



Dear Parents/Carers,

The amount of information in this term's Newsletter is testament to the busy life of the students at BUCHS. The hot weather has added to the sense of summer excitement at events like Sports Day and the Sponsored Walk, but our students have also shown their outstanding sense of occasion during the Bishop's Mass: Bishop Alan was full of praise for the behaviour and engagement our young people.

You will be aware that from now on we will be adding an Instagram account to our communication, hopefully making it even easier for you to see what's been going on at BUCHS. We will start slowly in September and see how things develop.

Work starts on Monday 21st on the foundations for our new Sixth Form block. Let's hope that the work proceeds smoothly and we remain on schedule for September 2026. We will keep you updated about progress.

The new school year will come round soon enough, so I hope that you and your families can make the most of the holiday period to recharge and spend valuable time together.

Dr Richard Wilkin MA, EdD, Headteacher

School Instagram Account

A reminder to parents and carers of the information sent via email on Monday 14th July.

We are excited to share that Brentwood Ursuline Convent High School has officially launched an Instagram account.

This new platform is part of our ongoing commitment to strengthen communication and celebrate our school community.

Our Instagram page will offer news, student achievements, special events, extracurricular activities and important announcements.

We aim to create a positive and engaging online presence that keeps parents connected and informed.

Follow us on Instagram: @brentwood_ursuline



We encourage you to follow the account and stay up to date with the many great things happening at Brentwood Ursuline Convent High School .

Student privacy remains a priority, and we will follow safeguarding guidelines when posting any photos or content. Following this email, you will receive an email from **EVOLVE** which will ask you to update your permissions for your child's photograph to be shared on Instagram. If you wish to follow our Instagram account, it will also ask you to provide your username. Once you have completed and returned this form, please request to follow the account on Instagram. We will not approve requests until we have verified the accounts submitted on the forms.

Please do not use your child's Instagram username as the request will not be accepted.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to connecting with you on Instagram.

Back to school dates:

Monday and Tuesday 1st and 2nd September—staff training day, no students

Wednesday 3rd September—phased return of Years 7 and 12

Thursday 4th September— all students return

Lost Property

There is a great deal of lost property in school currently, including two bags full of black coats.

Please see photos of some of the unclaimed items on page 60 of the newsletter.



Brentwood Ursuline
Convent High School *Founded 1900*

YEAR 7 OPEN EVENING

Thursday 25th September 2025

6.30 – 9.00pm, (last entry at 8.00pm)

Headteacher's talks at 6.30pm and 7.30pm

OPEN MORNINGS

Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd October 2025

9.30am -11.00am

By appointment only



Please note there is no onsite parking for these events

**Queen's Road
Brentwood
Essex**

**01277 227156
admin@buchs.co.uk
www.brentwoodursuline.co.uk**

'The quality of education is outstanding, including in the Sixth Form'

Ofsted 2023





Brentwood Ursuline
Convent High School *Founded 1900*

Sixth Form Open Evening

Thursday 6th November 2025
6.30 – 8.30pm, *(last entry at 7.45pm)*
Headteacher's talk at 6.30pm

Please note there is no onsite parking for this event



'The quality of education is outstanding, including in the Sixth Form'
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Sixth Form

Visit from an ex student

Ex-student, Marianne, came to visit us this term to talk about her experience of A Level Religious Studies and the adult nursing degree which she is currently undertaking.

"On Thursday afternoon, we had the pleasure of listening to a talk made by a former student, Marianne, who is now studying Adult Nursing at Kings College London. Marianne gave a thoughtful and informative insight into key issues in healthcare, including palliative care, euthanasia, and the current Assisted Dying Bill. Her insight into both the emotional and ethical aspects of these topics was incredibly valuable, providing personal experiences with patients, specifically those who are terminally ill, all of which deepened my understanding as an A Level RS student as well as an aspiring lawyer. It was not only educational, but genuinely engaging — a fantastic session that left everyone with plenty to think about."

Julia, Year 12 RS Student

"Marianne's talk about A-Level RS, nursing and euthanasia was so interesting and I learnt so much more about each of these topics. She really helped me to understand what is actually covered in A-Level RS and showed me the personal side to nursing and euthanasia. I also think that it was really eye opening to how many different careers that A-Level RS can lead to. This was such a lovely opportunity to experience."

Izzy, Year 10

"We had the amazing opportunity to speak with Marianne, a student nurse, and to hear her opinions and experiences regarding the Assisted Dying Bill. We not only got an insight into the ethical RS perspective, but also into how medicine is evolving (or as some may say regressing) with issues like the assisted dying bill being accepted. All STEM/medical students benefited from this talk as we were able to gain an understanding of real life experiences that have taken place. When Marianne came in and spoke about the raw things she sees in day-to-day life, it was not only heart-breaking but also enlightening. It encapsulated how difficult it is in healthcare to make decisions and ultimately have someone's life in your hands which I think isn't always talked about when considering applying for a career in medicine."

Sienna, Year 12 and prospective student of medicine

Year 12 Politics Trip to Parliament

Year 12 Politics students visited the Houses of Parliament for a tour in June. The guided tour took us into the chambers of both the Houses of Lords and the Commons. We were given the day's order paper and a copy of the latest Education bill that is working its way through the legislative process.

Following this, we had a workshop on the party manifestos - groups made and presented their own manifesto and we then voted on which we felt was the most convincing.

Finally, we were visited by our local MP, Alex Burghart, who gave us an excellent update on the most recent parliamentary business such as the debate on the Assisted Dying Bill and the USA's bombing of nuclear sites in Iran.

Mr Earle, Head of Politics





Sixth Form Continued

Year 12 Work Experience

Recently, our Year 12 students swapped the classroom for the workplace as they took part in a week-long work experience. From hospitals to HR departments, law firms to local schools, council offices to radio stations, students found opportunities in a wide variety of settings to explore potential career paths and develop practical skills. The placements gave students the chance to experience the day-to-day responsibilities of different jobs, build confidence and understand the importance of workplace professionalism. Many returned with new inspiration for their future studies and careers.

Mrs Udall

In the week beginning 30th June I was given the incredible opportunity to go on work experience at a local hospital. Throughout the week, I was placed across the hospital viewing endoscopies, shadowing orthopaedic surgeons in clinic, and even viewing various surgeries in the operating theatre, including a total knee replacement. Due to the variety of procedures and medical professionals I was able to observe, I have gained a deeper understanding of the importance of teamwork and communication within a hospital setting, and how the multidisciplinary team is crucial for cohesive patient care to be provided. Viewing surgeries opened my eyes to the dynamics within the operating theatre, and the importance of maintaining a sterile environment. Overall, this was an invaluable experience, not only for my UCAS application but also to confirm that my ideal career lies within the medical field.

Mya L

In the week beginning 30th June, Year 12 students were given the opportunity to gain work experience. For my work experience, I chose my local pharmacy, which I found useful as it is directly linked to my future career plan to become a pharmacist. Even though I was only able to work in a community pharmacy and talk to a community pharmacist, it did give me an insight into the rules and roles that can be applied to all healthcare related jobs. During my work experience, I was able to work with the pharmacy assistants and learn their role. For example, I learnt how to provide people with their medication and communicate with them. I found this useful as it not only helped me learn how to give medication to people at the counter but also improved my communication skills. In addition, I was also given the role of organising and checking medication arrivals and then putting them into bags. While it was difficult to understand the role in the beginning, through the support of the workers there, I was able to do the job efficiently and effectively. It also helped me learn about the specific types of medication and their names which I found very useful, and it encouraged me to learn more about the type of medications I encountered.

Riona D'S

I recently spent five days completing work experience within the Essex County Council Cabinet Office, where I got a first-hand look at how local government operates — an experience that has further strengthened my ambition to pursue a career in government and public service. Throughout the week, I attended key meetings like the Audit Scrutiny Board with Cllr Mark Platt and the Portfolio Board with Cllr Lee Scott. I also joined a Pension Fund meeting and watched a citizenship ceremony — a powerful reminder of the council's role in the community.

I spoke with a councillor advisor about his vital role, met former interns now working at the council, and had online sessions with the Economic Growth and Social Media Comms teams. I also connected with the founder of Ambitious Women, who shared inspiring advice on leadership and career growth.





Sixth Form Continued

Year 12 Work Experience Continued



One of my main tasks was working on a project to help the council increase youth volunteering, which I presented at the end of the week. I was also invited to a Lee Valley committee lunch and meeting, where I joined councillors from across the UK to discuss leisure facility development.

Overall, it was an inspiring and eye-opening experience that showed me just how much goes into making local services work.

Becca E

From 30th June to 4th July, I completed my work experience at my primary school, St Ursula's Catholic Primary School, assisting the staff and sport coaches carrying out their PE lessons. Over the week, I worked with children from nursery all the way up to Year 6, helping to deliver a wide range of physical education lessons and activities. I assisted in setting up and running sessions in rounders, football, archery, and gymnastics. One of the most rewarding parts of the week was working with children with special needs.

It was a really valuable learning experience that helped me understand how to adapt activities to support different abilities and ensure every child is included and engaged in sport.



I really enjoyed working with the younger children in nursery due to their enthusiasm and energy. Across all the year groups I assisted, it was great to see how PE helps build confidence, teamwork, and enjoyment through movement and sport. This experience gave me a real insight into how PE lessons are tailored for different age groups and needs. It confirmed my next steps for potentially working in sport and education, and strengthened my interest in studying Sport and Exercise Science at university. The placement was a brilliant introduction to the kind of career I hope to pursue.

Chanelle S

During the week of Year 12 work experience, I was fortunate enough to attend The Guardian and shadow the head of sales there. I was able to attend numerous meetings, one of which discussed sustainability with a Mindshare representative about how The Guardian can promote its sustainability efforts to others whilst aligning sustainable methods with worthwhile profit.





Sixth Form Continued

Year 12 Work Experience Continued



Being able to speak with Guardian journalists, I understood the importance of good quality journalism in our society and how it can influence our daily decision-making and drive meaningful change. Being a Politics A level student interested in pursuing the subject at university, I've linked this to the criticality of truthful political media and its influential role in informing individuals, but also keeping issues such as sustainability alive. Having been a Guardian reader and podcast-listener for a while now, seeing how such an influential media source works behind the scenes was truly insightful and a real privilege!

Katie S

This summer, I had the privilege of attending the Business & Law stream of the 'Amplify Your Summer' programme hosted by Anglia Ruskin University. From the moment I arrived, the experience was enriching and unforgettable.

We kicked off the week with a series of icebreaker activities to make everyone comfortable, including quizzes, board games, and Uno. This really helped me get to know others and settle into the university environment. We were also given an insightful introduction to the campus, the schedule for the week, and what to expect from the programme.

The main task during the week was to work independently on a research presentation addressing threats to endangered species. Our goal was to develop a business proposal that could support the conservation of these animals. To inform our work, we visited Colchester Zoo, where we encountered a range of species, from owls and orangutans to snakes, and took part in an educational session that deepened our understanding of the issues affecting wildlife today.

Tuesday's programme was themed around business, with sessions on finance and marketing. These workshops gave us a real-world insight into how business strategy can play a pivotal role in conservation efforts.

My favourite day, however, was Wednesday. We stepped into the shoes of legal professionals and participated in a mock court trial. We were assigned roles such as barristers, defendants, and witnesses and worked through a fictional case in a courtroom setting. It was an exciting and eye-opening glimpse into how legal proceedings unfold and the skills required in law practice.

The week concluded on Thursday with an awards evening and a final brunch—an enjoyable end to an inspiring and intellectually stimulating programme.

Attending the 'Amplify Your Summer' experience at Anglia Ruskin University was not only fun, but also deeply educational. It broadened my understanding of how law and business intersect with social and environmental issues, and it strengthened my passion for both fields. I left feeling more motivated and better prepared for the future.

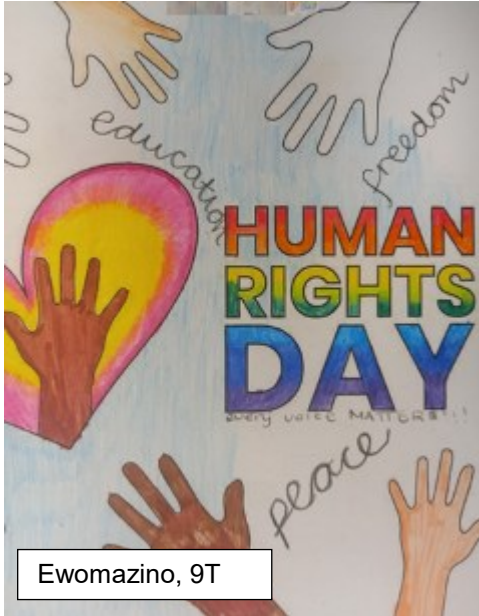
Jessica B





PSHE: Year 9

British Values and Human Rights



Ewomazino, 9T

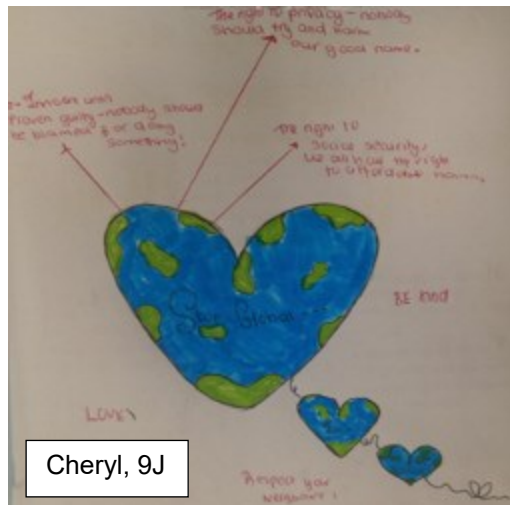
This half term in Year 9, we have been talking about British Values and Human Rights. We have been looking at the 30 human rights, outlined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that was created after the 2nd World War in 1948. The 30 Human Rights has a wide range of fundamental freedoms and entitlements. These rights are categorised into civil and political rights like the right to life, liberty, and a fair trial, and economic, social, and cultural rights, such as the right to education, healthcare, and social security. Essentially, they affirm that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights, regardless of background or status, which is still being used today by the UN and for a better future all over the world.

We have also looked at the five key British Values: Democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faith and beliefs.

Here are some examples of our recent assessment work:



Zara, 9B



Cheryl, 9J

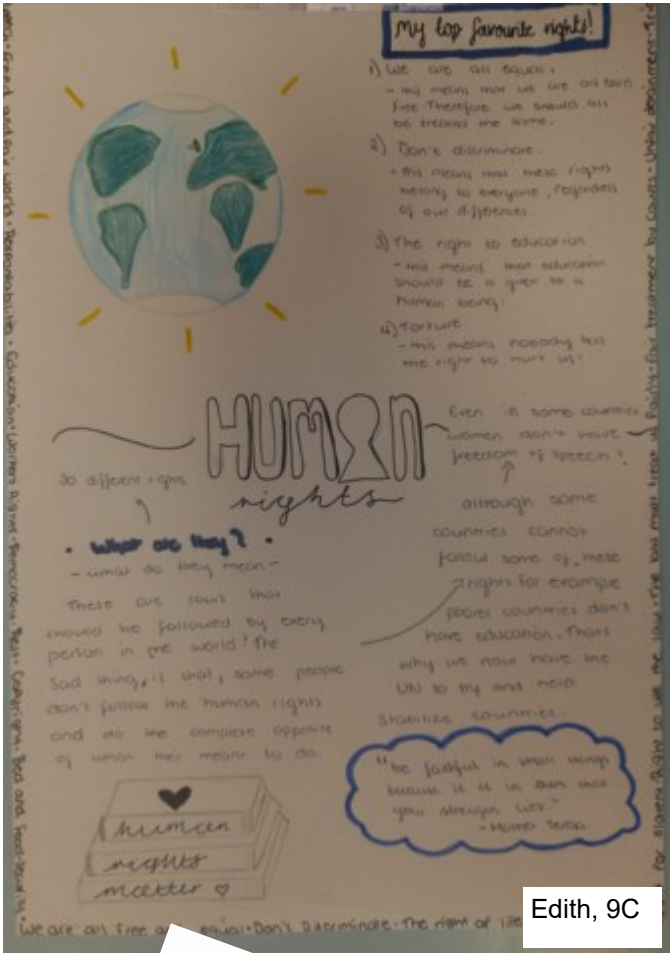


Kyra, 9J



PSHE: Year 9 Continued

British Values and Human Rights



Edith, 9C

PSHE: Year 7 Work on Self Esteem

We worked as a group to plan and make a magazine which describes feelings and emotions young people may have during puberty, and how they can manage them. This was to include different scenarios in which young people have successfully boosted self-esteem in others.

Below are some comments from our students:

"I am pleased with these things; teamwork, extra out-of-school commitment, research, our co-operation, the independence we gained, we stayed positive as a group, we produced a fact-filled poster."

"I think we could improve our colour scheme with brighter colours so that it would stand out in a shop."

"We worked well as a group because
-we did things outside of school
-we split up the roles with different people in charge of each section
-we negotiated how to come up with the final piece."

"I am pleased with my contribution because
-it covered lots of scenarios and was exciting to read
-I was determined to finish my section so that I could help others and I succeeded in this
-I researched good quotes."

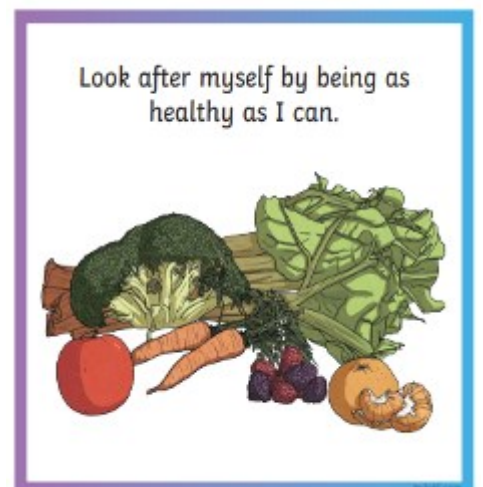
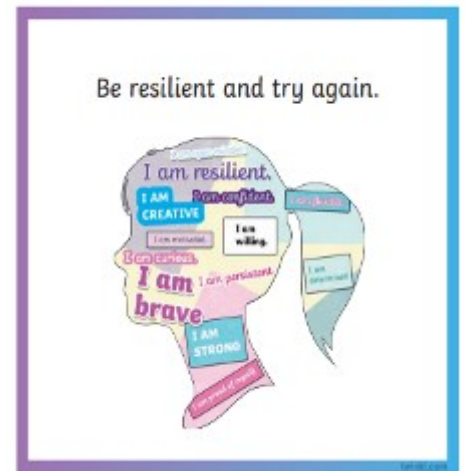
"I wish I had done less chatting and more writing."

"I wish I had done more explaining and less drawing."



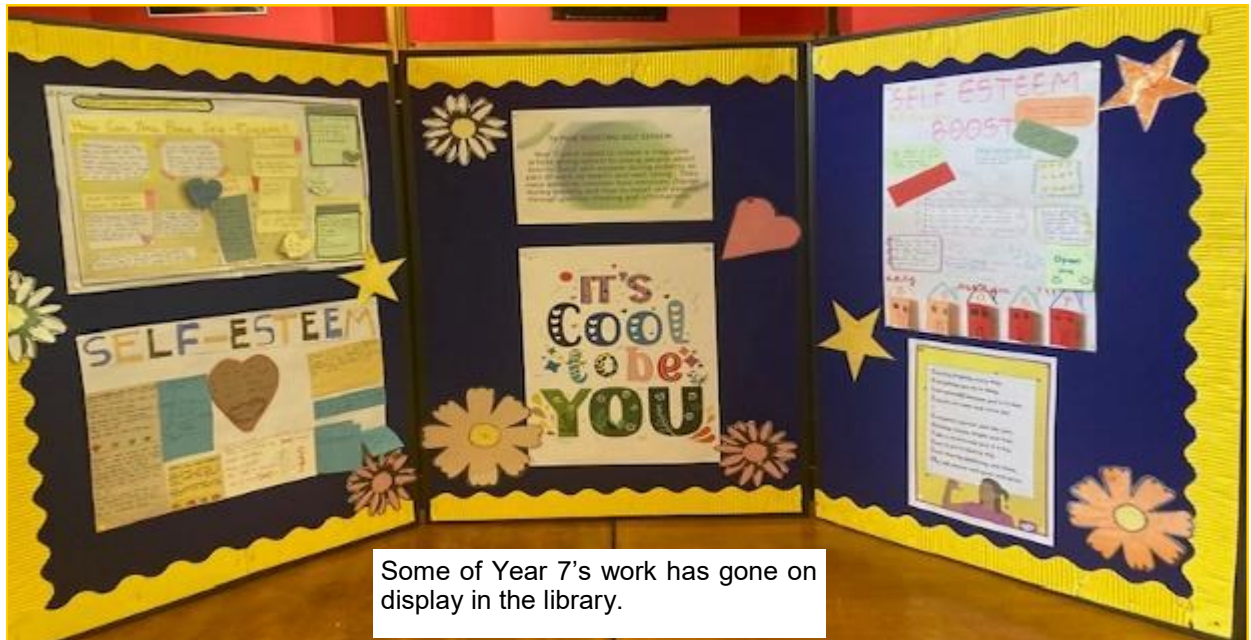


PSHE: Year 7 Work on Self Esteem Continued





PSHE: Year 7 Work on Self Esteem Continued



Some of Year 7's work has gone on display in the library.

"We really enjoyed the process of making our poster and the opportunity to choose partners. We were able to use our meta skills of creativity and co-operation in the making of our project. We explained things to do with self-esteem and how we can boost it. Thank you for this opportunity."

Milana and Mollie, 7A

Food Technology

It's that time of year again when Year 7 make pizza, from scratch! Pupils enjoy this lesson so much, mainly because they like pizza, but also due to the fact that they can be creative and turn something which can be quite unhealthy into a relatively healthy meal.

We make dough without yeast, using only flour, butter and milk and the pizza bases are always a success. The tomato topping is puree mixed with water and then pupils add 3 toppings of their choice; two vegetables and some kind of protein.

We don't encourage pepperoni as it is full of fat and pupils understand the reasons why we need to choose carefully. Cheese is added in very small amounts and then everyone goes home with their creation, keen to make pizzas for the whole family!

This example was made by Sofia W, who was keen to show her 'at home' cooking, following her 'in school' lesson! Well done Sofia!

The Year 7 and 8 recipes are designed by Mrs Perry to be a balance between sweet and savoury dishes, whilst also meeting the demands of the Eatwell Guide. Even if you only cooked these 12 dishes for the rest of your life, you could remain healthy!

We look forward to introducing the next round of Year 7 children to Food Technology next year.

Mrs Sullivan





Food Technology Continued

Food Technology celebrates 125 years of The Ursuline

In Food Technology, we challenged Year 8 students to research what children ate in the 1900s in celebration of the school's 125 year anniversary. Students were surprised to learn that there were no snacks in the 1900s and people ate a surprising amount of meat. Poorer people may have had one good meal a day and then relied on bread and dripping for other meals. There was also a heavy reliance on leftovers and using up ingredients to make other dishes. Meals were often repetitive with dishes repeated in a pattern over the week.

There were some strong entries and prizes and certificates were awarded as follows:

First prize Elise V 8A
Second prize Ava H 8A
Third prize Verity H 8J

In addition, some students were awarded certificates for effort:

Iona M 8A
Sophia L 8J
Jada E 8A
Tia J 8A

1900 FOOD

What did Kids eat in the 1900s

In the 1900s Kids normally ate at school stew, boiled meats, creamed vegetables, and bread at school and at home they ate whatever they were served.

Third prize

Popular food in the 1900s

In the 1900s the most commonly eaten meat was pork. Poorer people ate the shin and cheek and these could be stewed with vegetables. Richer people ate pork chops. Many people also ate, Bread, butter, meat, tea, potatoes, tea, Yorkshire puddings, puddings.

Desserts & Treats

The main desserts were, apple crumble, bread and butter pudding as they are easy to make. Sweets in the UK that were most popular is wine gums, Gobstoppers, Aniseed, Gulls and Jelly babies.

What did Children eat in the 1900s

POOR
Poor childrens diets were often limited to staples like bread, potatoes and some vegetables.

Working Class children only ate meat a few times a week with a great reliance of potatoes and vegetables.

RICH
Rich children ate a wide variety of foods including meat, dairy, cheese, sugar and other luxuries.

WHAT'S ON A 1900'S CHILD'S PLATE?

SCHOOL MEALS
School meals were a basic staple often just porridge or oat with dripping (gravy from Sunday roasts)

WW2 RATIONING
During WW2 children and families had ration books allowing them to collect a limited amount of food per day or week. This allowed them to become more creative and unique with what they made.

Recipe: Fairy Gingerbread

Ingredients:
1 cup Sugar
1/2 cup Butter
1 cup milk
1 cup molasses
2 1/2 cups flour
1/2 tsp soda
1 tsp ginger
1 am

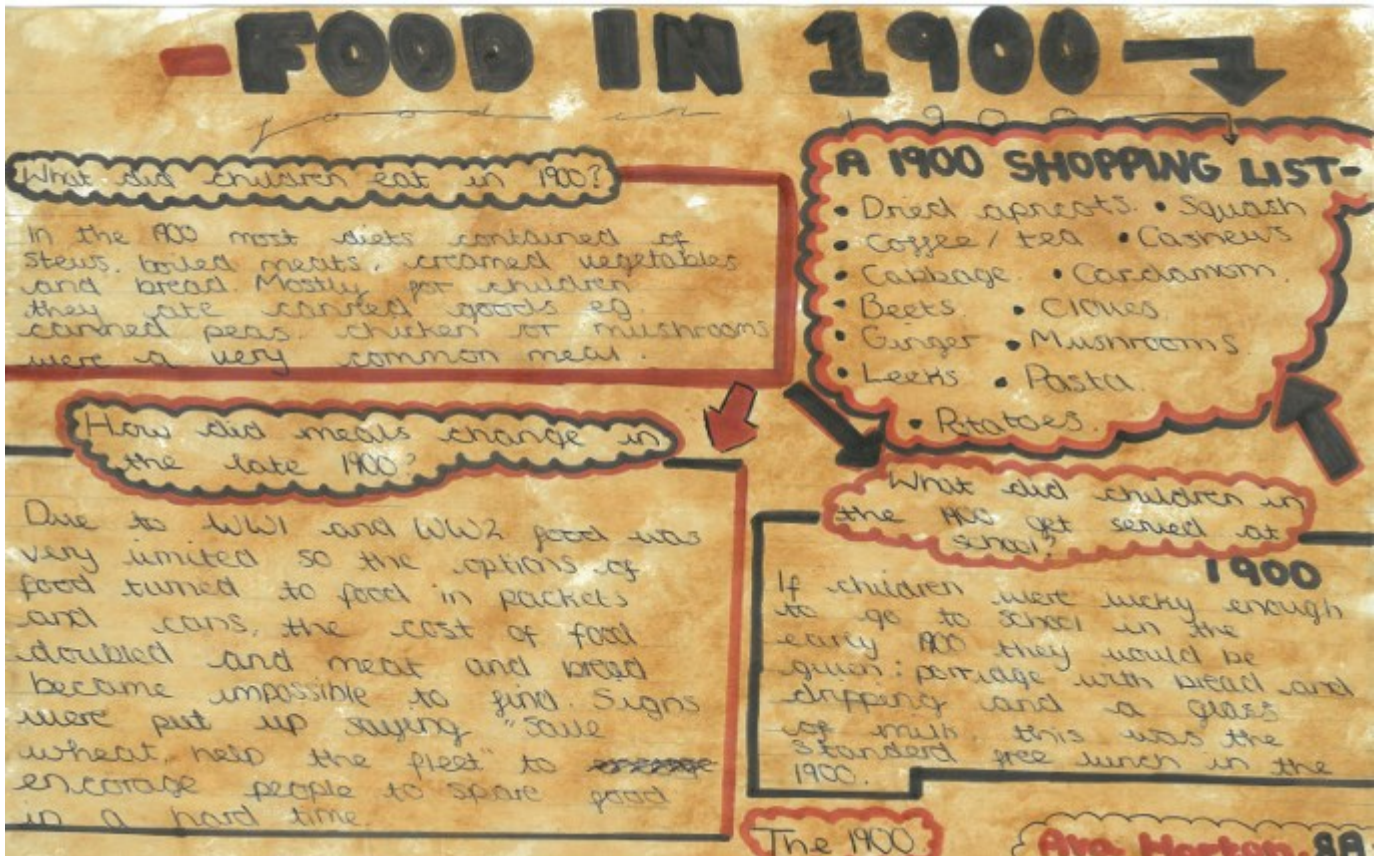
Instructions:
1. Cream sugar and butter in a bowl.
2. Beat eggs then add eggs, milk and molasses.
3. Sift flour, soda and ginger into mixture and beat well.
4. Bake in a shallow greased pan in moderate oven (350°F) for 45 min.

First prize Elise V



Food Technology Continued

Food Technology celebrates 125 years of The Ursuline Continued



Our winner, Elise had the following to say about her competition entry:

"I learnt that what children ate in the 1900s is very different from what we eat right now. For example, these days we have a large variety of foods from different cultures unlike back then when you could only have specific types of foods depending on your income. I was really surprised when I found out that the children from really poor families were only able to have a slice of bread with a bit of stew and rarely ate meat."

Year 8 Recipe Competition

Our winner of The Year 8 Recipe Book Competition this year was Skylar H in 8T!

Skylar produced a beautiful miniature cook book full of all the recipes we tried in Years 7 & 8. She included fun facts and tips and clearly spent a lot of time on it! No doubt Skylar will remember her Food Tech lessons at BUCHS for a long time to come!

Year 7

Year 7 have finished their Food Tech journey for this year and their feedback was positive!

Ailish said she likes that we take notice of the Eatwell Guide.

Amalia liked the choices offered.

Sofia enjoyed making the layered pasta salad.

Annabel liked working with her partner.

Jojo enjoyed the muffins which were not too sweet.

Chizara said the experience was amazing.



Food Technology Continued

Year 7 Continued

Breanna thought the staff were patient and caring.

Dolly appreciated learning new skills.

Emily noted the demonstrations which helped her.

Luka was proud of her blueberry muffins.

Shanessa thought the muffins were vibrant and using so many skills really was fun.

Queen liked that we talked about the health benefits of different foods.

Mye appreciated working with a kind and helpful friend who was at the same skill level.

Nadia has improved her communication skills and has been successful in the baking lessons.

Abi enjoyed the pizza making.

Nabeeha mentioned the people around her and that she wants to try the muffin recipe at home again with different fruit options.

See all of you in Year 8 and happy holidays!

Mrs Sullivan



GCSE Language Qualifications

Did you know that in the last few years, students at BUCHS have completed additional GCSE language exams in Italian, Polish and Russian?

If your daughter speaks another language fluently and there is a GCSE available in this language, she may be able to be entered to sit her exam at BUCHS. If you would be interested in this opportunity, please contact Mrs Yates, Head of MFL via this form and she will contact you after the summer holiday.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/DesignPageV2.aspx?subpage=design&FormId=tDT-L4TyEk27WcFk3lhYj1JlItm5uBIMmXU93sXbANUNjdLUTBYTVBaVtk3S-ilyVks1OUpUSVJJVi4u&Token=e9e63d31373843d1b18905d2bbd9d940>





Dance

Royalty Rocks the Stage: A Regal Success with *Six: The Musical*

On 16th and 17th of June, the spotlight shone brightly on our talented students with their electrifying performance of *Six: The Musical*. With special thanks to the caretakers, the school hall was transformed into a dazzling Tudor pop concert, complete with their handcrafted light up letters to set the scene.



Based on the lives of the six wives of Henry VIII, *Six* reimagines these historical figures as bold, modern pop stars reclaiming their stories. Our cast embraced the challenge with energy and charisma, delivering unforgettable performances that showcased only a couple of months of hard work and dedication. From the fierce opening number “Ex-Wives” to the show-stopping finale “Six,” the audience was treated to a whirlwind of emotion, humour, and musical brilliance. Using a double casting and additional ensemble performers, there was plenty of opportunity to showcase the talent within our school.

Behind the scenes, our crew worked tirelessly to ensure every detail was pitch-perfect. Special thanks to Mrs Wortley for her direction, Mrs Hilder for movement and choreography and to Mr Maynard for bringing our fantastic live band to life with such energy and precision. We’d also like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the members of staff who stepped in at the last minute to play in the band Miss Giannotti and Mr Shaw — your support, flexibility, and musicianship made a world of difference and helped the show go on without a hitch. And of course, to all the members of staff who helped with Front of House and refreshments.



The production not only entertained but also sparked meaningful conversations about history, identity, and storytelling through a modern lens. It was a celebration of talent, teamwork, and the power of performance — and a shining example of what our school community can achieve together.

Bravo to everyone involved, we are so proud of you!

GCSE Dance Students Step Up in Royal Academy Workshop

Last week, our Year 9 and 10 GCSE Dance students had the incredible opportunity to take part in a professional dance workshop led by a practitioner from the prestigious Royal Academy of Dance (RAD), in partnership with the Jack Petchey Foundation.

The full-day workshop, held in our school's Dance Studio, offered students a unique chance to deepen their understanding of performance technique, choreography, and expressive movement — all under the guidance of a highly experienced RAD artist. From warm-up to final routine, our students rose to the challenge with enthusiasm, focus, and a fantastic sense of creativity

The workshop was designed to stretch technical skills while encouraging dancers to explore new styles and storytelling through movement. The practitioner shared insights from the professional dance world, inspiring students with tips on performance confidence, discipline, and career pathways in the performing arts.

This enriching experience was made possible thanks to the Dance Department, supported by the Jack Petchey Foundation. We’re incredibly grateful for the opportunity to offer our students access to professional-level training that both enhances their GCSE coursework and builds their confidence as young performers.



Dance Continued



Well done to all the students involved — your energy, engagement, and commitment throughout the workshop truly impressed both the RAD practitioner and myself. We look forward to seeing these new skills shine through in future assessments and performances!

Mrs Hilder, Teacher in charge of Dance



Two future dates for your diary from Dance:

Christmas Dance Show:
15th & 16th December '25



Sponsored Walk

On Tuesday 15th July, our students set off from school on a six mile trail around Hartswood and Thorndon on our annual sponsored walk. This time, we are raising money for our fantastic new Sixth Form block.

Luckily, we were blessed with good walking conditions and plenty of shade! It was a fun experience and we certainly got our steps in that day! Well done to all who participated, and to the team of staff who planned the event.

Some pictures of the walk can be seen below and on the next page.





Sponsored Walk Continued



Thank you to all of our sponsors so far!
You can still donate via the below link, ParentPay
or
using the paper form sent to parents on 4th July.
[New Brentwood Ursuline Sixth Form Block - JustGiving](#)





Year 11 Leavers' Celebration

Speech given by Miss Fazakerley, Head of Year 11 at the Leavers' Celebration

It's hard to believe we've reached this moment, the end of Year 11. What a journey it has been. Today, I'm filled with pride, admiration, and genuine excitement for each and every one of you.

You've faced challenges no one could have predicted, yet you've tackled them with resilience, maturity, and spirit. Whether it was adapting to new ways of learning, handling the pressure of exams, or just growing into the young adults sitting here today; you've done so with grace and grit.

Over the past year and a half, I've watched you grow, not just academically, but as people. I've seen you support each other, laugh together, work hard, and develop the Ursuline values that will carry you into the next stage of life. You've shown Courage and Resilience, and acted with Truth and Integrity in so many ways. You've been role models for younger students, ambassadors of our school, and above all, a year group we will always remember with pride.

As you leave Year 11 behind and prepare to join the Sixth Form, I want you to know this: we believe in you. You have already proven what you're capable of. Sixth Form will bring new opportunities, greater independence, and the chance to shape your future more than ever before. Embrace it. In the words of Angela Merici - "Girls, do not be afraid of growing slowly, be afraid only of standing still."

For some of you, this summer is a much-needed break, a time to rest and recharge. For others, it's a moment to reflect on your goals and get excited about what lies ahead. But for all of you, it's the end of one chapter and the beginning of another. And I hope you step into Sixth Form with confidence, curiosity and courage.

As your Head of Year, it's been an honour to walk this path with you. I will miss our daily interactions, your energy, even those gentle reminders of our expectations I have had to give now and again. But I'm not saying goodbye — just "see you in September."

We can't wait to welcome you back to Sixth Form — older, wiser, and ready to take on the world!

Congratulations Year 11! You've done yourselves proud. Enjoy your summer, and we'll see you in September.





Year 13 Leavers' Celebration

On Monday 2nd June, Year 13 came together to celebrate their time at BUCHS and look forward to their future plans.





Year 13 Leavers' Celebration Continued



Thank you Year 12 students who helped to set up





Year 13 Leavers' Celebration

The annual BUCHS tradition! Year 7 forming a guard of honour to see our Year 13 leavers safely on their way.





Year 13 Leavers' Celebration Continued





Year 13 Leavers' Celebration Continued



Wishing all our Year 13 leavers the very best of luck in their future paths





Year 7 History

A Gift fit for a queen

Class 7A were asked to make a gift suitable for Queen Elizabeth I as part of their studies on the Tudors in the Summer Term.

Elizabeth was known for enjoying being showered with gifts by her loyal subjects during her Royal Progresses around England.

As you can see, many beautiful gifts were created from the imagination of the students. Amelie made the Queen a bracelet for every occasion and Arabella made her a lovely bejewelled crown. Ornate plaques were made by Ella and Angelina. A beautifully illustrated Bible was made by Jo Jo and an intricate handknitted necklace by Abi.

I am certain her Majesty would have been thrilled with the excellent variety of gifts that 7A have produced.

Mr Earle, Teacher of History





Year 8 History

Holocaust Memorials

As part of their Year 8 History studies, students were asked to make a fitting memorial to the murdered Jews of Europe.

We studied different memorials that have been made in different parts of the world since 1945 and students from 8J and 8T made their own personal pieces of work. These included stories, poems, artwork and plaques as you can see from the photos.

Particularly outstanding examples were a memorial Star of David made by Isabella F in 8J, a plaque made by Daniella D in 8T and a haunting video made by Aimee K in 8T which was shared with the whole school community.

Mr Earle, Teacher of History





Library News

BUCHS Bookworm Update

A big well done to 7A student Amelia F who has recently been awarded her level 2 BUCHS Bookworm Badge. To achieve this, Amelia has read and written about 20 fiction books; a remarkable achievement for a Year 7! Congratulations Amelia, and we hope you enjoy reading even more books over the summer!



Congratulations also goes to Andrea R in 7C who has recently achieved her level 1 brown BUCHS Bookworm Badge. She has really enjoyed reading 'The Chronicles of Narnia' series by C. S. Lewis.



Summer Reading Wish List Competition

Throughout June, the library ran a competition open to all students in Years 7-10.

They were invited to create and decorate a summer reading wish list containing a minimum of five books. They needed to include the author, title, an image of the front cover and a few sentences to explain why they had chosen that particular book to read in the summer holidays.

We have received some really beautiful entries, some of which can be seen below and on the next pages.

Many congratulations to Madalina L in form 8A who won a goody bag containing sweet treats and books. All entrants were awarded prizes for participation.



Madalina with her prize





Library News Continued

Summer Reading Wish List Competition Cont.



Highly Commended: Mireya H, 7B

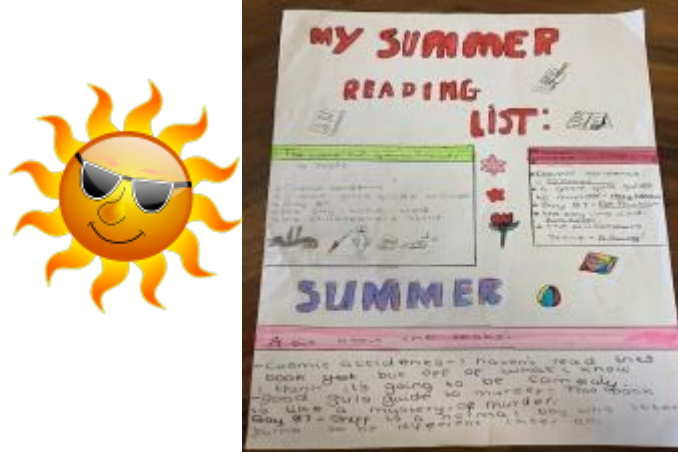


Highly Commended: Naomi G A, 7A



Library News Continued

Summer Reading Wish List Competition Continued

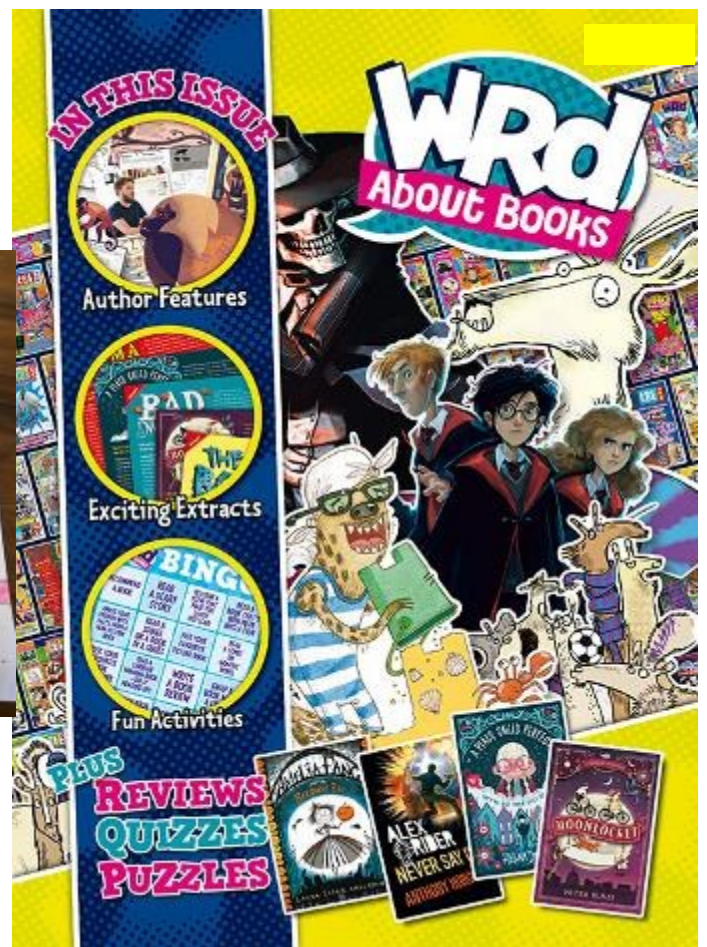


Access Your Free Magazine Here!

This free issue of 'WRd About Books' magazine is full of brilliant articles to keep Year 7 and 8s busy for a while this summer!

It contains a fantastic range of extracts from the latest children's fiction, book reviews, fun articles and puzzles. Click on the link below to view:

<http://www.wrdmag.co.uk/>



Missing Library Books

The library has a long list of books which are overdue. Please have a look over the summer to see if you have any school library books at home which need to be returned.

Students with overdue books will not be able to borrow anything new until they have been returned or paid for if lost.

Thank you!



Library News Continued

Author Visit for Year 7



On Friday 20th June, author S. A. Reyhani came to the Chapel to speak to our Year 7 students about her amazing new book 'A Sequence of Cosmic Accidents.' Sandie described the inspiration for her book and her passion for mythology, myths and legends and historical fiction in general. She is also very interested in politics, having previously been a journalist who has travelled to and worked in many countries. Sandie introduced the main characters to us and talked us through a fantastic dynamic presentation which really brought the book to life! It was a very interesting afternoon and gave Year 7 an insight into how stories turn into published books.

Our students came ready with many, many questions for Sandy ranging from her experience of getting published, to finding out about the illustrations, to her favourite character.



After the presentation, those that had pre-ordered Sandie's book were able to have it signed. A lovely keepsake to treasure! We also now have some signed copies in the library, so please come along and borrow one! At the end of the day, students took part in a book-themed quiz run by Mrs Osborn. A huge thank you to the Chicken & Frog Bookshop, who made this author visit possible.

"Many thanks for the lovely welcome I received at your school! I really enjoyed talking with the girls there."

S.A. Reyhani





Library News Continued

Author Visit for Year 7 Continued



"It was fascinating to learn about the author's interests, hobbies and her inspiration for the book. I wasn't sure if the book looked right for me, but after the visit, I was convinced that it was."
Mireya

"The author visit was very interesting. We found out how S. A. Reyhani wrote her books and we were even allowed to get signed copies."
Jane



"I thought the author visit was informative as I enjoyed learning about S.A. Reyhani's career and her inspiration for storylines. I found it interesting to see where her ideas stemmed from and what made her want to become an author."
Siena



"The author's visit was an amazing opportunity and I really enjoyed it. I liked that the author spoke about mythical creatures and gave us the plot of her book. I also liked how we could ask the author questions as I found that interesting to hear all the answers. Thank you for this wonderful opportunity."
Milana



Library News Continued

Author Visit for Year 7 Continued



"I loved the presentation of all the beautiful mythical creatures and the front cover and title of the book matched perfectly with the storyline."
Shanessa



"I enjoyed S. A. Reyhani visiting our school as I like mythology and folklore and I saw parts of myself in the writing."
Glory



"I liked the animation in the presentation and how the author linked the context of the story into an engaging PowerPoint. I want to see the PowerPoint again because it was very good."
Naomi



"The author visit was great! I loved her backstory and the characters in her book were amazing."
Georgia

"I enjoyed how she explained the story and how and what was behind it, especially the mythology. I also liked the trailer."
Chichibem





Library News Continued

Author Visit for Year 7 Continued

"I found it really fun as it was interesting to figure out the thought processes of the author's ideas. I loved all the fantasy and inclusion of different myths from around the world. Overall, it was really fun, especially the book quiz with friends at the end!"
Lulu

"I thought that the author visit was very interesting and knowing how it felt to experience all the emotions of publishing a book was insightful."
Lucy

"I really enjoyed the author visit. I found it so interesting and was completely comfortable with sharing my questions with the author. Thank you so much for this opportunity."
Marisa



Blue Peter Badges

Many of our Key Stage 3 students took part in the initiative to earn the Blue Peter Book Badge. Very well done to all of those students who can be seen wearing them on their blazers and lanyards. Did you know that the badge was designed by Sir Quentin Blake (below right) who illustrated many of Roald Dahl's books, amongst others?



Left: Abigail D, 7C



Right: Joann A, 7C

If you would like to earn a Blue Peter Book Badge, follow this link for more information on how to apply directly:
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/findoutmore/blue-peter-apply-for-a-book-badge>



Sir Quentin Blake



Library News Continued

John Agard Visit: Years 8 and 9



We were really excited to be able to welcome award winning poet John Agard to the Main Hall on Wednesday 9th July. Agard has published over 50 books, won a Queen's award for his work, and his poem 'Checking Out Me History' appears in the GCSE English Literature poetry anthology. For Years 8 and 9 to be able to see John perform that poem in such a captivating way will surely support them in their appreciation and understanding of this work and others.

John spoke so enthusiastically about poetry, literature and reading. If you enjoyed his lively and informative presentation, we have two signed copies of his book 'Half Caste' available to borrow in the library. Huge thanks go to 'The Chicken and Frog Bookshop' and 'Renaissance One' for helping to make this visit possible.

Some thoughts on the event from our students:

'John Agard was very nice to listen to. He told us about his journey in English Literature and how he used his background to inspire his poetry. He was funny and interacted with us a lot.'

'John Agard was an excellent, very funny and charismatic character. He gave us insight into his background and his inspiration for the poems which was helpful as it will help me with my GCSE English.'

'I thought John Agard was so fun! He was so interactive and expressive and he made me laugh a lot! I want him to come back sometime!'

'John Agard was really fun to listen to and it helped me understand the poem even more. I can't wait to study it next year!'

'John Agard was:
very funny and engaging with the audience
very interactive and also educational
very good at maintaining an audience
very good at conveying the meaning behind his poems.'





Economics

The Economics Department were delighted to promote and facilitate entry to the KPMG Young Economist of the Year Competition to Years 10 and 12. It is a fantastic super curricular opportunity, and pupils do not need to study Economics to enter.

As is always the case at BUCHS, pupils leapt at the chance and several entries have been completed. The competition sets a variety of questions and the teams have to answer just one. This year, the questions were:-

1. What are the economic consequences of a falling birth rate, and what approaches can be taken to mitigate these?
2. What are the drivers of wealth inequality in the UK and how can they be addressed?
3. What are the economic effects of tariffs for consumers, businesses and global economies?
4. Will aviation expansion allow the UK to achieve economic growth and meet climate commitments simultaneously?
5. How can economics explain the high price of a supercar?

A Sixth Form podcast has been submitted along with several essays. I include excerpts from a couple of the entries here:

Entry from Cassy and Ly-An: What are the drivers of wealth inequality in the UK and how can they be addressed?

Wealth inequality is a significant problem faced by many people in the UK, specifically the minorities who struggle with financial difficulties. The disparity between the financially deprived and the affluent increase each day due to regressive tax, absence of assets, regional inequality, and the imbalance of incomes. These issues have not happened deliberately, but as a result of several reasons, such as lack of job availability, the Government's decisions, and other economic factors. By understanding what controls wealth inequality in the UK, we can find solutions to resolve this problem.

Entry from Kaitlin, Violet & Izzy: What are the drivers of wealth inequality in the UK and how can they be addressed?

One driver of wealth inequality is stagnant wages. A stagnant wage is when the wage a worker receives remains flat or grows at an insufficient rate to keep up with inflation over an extended period of time, causing a decrease in purchasing power for workers. They can be the result of low productivity growth in companies, less worker bargaining power, shifts in power...or globalisation.

Other teams have also sent in entries and Mr Dempsey and I wish them the very best of luck.

Next term, the Economics Department is looking forward to joining in a TEAMS conference from the Royal Economics Society through Loughborough University, along with working with the University of Warwick and Discover Economics to promote Women in Economics amongst other things. It's a really exciting time in world economics and great to see so many passionate, enthusiastic young economists in school who could all make a difference.

In the lower school, some Year 8 students have been engaging with the tricky subject of tax calculations and other financial matters through their maths lessons, and we look forward to them engaging in Economics further up the school.

Year 10 took part in a Dragon's Den activity on Curriculum Enrichment Day combining both economic and business skills with groups making superb presentations at the end. Well Done!

Mrs Harbott, Teacher of Maths and Economics



BUCHS Bees

"There's a lot to say about Bee Club. Hive inspections, searching for the queen, even cutting down the foliage- such quests have been the highlight of our week. We have learnt so much about the importance and intricacies of beekeeping. They are extremely intelligent, beautiful and are so vital to our ecosystem."



Mili 12.2



"I really enjoyed learning how to inspect the hives, and searching for the mysterious queen bee, that we sadly haven't found yet.

I also discovered the joy of using shears to tidy the apiary. It is a very meditative experience."

Beatrice 12.1





BUCHS Bees Continued



"I have really enjoyed bee keeping at BUCHS. It has been a really fun and interesting experience. It was amazing to be so close to the bees and we even got to try some natural honey!"

Aoife 7B



Parent Prayer Portal

At BUCHS, we believe in the power of prayer and the strength of our community.

Here (<https://forms.office.com/e/XcZd7izUje>) we have provided a space for parents and guardians to submit prayer intentions for yourself, your family, or others in need. Whether you're seeking peace, healing, guidance, or thanksgiving, your request will be held in prayer by our staff during their weekly prayer group.

All of our submissions are treated with care and confidentiality.

You may choose to remain anonymous, or include your name if you wish.

Thank you for allowing us to support you through prayer.



Music

Welcome back to our last Music Department newsletter entry of the academic year here at the Brentwood Ursuline. Thank you very much for your continued support of our students' musical endeavours this half term and throughout the entire academic year. In music this half term, we have had excellent assembly performances, excellent performances from musicians at our junior prize giving, exceptional performances from our July chamber concert and a wonderful performance showcase of the musical 'Six'.

Continued Excellence in Assembly Performances

Our students in assemblies have made themselves and the school proud throughout this half term. I would like to personally thank; Neve J-L, Aimee K, Abigail D, Janice B, Anna-Maria N, Kimberly C, Isabella C, Frances U and Mary H. The students performed wonderfully and showcased their exciting gifts and talents to amplify the theme of the week.

Celebrating success at our Chamber Concert – Monday 7th July

Our students proudly presented their musical performances at our most recent chamber concert. The students all picked pieces which they have been practising over the last couple of months and pieces of music which have inspired them and challenged them to new musical heights. I would like to thank our students who performed: Beatrice S, Quinn W, Ella A, Rachel L, Cecilia G, Mary H, Sofia W, Kimberly C, Amelia F and Sophia A. I would like to also especially thank our teachers and families who attended the concert in support of our students. Additional thanks go to Stephen King who accompanied us on the evening, and Alisdair Hogarth who accompanied Mary.





Music Continued

Music performances at Junior Prize Evening

We once again gathered for our annual Junior Prize Giving on Tuesday 24th June at Brentwood Cathedral. It was an evening of celebration and reflection for all of our hardworking and excellent students. On the evening, several of our students performed to a very high standard and reflected the school's beliefs and ethos. I would like to thank the following students for their excellent performances: Nile M, Kyra S, Anna-Maria N, Isabella C and Ella A. I would like to also thank Stephen King once again for accompanying our students.

Our Collective Performance of Six

Finally, I would like to thank and congratulate all of the students involved in our musical performance of 'Six' which took place on Monday 16th, Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th June. The students were an incredible testament of the power of the arts and additionally showed their incredible potential and commitment. I would like to especially thank the pit band who helped me in all of the music making and performances: Rose H, Louie P, Beatrix M, Olivia K, Keira M and Ms. Giannotti, Sam Barber and Mr. Shaw.





A Joyful Third Visit to the Sisters of Mercy

On Tuesday 8th July, Mr Maynard, Mr Walker and Miss O'Grady were delighted to visit the Sisters of Mercy at The Grange in Brentwood, accompanied by Rachel, Sophia, Ella, Genevieve and Hannah. This was our third visit since the sisters moved in just before Easter, and it was another truly special occasion.

The girls began by each singing a solo hymn, which created a peaceful and reflective atmosphere. They then came together to sing *As I Kneel Before You* and our school song — a moment that brought real joy to the sisters. After this, Sophia and Ella sang two requested pieces from the sisters, performing them beautifully following their previous visit.

We shared drinks and biscuits while enjoying warm and friendly conversations about our summer plans. It was a lovely opportunity to spend time together, reflect on the year, and strengthen our bond with the sisters who now live so close to us.

As we said our goodbyes, we were already making plans for our next visit. We feel incredibly lucky to have the Sisters of Mercy living beside us and wish them a peaceful and joyful summer. We can't wait to see them again soon!

We've included some pictures of our visit below so you can share in the joy of the day.

Miss O'Grady, Head of Key Stage 3





Brentwood Diocese Student Leadership Art Conference

On Wednesday 2nd July, 6 students from Years 7, 8, and 9 went to the Campion school for the annual Brentwood Diocese Student Leadership Conference.

Ella in Year 7 wrote: 'I was lucky enough to be invited to join the school council to visit the Campion School for the day to discuss how we can develop the Catholic Ethos in our school. Bishop Alan made an incredible speech which brought alive what it meant by Catholic Ethos. After enjoying the rest of the speakers, we got together as a group and brainstormed how to implement these ideas in school. This was my favourite part of the day and I am really looking forward to seeing our ideas come to the Ursuline in the next school year.'

Andrea, also in Year 7 said her favourite quote of the day was "Everyone is born as an original, but many people end up dying as photocopies, don't let that happen to you." She said: 'This is my favourite quote from Christus Vivit because it highlights the idea that many people lose their individuality and authenticity as they grow up and conform to societal norms. It's as if they're becoming photocopies of others, rather than staying true to themselves. The quote encourages people to be original, think for themselves, and not just follow the crowds.'

Ms. Gillespie, Lay Chaplain



Competition winner
Zara with her £50
Amazon gift card



Charity School Art Competition Winner!

This summer, the Marillac Neurological Care Centre ran a school art competition to help to raise awareness of the Marillac's work in the local community.

The winners of the competition, judged by John Brandler of Brandler Galleries, would be part of a temporary exhibition at the Holiday Inn Brentwood. The theme was 'Street Art.'

We are proud and delighted to announce that Zara O in 7B was declared the overall winner of the competition and was awarded a £50 Amazon gift voucher.

Furthermore, Mr Kevin Coombes, the General Manager of the Holiday Inn Brentwood was so impressed by the standard of the competition entries that he's expressed interest in framing a small selection of the artworks (as prints) for permanent display in the hotel's public areas.

Congratulations to all our talented BUCHS art students and we hope that many visitors to the Holiday Inn Brentwood enjoy your work as much as we do!



By Caitlin M, 10J

The Duke of Edinburgh

Our experience



OUR DOFE EXPERIENCE TESTED OUR RESILIENCE. AFTER A LONG DAY OF WALKING THROUGH THE ESSEX COUNTRYSIDE, WE ARRIVED AT THE CAMPSITE EXHAUSTED, BUT PROUD. WE ALL WORKED TOGETHER TO PITCH OUR TENTS AND COOK DINNER; WE FELT A STRONG SENSE OF ACHIEVEMENT AND CONNECTION WITH ONE ANOTHER AS TEAMMATES. THERE WERE MANY MOMENTS THAT REMINDED US OF THE IMPORTANCE OF TEAMWORK, A POSITIVE MINDSET AND APPRECIATING THE JOYS OF NATURE. WE FACED THE CHALLENGE OF A HEATWAVE, AS TEMPERATURES REACHED 30° AND THE SUN BLAZING ABOVE OUR HEADS. WE ALL PUSHED THROUGH WITH DETERMINATION, ENCOURAGING EACH OTHER AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, TAKING REGULAR BREAKS TO COOL DOWN. THE EXPERIENCE TESTED OUR ENDURANCE MORE THAN WE ANTICIPATED, BUT ALSO BROUGHT US CLOSER TOGETHER AND TAUGHT US THE IMPORTANCE OF PREPARATION, TEAMWORK AND STAYING COOL UNDER PRESSURE. EXPERIENCING THE BEAUTY OF NATURE WAS A DELIGHT AS WE ENCOUNTERED HORSES, SHEEP AND EVEN ALPACAS!

WE WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ACHIEVE THIS AWARD WITHOUT HELP FROM OUR INCREDIBLE ASSESSORS. WE THANK THEM FOR THE SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT THEY SHOWED US THROUGHOUT OUR EXPEDITION. THEY OFFERED HELPFUL ADVICE AND REASSURED US WHEN TIMES GOT TOUGH. THEIR FRIENDLY ATTITUDE AND GENUINE INTEREST IN OUR PROGRESS HELPED CREATE A POSITIVE ATMOSPHERE, INSPIRING US TO WORK TOGETHER AND GROW TO OUR FULL POTENTIAL. THEIR FEEDBACK AT THE END OF OUR JOURNEY WAS CONSTRUCTIVE BUT ALSO UPLIFTING, REMINDING US OF HOW FAR WE HAD COME AND THE PERSONAL GROWTH WE ACHIEVED.

TAKING PART IN THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD IS ONE OF THE BEST DECISIONS A YOUNG PERSON CAN MAKE. IT'S A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO CHALLENGE YOURSELF, LEARN NEW SKILLS AND GROW IN CONFIDENCE. ALL WHILE HAVING FUN AND MAKING UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES. WHETHER YOU'RE NAVIGATING THROUGH THE COUNTRYSIDE, VOLUNTEERING IN YOUR COMMUNITY OR PICKING UP A NEW HOBBY, DOFE HELPS YOU BECOME MORE INDEPENDENT, RESILIENT AND TEACHES YOU NEW LIFE SKILLS. IT GIVES YOU REAL-LIFE EXPERIENCE THAT SETS YOU APART FROM OTHERS. IT'S MORE THAN JUST AN AWARD- IT'S AN ADVENTURE THAT HELPS SHAPE WHO YOU ARE AND THE PERSON YOU WANT TO BECOME.



Calling all Crocheters and Knitters!



Brentwood Ursuline is proud to support and be part of this event this year. If you can't knit or crochet but have a friend, relative or neighbour who can, please ask them to join in and bring their completed poppies in.

[Poppies on the Pier | Southend Pier & Railway](#)

Please use the link above to download the poppy patterns (both knitting and crochet are available) and bring the completed poppies in to school by 20th September 2025 to Mrs Harbott or Mrs Kempton. They will be delivered in plenty of time before the deadline of 26th September 2025.

If you live that way or have time with your family, please go to have a look.

Theatre Trip

On Thursday 3rd July 2025, our Year 12 A Level History students went to see a play entitled: 'Who is Claude Cahun' at the Southwark Playhouse Borough. We had previously met the writer and producer Rowland Hill at Brentwood Theatre and taken part in a workshop with the play's actors and the director to explore the themes of the production. The play told the story of resistance fighters, Claude Cahun and Marcel Moore in Nazi occupied Jersey. When the island was occupied by the Nazis in 1940, the pair used guerrilla art to actively resist the occupying forces. Pursued by the Gestapo, their true story was a forgotten tale of courage and determination to be true to personal identity. The students and the History staff including Miss Orritt, Mr Earle, Mr Hammons and Mrs Cooper found the play very thought-provoking as it shone a light on real-life resistance heroes, left invisible for too long.

Mrs Cooper, Head of History





LAMDA

Results 2025

LAMDA

London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art

There were 27 entrants from Years 7 to 11 in the most recent cohort.

We are proud and delighted to share that 100% of our students received a Merit or Distinction across 14 medal classes which are also worth UCAS points.

Notable achievements:

Anna C in Year 10 achieved a Distinction at Grade 8 Acting.

Year 11 student Sahara K took a GCSE Science exam in the morning and secured a Grade 8 Musical Theatre Distinction in the afternoon!

Five students utilised their prepared English speeches from the Jack Petchey 'Speak Out Challenge' and gained a Grade 6 in the Public Speaking examinations, supported by Mr Baxter.

Mrs Wortley, Teacher in Charge of Drama



Sports Day

On Friday 11th July, BUCHS staff and students walked over to Brentwood School sports grounds to take part in our annual sports day.

It was a particularly hot day and the students coped very well both as participants and spectators. Students sat together in their houses, wearing house colours cheering on field and track events, plus some additional competitions arranged for Year 12!

On the day, one or two school records were broken, so many congratulations to those students, and everyone who took part either competing, making banners or cheering on their friends.



After the track and field events, Year 12 took part in a tug of war!



Trinity House supporters



Cultural Diversity Day



On Wednesday 25th June, BUCHS came together to celebrate Cultural Diversity Day. Upon our school 'audit', we discovered that, as a school, we celebrate over 70 different cultures; a rich and unique quality that further establishes us as a school 'United in Harmony'. Across the school, students designed their own badges to represent their heritage and proudly wore them on their lanyards. Throughout the day, students were able to participate in various celebratory activities. For Years 9 and 12, the day started with a special performance from a number of students, singing songs from around the world.

The Year 8 Gospel Choir, led by Chesna, opened the event with passion and sheer vocal power; swiftly followed by songs from the Phillipines, Ireland, India, Sri Lanka and Nigeria. There were tasty treats in the canteen, with students trialling dishes from Jamaica, Italy, England, India and China - a massive thank you to Mr Benson.





Cultural Diversity Day Continued



Separately, the school community were invited to a 'bring-and-share' picnic on the field; sharing traditional homemade dishes and much-loved snacks. A group of talented Year 12 students, armoured with makeup brushes and face paint, painted intricate flags and collected money for our 'Insieme' charities. The atmosphere on the day was one of community and inclusivity and we are so proud of the generosity and compassion of our Ursulines; we cannot wait to celebrate next year.

Student quotes:

Favourite activity:

- "My picnic. it was really fun."
- "Badge making, as it allowed us to show our cultures."
- "I enjoyed the form-time quiz because we all participated."
- "My favourite was the bring-and-share picnic because we all got to try different foods from peoples' cultures!"



7A's Cultural picnic



Favourite activity:
 "The picnic because my form and I got to bond a lot and learn about everyone's culture."
 "The singing in assembly because it was nice to see people representing their cultures."



Cultural Diversity Day Continued



Laila F, 9C



Isabella F, 8J



Robyn W, 9T



Amalia Z, 7J



Curriculum Enrichment Day

On Wednesday 18th June, students came off timetable to participate in Curriculum Enrichment Day.

A wide and varied programme had been put together, coordinated by Mrs Harbott and students enjoyed participating in many different activities across the day.

Year 10 were treated to a performance of the school production 'Six' and then took part in lessons around successful branding and their own version of Dragon's Den.

Years 9 and 12 came together to focus on the life of refugees with sessions on shelter building, an experience of having to flee from your homeland and journey to an unfamiliar land via boat.



There was also time for reflection on the plight of refugees today.

Year 7 participated in a 'History Comes Alive' day focussed on the Tudors which included making bread, fashion, dance and music master classes, heraldry, learning about black Tudors, medicine and a murder mystery!

Year 8 looked at exploring Indian culture. They performed some Bollywood dancing, decorated Rangoli patterns in art and researched India's geography.





Curriculum Enrichment Day Continued



"This term, we have been studying the Tudor Period in great depth in our classes. On Wednesday 18th June 2025 we had an entire day dedicated to deepening our knowledge about the Tudors. For our first activity, we were each separated into groups, and experienced different activities. I took part in the murder mystery code-breaking activity, but other activities included a medieval dance lesson, fashion and makeup, food lessons and music.



In the murder mystery lesson, we were placed into small groups and had to break the different clues and codes, as quickly as possible to reveal who was plotting against the Tudors! Eventually our team won, however we were all extremely close!





Curriculum Enrichment Day Continued



For the next session we experienced a history workshop with Karen and Wel from 'Happening History'. They showed us medieval fashion trends and common clothes amongst the rich and poor. We looked at either medicine or armour. I took part in the armour session; we were taught how each piece evolved to be lighter and easier to move in war and were even allowed to try some of the armour on; this included chainmail and helmets. Next, we looked at Tudor medicine, superstitions and Black Tudors who played a large role in shaping society including John Blanke, a royal trumpeter who served King Henry VIII. To finish the day off we also made our own family crest and shield. Overall, my favourite activity was the Tudor masterclass, where I looked at the murder mystery and code."

Martha, 7C





Curriculum Enrichment Day Continued



'Six: Teen Edition' performed to Year 10



Negotiating for materials and building shelters as refugees



Mr Walker guiding 'refugee families' to the boat crossing





Curriculum Enrichment Day Continued



'Refugee families' waiting to cross to a safer country



Year 8 creating some beautiful Rangoli patterns





Curriculum Enrichment Day Continued



Left: Year 8 students rehearsing a Bollywood dance they had been learning.

Year 7 Trip

Visit to Wintershall to Watch 'The Life of Christ'

In June, some Year 7 and 8 students enjoyed a memorable trip to the beautiful Wintershall Estate to watch the open-air production of *The Life of Christ*. Set against the stunning backdrop of the Surrey countryside, the play brought the Gospel stories vividly to life through powerful performances and a breathtaking natural setting.

The girls represented the school brilliantly throughout the day. Despite the soaring temperatures, they showed impressive resilience, staying positive and engaged as they followed the cast through fields, woodland, and open meadows. Along the way, they even spotted some local wildlife, which added an extra sense of adventure to the experience!

The production itself was captivating, moving, thought-provoking, and at times deeply emotional. A couple of students said how special it felt to witness the story unfold in such a unique way.

Even when the return coach was delayed by 75 minutes, the students remained calm, cheerful, and cooperative. Their patience and good humour did not go unnoticed and made the day all the more enjoyable for everyone involved.

Well done to all who took part — a truly memorable trip for all.

Ms. Gillespie, Lay Chaplain





Mass with Bishop Alan

On Wednesday 9th July we shared a really special day as the entire student body gathered in the Merici Hall to celebrate Mass together with Bishop Alan. The occasion was filled with respect, joy, and a deep sense of togetherness.

Bishop Alan spoke about the remarkable character of our students, both past and present, describing them as *"outstanding and amazing"*. His words resonated deeply, affirming the spirit and dedication that defines our school.

During his homily, Bishop Alan reflected on our school's rich 125-year history, acknowledging the legacy of those who came before us and the values that have shaped us. He mentioned how polite our students are when he sees them outside of school and the positive feel he had as he entered school before Mass. He encouraged our students to look ahead with hope and confidence as they step into a future full of opportunity and promise.

The Mass was a powerful reminder of our shared faith, our vibrant community, and the enduring mission of our school. It was a privilege to welcome Bishop Alan, and we are grateful for the time he spent with us to conclude the celebrations of this very special year.

Ms. Gillespie, Lay Chaplain





Sport

It has been as busy year and a jammed packed summer term with many sporting successes.

Athletics

Chelmsford Cup

At the start of term, Year 9 competed in the Chelmsford Cup; an invitational competition featuring some the best schools from Essex, London, Hertfordshire & East Anglia. They did very well to finish 4th out of 32 schools against some strong opposition, this was a great start to the athletics season.



Team:

100m	Chanae
200m	Aiseose
800m	Ria
1500m	Ella
Hurdles	Liya
Shot	Isabel
Javelin	Elizabeth
Discus	Michelle
Long Jump	Kyra
High Jump	Ivy-Rose
4x100m Relay	Chisom Shantay Osese Chanae

English Schools Track & Field Cup

Both intermediate (Year 9 & 10) and junior girls (Year 7 & 8) competed in the English Schools Track & Field Cup this year. After a tough 1st round match in Thurrock, the intermediate girls qualified for a Regional A final for a third year in a row with the junior team going to a Regional B final, again for the third year in a row.

The junior girls worked hard, especially as very few of the Year 8s competed last year. They placed a respectable 22nd in the East of England and some strong foundations were laid to improve next year.

The intermediate girls just missed out on returning to the national final, coming 6th in the East region missing out by two places. However, nationally they achieved the 14th highest score in the regional finals.

Junior Girls Team (both rounds): Jayda, Verity, Breanna, Carisse, Eden, Natanya, Florence P, Florence W, Florence M, Sophie H, Grace L, Diamond, Charlotte, Keziah, Grace A.

Intermediate Girls Team (both rounds): Liya, Josephine, Ufuoma, Chanae, Aiseose, Natalia, Abigail, Osese, Ria, Michelle, Ella, Katie, Nile, Makarria, Chisom, Joyce & Elizabeth.



Sport Continued

Brentwood District Athletics Championship

After winning last year, we were looking to bring the district title back to the Ursuline. On a very sunny day at Melbourne Park, the girls worked hard and competed well to finish the day in second place. With Years 7 and 8 finishing in 3rd, Year 9 finishing second in their individual year groups and the Year 10 team won their title in their final district championships by one point!

As well as the team victory, Ufuoma in Year 10 took the award for Outstanding Female Athlete with three gold medals (100m, shot putt & 4x100m relay). Individually, the girls took 13 Golds, 10 Silvers & 7 Bronzes and broke 1 district record; Ufuoma (Yr 10 100m -12.3s).

Full District Results below.

School	Points	Place
St Martins School	918	1 st
BUCHS	870	2 nd
Shenfield School	814	3 rd
Brentwood School	801	4 th
Becket Keys School	644	5 th
Anglo European School	471	6 th
Brentwood County High School	279	7 th

Individual Track & Field Results

	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10
100M	Breanna – 1 st Lily – 2 nd	Carisse – 6 th Aisosa – 9 th	Chanae – 2 nd Chisom – 4 th	Ufuoma – 1 st Natalia – 5 th
200M	Natanya - 1 st Eden – 2 nd	Florence P – 4 th Grace – 8 th	Shantay -4 th Aiseose – 3 rd	Makarria – 3 rd Ayo – 2 nd
300M		Sophia Lo – 4 th	Osese – 1 st	Abigail – 2 nd
800M	Grace L – 5 th Adrianna – 7 th	Florence M – 5 th Sophia La – 10 th	Michelle – 5 th Ria – 10 th	Alessia – 4 th Christine – 10 th
1500M	Ailish – 11 th Hannah – 12 th	Florence W – 4 th Georgia – 12 th	Ella – 2 nd Alanna – 7 th	Thai'lia – 9 th Lydia – 11 th
HURDLES	Celeste – 6 th	Jayda - 3 rd	Liya – 1 st	Katie – 5 th
RELAY	1 st	4 th	2 nd	1 st
SHOT	Zara – 4 th Ivanna – 10 th	Diamond – 1 st Tolu -8 th	Isabel – 4 th Ria – 5 th	Ufuoma – 1 st Joyce – 2 nd
DISCUS	Evie – 1 st Eden – 12 th	Carisse – 6 th Verity – 4 th	Michelle – 1 st Aiseose – 3 rd	Phoebe – 3 rd Akira – 10 th
JAVELIN	Juliet – 4 th Grace A – 8 th	Charlotte – 2 nd Sophia La – 6 th	Freya – 11 th Libby – 4 th	Abigail – 3 rd Vanessa – 6 th
HAMMER		Tsehαι – 3 rd	Cleo – 4 th	Makarria – 2 nd
LONG JUMP	Amelia – 4 th Celeste – 6 th	Jayda – 5 th Daniella – 14 th	Chanae – 5 th Chisom – 4 th	Cara S – 4 th Christine – 10 th
HIGH JUMP	Breanna – 1 st Michelle -12 th	Ore – 8 th Sophia Lo – 10 th	Liya – 5 th Osese – 4 th	Katie – 1 st Cara O – 5 th
TRIPLE JUMP				Natalia – 6 th Zelda – 9 th



Sport Continued

Representative Athletics

19 Girls from BUCHS were selected to represent our school at the Essex Schools Athletics Championships. As Brentwood is such a competitive district, the girls have done really well just to be selected for this team, and competing in Essex (one of the strongest counties in the country for schools athletics) just to get to a final is a huge achievement. Below are the students selected and the positions achieved.

Minor Girls (Year 7)

100m – Lily - 4th
200m – Natanya - 5th & Eden - Heats
Discus – Evie – 13th

Junior Girls (Years 8 & 9)

300m – Osose – Heats
1500m – Ella – 10th
Hurdles – Liya – Heats
Long Jump – Jayda – 7th & Kyra - 13th
Shot – Isabel - 13th
Discus – Michelle - 9th
Javelin – Elizabeth - 7th
Hammer – Cleo – 12th

Inter Girls (Years 10 & 11)

100m – Ufuoma - 2nd
Pole Vault – Katie - 2nd

The following girls were selected but unable to compete:

Minor Girls (Year 7)

High Jump – Breanna

Inter Girls (Years 10 & 11)

200m – Natalia
300m – Abigail
Hurdles - Josephine

From the Championships, Sam Wright (Year 13) was selected not only to represent Essex, but to be their team captain. Sam led by example, taking gold in the senior boys long jump with a new personal best of 7.39m, and led Essex to the national championship.

Rounders

Years 7-9 teams competed in the annual Brentwood District rallies this term. In a strong field, both the Year 7 and 8 teams finished 4th with the Year 9s doing very well to take 2nd place.

Year 7 Team: Lucille, Ayoola, Grace A, Eden, Poppy, Hetty, Natanya, Juliet, Amelia, Evie, Lulu, Ailish, Darcie, Emily W.

Year 8 Team: Keziah, Tsehai, Lena, Charlotte, Verity, Georgia, Molly, Sophia L, Isla L, Charlene, Florence P.

Year 9 Team: Liya, Grace, Catherine (Catie), Elisabeth, Amelia, Jennifer, Ella, Freya, Olivia, Matilda, India, Poppy, Ivy-Rose, Mollie.



Sport Continued

Sports Day

On Friday 11th July, the whole school made the short trip to the Brentwood School for our sports day. The students competed well and provided a fantastic atmosphere throughout the day, the results are as follows:

House	Place
Ursula's	1 st
Brescia	2 nd
Angela's	3 rd
Clare's	4 th
John's	5 th
Trinity	6 th

School Representation

Over the year, we keep records of the number of students that represent the school in all sports, with a focus on Years 7-10 as they have the full year and can compete in all sports. The percentage of students representing the school in inter-school sport is shown in the table below.

Year Group	%
7	25%
8	22%
9	24%
10	22%

Well done to everyone who has represented the school and further afield this year. The PE Department and I are very proud of your effort and achievements and I hope you are proud of yourselves.

Yours in Sport,

Mr Boshier, Head of PE Department



Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults – Journey of Faith Programme

Since the election of Pope Leo XIV there has been a lot of interest shown in the Roman Catholic Faith. Over the past year or so there has been an upsurge in people seeking entry into the Catholic Church through the RCIA programme.

If anyone is interested in learning more about the Roman Catholic Faith, possibly with the view of receiving the Easter Sacraments next year, please contact Fr John at Brentwood Cathedral, Tel No: 01277 265235 or Frjohnharvey@brcdt.org The RCIA is a systematic programme of instruction in Catholicism covering all aspects of the Roman Catholic Faith. The basis of the course is rooted in the Creed, which we profess each week at Holy Mass. Fr John will be only too happy to sit down with you and explain the whole course, which usually starts at the beginning of September and continues through to the Easter Vigil, which next year is on Saturday 4th April 2026

Email address: cathedral@brcdt.org and website address: www.brentwoodcathedral.org.uk

Parking considerably in Eastfield Road

Parents who pick up their children in Eastfield Road really must have consideration for the people that live there, particularly the elderly and those with mobility issues. There have been times when elderly neighbours have not been able to use the pavement because of big cars taking up so much room that no one can pass. Please also bear in mind that the complaints invariably come to the school, not to the individual drivers, so we are left trying to repair relationships with neighbours that have been damaged by the thoughtless actions of others. It wouldn't do your children any harm to walk the short distance to a car park to meet you! They don't have to be chauffeured door to door every day.

FREE PLACE ON SUMMER MOVIE MAKING FILM CAMP 🎬 🎁 For kids aged 7-16- July 21st @ Brentwood County High School

Dear Parent/Carer,

We hope this message finds you well as the summer holidays approach. We're excited to share a special offer for our upcoming **Summer Filmmaking Workshop Camp** — a chance for one lucky young person to attend **completely free of charge!** Valued at **£349**, this is a fantastic opportunity for a budding filmmaker, actor, or storyteller to dive into the world of film during the holidays.

If your child is curious about **acting, directing, filming, or editing**, and you haven't yet made summer plans, this could be the perfect creative adventure. Places are limited and this free spot won't last long — so if your child would love to explore the magic of filmmaking, **get in touch with us today.**

Make a Movie in a Week: ACTION REPLAY

Over five fun-filled days, crew members produce their own movie from scratch. Taking part is an ideal way to boost creativity, develop new skills and meet new friends. Your young filmmakers will be bending time, slowing it down, speeding it up, and rewinding the action! From epic slow-motion stunts to pulse-pounding ticking clock suspense, **Action Replay** will take young filmmakers on a time-twisting cinematic journey!

"The best holiday course they've ever been on."

Discover unforgettable fun, creative learning and make a movie to be proud of!

Every movie production is completely unique and celebrates the individual creativity of the crew making it. Our team of expert filmmaking instructors guide the young crews through the process from start to finish, helping them to bring their creative visions to life.

At the end of the week, the young film crews will have a fully-fledged movie production to share with family and friends, as well as to add to their portfolios.

Summer Shoots are available at Sparks Film School Brentwood throughout the summer. We offer sibling and group discounts. For more information, dates and availability, please see <https://sparksarts.co.uk/movie-making-summer-camps/>

Brentwood Sparks Art Film School



Lost Property

Please see below unclaimed items found in school. In addition to this, we have a large number of black winter coats. Please let reception know if any of the items belong to you.





Essex County Council

**YOUTH
SERVICE**

15 Shenfield Rd, Brentwood CM15 8AG
Brentwood Youth Centre
presents
**Summer
Fun**

ages 11-19! up to
25 with SEND

2pm-4pm
every Tuesday
29th July to
26th August

For questions or queries, please email
Brentwood.Youthcentre@essex.gov.uk



Essex

ACTIVate

Free holiday clubs, fun activities and food
across Essex and Thurrock!

- ✓ Specialist SEND, mental wellbeing and youth clubs
- ✓ Sports and games, arts and crafts, cooking and so much more!
- ✓ Nutritious snacks and tasty meals
- ✓ Run by qualified, local club providers
- ✓ Family support, resources and guidance
- ✓ Discretionary paid and paid for spaces

WHAT IS ESSEX ACTIVATE?

Essex ActivAte is the name for the exciting activity clubs run by Active Essex! During school holidays, local club providers across the county deliver free holiday clubs and fun activities to get eligible primary and secondary children active, as well as support young people to make friendships and learn new skills, helping to enhance their wellbeing.

Please only book your child/ren a space at an Essex ActivAte club if they will attend. If they are booked on and do not attend, other children may miss out on this beneficial opportunity across the holidays.

www.activeessex.org



@EssexActivAte

SCAN ME





If you have lost a loved one, friend or
colleague to suicide, please join us
for an afternoon at:



Butterfly Meadow
Hall Lane, Shenfield, CM15 9AN
Saturday 13th September 2025
12:00 - 16:00

On street parking available

Some of the organisations involved:



info@bennettsfunerals
01277 210104



Brentwood Ursuline
Convent High School *Founded 1900*

Newsletter
Summer 2 2025

Essex County Council

**YOUTH
SERVICE**

SEND DISCO

When:
30th July,
13th & 27th August
6pm-8pm

Who:
ages 13 -25
with special
educational
needs

Where:

Southernhay Youth Centre

Basildon
SS14 1EL



Please Scan the
QR
code to register
attendance





Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust (BSCWT)

The Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust (BSCWT) is an educational charity which has been serving and supporting schools and young people in the Brentwood and surrounding area for over 30 years.

We are delighted to have had this charity, and its staff and volunteers, support our school community for many years and in many ways. BSCWT serves over 35 schools in the local area, providing assemblies, lessons, clubs, pupil support and reflective prayer spaces (accessible to pupils of any faith and no faith).

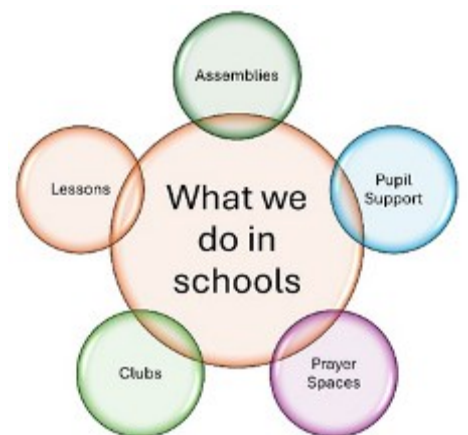
One of the main benefits of having support from BSCWT is they voluntarily support our school community. There is no cost to schools. BSCWT is funded by local churches, individuals, legacies and grants.

As a school we very much value the help BSCWT provides. They are currently seeking to raise the necessary funding to enable their work within schools to continue at current levels and we would very much like to continue receiving their help and support.

If you would like to support this local charity, please visit <https://bscwt.org/donate> or contact office@bscwt.org for more information.

Comments from school staff and pupils:

“You gave me stability at a time when I couldn’t predict one day to the next. I really will be eternally grateful for your support”



“You all did an amazing job, and the pupils seemed so engaged. What an incredible team you are. We are very lucky to have you with us.

“The events that you have run with our children have been amazing and we would like to thank you for all your hard work. The children have loved taking part.”

Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust (BSCWT)

is a registered charity in England & Wales No: 1172358

Registered office: 49 Coxtie Green Road, Pilgrims Hatch, Brentwood, Essex CM14 5PS

T: 01277 523522

E: office@bscwt.org

W: bscwt.org

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