

Bristol Brunel Academy

Termly Newsletter

From The Principal

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

I cannot believe that we are at the end of Term One and have already accomplished so many things. Our Year 11 students have begun their first round of mock exams. This is an important time for them and they have worked hard, have prepared well and have shown great maturity throughout.

Our Year 7 students have settled into the way we do things at BBA and have really made a great start, impressing their year team and teachers.

Our enrichment clubs are up and running and have been attended well throughout the term, please encourage your child to take part as we definitely have something for everybody.

Ours sports teams are also up and running and they have been competing in a number of fixtures and tournaments across the Bristol area. It is great to see so many students from all years taking part and representing our Academy with such professionalism and pride.

Students across all years are rehearsing for the production which they will perform at the end of February, always a very professional event showcasing our students' talents and abilities.

Our student council met with Kerry McCarthy and had the opportunity to ask her about SEN funding, neurodiversity and local issues that are important to young people in our surrounding areas.

I wish you a very happy half term break and look forward to welcoming all of our students back on Monday 3rd November.

Jen Cusack

October 2025



Key Information

Key dates for Term 2:

Monday 3rd November	First day of Term 2
Tuesday 11th November	Art & Technology exhibition 4.00 - 6.00pm
Thursday 4th December	Year 11 Parents' Evening 3.30 - 7.00pm
Friday 5th December	Year 11 mock interviews
Tuesday 9th December	Flu immunisations
Thursday 11th December	Winter Festival
Friday 12th December	Year 10 & 11 drama trip
Friday 19th December	End of term

Important reminders:

- The deadline for Year 7 school applications is Friday 31st October (apply through Bristol City Council website)

Year Team contact details:

Year group:	Email:	Contact number:
Year 7	bbayear7team@clf.uk	07599101207
Year 8	bbayear8team@clf.uk	07599101208
Year 9	bbayear9team@clf.uk	07599101209
Year 10	bbayear10team@clf.uk	07599101211
Year 11	bbayear11team@clf.uk	07599101203

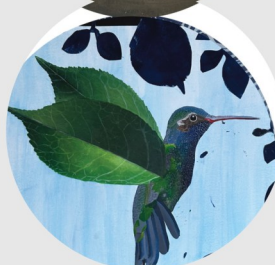
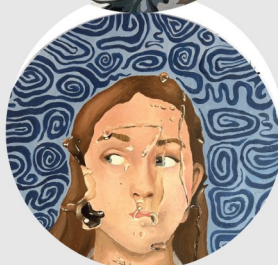
BBA SHOWCASE

ART

PHOTOGRAPHY

&

TECHNOLOGY



WHEN:

11/11/25

WHERE:

THE HALL
BRISTOL BRUNEL ACADEMY

OPENING:

11/11

TIME:

4:15 PM - 6:30 PM

SHOWING WORK OF YEAR 11 ALUMNI 2024-
2025 AND CURRENT YEAR 11

bristolbrunelacademy.clf.uk

School Performance 2026



We're thrilled to announce that rehearsals have begun for this year's school musical, Return to the Forbidden Planet!

With students involved from Year 7 all the way up to our seasoned Year 10 performers, the cast is already getting

stuck into the show - building bold, quirky characters and having a great time bringing this sci-fi rock 'n' roll adventure to life.

Packed with classic hits like Great Balls of Fire, Good Vibrations, and more, this production promises to be a fun, high-energy experience for all ages.

- Performance Dates: 3rd – 5th March 2026
Sneak Preview: Winter Show – 11th December

Tickets on sale soon!

Performing Arts Team

Term 1

Celebration Evening

Tuesday 21st October

Our celebration evening was a joyous opportunity to celebrate the achievements of so many of our students who always do the right thing and make wonderful contributions to our academy culture. Firstly, we celebrated our incredible Brunel Way Backpack Winners: Colton Price, Eva-Simone Mayo, Freddie Walker, Isaac Philip, Dillon Rowland and Alice Hewitt - these star students received prizes and were showered in praise from their teachers.



Ms Cusack had the privilege of presenting the Principal's Award to two deserving students Leia Prior and Sam Murray, both of whom have made huge contributions to our Academy and have been true ambassadors for the values of BBA.



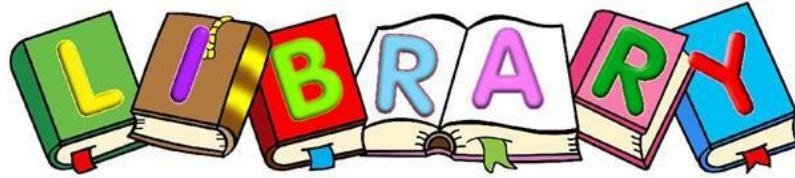
Next, we celebrated the brilliance of our Duke of Edinburgh students who have achieved their Bronze and Silver awards. Ms Jackson led the praise for these resilient, committed and impressive students who completed the volunteering, skills and physical elements of the award, along with the demanding but rewarding expeditions. Our gathering of students and parents had the pleasure of watching some of the video projects, full of spirited fun, interactions with nature and some dubious dance moves! Well done to all our DofE participants.



Current
Year 10
Bronze
Award



Current
Year 11
Silver
Award



Congratulations to our
first **Double Word**
Millionaire

Halima M read **2,237,155**
words

and **Word Millionaire** **Clark S** read
1,604,221 words

Congratulations to our **TOP SCORING**

Year 7s so far this year

Zion E read **659,266** words

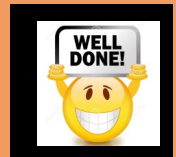
Syeda Z read **318,745** words

Rava R read **290,515** words



and **Year 8s**

Essien O'B-W read **416,789** words

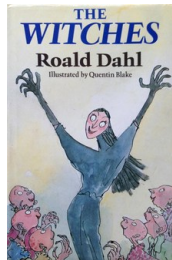


1. Who wrote **The Graveyard Book**?

- Terry Pratchett b. Suzanne Collins
c. Neil Gaiman

2. How many witches appear
in **Macbeth**? a. 2 b. 9 c. 3

3. In **The Witches** by Roald
Dahl what is the name of the
hero? a. Danny b. Luke c. we
never find out?



4. In "**Room on the Broom**"
what is the first thing the
witch loses? a. her hat b. her cauldron c.
her wand d. her hairbow?

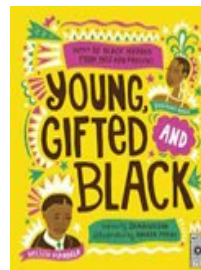
5. Who writes the **Goosebumps** series?

- a. Christopher Pike b. R.L Stine
c. Steven King

6. How does the wicked witch in **Snow
White** die? a. chokes with rage
b. chokes on an apple c. she melts

7. What is the title of
the 4th and final
Twilight book?

- a. Breaking Dawn
b. New Moon



Meet **FIGUREHEADS, LEADERS & PIONEERS**
such as Martin Luther King, Nelson Man-
dela and Rosa Parks, as well as **CUL-
TURAL TRAILBLAZERS & SPORTING
HEROES**, including Stevie Wonder,
Oprah Winfrey & Serena Williams.
Discover how their childhood dreams
and experiences influenced their adult
achievements.



The Library is open at **break & lunchtime**

and **before & after school** for homework/quiet
study

Also try these great sites for some online reading:

<https://www.worldbookday.com/online-masterclasses/>

Food For Thought

The chefs in GT9 have been brilliant this term! Miss Cole has been really impressed with everyone's listening skills, teamwork, and enthusiasm in the kitchen.

Year 7 have been mastering knife skills.

Year 8 cooked macaroni cheese while learning about ultra-processed foods,



Year 9 made lasagne and developed their product analysis skills.

Year 10 created warming winter soups and some very posh sushi, showing real flair and creativity.



Year 11 have started their coursework and are planning food experiments to test their ideas. Fantastic work from all our young chefs – keep it up .

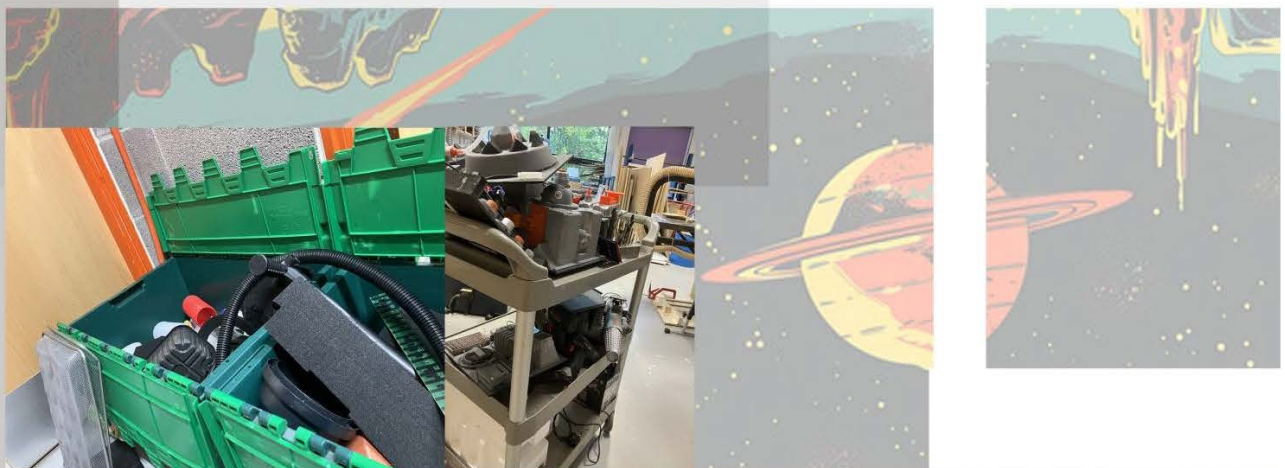
Ms Cole

Thursday Tech Club.

With the annual productions at BBA steadily growing larger in scope and more ambitious, this year marks a first (at least in Mr Ferguson's tenure here): an overwhelming amount of students wishing to volunteer their time in contributing towards stagecraft of the upcoming show 'Return To The Forbidden Planet' – prop making, designing and decorating set and scenery as well as contributing to the backstage magic that makes it all possible.

Music and Drama Techs John and Luke have answered the call by forming Thursday Tech Club: combining their creative talents to lead a group of students in the art of 'kitbashing' – using odds and ends, scrap and recycled materials to fabricate props. A trip to the Scrapstore in St Werberghs, along with materials scavenged from around the school has led to Tech Club whipping up a range of Sci-fi B-movie backpacks for the cast in just the first two sessions.

Future plans for tech club will involve making more costumes, props and some set building and decorating as the production gets underway. As with 2023's We Will Rock You and last year's production of Sister Act, there will also be a team of students running the audio visual parts of the production, working on makeup and costume and ensuring that everything runs smoothly.



Kinship Carer Support

Are you a kinship carer?

Kinship carers are:

- friends or family who step in to raise a child when their parents may not be able to
- may be temporary or long term carers

Examples of kinship carers:

- a grandparent whose grandchild has come to live with them
- taking care of a younger sibling or niece
- a kinship carer in a formal foster care arrangement or special guardianship order

There are more than 141,000 children living in kinship care in England and Wales (source: Kinship care charity), so you are certainly not alone.

If you are a kinship carer, please let us know. This will help us to better support you and your child, and we will be able to signpost you to further help and advice. We will handle any information shared sensitively.

Our Kinship Lead is **Jenny Ross** and you can contact her by email (jennifer.ross@clf.uk) or speak to the relevant year team. Our Kinship



Community Opportunities

Free LGBTQ+ youth sessions

Proud to Be sessions for young people aged 11-19 who are LGBTQ+ or questioning their gender/sexuality

The Station, Silver Street, BS1 2AG
Every other Monday 4pm-6pm

Hanham Youth Centre, High Street, BS15 3EJ
One Friday a month 4.15pm-6.15pm

More info



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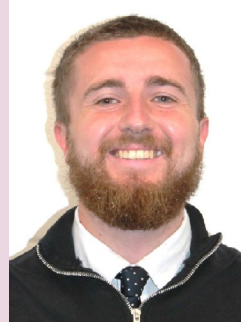
laura.cooke@creativeyouthnetwork.org.uk



Year 7



Ms Griffiths
Associate Assistant
Principal
SLT link



Mr Withers
Academic
Year
Lead

Mr Sanday
Pastoral
Support
Leader



Ms Kaur
Pastoral
Support
Officer



Contact details: BBAYear7Team@clf.uk

Netball results:

Great success for one of our first PE fixtures of the year. Our group of Year 7 girls travelled to Oasis Brightstowe for netball.

The team played really well and were complimented on their sportsmanship and confidence with the rules.



The game was brilliant to umpire and see that our pupils knew the more advanced rules and what to do when the whistle was blown. We won 7 - 1. Viola was awarded player of the match by Oasis.

Ms Jackson

Year 7 D & T

This term, Year 7 have been learning about different materials in Design Technology. So far we have learnt about soft and hard woods and ferrous, non-ferrous metals and alloys. Here are some photos from the woodwork lessons. Students had design and make a Pacman out of wood.



Joseph



Tessa



Ethan

Year 8



Ms Griffiths
Associate
Assistant
Principal



Mr Iwan Jones
Head of Year

Ms Buckingham
Pastoral
Support
Leader



Contact details: BBAYear7Team@clf.uk

Year 8



Ms Griffiths
Associate
Assistant
Principal



Mr Iwan Jones
Head of Year

Ms Buckingham
Pastoral
Support
Leader



Contact details: BBAYear7Team@clf.uk

Year 8 Netball Success

I had a lovely evening taking a group 8 girls to Oasis Brightstowe for a netball match. It was made even better that we won both our games and were complimented on our sportsmanship and confidence with the rules.

The year 8 team held their own and had to dig deep at times. They kept their head up and didn't let the pressure get to them. We won 6 - 4. Faith was awarded player of the match by Oasis.

Ms Jackson



Year 9



Mr Green
Associate
Assistant
Principal



Mr Slocombe
Head of Year

Ms Heatherson.
Pastoral
Support
Lead



Ms Ackerman
Pastoral
Support
Officer

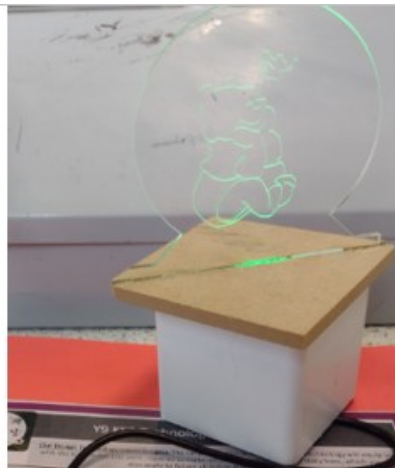


Contact details: BBAYear8Team@clf.uk

Year 9 Product Design



Maya



Cobie



Sumaya

This term in Product Design, year 9 have been making lamps. When plugged in, the colours change and the acrylic top is illuminated in different colours. Here are a few examples.

Year 10



Ms Curtis
Associate
Assistant
Principal

Ms Ahmed
Head of Year



Mr O'Callaghan
Pastoral Sup-

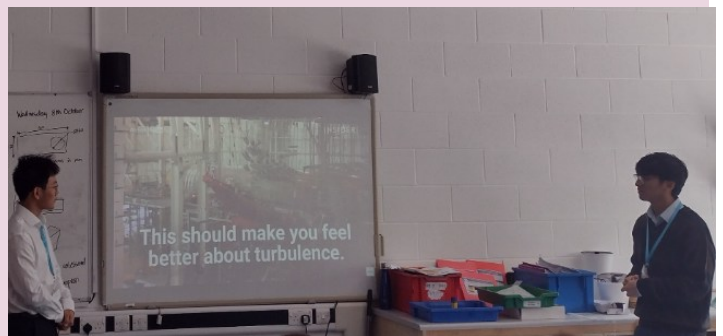
Abigail Hamblett
Pastoral Support



Contact details: BBAYear10Team@clf.uk

Year 10 Engineering

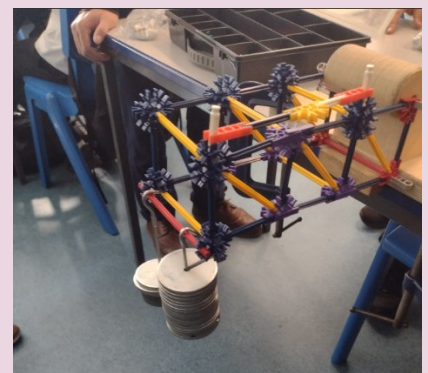
Over the last couple of weeks, we have been hosting Airbus Engineers, who have been working with our four Year 10 Engineering classes.



They first introduced themselves by talking about their route into Engineering. They then talked through how commercial aircraft wings are designed and tested. Students then had to design, build and test their aircraft wings.

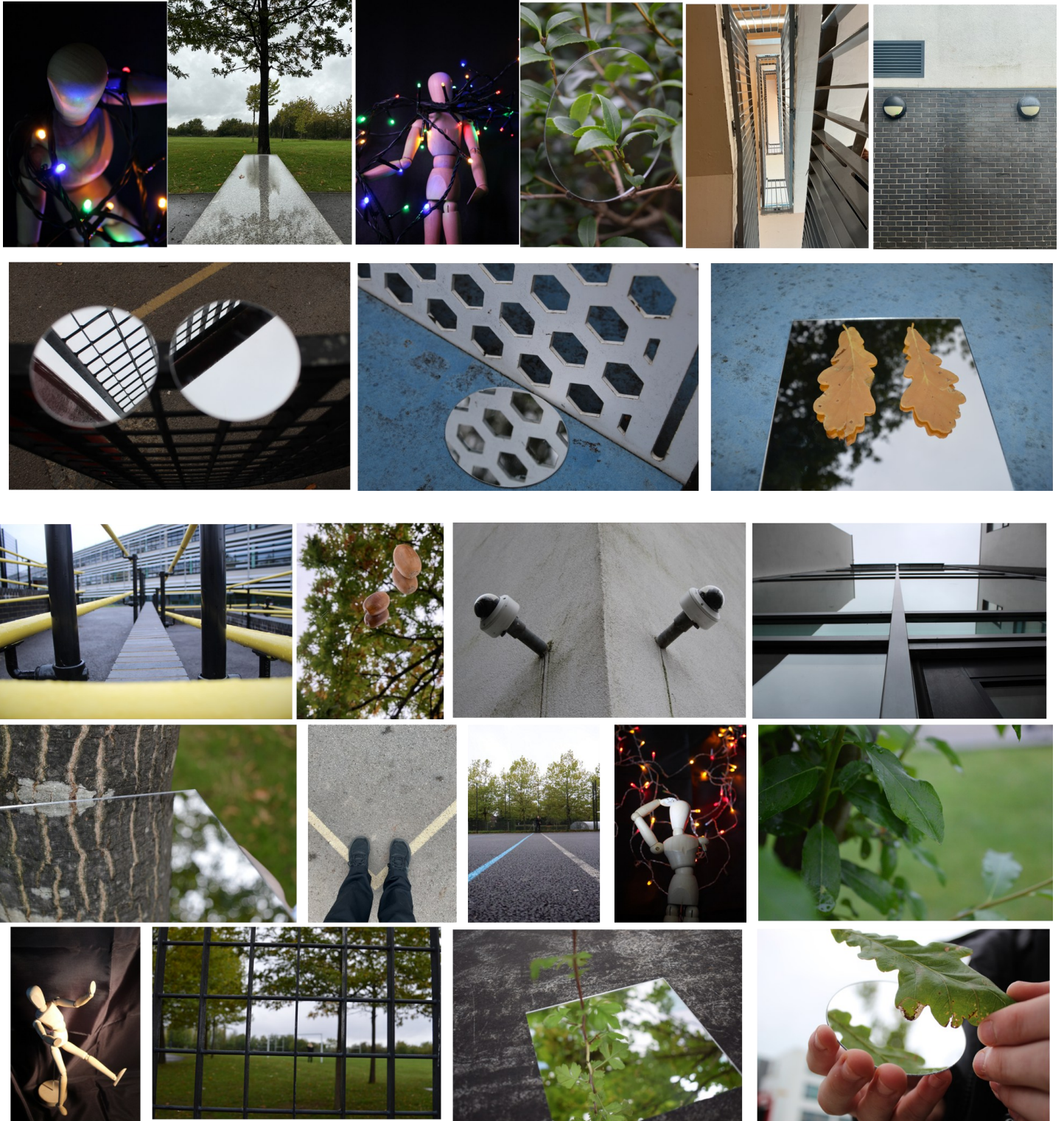


Students thoroughly enjoyed the sessions with Vena's wing design exhausting all the Airbus weights.



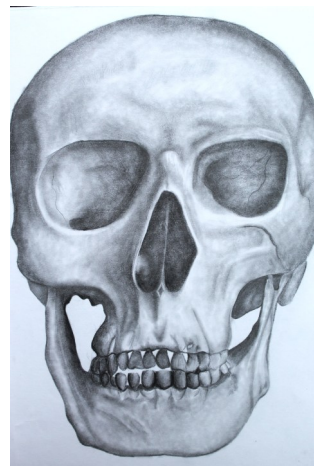
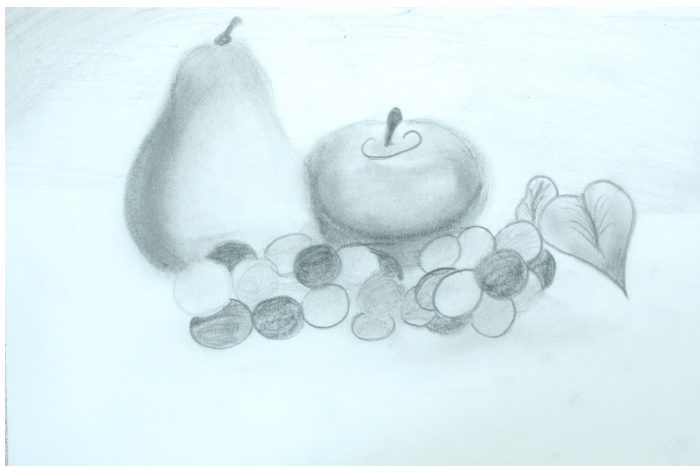
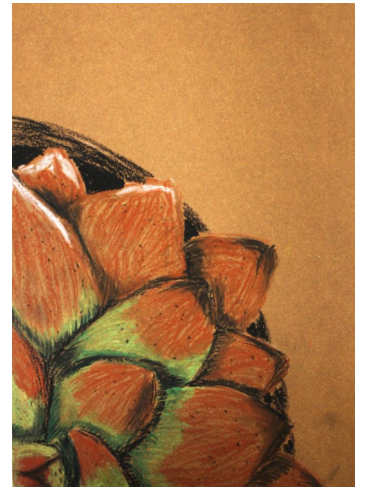
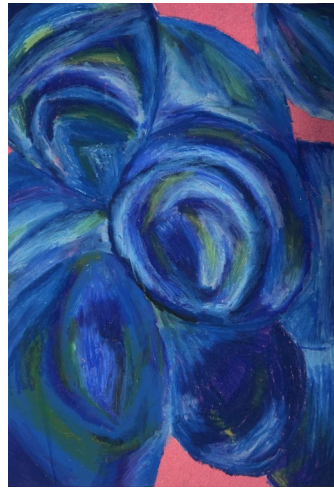
Year 10 GCSE Photography

Amazing photos from Year 10 to start off their GCSE photography with Mrs Darby



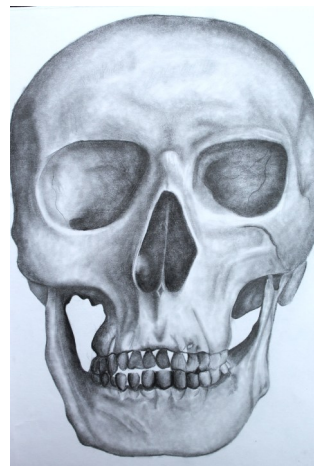
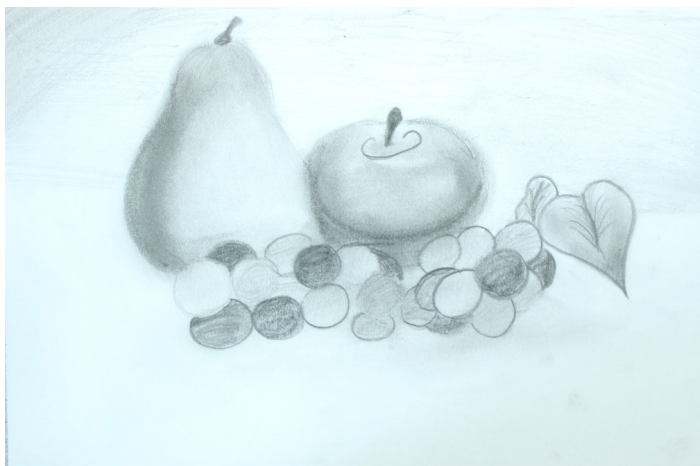
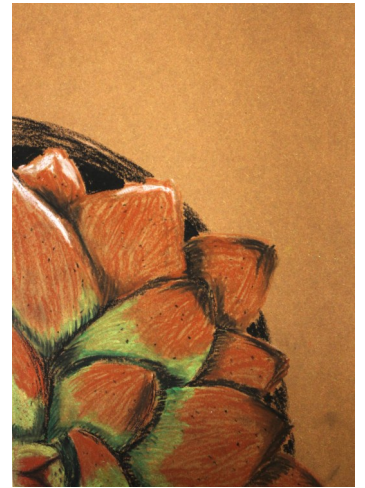
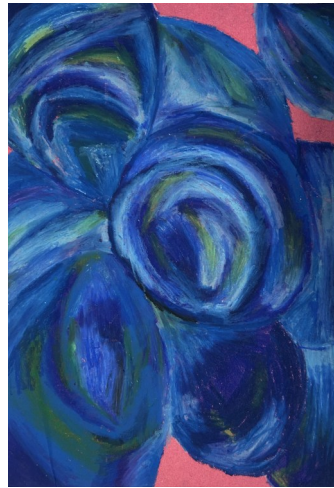
Year 10 Art GCSE

The Year 10 GCSE art students have made an amazing start to their GCSE. They have been making art based on the theme of natural forms in a range of materials including colouring pencil, pencil, pen and oil pastel.



Year 10 Art GCSE

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Year 11



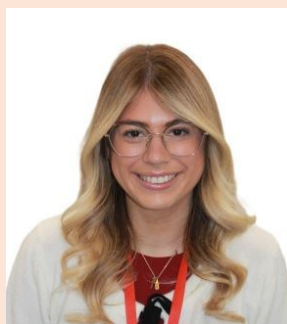
Mr Busby
Associate
Assistant
Principal



Ms Baker
Head of Year



Mr Hall
Pastoral Support
Leader



Amber Smith
Pastoral
Support Officer

Contact details: BBAYear10Team@clf.uk

Our U16 National Basketball team opened their season with an exciting away game against Bristol Metropolitan Academy. Playing in front of a full home crowd of students and parents, BMA provided a strong challenge and pushed us to our limits. The game was tightly contested throughout all four quarters, ending in a 44–44 draw and going into overtime. It was a fantastic display of effort, teamwork, and resilience from both sides. In the end BBA came out winners 54:50.

A special mention goes to Amin (Year 10), who was named Player of the Match for his outstanding defensive effort against BMA's key player, even after fouling out, showing real commitment and determination. We're proud of how our boys are finding their rhythm early in the season and look forward to building on this strong start. We would also like to invite you to join us for our next home game in Term 2. Your support means a lot to the team.

Year 11: Dillon Zac, Henry, Denis, Jayden, Cortez, Muhammad, Jaidon, Jacob.

Year 10: Naeem, Reuben, Amin.

Martin Ngai

Enrichment Clubs Term 2

Day	Club	For who	Staff	Room	Times
Monday	Duke of Edinburgh Bronze	Year 9	Ms Jackson / Mr Smerdon	SC2/3	3-4pm
	Rugby	Year 8 Boys	Mr Meredith	PE	3-4pm
	School Production Rehearsals	All	Various (Mr Salida)	Main Hall	3-5pm
	Board games and Card Club	All	Ms Ahmed	F1	3-4pm
	Magic The Gathering Club	All	Ms Smart	F6b	3-4pm
	Culture Club	All	Ms Korimbocus	S8a	3-4pm
	LGBTQ+ Club	All	Ms Kightley	FS8	3-4pm
	Further Maths Club	Year 11	Ms Harrison-Wan Mr Flannigan	F5	3-4pm
	Eco Club	All	Ms Grimes / Ali/Tate	FS7	3-4pm
	Basketball	Year 7 8 and 9	PE	PE	3-4pm
Tuesday	Netball	All	PE + Ms Griffiths	PE	3-4pm
	Jigsaw Puzzle Club	All	Ms Shaw	F7	3-4pm
	Adventurers Guild (D&D)	All	Ms Greensmith	S8a/b	3-4pm
	Creative Writing Club	All	Ms Payne	SC1/ Library	3-4pm
	No Clubs				
	Rugby	Yr7 Boys	Mr Meredith	PE	3-4pm
	Girls Basketball	All Girls	Ms Payton	Sports hall	3-4pm
	Textiles Club	All	Ms Simmons	GT7/8	3-4pm
	Conversational Spanish Club	Year 9-11	Ms Brown	S2b	3-4pm
	Politics Club	All	Mr Jenkins	S4	3-4pm
Thursday	Lego Club	Year 7-8	Ms Fuorvito	S5b	3-4pm
	ART Club	Year 10-11	Ms Darby	SA3	3-4pm
	British Sign Language Club	All	Ms Hawkins	GT6	3-4pm
	School Production Rehearsals	All	Mr Salida et Al	Main Hall	3-5pm
	Performance Technology Club	All	Mr Szmidt / Mr Wade	Main hall control room	3-4:30pm
	Crochet Club	All	Ms Kightley	IS4	3-4pm
	Astronomy Club	Year 10	Mr Smerdon / Symons	FS5	3-4pm
	Retro-Games Club	All	Mr Mead	SC2/3	3-4pm
	Basketball	Year 10/11 Boys	Mr Ngai	Sports hall	3-4pm
	Table Tennis Club	All	Mr Day / Mr Wignall	Dance studio	3-4pm
Wednesday	No Clubs				
	Rugby	Yr7 Boys	Mr Meredith	PE	3-4pm
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