial Column.

It was wonderful to see some of our students laying their wreath and taking a bow to show their respect.

Having connections with the school's local parish church is a nice way to introduce our school to the community.

The church were delighted to support our students and look forward to our next visit.

- Mrs Sweeting

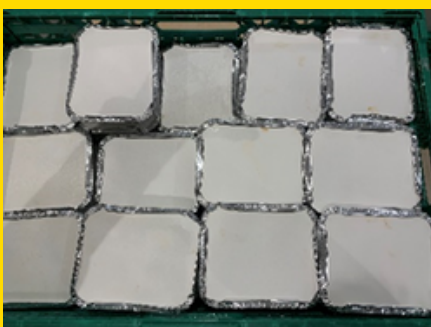
Travel Training and out in the Community



Last term students, parents and staff donated hundreds of cans of food, some of which were kindly given to Nightwatch, a charity for the homeless.

This term key stage 4 and 5 BTEC home Cooking Skills students made a vegetable chilli, using the cans donated and it was served to the homeless on Monday 5th December.

I received so many words of praise from our clients saying how delicious the meal was. Many wanted seconds, but sadly there wasn't enough and assured them we would make it again for them in the Spring.



- Mrs Stack
Food Technology

CLINICAL TEAM COMMUNICATION SESSIONS



The Clinical team took some students for a festive trip to Bromley Christmas market for some Christmas fun as part of our Social communications sessions. One of our pupils was daring enough to take a ride on the helter skelter. As part of our social communication sessions we encourage pupils to communicate and engage with members of the public in our wider community. We gave pupils the task to talk to stall holders in the market to be able to express what they would like to take part in or what they would like to eat.

Our pupils delivered and were able to achieve their mission such as our daredevil on the helter skelter who was able to communicate to the ride worker that he would like two goes on the helter skelter. He paid for it himself and followed it up by thanking him for the wild ride afterwards! Other pupils also ordered themselves some yummy festive food whilst another asked and paid independently for a go on the darts stall game winning himself a husky teddy bear!

The festivities were enjoyed by all and we had a great afternoon!



Clinical Team

TRAVEL TRAINERS OUT IN THE COMMUNITY CROMPTON CLASS

This term, Crompton class have been 'out in the community' along with using their travel training skills. Students have enjoyed being out as a whole class group and are developing their skills and awareness when travelling on public transport and generally enjoying being out in the community with their class peers.

Crompton Travel trainers have visited different supermarkets, understanding of the different aisles and produce along with using the self-checkouts independently.

We have used different modes of transport from buses to trains, understanding the safest place to stand on a platform and making sure we use our Oyster cards correctly.

While being 'out in the community', Crompton class have been to different café's and had time around a table for social interaction as a group. This time has been extremely rewarding to see the students have good social communication.

Well done Crompton class, this has been very rewarding and it is a valuable experience for you all as a group.

The students exciting journeys always began with a road safety talk, understanding the safest place to cross and how to keep safe near the busy roads.

Students top tips for road crossing-
"Always put away your mobile phone when crossing/walking to keep fully alert of your surroundings".

"Never go between parked cars to cross the road"

" Look towards oncoming traffic. NEVER assume the drivers have seen you"

Out in the community

All travel trainers have or are developing awareness of being 'out in the community' along with skills and confidence to use various local services eg. Small shops, banks and building societies, understanding of supermarket self-checkouts.

A little work on budgeting needed but that means more fun trips.

All students showed good behaviour on their trips and it was rewarding to see them socialise together, with some good conversations and having fun.

- Mrs Sweeting

Travel Training and out in the Community



TRAVEL TRAINERS OUT IN THE COMMUNITY CHURCHILL CLASS

Over the past term, some Churchill students have been practising regular local journeys to understand the routes ready for independent travel.

Although some students travel independently, this is good practice to become familiar with different destinations and to be 'out in the community' with class peers along with road safety, use of mobile phones when travelling and budgeting our money.

Churchill travellers have had different café visits along with the favourite destination Costa Coffee, where nice hot chocolates have been consumed as well as milkshakes, mocca and chocolate cake. It's always nice to enjoy a well deserved travel training special treat.

During these experiences we always practice our conversation skills and make sure we budget our money. It's important to understand the value of items and to make sure we don't overspend.

Through our travel training, sixth form classes have looked at different shops, from Turkish supermarkets, looking at the amazing and different produce and charity shops. One student explored the charity shop and purchased a book for a family member.

Looking forward to lots more outings Churchill students!!



- Mrs Sweeting
Travel Training and Out in the Community

INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILLS WILLOW CLASS



Over the past term, Willow class have been looking at how you can support yourself with basic home life skills.

Willow have been practising some useful skills that can help them to support themselves independently around the home from using the washing machine to ironing clothing safely.

Students have practised and used their skills following a step-by-step guide from Mrs Sweeting on how to use the iron safely and how to iron certain clothing garments using the correct temperature to get the best results.

The best way for student beginners is to practice with a smooth square pillowcase to give them a feel of using the iron.

Willow class have now practised ironing T Shirts and are beginning to look at tailored shirts.

Amazing Willow class have been very focused and have showed some excellent life skills.

Well Done!

- Mrs Sweeting
Travel Training and Out in the Community

ART DEPARTMENT NEWS



The Art department has been buzzing and busy the whole year, from spring to winter. Students across the school have been very creative using a vast and varied variety of materials, techniques, and process.

Display for outstanding work is now in the achievement corridor and in the school gallery space . I am currently building a school blog to promote students work which will hopefully be live in the new year it will be regularly updated with what's going on in the art department, students work and competitions. Here are some images of the amazing work that was produced this year.

Have a wonderful holiday!



- Mrs Mitchell
Art

MOCK EXAMS – NOVEMBER 2022

We would like to take this opportunity to say how proud we are of the pupils who undertook mock exams this half term. We know this can be a worrying and challenging time, but the pupils have shown incredible resilience and displayed such a positive attitude in doing their best.

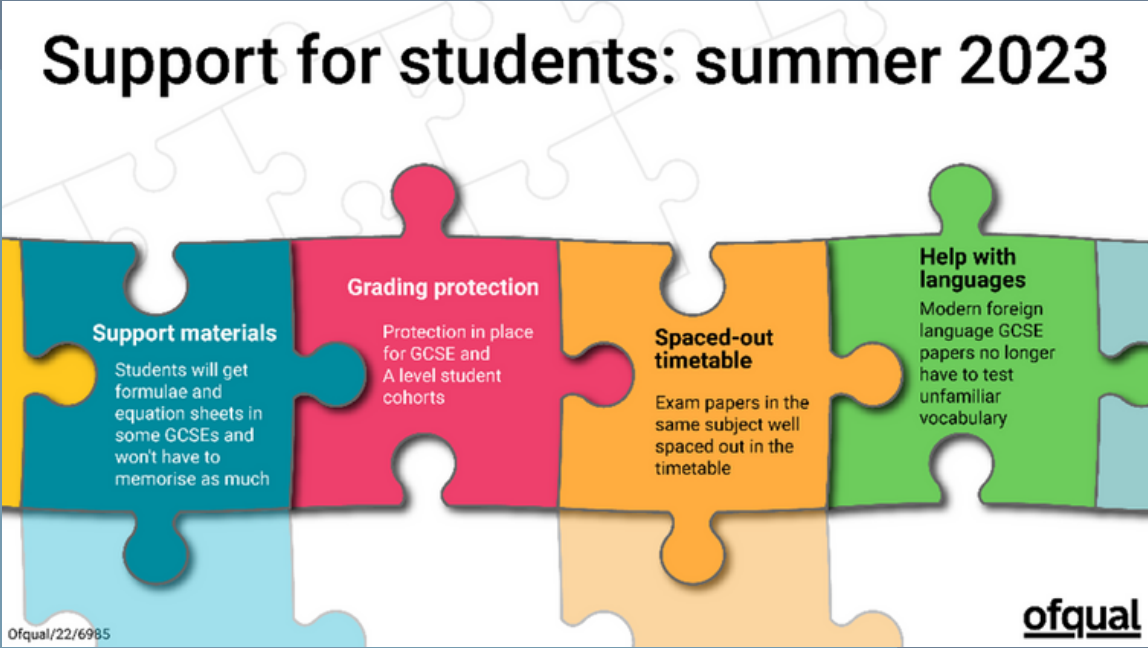
Please find below some information from the Chief Regulator of Ofqual, Dr Jo Saxton, PhD,
Information for students and parents/ carers:

Dear student,

You have shown so much resilience during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and continue to do so as we move towards normality as a country.

As Chief Regulator my job is to make sure that the exams and formal assessments you take are as fair as they can be, setting you up for the right opportunities in the next stages of your education, employment and life.

I've listened to students who were taking their qualifications in the summer of 2022 and the arrangements for 2023 have been made very much with that feedback, and your best and long-term interests, in mind. Below you will find a summary of what we are doing to support you in your forthcoming exams and assessments.



Support for students: summer 2023

- Support materials**
Students will get formulae and equation sheets in some GCSEs and won't have to memorise as much
- Grading protection**
Protection in place for GCSE and A level student cohorts
- Spaced-out timetable**
Exam papers in the same subject well spaced out in the timetable
- Help with languages**
Modern foreign language GCSE papers no longer have to test unfamiliar vocabulary

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CONTINUED MOCK EXAMS



Arrangements for GCSEs, AS and A levels in 2023:

Formulae and equation sheets will be given in GCSE maths, and combined science exams, so students do not need to memorise as much.

Exam boards have also set aside 'contingency days' in the exam timetable. These days would be used in the unlikely event that exams had to be moved because they could not take place when planned. These are the afternoons of 8 and 15 June, and on 28 June, so students need to be available.

Contingency arrangements:

Ofqual has provided guidance for teachers so that they can save evidence of student performance. This evidence would only be used to determine Teacher Assessed Grades in the very unlikely event that exams could not go ahead.

Schools and colleges have been told that evidence should come from the mock exams that students normally take. Teachers should let students know when they are taking assessments that could be used, but students should just approach them as they normally would.

Vocational and Technical Qualifications:

For vocational and technical qualifications (VTQs) taken in schools and colleges, there will be a return to normal standards. To help students feel prepared in taking assessments Ofqual has put together resources for students.

Student guide:

Ofqual will also be publishing a Student Guide in the spring term, with all the information students need on exams and assessments in 2023. You will find this on the Ofqual website.

Everyone at Ofqual joins me in congratulating you on the commitment to your studies you have shown so far, and to wishing the very best for your qualifications as we head in to 2023.

With best wishes,

- Mrs Lee
Exams Officer

BROOK VISIT TO SCHOOL



On Thursday 8th December 2022 the charity Brook visited school to deliver some sessions to our students.

The first session was with our Year 6 students and was a session on puberty. The students engaged in the session really well and discussed the topics very sensibly.

The next two sessions were with our KS3 students and explored the area of Online Safety. Both groups participated well.

- Mrs Johnson
Designated Mental Health Lead

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Another busy term in English is coming to an end. As I write this locked away on the top floor of the main building, the skies are a cold blue above the snow-capped trees of Hayes Common. Very festive, if bitterly cold.

I've just been reading through the entries for the 100 word Integer short story completion. There are some really entertaining and unique short tales and I'm reassured that the furtive imagination is still alive and well in the minds of our students!

English has had a term of consolidation with the addition of Ms Killgren and Ms Woodhead to the team. They've both hit the ground running and have quickly built strong and positive relations with their students. They join a fantastic team that works hard to offer a rich and engaging curriculum that is both accessible and challenging for all students.

Our library has moved! The original location was far from perfect, and our library elves are working hard to set up our new room in Gould Building. Very exciting!

It has been a long year of extreme temperatures and I sincerely hope that you all have the opportunity to relax and enjoy the impending festive holiday. The English team thanks you for all your continued support and wishes you a safe and happy Christmas!

PS don't forget to encourage the students to read. Those reading muscles need regular exercise or they'll get flabby and weak.

- Mr Hebden
Head of English

MATHS DEPARTMENT

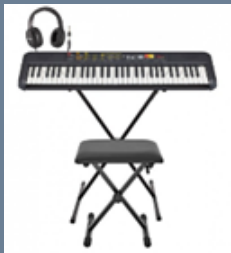
The Maths Department are proud of our students who sat their mocks this term and would like to thank families for your continued support. We are also very pleased with how the KS2 and KS3 students have embraced learning maths especially using manipulatives to support their understanding and build skills.

We have chosen a student from each key stage to receive the £20.00 voucher Maths Award for this term. We hope the winners enjoy spending their voucher!



We also wish you all season greetings and happy New Year.

CREATIVE ARTS FACULTY



Music – Two student pianists in KS4 and KS5 were able to demonstrate keyboard skills and reading music to an accredited standard to pass Grade 1 Rock and Pop exams, this term. Well done!

Performing Arts – Tutor groups in KS2 and KS3 have shown their initiative and developed imaginative adaptations of short stories for our Christmas Production this year. Other student roles are, photography, sound engineering, lighting operator, face painting, as well as the usual back stage, preparations.



Crompton Tutor group would like to thank Mrs Sweeting for travel training sessions, this term. This is empowering students to develop more confidence and independence while out in the community.

- Mrs Neufville-Bennett
Stats and Creative Lead



We have started our external Careers Advisor interviews with the students in year 7 and above. This year the interviews are back in school, face to face with myself and Alistair Sterling. The students ask relevant questions about what is on offer to them from their career choices and how to achieve it. This maintains our commitment to deliver the career guidance, information, advice and support to our students.

Educational visits have been busy for all the students, going to many interesting places. Recently, a small group went to the Excel centre to attend the 'Skills for London'. This proved to be a full day, packed with information to help all with their career choices. Work experience has continued, with more students finding their own settings. The employers have been mindful and helpful to our students from Charity shops to Bromley Football Club. It has all led to fantastic life skills for the students.

We have also made new friends in the community, St Mary the Virgin church, Hayes village. We were invited as a whole school to attend a Christmas Carol service, which was an absolute delight! The students that attended sang with Reverend Amanda and listened to her Christmas message. I am sure the staff that attended were all very proud of our Baston House school students.

Our students also volunteered for the 'Maypole project', by carol singing in the Glades in Bromley. All sung beautifully and helped to raise money for this Charity. We are ready to have an amazing Spring term 2023, with lots of new projects happening.

I wish you all a very happy Christmas and new year!

- Mrs Martineaux
Careers and Work Experience

FRAMPTON CLASS REWARD



As the chill sets in the air, Frampton don their war paint and guns to fight it out amidst graves, barracks and even in gravity defying floating shacks. The boys fought hard against each other, and their teachers to see who would come out victorious in this vicious war! Each student and staff member had a unique skill set and strategy for taking down their enemies. They pulled out all the moves, almost bumping into walls, slinking across the floor and hiding in plain sight.

Frampton staff and students had a fabulous time at VR N3XT in Bromley, a unique and immersive gaming experience, that they had worked so hard for in Autumn term. We were delighted to have the opportunity and experience to bond as a tutor group and reward the students on their good behaviour and hard work.

What better way is there to spend a frosty Friday afternoon than sweating it out playing VR games with your team? We have brought back lots of leaflets to put in reception at Baston, so if you fancy taking a trip down with your friends or family – pick one up.

- Miss Shaw
Frampton Form Tutor

IMPORTANT DATES



Wednesday 21st December to Tuesday 3rd January - Christmas Break

Wednesday 4th January - Spring Term 1 Commences

Tuesday 10th January - Coffee Morning and Parent Workshop

Thursday 2nd February - Parents Evening

Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February - Half Term

Monday 20th February - Spring Term 2 Commences

Thursday 2nd March - World Book Day

Thursday 9th March - Careers Fair

Monday 20th March to Friday 24th March - Mock Exam Week

Thursday 23rd March - Options Evening KS4 & KS5

Friday 31st March - Baston's Got Talent

Monday 3rd April to Monday 17th April - Easter Break

Tuesday 18th April - Summer Term 1 Commences

Tuesday 25th April - Coffee Morning

Monday 1st May - Exam Season Starts

Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June - Half Term

Monday 5th June - Summer Term 2 Commences

Friday 23rd June - Exam Season Ends

Wednesday 5th July - Sports Day

Monday 10th July - Transition Weeks Begin

Friday 14th July - Summer BBQ

Wednesday 19th July - Leavers Assembly

Friday 21st July - End of Academic Year