

# Bristol Brunel Academy

## Termly Newsletter

May 2025



### A message from the Principal

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of the Academy. It is greatly appreciated and continues to make a real difference to the success of our students.

We are pleased to share that our new system for managing lateness is already having a positive impact. More students are arriving on time and making the most of their learning, which is something we are absolutely delighted with. A reminder that all students need to be in the Academy between 8:20 and 8:30am, ready to start their day. For those who would like to arrive a little earlier, our Breakfast Club opens from 8:10am, and we encourage students to make use of this valuable opportunity.

As you look through this newsletter, you will see just how much talent we have to celebrate. The quality of the work our students are producing continues to impress us and is a source of great pride across the Academy.

A quick uniform reminder: blazers remain optional for Term 6 due to the warmer weather, but we do expect all other elements of the uniform to be worn, including the BBA tie. Thank you for your continued support with maintaining our high standards.

We are, however, seeing a rise in the number of students using mobile phones and headphones during the school day. While we recognise that social media is a large part of many students' lives, school is not the place for it. We want to encourage our students to talk with each other and be present in their learning environment. As a reminder, phones and headphones seen during the day will be confiscated and stored in the school safe until the end of the day. Please support us by reinforcing this message with your child.

Finally, as the weather warms up, students are welcome to wear tailored school shorts, which are widely available in supermarkets. Please note that only formal, tailored 'school' shorts are permitted—casual or sports shorts are not allowed. Your support in maintaining these standards is much appreciated.

Thank you once again for all that you do to support the Academy. We look forward to sharing more celebrations with you soon.

Thanks

Jen Cusack



# Ski Trip

2025 saw the return of ski trips to BBA after a long absence. The trip took place in the first week of the Easter Holiday and was a resounding success thanks in no small part to the organisational efforts of Ms Jackson.

Students left school on the Saturday afternoon and after 27hrs (yes 27!) reached their destination of Aprica in the Italian Alps. First impressions gave us all cause for concern when we didn't see much snow but that was short lived and very much gone by the time we got to the slopes the following day.

The group was mainly made up of people new to skiing including some of the staff and so for the first few days we were confined to the nursery slopes as students learnt the basics., essentially how not to go too fast and how to turn. It did take some of the students a bit of time to realise that the aim was not to go fast but to be under control!

Those students who had prior experience of skiing headed straight to the pistes with a instructor to guide them.





By Wednesday, skills were improving no end and students moved to the piste immediately next to the nursery for longer runs, still aiming at control.

Thursday saw the groups move to the higher pistes with the instructors confident that our students could control and manoeuvre themselves.

Friday saw more running on the pistes and exploring the mountains and a real chance to appreciate the spectacular views.



After lunch on the final day there was a chance to celebrate the success of the students and some staff in mastering the basics of skiing with an awards celebration with the instructors.

Finally after an even longer return trip (thank you customs!) the coach got back to the Academy late on Saturday evening.



# Thorpe Park Reward trip

Thorpe Park - Thursday 8th May

Our annual trip to Thorpe Park was again a huge success and thoroughly enjoyed by all students that attended. This year we rewarded the top 50 students in each year group that have received the most House Points.



The students and staff that attended had the best day, riding old favourites like Nemesis Inferno, Swarm and the water rides. They were also fortunate to ride the new rollercoaster, Hyperia, the highest in the UK.

It is fantastic to be able to recognise the achievements of all these students, yet we know that there were many more that unfortunately were unable to attend that have also regularly done the right thing every single day.



# Bronze D of E Expeditions

Dear all

I wanted to share with you all photos from the amazing expeditions our Year 9 have been on during Term 4 and Term 5. I'm so pleased to say that all will have passed the expedition section of the DofE program once their projects from the walk are complete.



As much as their expedition had a few bumps along the way, they were overall the most successful and least stressful expedition I've been part of. This is down to the dedication of the pupils, their maturity and support from staff along the way. All pupils worked hard and stuck together as a team. It was amazing to see our pupils thrive in a new environment.

Ms Jackson



# The Big Run

I want to congratulate our amazing team who participated in the Bristol 10k yesterday (see some snaps below). Everyone did a fantastic job, completing the race despite the warm weather. We are also deeply grateful to everyone who donated, helping us raise over £2,000 for the incredible work that OTR continues to do.

OTR is a mental health social movement by and for young people aged 11-25 living in Bristol and South Gloucestershire. Getting free support couldn't be easier. Come along to one of our regular Hubs or explore this website and sign-up directly to the project or service you want to try.

<https://www.otrbristol.org.uk/>





# UKMT Maths Challenge

On May 1st, we had a record 140 Year 7 and year 8 students participate in the Junior Maths Challenge. We are excitedly waiting to see how many Bronze, Silver and Gold awards we have!

Earlier in the year we participated in the Intermediate Maths Challenge and I am very pleased to confirm the below achievements:

## Bronze Award

Year 9: Ubaid, Freddie, Luca, Sam L, Sam T, Ronny, Hadiyah and Rehana

Year 10: Henry and Nathan

Year 11: Madinah and Gabe

## Silver Award

Year 9: Manha, Hugo, Iris, Miguel and Tom

Year 10: Billy, Isaiah, Eleanor, Benjamin and Muhammad

Year 11: Fin

## Gold Award

Year 9: Sufian, Olivia and Noah

Year 10: Belle

Year 11: Arham, Anna, Harrison, John and Kabir

Olivia in Year 9 went on to achieve a Bronze award in her follow on round and Arham in Year 11 achieved a Gold in his follow on round.

Well done everyone who took part!

Mrs Shaw



**United Kingdom  
Mathematics Trust**

# Appeal for Sports Kit

## **Academy Appeal for Sports Equipment.**

The PE Department

With Year 11 leaving shortly, it's a great time to think about donating old but usable kit to the school. We will put a bucket in reception for Year 11 when they come in during term 5. Once they have finished with their PE kits, please drop them at reception.

Donations of PE kit would be really welcome. Thank you for your support.

As ever, boots suitable for the 4G pitch are always very welcome.





# Cheerleading

## Cheerleading Showcase 2025

On the last day of Term 4, students from across Years 7 and 8 performed to a packed out audience of parents, family, friends and staff. It was a fantastic way to end the term and received brilliant feedback from the crowd! Students had been working so hard on their skills and choreography for several terms, and it was a lovely way to round off all of the hard work that had been put in, well done to all involved!



# **Bring a bag to school this term for our School Textile bank**

**Everything you donate raises  
funds for our children.**

- ☒ **Clean clothing**
- ☒ **Pairs of shoes** ☒ **Bras**
- ☒ **Bags** ☒ **Belts**





# Year 7



Ms Griffiths  
Associate  
Assistant  
Principal



Mr Iwan Jones  
Head of Year

Ms Buckingham  
Pastoral  
Support  
Leader



Mr Carstairs  
Pastoral  
Support  
Officer



Contact details: [BBAYear7Team@clf.uk](mailto:BBAYear7Team@clf.uk)

## Year 7 Mega Rugby Fest

April saw our Y7 Rugby Boys take part in a Mega Rugby Fest that was held at the Bristol Bears High Performance Centre at Failand. I'm delighted to say that not only did the occasion engage our students, but they also once again represented our school community superbly.

A couple of hours coaching along with a Q&A with Bristol Bears Men's and Women's players helped to create a really inspiring experience.

The boys certainly had their imaginations captured by the incredibly professional set up.

Mr Meredith

# Year 7 Sport

The Y7 boys football season continued in Term 5.

16 students proudly and enthusiastically took to the astro in an entertaining friendly fixture with Kings Oak Academy Whilst the scoreline may not have been in our favour (a goal filled 4-7 loss) it didn't prevent our students from demonstrating some excellent personal qualities along with genuine potential.

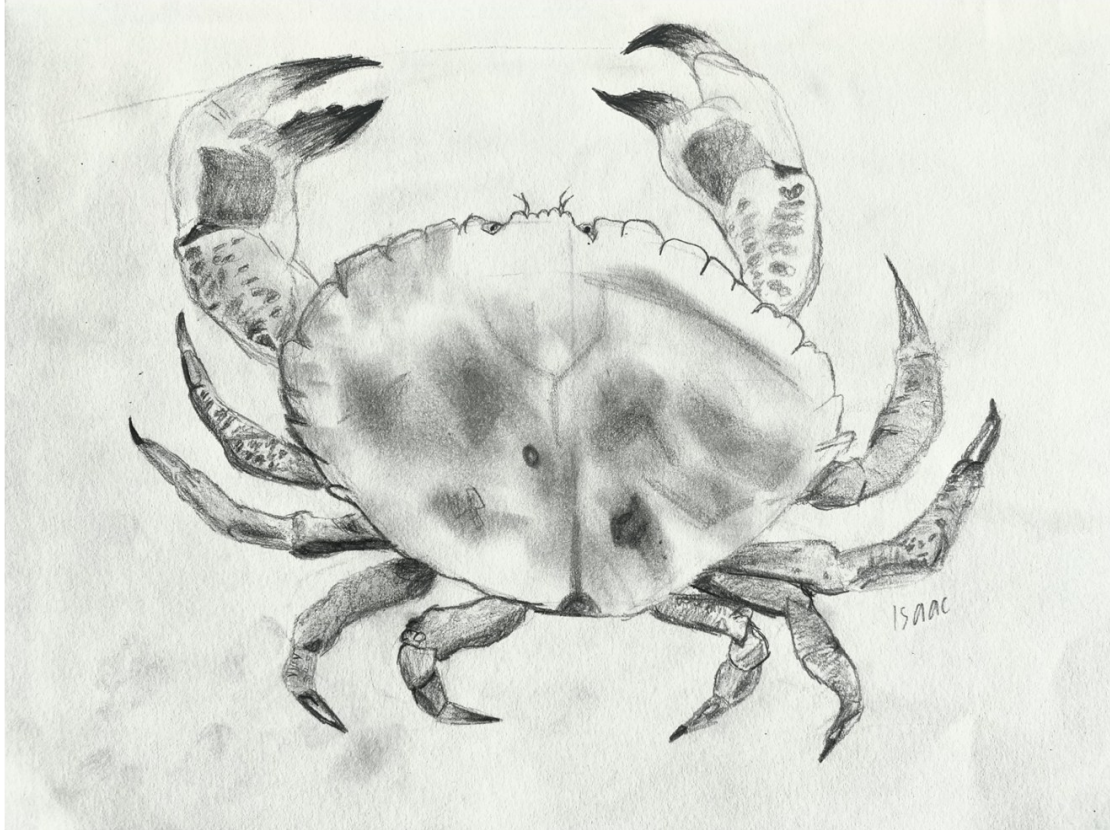
The Y7 Boys took ownership of this fixture from the first minute, running rolling substitutions with independence and complete confidence and showing just exactly how much it means to them to represent the school. Each student fully acknowledging the importance of equal pitch time. The end of the first half saw our students 1-5 down, but an encouraging and resilient second half performance saw the game end 4-7.





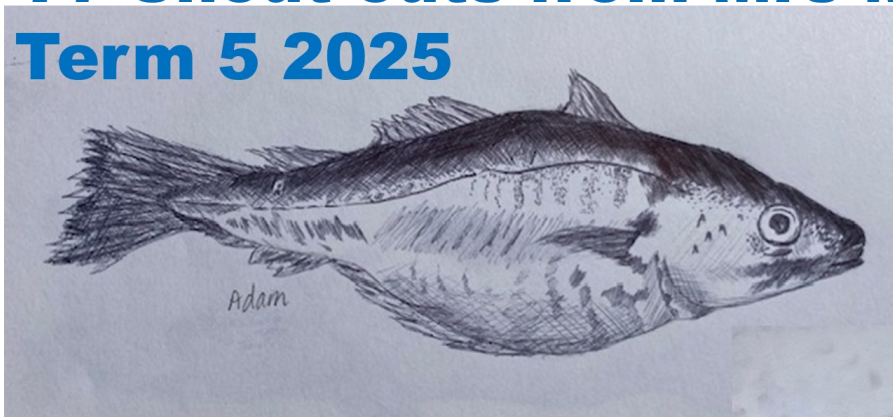
# Year 7 Art

**ART Shout Outs to Y7 students from Mrs McBride**  
**Amazing talent and creativity with use of TONE in these pencil drawings!**



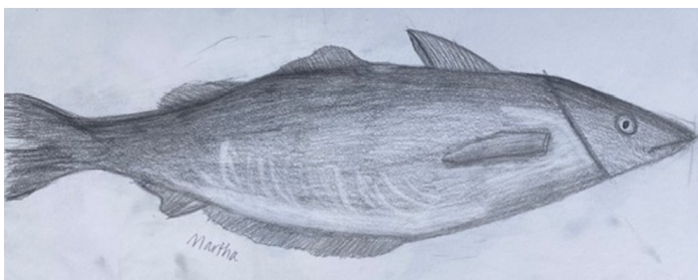
Isaac B

## **Y7 Shout outs from Mrs McBride** **Term 5 2025**



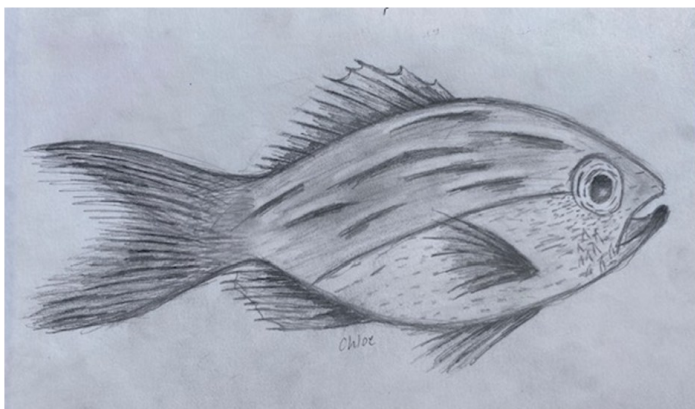
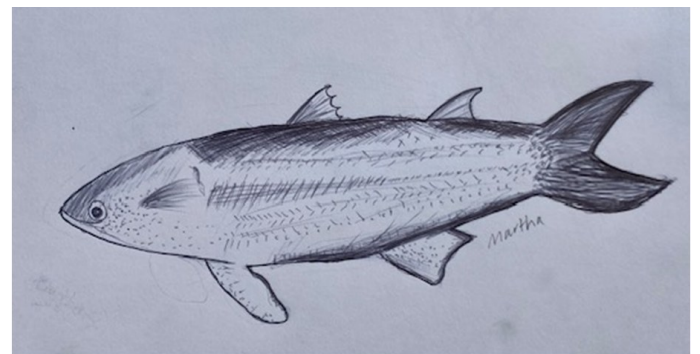
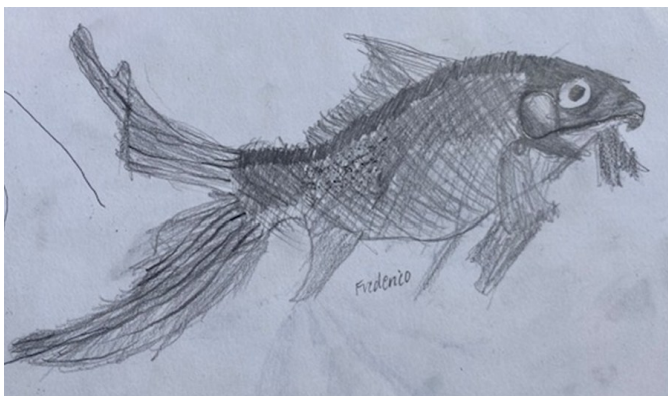
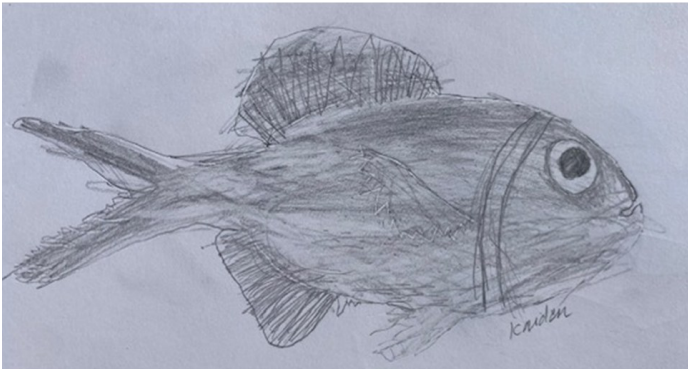
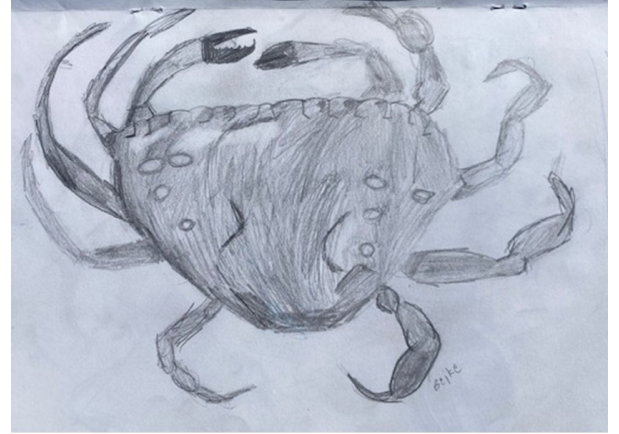
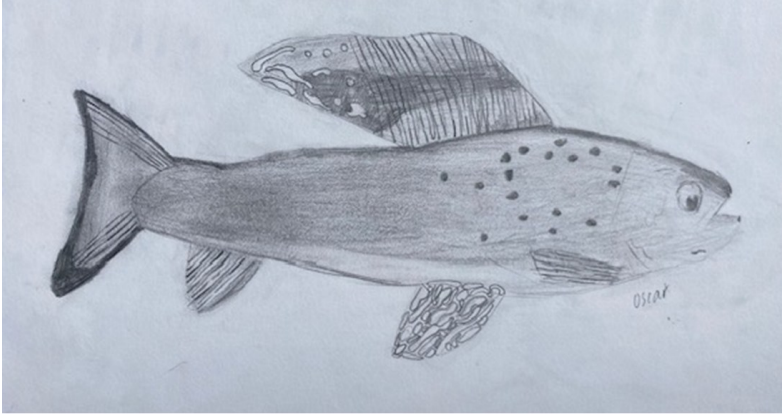
Y7 have been learning how to use **TONE** and **MARK MAKING** by drawing sea life using pencil and biro.

I'm so impressed with these outcomes!





# Year 7 Art





# Year 8



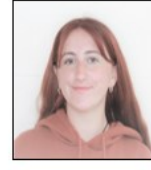
**Mrs Godsall**  
Assistant Principal



**Mr Slocombe**  
Head of Year



**Miss Heatherson**  
Pastoral Year Lead



**Miss Rumming**  
Pastoral Support  
Assistant

**8TCO-M1 / F6A**



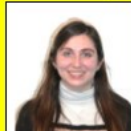
**Mrs Coke**

**8SWA -M2 /S2A**



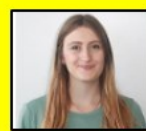
**Miss Walsh**

**8EFU-A3 / S6**



**Miss Fuorvito**

**8DMI -A3/ S12A**



**Miss Minns**

**TSY-R5 / FS6**



**Mr Symons**

**8JRG-R6 / FS3**



**Mr Rogers**

**8RSK-S9 / FS9**



**Miss Sky**

**8DBY-S8/FS9**



**Mr Busby**

Contact details: [BBAYear8Team@clf.uk](mailto:BBAYear8Team@clf.uk)

## Y8 Shout Outs from Mrs McBride T5 May 2025

Y8 Students have been learning about the features of landscapes and practicing their skills using pencil crayons. Great job Y8!

Liam



Eva



Rayya



Henry





# Year 8 Art



Oakley



Marley



Alina



Sam

# Year 9



Ms Milburn  
Associate  
Assistant  
Principle

Ms Ahmed  
Head of Year 9



Mr O'Callaghan    Abigail Hamblett  
Pastoral Support    Pastoral Support  
Leader                Officer



Contact details: [BBAYear9Team@clf.uk](mailto:BBAYear9Team@clf.uk)

# Year 9

## **A message from Miss Ahmed, Head of Year 9**

As Term 5 draws to a close, I want to take a moment to acknowledge the energy, effort, and enthusiasm Year 9 students have shown over the past weeks. From their engagement in lessons to their involvement in wider school life, it's been a pleasure to get to know the students during my first term at BBA!

I'm delighted to introduce myself as the new Head of Year 9. It's a privilege to be working with such a vibrant and capable year group, and I'm looking forward to supporting them through the final term and into their journey as they begin GCSE's.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable break.

Miss Ahmed

## **GCSE Options update:**

We are currently in the final stages of reviewing and confirming Year 9 students' GCSE option choices.

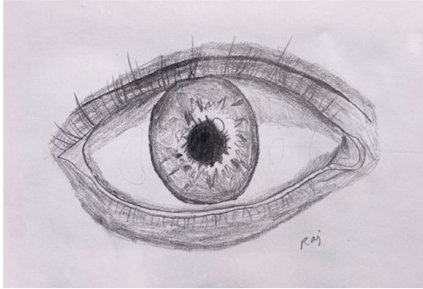
Thank you for your support throughout this important process. Final allocations will be shared with students and families in the coming weeks.



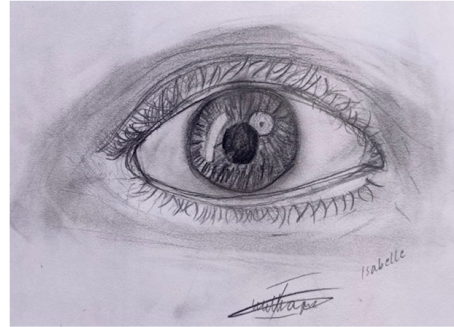
# Year 9 Art

Y9 have been investigating portraits and have created some wonderful tonal studies of eyes in pencil. SO IMPRESSIVE! Well done Y9!

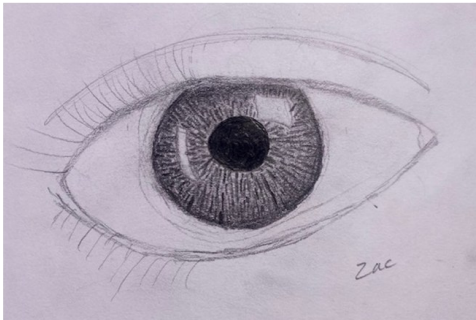
Raj



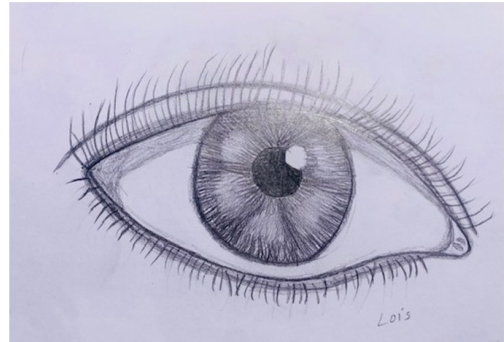
Isabelle



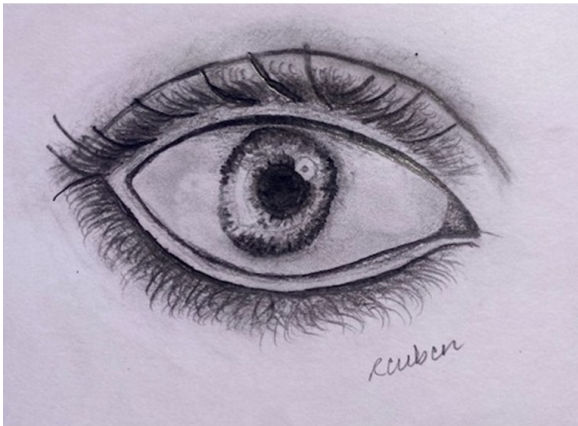
Zac



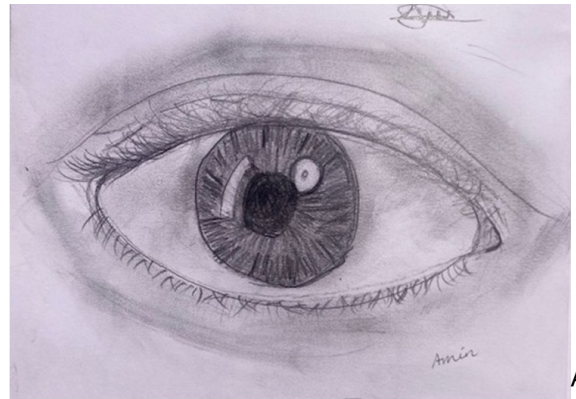
Lois



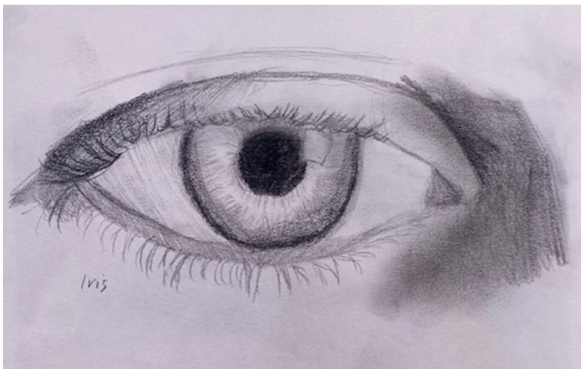
Reuben



Amin



Iris

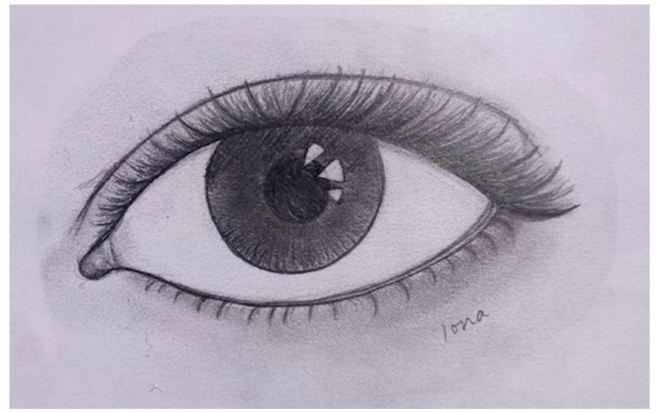


Freddie

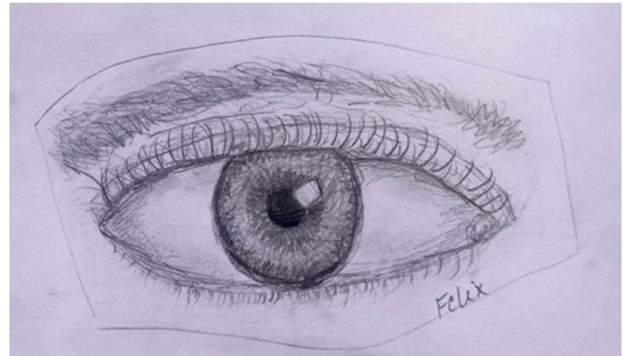




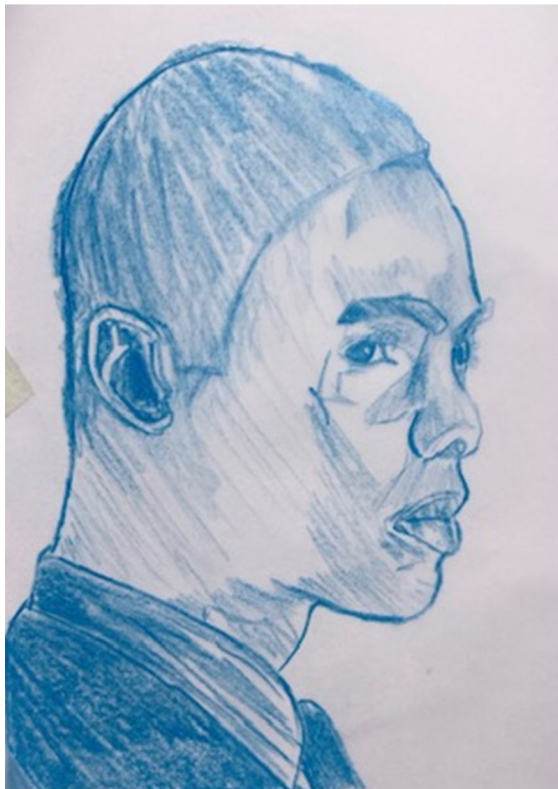
Esther



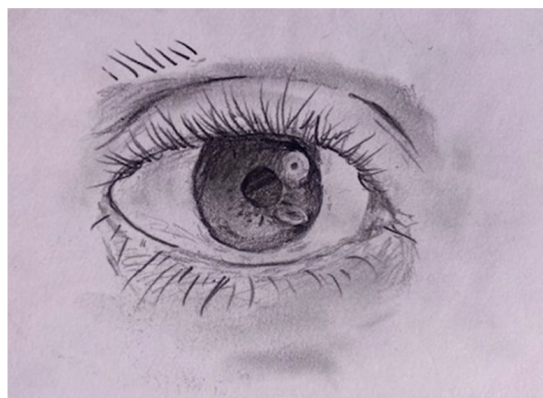
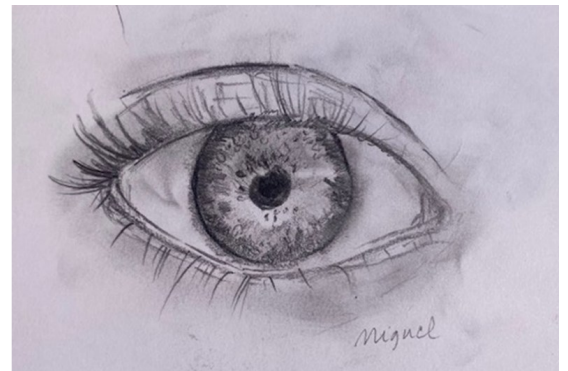
Iona



Felix



Miguel

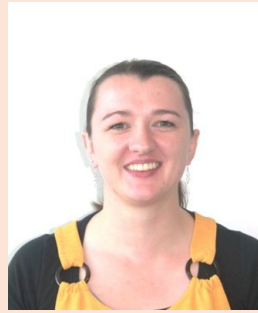




# Year 10



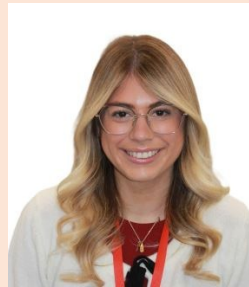
Mr Ferguson  
Associate  
Assistant  
Principal



Ms Baker  
Head of Year



Mr Hall  
Pastoral Support  
Leader



Amber Smith  
Pastoral  
Support Officer

Contact details: [BBAYear10Team@clf.uk](mailto:BBAYear10Team@clf.uk)

## CONGRATULATIONS Y10 ARTISTS!

Y10 have been working on their project- 'Close Up' and have been inspired by a range of styles and artists. More to follow in the next newsletter but here is a selection of sketchbook work....



Zach



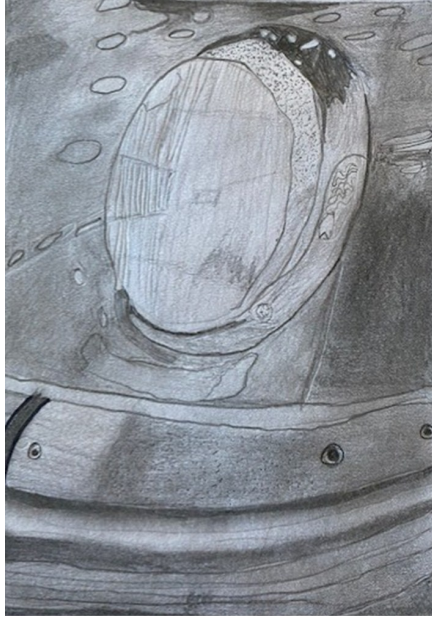
Tojes



# Year 10 Art



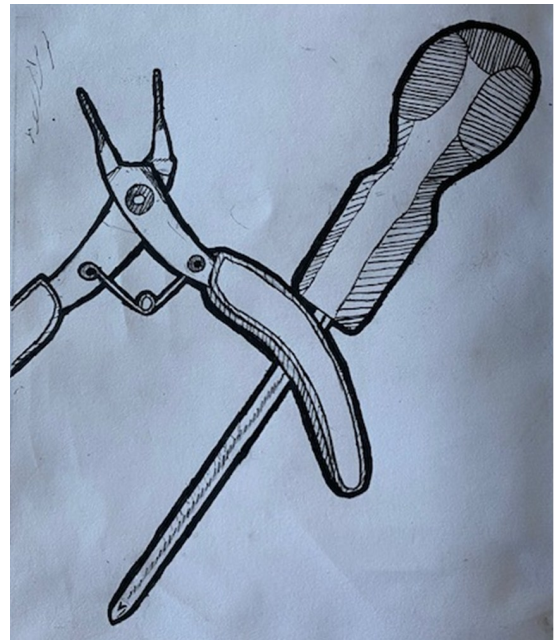
Kamil



Noraiz



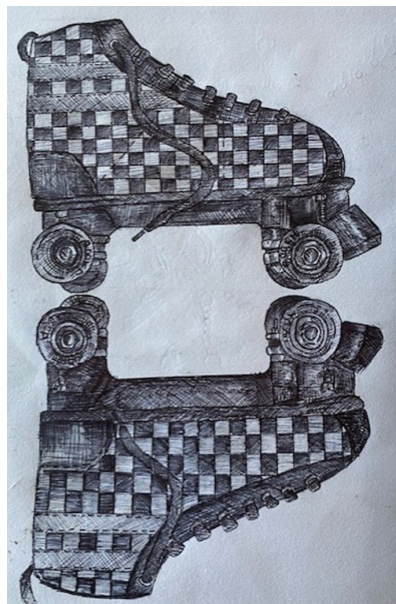
Sebi



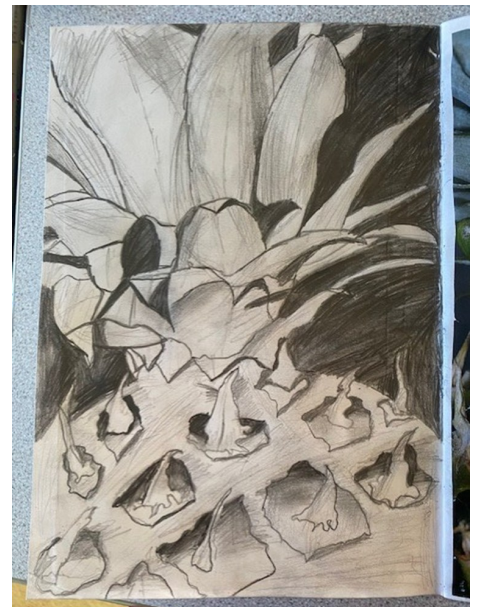
Josh



Liam



Sophie





# Work Experience Week

The week commencing 28th April BBA had its Work Experience week. During this week half the year group went out to different work experience placements around Bristol, including the NHS, Bath University, Bristol Uni, Rolls Royce, different primary schools and even restaurants.

We had some very positive feedback overall including the below comment from a local primary school:

“Our students are enjoying their week with us, and the teachers have reported that they are all doing really well, and being very respectful and polite. They are a really lovely bunch. Nice to see them all again! They have been keen to learn, and to ask lots of questions. Some budding teachers there I think!”

One of our students undertook a placement within the Sports Industry and gave the following feedback:

## **What tasks or projects were you involved in?**

“Lab testing and seeing how the Sports Scientists test athletes respiratory rate within a lab environment”

## **What did you find most challenging?**

“It was challenging learning a lot of new information at once”

## **Did the placement meet your expectations?**

“It was better than I expected, I tried so many different things and learnt so much!”

We are incredibly proud of the students who performed at such a high level during their Work Experience placement and represented BBA in the way we know they can.



Department  
for Work &  
Pensions

# Work Experience Week

During Work Experience week, a number of Year 10 students remained on site.

We hosted a number of different assemblies; City of Bristol College discussing 'College Life', the Civil Service and Apprenticeship information.

We also had our Work Experience day on Monday 28th April.

Students first had an assembly from DWP before rotating throughout the day in different workshops. In the morning, multiple employers and colleges were present for a Careers Fair, giving students the opportunity to interact with a range of employers and expand their knowledge of future career opportunities.

Students then participated in workshops from a variety of providers including Architecture with HTA, Apprenticeships within Construction with Wilmot Dixon, Sports Coordination with the Bristol City Robins Foundation and even the bleep Test with Learning Curve, the education practise for the Army!



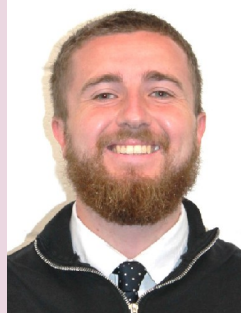
Department  
for Work &  
Pensions



# Year 11



Mr Green  
Associate  
Assistant  
Principal



Mr Withers  
Academic  
Year  
Lead

Mr Sanday  
Pastoral  
Support  
Leader



Ms Kaur  
Pastoral  
Support  
Officer



Contact details: [BBAYear11Team@clf.uk](mailto:BBAYear11Team@clf.uk)

## Year 11 Football

The Y11 Boys Football played away to Fairfield High School. A closely contested fixture but a game where our students displayed some exceptional personal qualities. A goal scoring debut for Valentine, whose relentless pressing and work rate paid off as BBA took a lead into the second half.

Despite the tireless work rate from BBA, the physical power of Fairfield's centre forward finally made its impact as he struck the equalising goal. Our students came off the pitch proud of their efforts and fully acknowledging that a score draw away from home was a very good result.

A special mention to Shayzan, Solly and Aman who all stepped in at the 11th hour to ensure we were able to field a side for this game. The player of match was awarded to Elliott, who not only put in a brilliant performance (playing out of position) but also showed tremendous leadership and really led by example throughout the game. His leadership really helped the team throughout the game.

# Enrichment Term 6

Day	Club	For who	Staff	Room	
Monday	Duke of Edinburgh Silver	Year 10	Ms Jackson	SC2/3	
	Volleyball	All	Mr Ngai	PE	
	Eco Club	All	Ms Grimes	FS7 / FC1	
Tuesday	Adventurers Guild	All	Ms Greensmith	F6a/b	
	Neurodiversity Club	All	Ms Pearce	F1	Lunchtime
	Creative writing competition	All	Ms C Payne	SC4	
	Athletics	Year 7-8	Ms Jackson	PE	
	Culture Club	Year7-9	Ms Korimbocus	S8a	
	Manga Drawing Club	Year 7-9	Ms Phillips	SA1	
	Lego Club	Year 7-9	Ms Martin	S15	
	KS4 Art Club	Year 10-11	Ms Darby	SA3	
	Crochet Club	All	Quinn	LS4	
Thursday	Board Game Club (inc Card and Chess)	All	Ms Walsh	S14	
	Mindfullness drawing	all	Ms Coke	F6a	
	LGBTQ+ Club	All	Ms Harrison-Wan	F3	Lunchtime
	Engineering Club	Yr10	Ms Bush	GT8	
	Magic The Gathering Club	All	Ms Smart	F5	
	Cricket Club	Yr 9-11	Mr Busby / Slocombe	PE	
	Cricket Club	Yr 7-8	Mr Flannigan/ Ngai	PE	
	Film Club	All	Mr Rogers	FS3	Lunchtime
	Rounders for all	All	Ms Chaplin	PE	
	Retro-gaming club	all	Mr Mead	SC3	
Friday	Astronomy Club	Year 9	Mr Smerdon / Symmons	FS5	
	Table Tennis Club	For all	Mr Wignal /Mr Barber	PE	
	KS4 Art Club	Year 10-11	Ms Darby	SA3	





The final expedition for the Year 9 bronze award was completed in the first week of the term. Again we were been incredibly lucky with the weather for both expeditions. All students have provisionally passed the expedition pending their project work.

Things never seem to go quite as smoothly as planned. Just when you think surely nobody could go wrong there.....! But students did incredibly well in self correcting, especially in the second expedition.

It's now the big push for the silver expeditions in the summer term. Lots of planning to be done and memories to be made.

Ms Jackson

## Astronomy club

This term, we have been looking at the movement of objects in the night sky and how to spot them; from star trail images to meteor showers, comets and even the International Space Station. We also looked into the practicalities of going observing for an evening. Believe it or not, there are specialist websites with astronomy weather forecasts.

We are going to finish off the term making pinhole cameras which should enable to observe the sun safely.

Mr Smerdon

# Local Enrichment Opportunities



Brunel Fitness Centre  
Speedwell Rd  
Bristol BS15 1NU

## Junior Gym Program @ BFC

Gym Access For 8 to 14 Year Olds

Brunel Fitness Centre are proud to provide our exceptional 'Junior Gym Program' to the local community with supervised sessions for youths.

### Program Includes

- ✓ Junior Gym
- ✓ Junior Circuits
- ✓ £17.50 Monthly
- ✓ £6.00 PAYG

### Days/Times



Weekdays 15:30-16:30  
Weekends 11:00-12:00  
Holidays 11:00-12:00



☎ 0117 377 0098 ✉ [brunel@almsport.co.uk](mailto:brunel@almsport.co.uk) 🌐 [brunelfitness.co.uk](http://brunelfitness.co.uk) 📱 @brunelfitnesscentre



Brunel Fitness Centre  
Speedwell Rd  
Bristol BS15 1NU

## Junior Boxing @ BFC

Non Contact Boxing Sessions  
For 8 to 14 Year Olds

Brunel Fitness Centre is proud to offer Non Contact Boxing sessions to Juniors. Sessions are tailored towards helping Juniors to achieve their Preliminary, Standard & Bronze Awards in Boxing. The sessions are delivered by a Certified Non Contact Boxing Tutor.

### Prices

- ✓ £17.50 Monthly as part of our Junior Membership
- ✓ £6.00 PAYG

### Days/Times

Every Tuesday 16:30-17:30



☎ 0117 377 0098 ✉ [brunel@almsport.co.uk](mailto:brunel@almsport.co.uk) 🌐 [brunelfitness.co.uk](http://brunelfitness.co.uk) 📱 @brunelfitnesscentre



Brunel Fitness Centre  
Speedwell Rd  
Bristol BS15 1NU

## Junior Lifting Club @ BFC

Free-Weight Sessions For 8 to 14 Year Olds

Brunel Fitness Centre now runs 'Junior Lifting Club'. This session aims to help Juniors learn correct lifting form for free-weights in a safe & controlled environment. This session is instructed by a fully qualified Level 3 Personal Trainer.

### Prices

- ✓ £17.50 Monthly as part of our Junior Membership
- ✓ £6.00 PAYG

### Days/Times

Every Thursday 16:30-17:30

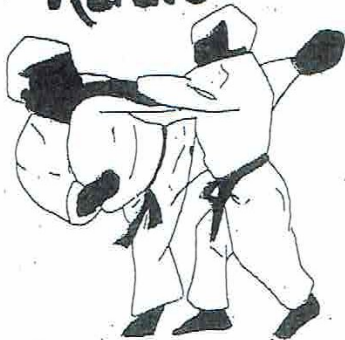


☎ 0117 377 0098 ✉ [brunel@almsport.co.uk](mailto:brunel@almsport.co.uk) 🌐 [brunelfitness.co.uk](http://brunelfitness.co.uk) 📱 @brunelfitnesscentre



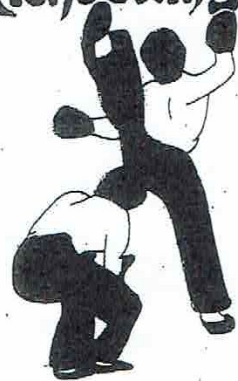
# Learn

## Karate



## Self Defence

## Kickboxing



English Contact Karate Association.

Bristol Brunel Academy  
Speedwell Road  
Speedwell  
Bristol  
BS15 1NU

## Kick Boxing Club

INSTRUCTOR: P. BIGGS

07970 791192

Tuesdays

7.00pm - 8.30pm



# WANT TO PLAY RUGBY?



## RECRUITING RECEPTION - Y9



## WHITEHALL JUNIORS WANT YOU!



## #NOTJUSTARUGBYCLUB



WHITEHALL JUNIORS RFC

WHITEHALL.JUNIORS@GMAIL.COM

FOUNDRY LANE, SPEEDWELL.

BRISTOL, BS5 7UE





# DOWNEND FLYERS U16 GIANTS



## Recruiting for Next Season!

- Not getting enough game time?
- No pathway to women's football?
  - Want to play up a year?
  - Considering a change of club?
- Never played for a team but want to give it a go?

If you answer YES to any of the above our dedicated coaching team would love to hear from you.

**Training: Thursdays | Games: Sundays**

**Venue: Pomphrey Hill Playing Fields, BS16 7JR**

If you are interested or have any further questions  
please email [info@downendflyers.com](mailto:info@downendflyers.com)