

SUMMER 2023 NEWSLETTER

BASTON
House School



INDEX

- 1 Headteachers message
- 2 Morley Farm Trip
- 3 Exams and Applegate Class Reward Trip
- 4 KS3 English
- 5 Bushcraft Trip
- 6 - 9 DT
- 10 Careers and Work Experience / Duke of Edinburgh
- 11 Lille Trip
- 12 Sports Day
- 13 Baston's Got Talent
- 14 English / Maths
- 15 School Uniform
- 16 Key Dates



What an amazing year! I have absolutely loved my first term and half at Baston House and can't quite believe so much has been fitted into such a short space of time. I have been so impressed with the students, staff and parents since I joined and have been really pleased to be welcomed into the Baston House family.

I thoroughly enjoyed my first Baston Sports Day; the students were so impressive in their determination to succeed but also in their kindness to and support of one another. In my individual running race against Martha, I was left for dust as she rocketed to the finish line. Thank you to all parents who were able to support their children at the event. I look forward to many more Sports Days to come!

We have had several trips across the summer term including 2 residential trips; students have travelled to Penshurst to take part in a Bushcraft camp and to Lille in France. Read all about the trips later in the newsletter; staff and students had an amazing time and achieved many firsts! We also have had several students who have taken part in the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme. This has involved many hours under canvas. Many of the D of E students have achieved bronze and silver awards. Thank you to Colin and his team for making this happen. There were a few sore feet along the way!

One of the absolute highlights this year has been the successful introduction of our hot meal service. Radica and Irene have transformed the pavilion into a buzzy cafeteria space, which is loved by students and staff alike. It has been delightful to see students chatting with one another across the dining tables, experiencing new flavours and improving their conversational skills.

Well done to the Baston catering team!

We say goodbye to several students this week as they come to the end of their journey at Baston. We wish them the best of luck as they embark upon college, training and their future careers. I know that they will have a successful future ahead of them.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the summer barbecue on Friday and I wish you all a fabulous summer break!

Rachel Martin - Headteacher



MORLEY FARM TRIP



On Wednesday 21st June Ben, Mason and Johnny-Lee went on a Motorbiking Trip to Morley Farm hosted by Bromley Beacon Academy. The boys have been working extremely hard in college as part of their options. During their course they have been learning all about motorbikes, including fixing and repairing them so this was their opportunity to ride a bike that they had fixed.

Erin and Helen accompanied the boys on their trip and the first stop was College to pick up the bikes and safety equipment. Curtis, the instructor from Bromley Beacon Academy helped the boys in getting all their safety equipment. Curtis told the boys that the cupboard needed to be as tidy as they found it otherwise, they would not be able to head off. Sure enough, they left the cupboard in pristine condition. The boys helped to load up the college van with the bikes. They did an excellent job.



Once at the farm, the boys were incredibly excited to finally burn some rubber and reap their rewards. They took it in turns to ride around 'The Peanut Track'. The boys learnt how to safely ride a motorbike, stop and change gears. After a couple of hours, it was time to go but not before Johnny-Lee and Ben had the chance to drive around the 'Forest Path' lead by Curtis. The boys drove around the peaks and troughs of the muddy dirt track, and it was a great way to round up the day. Mason, Ben and Johnny-Lee made sure to help Curtis load the van back up and tidy any rubbish. Each student was very respectful of their surroundings and listened carefully to Curtis, Helen and Erin's instructions.



Everyone was exhausted from the adrenaline rush of the day. It is safe to say that no one would forget their first experience riding a bike that day. We hope that the boys are able to continue this passion in the future.

- Mrs H Stack
Miss E Casey

EXAMS

Firstly, we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all pupils for their hard work and positive approach to exams during the Summer series. We have certainly been very impressed with how the pupils conducted themselves and pushed through any barriers that may have arose.

A reminder that the Summer 2023 examination results will be available on:

- 17th August 2023 – Functional Skills & BTEC Level 3 results day between 9-12pm
- 24th August 2023– GCSE, Entry Level, BTEC Level 1/2 and Technical Award results day between 9-12pm

The awarding bodies will provide certificates for qualifications sat this academic year in the Autumn term. These will be collated and posted to your home address.

I hope all the pupils are ready for a well-earned rest now exams are over and once again, well done to each and every pupil in Year 11 and above.

- Mrs E Lee

Exams Officer

APPLEGATE REWARD



Applegate had an amazing time on their reward trip on Wednesday 5th July. We went to Bromley on the bus: had fun in the park; played games in the arcade; completed a game of bowling, taking turns and enjoyed McDonalds and an ice cream to finish.

Applegate have really tried hard this year and we wanted to celebrate the hard work that they have achieved.

- Miss J Woodhead

Applegate Form Tutor

KS3 ENGLISH



Chips are potatoes
Both skinny and chunky
Don't ruin with vinegar
Ketchup's the winner

KS3 English students have yet again been amazing writers this year. This time, it was a competition about the Power of Poetry where the children could write about something they liked, disliked or wanted to change. There were a variety of poems created and it is absolutely fantastic that pupils work is being published in a book 😊 Well done to all involved and we are really proud of them! Please find some of the poems that will be in the book too.

Fun fantastic game
Overtime
One shot
Tackling
Best
Amazing
Loud
Laughing

The world is changing
Something is happening
I don't know why
But it needs to stop
Constant additions
To this broken world
People by people
Year by year
This world
Is falling apart
So its time to stand
No longer fear
Raise you hands
And do something
About your planet

It's super excellent at helping each
other
Giving them medical
Medicine and helping the people
who need it
I help all the homeless people
Get a job and find a family
Finding the new clothes to wear.
Making the homeless a steak for
dinner
It makes me happy and excited
To be able to help other people.

They have been through a lot
Russia have tied Ukraine in a knot.

How they cope
Is with their hope

Even though they are stuck in a
rope

All the countries have hope

Ukraine has been through pain
But Russia has no brain
So it means Ukraine will reign

War is poor
And there is so much gore

But as long as war is here
We won't cheer.

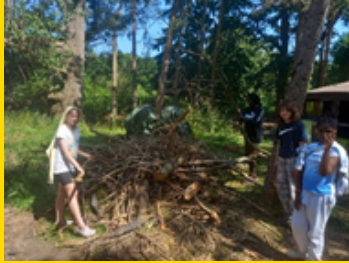
Ukraine will pull through
Against the big bull!

Here is a story,
Let's say you went to a new school
It's a new chapter for this school.
You know what job you want to be when your
older
But students laugh at you because it's
embarrassing
You feel down
Like you're in a maze you can't get out
But keep on trying
Eventually you get out of the maze
That is pushing you away from your
achievement
Don't give up
Fight for it
Put effort on it -
Then you make it.

Miss J Woodhead
English

BUSHCRAFT TRIP - LIFE IN THE WILD

BASTON
House School



Giving pupils extremely sharp knives and also encouraging them to light fires isn't something that happens at Baston House School; however, during a glorious trip to a Kentish forest, it was the order of the day!

On the 15th and 16th of June, a group of pupils and members of staff travelled by coach to Penshurst Place, where they were greeted by staff of The Bushcraft Company and taken to a clearing amongst the pine trees. Home for the next two days were traditional canvas bell tents and everyone was soon making themselves comfortable and exploring their surroundings. The weather was absolutely perfect, warm and sunny, and the instructors were soon engaging the pupils in all manner of outdoor survival techniques. Students were shown the safe way to use knives and then, under close supervision, had to sharpen thick sticks, which would have made excellent tent pegs.

Lighting fires using traditional methods can be very tricky (no matches or lighters were allowed!) but once again, the instructors demonstrated the best method to get the kindling going. Marshmallows warmed on sticks over the fire was an added treat!

The instructors soon had burgers, both veggie and beef, sizzling on a grill over an open fire and they were top quality and absolutely delicious – even those more used to burgers from the 'Golden Arches' were impressed, high praise indeed!

Building shelters was also on the agenda, so everyone went to a different part of the forest and set about constructing something suitable from branches, twigs and leaves. The shelters differed considerably in design but everyone tried their best, which was great to see but I personally think that the masterpiece that Kade and I constructed (surely a contender for the TV show 'Grand Designs!') was the best!

Not everyone relished the thought of sleeping under canvas, with some wanting to stay up chatting, despite the curfew. The camp eventually quietened down and everyone had at least a few hours sleep; me, I slept under the stars! The second day was equally enjoyable, with fantastic weather and several members of staff received a welcome dousing, when the shelters were put to the test using a few gallons of cold water! All the food served was of a high quality and nobody went hungry, thanks to the on-site kitchen. It was absolutely wonderful to see everyone getting stuck in and I'm sure that any future Bushcraft trips will be very popular indeed.

- Mr G Allen
Painting and Decorating Teacher

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

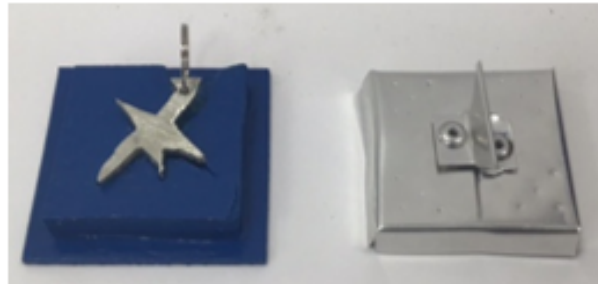
KS1 Creative crafts - One of the projects was to create an electronic flashing keyring. Learning about a basic circuit, LED's, drilling holes and adding an image. Another project was designing and making a chair for a teddy bear and testing the size and strength.



Key Stage 3

Year 7 - Pewter Casting with Aluminium presentation box

The students developed their knowledge of metals and manufactured boards and created a pewter keyring and aluminium presentation box. They learnt how to create templates and moulds and used a metal casting process to manufacture the keyring. They used a range of equipment and processes and produced these lovely products.



Year 7 – Clocks

Manufactured using CAD/CAM for the clock face and then using a mixture of spray painting and hand painting for the finish. The base was shaped using the belt sander. The outcomes look amazing.



DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY cont..

Year 8 – Picture Frames

Students used a corner lap joint to create their picture frame and used nuts and bolts to assemble the other parts of the frame. They even added a stand made from dowel rod. The frame was painted, and CAD/CAM was used for the decorative parts on the front of the frame. I'm sure you'll agree they look very professional.



Year 8 – Door Plaques

These were drawn in a CAD program and the parts cut out on a laser cutter. Students then assembled the parts and added various decorative finishes. Testing the products on a door.



Year 9 – Wooden Box and coasters

Students created a box using timber joints which they varnished to ensure it was waterproof. The coasters were painted on the back and the fronts were created using decoupage and varnished too. Some examples of these can be seen below. They look fantastic.



DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY cont..

DT Club – students can attend twice a week during lunch times. They can work on an individual project of their choice. One student decided to create a clock based on the Pixar lamp and another student created a Captain America shield.



NCFE Level 1 Award in Creative Crafts



The students worked hard designing and manufacturing products for their coursework.

The Brief was to Design and Manufacture a product to solve the issue many people have of storing small items/objects that was inspired by Art Deco. They used numerous tools, equipment, machinery and CAD/CAM (Computer Aided Design/Computer Aided Manufacture) in their creations and the results are stunning.

They also produced a power point to go alongside their products to show how they designed, modelled and manufactured it.



DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY cont..

NCFE Level 2 Award in Creative Crafts

The students worked hard designing and manufacturing products for their coursework. The Brief was to Design and Manufacture a side table that was inspired by the Memphis Design Movement. The side tables were manufactured using mainly CAD/CAM (Computer Aided Design/Computer Aided Manufacture) and the results speak for themselves. They also produced a power point to go alongside their products to show how they designed, modelled and manufactured it.



- Mrs S Sawkins
DT Teacher

CAREERS AND WORK EXPERIENCE

Summer term has been a busy one for us all! Work experience has taken many students out in the community looking at businesses and talking with employers.

Year 10 and above had many different opportunities for work experience. Some have been able to do work experience within the school. Some have taken part doing gardening in the community and some have undertaken work experience with local businesses. All of which have given the students an understanding of the wider world.

Educational visits have been ongoing. We have had a recent trip to Lille, France with Key stages 4 and 5. The students had a chance to look at a different culture and develop their sense for travel. In the next academic year we want to network with new employers and create more opportunities for our students. If you have a family member or know of a placement that would suit our students for work experience, please contact me at school and this can then be researched and developed.

Thank you for all the support!

- Mrs E Martineaux
Careers and Work Experience

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Bronze Award: Sean, William, Johnny-Lee, William, Aaron, Miles, Cori, Brandon and Sanuka

All the students have successfully completed the Expedition element of the Bronze Award completing a 2-day 1 night camping assessment with flying colours.

Silver Award : Ben, Charlie, Daniel, Lucy, Harry and Callum

All the students have successfully completed the Expedition element of the Silver Award completing a 3-day 2-night camp with flying colours.

Well done everyone. Thank you to the parents for your support.

- Mr C Drew
Duke of Edinburgh Leader

LILLE TRIP



Bonjour, on Wednesday 5th July a group of KS4&5 students and staff met very early in the morning at school and boarded a coach for our adventure to Lille, France. We travelled to Dover where we boarded the ferry for the short hop across the Channel. Once we had arrived in Lille, we took a stroll through the town and made our way to the Palais des Beaux-Arts. Here we got the chance to immerse ourselves in a truly first rate collection of 15th - 20th century paintings and sculptures. From here we made our way to our accommodation where we enjoyed a meal together before having time in the evening to relax and unwind before turning in for the evening.

Thursday started with a continental breakfast including freshly baked croissants and pain au chocolate. We then made our way to Les Halles de Wazemmes which is a lively covered market where we got the chance to practise our French whilst purchasing souvenirs. After the hustle and bustle of the market we made a visit to Lille Zoo. We spent a few hours meandering around the zoo looking at the collection of animals. We saw red pandas, rhinos, and a range of different primates. The favourite among some of the students was the sloth.

After lunch we made our way to La Couple, a World War 2 bunker built to store and launch V2 rockets. It is now a history centre explaining the history of the V2 rocket and a site of remembrance for all those who lost their lives during the war. From here we had a short journey to Cité Europe where we had the chance for some last minute shopping before heading to Calais to get our ferry back to England.

All the students enjoyed engaging with the French culture and were well behaved during the trip. Thank you to all those who made the trip a success and to all the students who came. It was a great trip enjoyed by all.

Merci beaucoup and au revoir.

- Lille Team

SPORTS DAY



On Wednesday 12th July, students from every Key Stage made their own way down to Norman Park Athletics area for their Annual Sports Day. Students got to experience a wide range of athletic events around the arena from sprints, long jumps, high jumps, shot put, discus, javelin, and hammer throw. It was inspiring to see the whole school community coming together for what is rapidly becoming a highlight of the school calendar.

It was wonderful to see students pushing themselves to achieve a personal best whilst cheering on and supporting their peers. Staff were very proud of each student's efforts and achievements. This year we were lucky enough to see a staff race, which saw some highly athletic and enthusiastic sprinting, much to the delight of the watching crowd. Parents also joined in, and the cheers of the spectators are probably still echoing in their ears. Even the occasional brief shower failed to dampen the spirits of the day. By early afternoon, the athletes returned to school, tired but happy, the air buzzing with tales and accounts of athletic prowess and achievement.

We couldn't be prouder. Thanks to everyone – staff, students, and parents – who made it such a memorable day!

- Sports Day Team

BASTON'S GOT TALENT

Some of our very talented students took part in our annual Baston's Got Talent show at the end of last term. Not only was this a huge step for some (being their first time EVER performing in front of an audience), but it was also a fantastic achievement for all of the students who took part in the show and those who helped out behind the scenes.

We had some up-and-coming comedians, some fabulous singers, and some extremely hardworking and talented musicians. A big audience of students and staff attended the event as well as a special panel of 'judges' and a great afternoon was had by all!



- Miss K Oldman
Music Teacher

CLINICAL TEAM

2 Opal students had a fantastic bike riding trip this term! They recently learnt to ride a bike as part of their occupational therapy provision, so we went to Norman Park to practise their new skills.

The Community Hub at Norman Park has a free bike hire service, so the students were able to try out different bikes and choose the one they wanted. They had a go at cycling on the grass and cycling on the path and had lots of fun, well done!

- Clinical Team





Hello and greetings from Team English.

There's always a strange vibe to this time of year. A bit like that week between Christmas and New Year, part of you is looking back whilst another part is looking forward. It's been a year with the highest number of students sitting exams for accreditation in either English GCSE, Functional Skills or Entry Level. The amount of anxiety and stress this can bring is hard to ignore, but I feel that students were well prepared and went into the exam season fully equipped to do their best on the day. I hope results day reflects their efforts. Elsewhere, we've had a great number of students who had their short stories and poems selected for publication by the Young Writers. Another reason to be very proud of our young people. I've had the opportunity to visit lots of English lessons, and I've found a really positive and focused atmosphere wherever I've been. We have a hard working, highly motivated and empathetic English Team.

Regarding next year, I'm looking forward to working with Rachel and the English team in pushing Reading back to the forefront of what we do. We need to be adventurous and enthusiastic about what we read, when we read, and how we read. I'm very pleased that Rachel is as big a supporter of Reading as Lauren. Developing our literacy - the ability to fully express ourselves and understand the world around us - will always be at the centre of what we do, both in the English classroom and beyond. Thank you for all your continued support in helping our young people to get into and stay in the habit of reading.

Of course, before September we have a rather pleasing summer holiday. Hopefully, the weather will be kind and it will be a chance to relax, rewind and recharge. I've got a stack of books that need reading as long as I can lock the PS4 and mobile phone away for an hour or two.

Whatever your summer holds, I wish you a happy, peaceful, and safe six weeks. See you in September!

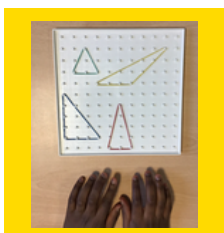
- Mr A Hebden
English Lead

MATHS



Again, it has been a very busy term. As usual students have worked really hard on their Maths lessons. A special thanks goes to all the students who sat their exams this term and we wish them all the best of luck with their results.

Jet class have been learning about angles and properties of 2D shapes. We have used manipulatives to learn all the different types of angles. Students also have used geo boards to create various triangles.



During transition weeks Topaz class have been creating 3D shapes using their nets. Students have been enjoying decorating their 3D shapes and learning about nets in a fun and enjoyable way.

- Mrs E Zyliftari
Maths Lead

SCHOOL UNIFORM

BASTON
House School



This is a reminder that it is the expectation for students to wear school uniform. It has always been a belief at Baston House School that uniforms:

- Give pupils a sense of belonging
- Help pupils share a common identity regardless of finance, background, culture or religion
 - Remove pressure to buy designer label clothes and shoes that not all can afford
 - Signal the day has started and helps sharpen the brain for learning
 - It makes a busy morning routine easier
- Remove the monitoring of appropriate vs inappropriate clothing daily in school.

Whilst we will endeavour to have as many of our pupils as possible wearing school uniform, we also are nothing but flexible and understanding. Some of our pupils may present sensory difficulties and certain fabrics and clothing can be a trigger.

If that is the case, then we suggest that parents encourage their children to wear clothes which resemble the school's uniform.

School's uniform is:

Post 16 – If students decide not to wear school uniform then smart casual clothes to be worn

Secondary - Black, Grey or Charcoal Trousers or shorts, Tracksuit Bottoms or skirt. White School Polo shirt, Navy School Jumper, Blazer (optional), White Shirt (optional), School Tie (optional)

Primary - Black, Grey or Charcoal Trousers or shorts, Tracksuit Bottoms or skirt. Yellow School polo shirt, Royal Blue School Jumper, blue and white gingham summer dresses (optional)

Footwear - Suitable school footwear, if trainers are worn in school these should be black

PE Kit - T-Shirt, Shorts, Tracksuit Bottoms, Suitable footwear (no colour stipulation)

To purchase any of the Baston House School uniform you can either visit the stockists in Bromley or OZ Schoolwear in Petts Wood. Please see the details for both locations. You may want to call the shops beforehand to check stock as blazers are made to measure:

www.bromleyschoolwear.co.uk

Bromley Schoolwear

51 High Street

Bromley

BR1 1LE

0208 460 0032

info@bromleyschoolwear.co.uk

Branch Manager: Don

www.ozschoolwear.co.uk

Oz Schoolwear

6 Chatsworth Parade

Petts Wood

BR5 1DF

01689 824 767

info@ozschoolwear.co.uk

Branch Manager: Jon

KEY DATES



1st - 5th September	Inset days
6th September	Autumn term commences
29th September	MacMillan coffee morning
12th October	Parents' evening
20th – 27th October	Half term break
30th October	Inset day
31st October	Autumn term recommences
7th November	Coffee morning
17th November	Children in need
W/C 27th November	Mock exams week
8th December	Christmas jumper day
15th December	Christmas market day
19th December	School production
20th December – 2nd January	Christmas Break