



Blackfriars Bulletin

Volume 09 Issue 09

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BlackfriarsAcademy.org.uk

It has been a busy fortnight at Blackfriars, we have had several visits out of school to take part in different activities and Dudson and Clarice have been away on a Residential to Bendrigg.

Railway Trip

On Wednesday, the members of Railway club went to Crewe Station for a visit with Avanti to experience the living world of a Railway Station. 17 students had their lunch and watched the trains on Platform 5. We were given access to Avanti's very special 'Calm Room' as our base and were looked after by Nicci from the Avanti Station staff.

We saw lots of different trains, diesel and electric including a HST! We waved at all of the trains and after Nicci's radio request, we were whistled by the passing trains as they whistled through the station which was very exciting and quite a sensory challenge which our students coped with extremely well. Our exciting day out was organised by the lovely Nat, the Operations Manager from Avanti who has kindly agreed to host Portmeirion and discuss jobs in the railway as part of their Preparation for Employment and she has even agreed to come to our Jobs Fair.



West Midlands regional Table cricket Tournament: 24/04/2023

Following on from our recent success at the Staffordshire table cricket tournament our winning team travelled to Edgbaston Cricket ground to represent, not only Blackfriars, but Staffordshire at the West Midlands Regional Cricket Tournament.

There were ten schools and colleges in total and we were placed in a group with Kemball from Stoke, Shrubberies College from Gloucester and Queensway from Shropshire.



To say the group performed amazingly would be a massive understatement, as always, they represented our school with enormous pride, humble in victory and sporting in defeat. After the games were played we discovered that we had been placed in a third and fourth place play off. WOW.



The play off was a very tough contest against a Post 16 team from Victoria School, Birmingham. We performed to our very best but unfortunately we just fell short by 11 runs. Magnanimous in defeat we congratulated Victoria on their victory and happily accepted our fourth-place finish.

After the play off we learnt of some exciting news that made a great day even better.

Not only had we finished fourth in a regional competition we had finished highest of all Staffordshire schools so we had won the Staffordshire Shield. WOW! Amazing! The group was actually buzzing. Staffs cricket are going to have the trophy engraved and come into school to present it to the team! A wonderful, wonderful achievement for the group, so proud!



We then were informed that the CEO of the sponsorship company had been watching all of the games and they had chosen to present our very own Mia with the 'Spirit of Cricket award for sportsmanship and fair play. So out of 100 students Mia was selected, an absolutely outstanding achievement.

What else can be said about this group. They have represented us all with great pride, fair play and in the spirit of the game all the beliefs and ethos of our school encompassed in competition. I and the whole school are bursting with pride about them.

Well done everyone!!!

Bendrigg



With the help of sponsorship and huge fundraising efforts by parents and carers, Dudson and Clarice have been away for a couple of days to this specially designed accessible outdoor activity centre.

(They have holidays especially for families as well - details can be found here: <https://www.bendrigg.org.uk/>)

They have had an incredible time, taking part in activities such as the High Swing and archery. More details to follow in the BAC at the end of term.



(More photos for families will be sent soon!)

Coming up

Jobs Fair June 22nd 10am – 12 noon



Do you have an interesting job? Do you have any family members / friends who have interesting jobs that our students would be interested to hear about? If so, and you / they could spare 2 hours to talk to our older students, we would love to hear from you.

The Fair is held in the Sports Hall, you sit at a table and a very small group of students are brought to you by a TA and they will ask you a series of questions about what your job entails, whether you have to wear a uniform, what hours you work etc. The morning is a lovely occasion to get to know our delightful students and help them to understand more about the world of work.

If you think you might be able to help us out, please contact Julie Fallows on **01782 987150**.

Key Dates

1st May – Bank Holiday

2nd May (Strike Day & presentation by Newfriars for parents)

3rd May – Parent workshop – ‘You and your teenager’s mind’

5th May Picnic Lunch for Coronation – Regal outfits required

8th May – Bank Holiday

29th May-2nd June – Whit holiday

15th June Own Clothes for all Leavers can be worn from Thursday (Last exam is Wednesday 14th June)

4th July School Performance of ‘The BF Factor’ only for Leavers’ parents and carers

6th July School Prom for all Leavers (further details to follow)

7th July Leavers’ Final Assembly

On Tuesday 2nd May, the school will operate a partial closure, the following classes will be CLOSED:-

- Portmeirion
- Royal Doulton
- Churchill
- Moorcroft
- Middleport

Scholars Of The Week

Lily-Anne from Royal Doulton has been nominated for Scholar of the week, her attendance has been excellent, her class work superb, and she has been very helpful in class.

Also from Royal Doulton, Noah has again been nominated as Scholar of the Week for his enthusiasm during the guided reading interventions. Noah is using his phonics skills to decode unfamiliar words which has accelerated his fluency in reading.

Moorcroft's nomination is Aiden for behaving in a responsible and mature way, and helping others in his class.

Gladstone is nominating Jack for scholar of the week, for showing a mature attitude towards work and for a fantastic presentation in computer science.

Middleport would like to nominate Sophie F for Scholar of the week. Since coming back after half term, Sophie has shown PRIDE in her appearance, wearing her full school uniform and managing her personal appearance.

Matthew from Bridgewater has been nominated as he has shown exemplary behaviour, both in class and towards his peers. Well done, Matthew. We are incredibly proud of you.

Spode has nominated Joseph for using his voice with more confidence, speaking in more complex sentences, and making us aware of his wants and wishes.