

The Brunel Times

Term 6, 2025 -2026



Student Spotlight: Alfie Y10

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

The summer term has certainly been full of surprises, with the school closure due to the heat being a first for BBA. As you know, we have also introduced phone pouches this term. We know that it will take some time for students to get used to not having access to their phones during the school day, we have already seen increased engagement in lessons, which is exactly what we hoped to achieve. Our Year 11 students have now completed their time with us and the next time we see them will be in August when they return to collect their results – an occasion we are very much looking forward to. At the time of writing, the Paris trip, Sports Day and the Prom are still to come, and I am sure they will all be fantastic events and memorable experiences for our students.

We hope that you have a great summer break and look forward to welcoming all of our students back to BBA including our new year 7 students.



Key Information

Useful Dates

Date	Year	Event
Monday 7 th September	Year 7 only	First day of Term 1
Tuesday 8 th September	Year 8 - 11	All other students return
Monday 14 th -Thursday 17 th September	Year 8	Residential camp
Thursday 24 th September	Prospective Parents	Open Evening
Thursday 1 st October	Year 7 and Learning Support	Year 7 tutor evening Learning Support evening
Wednesday 21 st October	Whole School	End of term
Thursday 22 nd October	Whole School	INSET day
Friday 23 rd October	Whole School	INSET day
Monday 2 nd November	Whole School	First day of Term 2

Reminders!

- Year 7 student start on Monday 7th September
- All other year groups return on Tuesday 8th September
- Student must bring their Yondr pouch back to school in September

TIMINGS OF THE DAY IN SEPTEMBER

Year Group	Email	Phone
Year 7	bbayear7team@clf.uk	07599101207
Year 8	bbayear8team@clf.uk	07599101208
Year 9	bbayear10team@clf.uk	07599101209
Year 10	bbayear10team@clf.uk	07599101211
Year 11	bbayear11team@clf.uk	07599101203

Tutor	8:35 - 9:00
Period 1	9:00 - 10:00
Period 2	10:00 - 10:50
Break	10:50 - 11:10
Period 3	11:10 - 12:00
Period 4	12:00 - 12:50
Lunch	12:50 - 13:20
Period 5	13:20 - 14:10
Period 6	14:10 - 15:00

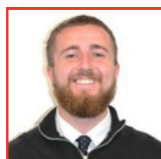
Year 7 Team

bbayear7team@clf.uk

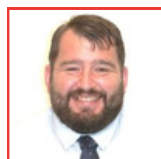
[07599101207](tel:07599101207)



Ms Griffiths
Associate Assistant
Principal



Mr Withers
Head of Year



Mr Sanday
Pastoral Support
Leader



Ms Kaur
Pastoral Support
Officer

It has been a pleasure to watch the Year 7s grow and adapt to life in secondary school this year. There have been a lot of ups and a few downs but the Year 7s have made a great start to life in secondary school and I hope they carry that momentum over into Year 8. It was a shame that we had to postpone Year 7 camp but a revised date has been arranged and communication has gone out about this. Lets hope a September heatwave does not derail this camp too!

We hope you all have lovely summer. Stay safe.

Year 8 Team

bbayear8team@clf.uk

[07599101208](tel:07599101208)



Mr Saunders
Assistant Principal



Mr Jones
Head of Year



Ms Buckingham
Pastoral Support
Leader



Miss Helm
Pastoral Support
Officer

We are incredibly proud of our Year 8 students and all they have achieved this year. They have shown great determination, resilience, and maturity in their learning, consistently working hard and striving to do their best. Taking part in as many activities as possible. Throughout the year, they have embraced challenges, supported one another, and demonstrated a positive attitude both in and out of the classroom. Their commitment and effort have been outstanding, and they should be very proud of everything they have accomplished. We look forward to the next stage of their school journey, Year 9. Yes, it's gone so fast- Year 9, options year!

Year 9 Team

bbayear9team@clf.uk

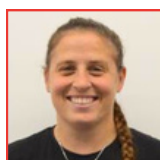
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Mr Green
Associate Assistant
Principal



Mr Slocombe
Head of Year



Ms Heatherson
Pastoral Support Leader



Ms Ackerman
Pastoral Support
Officer

As we come to the end of a fantastic year, we would like to congratulate our Year 9 students on their hard work, resilience and achievements. As students prepare to enter Year 10, they will begin their GCSE courses and an important new stage of their education. We are proud of their efforts and know they are ready for the challenge ahead.

Have a wonderful, safe and relaxing summer break!

Year 10 Team

bbayear10team@clf.uk

[07599101211](tel:07599101211)



Ms Curtis
Assistant Principal



Ms Williams
Head of Year



Mr O'Callaghan
Pastoral Support
Leader



Ms Hamblett
Pastoral Support
Officer

Term 6 for Year 10 has been extremely busy with the first full set of mock exams- well done to all those students sitting exams is not easy but a good chance to practise and to prepare for the GCSE exams.

But it hasn't been just about exams- there was also a fantastic trip to Paris visiting the wonderful sights and cultural opportunities in Paris and ending with a day in Disneyland, Paris. An impressive number of students took part in the Duke of Edinburgh expeditions- particularly challenging in the very warm weather- but hugely successful and rewarding.

Have a great summer Year 10- looking forward to seeing you for Year 11.

Year 11 Team

bbayear11team@clf.uk

[07599101203](tel:07599101203)



Mr Busby
Associate Assistant
Principal



Ms Baker
Head of Year



Mr Hall
Pastoral Support
Leader



Ms Smith
Pastoral Support
Officer

Dear Year 11

As you leave BBA and begin the next chapter of your journey, we want to wish each of you the very best of luck. Year 11 has brought challenges, achievements and memories that will stay with you for years to come. Be proud of everything you have accomplished and confident in the skills and resilience you have developed.

Whatever path you choose next, approach it with determination and ambition. We are incredibly proud of you and look forward to hearing about your future successes.

Good luck, Class of 2026! 🍀🎓



Ms Baker, Mr Hall and Ms Smith at Prom!

Attendance

FOMO Week (Fear of Missing Out)

Students earned Golden Tickets for excellent attendance, punctuality, positive attitudes and demonstrating our school values. The initiative culminated in exciting prize draws, encouraging students to be in school every day and make the most of every opportunity.

Turn Up to Dress Down

Students who improved their attendance across the term were rewarded with a special own clothes day. The initiative celebrated positive changes and reinforced the message that every day in school matters.

Beat Your Best Attendance Challenge

Students challenged themselves to improve on their own Term 5 attendance, with Bronze, Silver and Gold awards available for those who met the criteria. The challenge recognised personal progress and outstanding commitment to attendance throughout Term 6.



Mr Ferguson
Designated
Attendance Lead

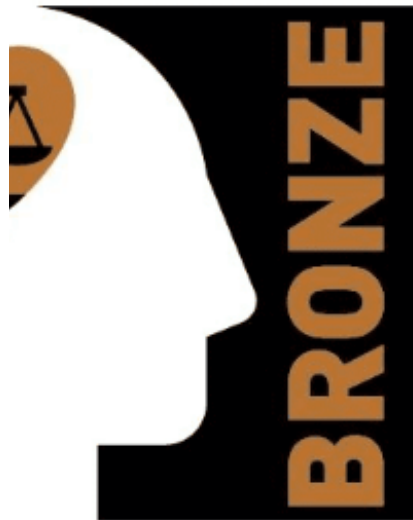




BBA Awards

Anti-Racist School Award

After a four year programme, we are delighted to share that we have successfully achieved a Bronze award for the Anti Racist School Award through Centre for Race, Education and Decoloniality at Leeds Beckett University. The award looks at Governance, Leadership and Management; School Environment; Professional Learning and Development; Hidden Curriculum; Pedagogy and Curriculum and Parents/Carers and Community Partnerships. This is fantastic recognition for the work that we have done over the past few years but it is only the start of our journey.



**ANTI-RACIST
SCHOOL
AWARD**



School of Sanctuary Award We are absolutely delighted to confirm that Bristol Brunel Academy has been awarded School of Sanctuary status. Congratulations to everyone involved in this achievement.

School of Sanctuary describe themselves as, " a growing network of more than 1100 primary and secondary schools, nurseries and sixth forms all committed to creating a culture of welcome, understanding and belonging for those forced to flee."

Along with our status as an anti-racism school, we are proud to support students who are seeking safety in the UK to integrate and become part of our culture. We teach them language and help them to achieve in lessons. We also support all our students who are the descendants of migrant families to feel proud of the bravery and resilience of their relatives.



School of
SANCTUARY AWARD
Welcoming People Seeking Sanctuary



BBA News

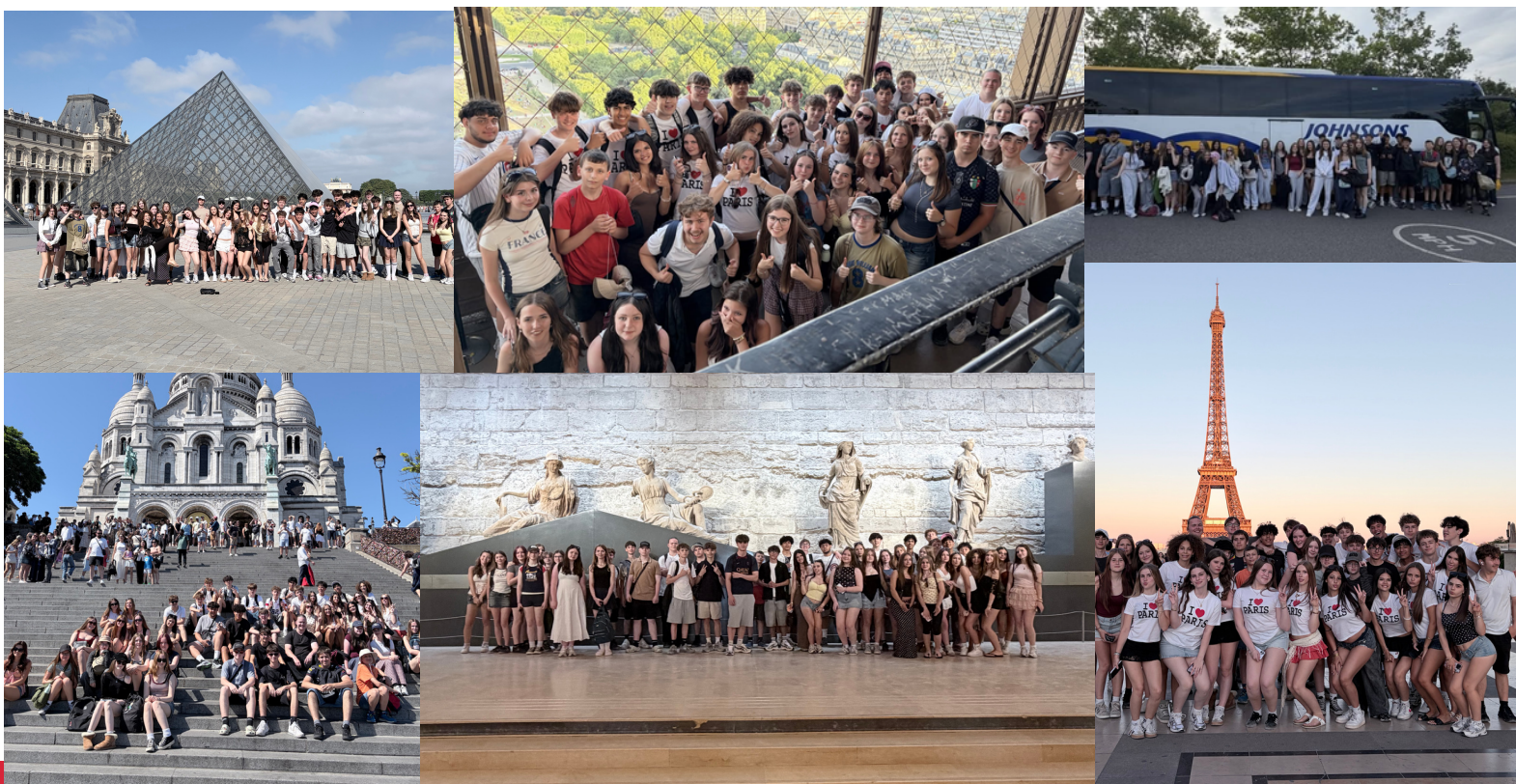
BBA Paris visit July 2026

We had an early start on day one at 6.30am but after the coach and long ferry journey we arrived at our hotel. Breakfast at the hotel was a success with a range of pastries, cakes and Nutella, enough to set us up for the day of walking Mrs Miles had in store for everyone. We visited the beautiful palace of Versailles as well as travelling into the centre of Paris to visit the Sacré Coeur at Montmartre and the Champs Elysées where there was a lot of souvenir buying.

The following day was filled with sightseeing, hours spent walking around the Louvre, including selfies with the Mona Lisa as well as a boat trip along the Seine. After a delicious evening meal, we headed to the Eiffel tower where we walked to the second floor, c'était magnifique!!!

The last full day was spent at Disneyland Paris. Equipped with Mickey Mouse ears, we embraced the Disney magic, going on rides, watching the parades and ending with the awesome light and firework show in front of the Disney Castle.

We managed to pack a lot into our five days. A fantastic trip with fantastic students!!!!



Sport at BBA

A brand-new format brought excitement, anticipation and high expectations, and it is safe to say that our students delivered on every level.

The 2026 BBA Games have been a tremendous success, with participation reaching new heights and enjoyment levels exceeding all expectations. Throughout the event, students embraced the opportunity to represent their houses with pride, passion and determination, creating an outstanding atmosphere that encouraged everyone to compete with confidence and enthusiasm.

The introduction of the new format enabled students to contribute to their house standings across a range of competitions, including athletics, rounders and softball, all of which played a vital role in the overall BBA House Competition.

To all students, thank you for competing with respect, integrity and sportsmanship, while representing your houses so proudly. The BBA Games have proven to be a fantastic platform for bringing together our entire school community, celebrating participation, teamwork and achievement.

We are incredibly proud of what has been accomplished this year and are excited to see the BBA Games continue to grow in stature. We look forward to watching future generations of students compete, thrive and create even more unforgettable memories.



A group of Year 8 students attended the T20 womens world cup activation day at Cabot Circus. They attended a workshop and enjoyed a fun afternoon of cricket tasks and challenges and cricket world cup themed activities.

Faith managed to beat the high score of Fran Wilson (an ex-England Cricketer) in the reaction catching challenge!!

THE BBA GAMES		
FINAL STANDINGS		
ATHLETICS SOFTBALL ROUNDERS		
1ST		MALALA & STEPHENSON
2ND		RASHFORD
3RD		AMIKA



WORK HARD BE KIND

To keep up to date with everything BBA Sport related please follow us on instagram via [bba_pe](#)



Literacy

Sparx Reader

A big change is coming to our Year 7 and 8 library lessons! We are saying goodbye to Accelerated Reader and welcoming Sparx Reader.

Sparx Reader is an online reading platform that supports students in developing strong reading habits and improving their literacy skills. Unlike Accelerated Reader, Sparx provides a carefully selected library of books for students to read, with each text matched to their individual reading level. At the start of the programme, students complete a short assessment so Sparx can identify the most appropriate level for them.

During library lessons, students will use school-provided tablets to access their reading. As they read, Sparx Reader asks short comprehension questions to check that they are following the story closely. This allows teachers to monitor understanding, identify students who may need additional support and encourage careful, thoughtful reading.

Students' responses to these questions also help Sparx Reader adjust the difficulty of future texts, ensuring that each student is appropriately challenged and supported to make the greatest possible progress in their reading.

If you would like to find out more about Sparx Reader, including answers to frequently asked questions for parents and carers, please visit:
<https://sparxreader.com/parents/>

Student book pick



Happy Head by Josh Silver is a gripping young adult dystopian thriller that follows Seb as he enters the mysterious Happy Head programme and uncovers its sinister reality. It explores mental health, identity, friendship, and control and what true happiness really means.

BBA News



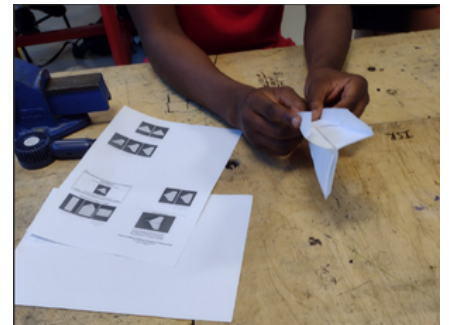
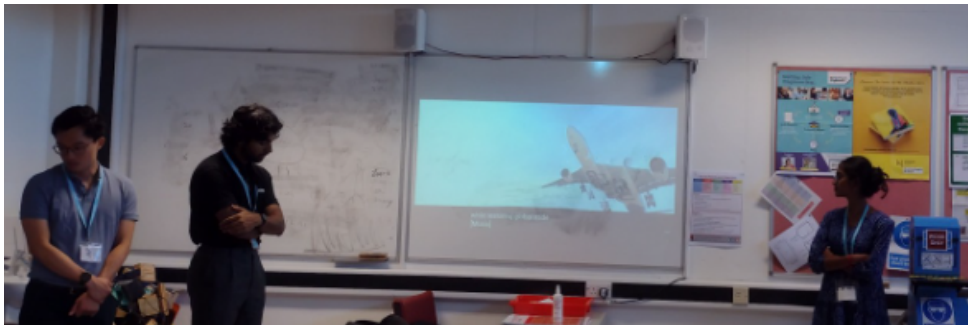
This term we hosted 3 Rolls Royce Engineering apprentices (including 2 former BBA students) who ran an egg drop workshop for our Year 10 Engineering classes. First the apprentices talked about apprenticeships and their route into Rolls Royce. Students then had to design and build a method of supporting a raw egg which was dropped from the first floor. Students thoroughly enjoyed the sessions.



BBA News

10 Week STEM Club

Run by Airbus Engineers



We are currently running a 10 week STEM club on a Tuesday from 3-4pm for Year 7 and 8 with the help of Airbus engineers. We are running the first few sessions this term and the remaining sessions during Term 1. At the end of the ten week period, there will be a trip for students to Airbus in Filton.



AIRBUS OUTREACH

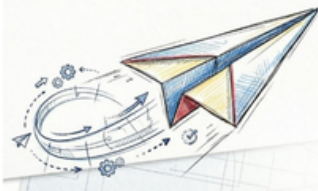
STEMBRACE CLUB

Learn more about STEM subjects delivered directly by Airbus engineers!

3 INTERACTIVE LABS COVERING AERODYNAMICS

Discover the science of flight: lift, drag, thrust & how we make planes fly!

Featuring: The Ultimate Paper Airplane Challenge



Embrace
AERODYNAMICS



SIGN UP TODAY!
Speak to your teachers to get involved

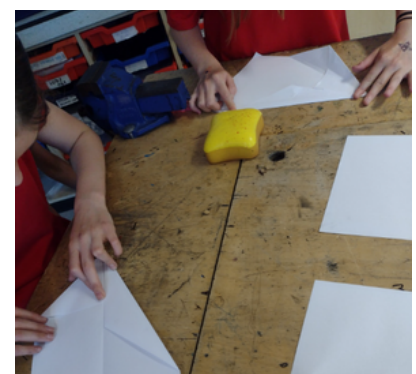
CLUB SCHEDULE:
Tuesdays
15:00 - 16:00

30 June 7 July 14 July

CLUB FINALE
AIRBUS BRISTOL SITE TOUR
A culmination trip to see how these theories are applied on real commercial jets!

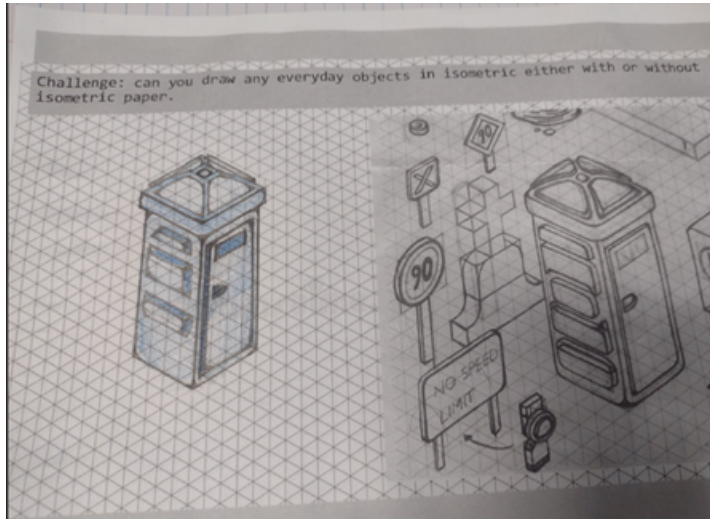
In session 1, students learnt about the different forces on commercial aeroplanes including lift, weight, thrust and drag and built and tested their own aeroplanes.

Please email: danielle.bush@clf.uk if you would like to join or sign up on the door to GT1.





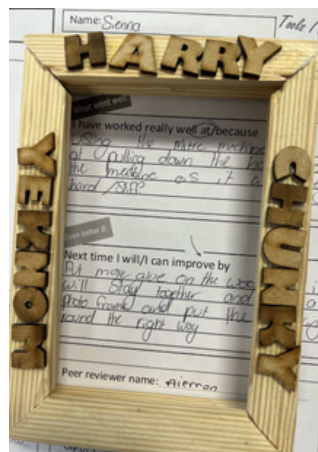
BBA News



Isometric Drawing- Rose Year 7



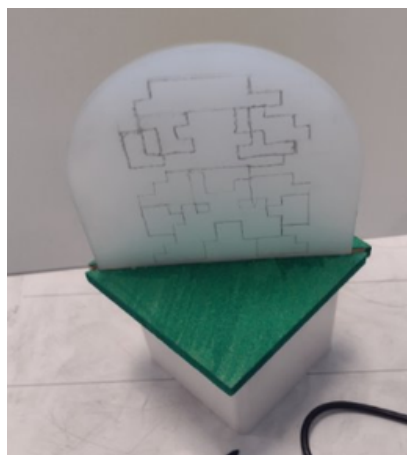
Pacman ghost - Maira and Brooke Year 7



Picture frame - Magnus and Sienna Year 8

We have had some fantastic products coming out of **Product Design** this term with students growing in confidence and skill in practical lessons.

Food Technology has risen to the challenge during the recent hot weather. Even when the kitchen has been very warm, students have kept going, worked safely and supported each other. A big well done to our Year 10s, who put in a fantastic effort in the mock exam. We are really looking forward to seeing what they do in Year 11. We are also excited to welcome our new Year 10 chefs to Hospitality and Catering in September. Well done, chefs, have a lovely summer!



Night light- Ejatou and Joe Year 9



BBA News

Year 11 Prom and Leavers' Assembly were a great success!



BIG CLF Dance 2026



On July 15th, a group of Year 8-10 girls travelled to City Academy to take part in a wonderful day of dance. After learning a piece of choreography earlier in the term, they had the fantastic opportunity to show the piece off at the event. In addition, students were able to watch performances from a broad spectrum of dance from primary school 'Lion King' to England and world class performance pieces from sixth form students. All students had a brilliant time, and received a badge and certificate. Students are already looking forward to next year, watch this space for more dance news!

Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award

Our incredible Year 10 pupils have been taking on the challenge of silver Duke of Edinburgh award this year. They have independently completed their challenging volunteering, physical and skill sections. Over the last two weeks they have tackled the expedition- in the heat! It has been very difficult for them but we are so proud of their resilience. Fingers crossed they all go on to do Gold!

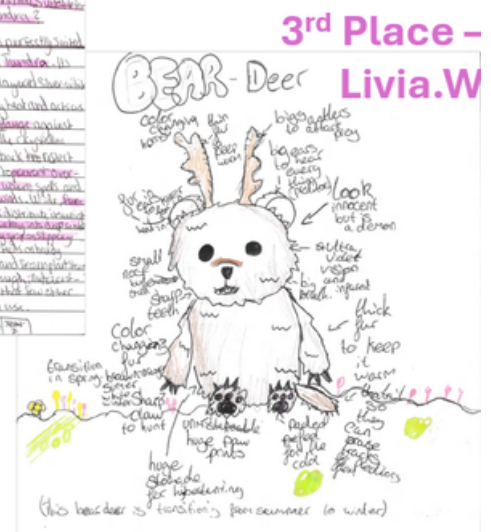
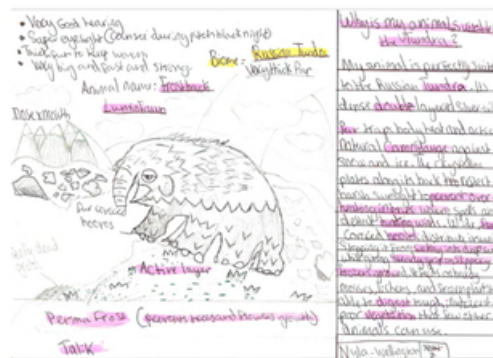


BBA News

Year 7 Art Competition

Y7 Tundra Beasts competition!

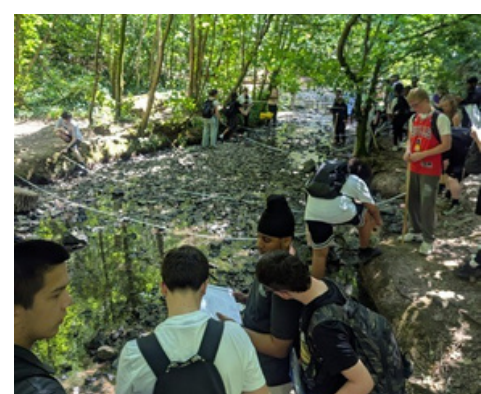
Y7, we had 93 entries to this competition, you made our judging really difficult! Congratulations to everyone! You have all been given house points!



Geography GCSE Field Trips

Whilst the river levels may not have been at their highest, the students were still able to gain some great geographical data for their GCSE, whilst having fun, and in many cases being completely out of their comfort zone, gaining brand new experiences.

The behaviour of all of the students was great, and they were a credit to the school.



Art Gallery



Year 8- Inspired by Artist Leroy Johnson
Students have been developing their cardboard building and modelling skills by making mini cardboard houses. Students have shown creativity and imagination throughout their work. Well done Year 8.



Year 10 have just completed their first art mock exam. They worked really hard and produced some fantastic work which will be part of their GCSE coursework. These pieces show a range of creative independent work, they have great potential and I can't wait to see what they do next year.



Student Spotlight: Francesca Y10