



PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

It is difficult to believe that we have come to the end of the summer term. It has been a surreal time for everyone and hard to comprehend just what we have all been through over the past four months. As with all extreme events we have seen examples of amazing resilience and endurance alongside acts of kindness and support for those that have needed it. It is not over yet though – so continuing with the 'can do' attitude and thoughtfulness for others is an aim for us all.

I am sure you are all looking forward to a well-earned break over the summer. There is a lot of hard work to be done here to prepare for our September return, but we are looking forward to welcoming back everyone. Sadly, it can not be 'business as usual' but we will endeavour to continue supporting our students through this difficult period and beyond. We have particularly enjoyed seeing all of our Year 10 and 12 students attend over the past four weeks, alongside our Critical Worker students. It is clear that students have been working incredibly hard at home, both independently and supported by parents and others at home. It has been a mammoth task for everyone involved but we have been very impressed by the quality of work that we have seen over this time. It bodes very well for a positive return.

We have a new cohort of Year 7 students joining us in September. They have met their tutors and are now ready for day one. Sadly, we could not accommodate all of the applications for year 7 this year and we have a waiting list to students to join the Academy, if a place becomes available.

It is that time of year where we usually say farewell to members of staff. This time we have just one really big goodbye to say. Mr Sowerby, of the Mathematics department, is retiring this year after a staggering 44 years working at Branston Community Academy!! This is an amazing achievement and we thank him for his fantastic contribution to the Academy over those years. We wish him well for a long and happy retirement.



We have been working on some exciting developments over the last year. We are expanding our catering facilities to include a catering pod. Our catering supplier, Taylor Shaw, have been superb in supporting this venture and we are looking forward to seeing it installed.



House competition winner:

Naming of the new catering outlet.

OLIVIA BYERS YEAR 7

In other news, I am delighted to announce that the Academy has secured a significant grant to upgrade the perimeter security. This will be an extensive project, which I will keep you updated about in the autumn term.

Finally, I would like to wish all our students and their families a restful summer break. We hope that everyone continues to follow the Government guidelines and stays safe. We look forward to seeing you in September.



*Mrs J Turner – Principal
Branston Community Academy*



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FOOD AND NUTRITION DEPARTMENT

It has been good to see that during the period of lock down students have continued to make and bake.

The Food and Textiles Department have continued to receive some amazing photographs of what students have been creating at home during this time.

Below are just small selections of the many amazing pictures we have received of your work at home.

Thank you for sending them in.

Mrs Woods/Mrs Anderson



STUDENT SUPPORT DURING LOCKDOWN

During the period of school closure, the student support team have been working tirelessly to ensure that our disadvantaged students have been supported. Miss Manners and Mrs Emerald have been seen driving around Branston and the local areas delivering supplies, including laptops and wifi dongles to students who were in need. Mrs Wadsley's phone has been 'red hot' with phone calls to welcome students to the Academy and also welfare calls. The whole team have been contacting students and their families fortnightly during this time; they have been offering advice, feeding back on progress and generally offering guidance. It has been fabulous that we have been able to offer this level of support both in terms of phone calls but also in the supply of equipment to aid home learning.

SPIRITED ARTS COMPETITION

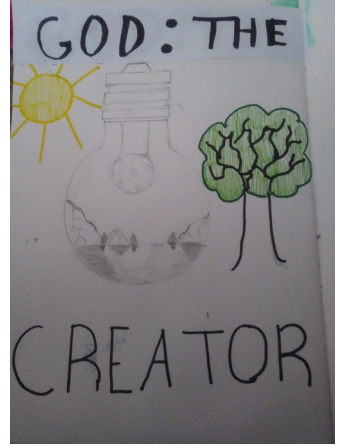
During Term 5 we ran a 'Spirited Arts' competition with the topic who is God? We had lots of fantastic entries, however the three winners were:



1ST PLACE
SOPHIE GAULD



2ND PLACE
KATIE MASON



3RD PLACE
HANNAH ARCHER

HARRISON REED'S NHS FUNDRAISER

Harrison Reed 7KB decided during lockdown, that he should do something to raise money for the NHS charities so he measured his hot tub and worked out how many laps he needed to do to swim the channel. He and his younger sisters then set about the task, swimming as a team.

He then wrote to the Queen to tell her about what they had done and received this letter back from one of her ladies in waiting. It mistakenly refers to a run but is, in fact, about his swim.



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WINDSOR CASTLE

19th June 2020

Dear Harrison,

The Queen wishes me to thank you for your letter and the message you sent following Her Majesty's broadcasts to the Nation and the Commonwealth.

The Queen was glad to hear from you and interested to know of the fundraising challenge you and your sister set yourselves, in which you had a target to run the distance of the English Channel, in support of those caring for others during the current situation.

I am to thank you very much, once again, for your good wishes.

Yours sincerely,
Richarda Elton

Lady-in-Waiting

Harrison Reed

MY LOCKDOWN EXPERIENCE

Overall my lockdown experience has been a good one. When I first heard about lockdown I was really nervous and thought I wouldn't be able to survive without seeing my friends and family. Then I found out my parents were going to work because my Dad works in shipping and my Mum works in Tesco and I was more nervous than before because I thought they would catch it.

So it turned out I had to go to school, at first I really didn't want to go because I knew that no one I knew would be there and I thought I wouldn't talk or raise my hand. On Monday I arrived at my bus stop and after about ten minutes the bus came and other than me and my sister there were 3 other people all social distancing. When we arrived at school we went to the toilets to wash our hands then went to the canteen and sat at tables with no one on it. In the school there were about 20 pupils out of all the year groups. When we were called to our first lesson we walked outside in our year groups and got told that if we thought we were too close to someone raise your arms and if they touch someone else then we were too close. After about 3 lessons we were in the routine of how we do things and I was starting to have fun because there was barley anyone there so no one cared if I got an answer wrong.

After a few weeks I was really enjoying it; I had made friends and was more confident in myself. But I only had one problem. Everyone at home were doing online work and we were doing different lessons with the teacher to what they were doing at home. Now after 6 weeks I was really enjoying school even more than I did when we didn't have covid19, the school was doing a great job at keeping us distanced by putting all of us in one room (there was only about 10 of us). Out of all the lessons we did my overall favourite was definitely PE; I loved it because we were in with all the year groups, we kept all the equipment clean and we got to do work in the fresh air.

Unfortunately, by about week 10 the year ten started to come in and everything changed. The first change was that we were now only in our year groups, the second was that we now had to keep to a certain path and the last change was we were in a new class with only one teacher. There were no more teachers coming in to teach us lessons and there was no more practical lessons, all we did was stuff from the computer.



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At this point I had completely come to terms with having to do work on the computer and my old worry was solved because the teacher simply told us to complete the work due in for this week. I really enjoyed our teacher for she always made time at the end of the day to do a quiz with us giving all of us a chance to get to know our class mates. So overall I really had no worries, the teachers and classmates were all really helpful which made the whole lockdown much easier. I think my experience would have been much worse If I didn't go to school because doing nothing all day everyday can easily make me and anyone depressed which is not good. I am excited for shops and clubs to open and am looking forward to the holidays.



By Sophie Cooper

SEND

As a department we are proud of the support we have been able to offer our students during the period of lockdown. Regular communications have been maintained with all students and families and we have also been able to offer closer support for our students that have found lockdown a particularly difficult time. Members of the department have also used this time to further develop their skills by undertaking additional training in a range of areas including Autistic Spectrum Differences, emotional health and resilience; these will prove useful to our students in the future. New forms of technology has been mastered and utilised that have allowed us to communicate with and offer support to our students virtually; Google classrooms and Zoom have been particular favourites. We would like to thank all families that have engaged so positively and let us support you during this time.

Miss Bayes-Green

2020 Y7 INDUCTION

This year we have found new and meaningful ways of communicating with our new year 7s from September.

Gone, unfortunately, were the face to face meetings in the Primary schools and Intake Day here in July but in its place came a transition video welcome and Google/Zoom meets with several primary schools plus a bespoke opportunity in July to meet one to one with each student's form tutor before September.

In September, students will experience a specific transition day on their first day back and a further 2 days of settling in before 'normality' returns on the first full week back.

The feedback we have received from parents and carers has been overwhelmingly positive. The Academy's newest additions appear to be adapting well to the new 2020 transition process and starting a successful education period with us.

Mr Inman (Assistant Principal)

MATHS CHALLENGE

Approximately 60 students from Year 9 and Year 10 took part in the Intermediate Maths Challenge earlier this year. They answered a selection of questions on some challenging problem solving tasks. There were some good performances with 6 students receiving a silver certificate and 8 receiving a bronze certificate. Ben Maskell was the top Year 10 student and Shania Lacia the best in Year 9. Shania also won the title of best in school and went on to compete in the Kangaroo Challenge.

Following on from the Intermediate Challenge around 60 Year 8 students took part in the Junior Maths Challenge. Again there were some great performances with three students achieving a silver award and 15 students achieving the bronze award. The highest scoring student was Jake Taylor. **Well done to all of the students involved for their hard work.** - Mrs Pepper



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POEM WRITTEN BY A PARENT FROM THE NURSERY

We'd just like to say a big ThankYou to you all
for stepping in and answering our call

In these times of difficulty and struggle
You've been there for the children with a smile and cuddle

You all make Branston such a fantastic childcare setting
And children in your care are so lucky with all the
development they are getting

We are amazed how much effort goes into each and
every day

And the amount learned through such imaginative play

Our time with you has been so special, a shame so short
But we are so grateful for all your support

We hope you'll accept that we've made a charitable
donation

As a small token of our appreciation

We really will miss you so much
And will love to stay in touch!



IN THE PE DEPARTMENT...

CROSS COUNTRY ACHIEVEMENTS

We had a record number of BCA students representing Lincoln & Gainsborough Schools in the County Cross Country Championships this year; a total of 16 students. We have seen a big increase in the effort and commitment put in to training for cross country this year and it has certainly paid off. District honours therefore go to Aaron Rowe, Charlie Fish, Max Burkitt, Alfie Stone, Nieve Taylor, Jorja Hamilton, Elizabeth Shaw, Megan Clawson, Niamh Kelly, April Lee, Lewis Hyde, Ben Foot, Alex Taylor, Jack Carlisle, Lucy Jenner and Kyle Kennealey.

The following students finished in the top 18 and therefore gained County honours and went on to represent Lincolnshire in the Anglian Schools Championships (Anglian finishing position in brackets)

Year 7 Boys: Aaron Rowe 10th (50th),
Charlie Fish 11th (54th)

Year 7 Girls: Nieve Taylor 6th (31st)

Year 8/9 Boys: Lewis Hyde 17th (64th),
Ben Foot 18th (56th)

Year 8/9 Girls: Lucy Jenner 15th (65th)

Well done to all runners this year.



UNDER 14 NETBALL

We have already reported that this team of girls had won the County Netball Tournament prior to Christmas. They then went through to the East Midlands Regional Finals which took place at the end of January. The girls had a fantastic day at this top draw event and found themselves competing at the highest level and were in no way outclassed in any game they played. Their results were:

V Wellingborough School;

Lost 7-9

V Oakham School;

Lost 5-11

V Nottingham High School;

Lost 5-7

V Chelleston Academy;

Won 12-7

Squad: Leah Kennealey, Libby Christopher, Eleanor Applewhite, Lily Keenan, Lucy Adams, Charlotte Barr, Evie Scigala, Emma Green, Katie Wood

What an achievement to get to this stage of the competition. Well done to all.



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HOUSE SPORTS

Another great year of House Sport was unfortunately stopped in its tracks by Covid-19 and the partial school closure. Therefore, nearly half of the events could not take place. Up until then we had seen a tremendously close competition with Trojans holding the lead all year. As usual hundreds of pupils have taken part and all have showed 100% effort, a fantastic attitude and all seemed to have enjoyed themselves.

However as only 7 of the 13 events were able to be completed, we have decided to call this year's event a draw and there will be no House Champions this year.

Results this year have been as follows:

'A' FOOTBALL

Yr 7: Trojans & Spartans
Yr 8: Titans
Yr 9: Trojans
Yr 10: Titans

Overall: Trojans

BENCHBALL

Yr 7: Trojans, Spartans & Titans
Yr 8: Spartans
Yr 9: Spartans
Yr 10: Spartans

Overall: Spartans

BADMINTON

Yr 7: Trojans
Yr 8: Trojans & Titans
Yr 9: Trojans, Spartans & Titans
Yr 10: Trojans, Spartans & Titans

Overall: Trojans

CROSS COUNTRY

Yr 7: Spartans
Yr 8: Spartans
Yr 9: Spartans

Overall: Spartans

'B' FOOTBALL

Yr 7: Trojans & Titans
Yr 8: Titans
Yr 9: Trojans, Spartans & Titans
Yr 10: Trojans

Overall: Trojans

NETBALL

Yr 7: Trojans & Titans
Yr 8: Trojans
Yr 9: Titans
Yr 10: Trojans

Overall: Trojans

TABLE TENNIS

Yr 7: Spartans
Yr 8: Titans
Yr 9: Spartans
Yr 10: Titans

Overall: Spartans

OVERALL POSITIONS

1st	Trojans	615^{pts}
2nd	Spartans	565^{pts}
3rd	Titans	555^{pts}

TERM DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2019-2020

TERM 1

Tuesday 01/09/20 STAFF TRAINING DAY
Wednesday 02/09/20 to Friday 23/10/20

****Wednesday 02/09/20 - Year 7 and Sixth Form only****
Thursday 03/09/20 – for Years 7, 8, 11 and Sixth Form only
Friday 04/09/20 – for Years 7,9, 10 and Sixth Form only
Monday 07/09/20 – ALL YEARS

Friday 02/10/20 STAFF TRAINING DAY
Half Term: Monday 26/10/20 to Friday 30/10/20

TERM 2

Monday 02/11/20 to Friday 18/12/20
Christmas Break: Monday 21/12/20 to Friday 01/01/21

TERM 3

Monday 04/01/21 to Friday 12/02/21
Half Term: Monday 15/02/21 to Friday 19/02/21

TERM 4

Monday 22/02/21 to Thursday 01/04/21
Bank Holiday: Friday 02/04/21 and Monday 05/04/21
Easter Break: Friday 02/04/21 to Friday 16/04/21

TERM 5

Monday 19/04/21 to Friday 28/05/21
Bank Holiday: Monday 3rd May 2021
Half Term: Monday 31/05/21 to Friday 04/06/21

TERM 6

Monday 07/06/21 to Friday 16/07/21
Monday 19/07/21- STAFF ONLY



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HERON'S FITNESS IS BACK ON THE 25TH OF JULY!

We are delighted to announce that in accordance with government guidelines we will be opening on the 25th of July once again. We look forward to welcoming members old and new- whether you have spent lockdown practising for your next marathon or are simply ready to move off the sofa. We have exciting plans in place to help you jump start your fitness this summer.

We are doing everything we can to ensure members will enjoy a safe and healthy training environment and in order to facilitate this we have made the following changes for the foreseeable future:

- There will be on a strict members only policy – therefore single gym/swim sessions will no longer be offered.
- Members will need to book time slots to train. This will require your email address and membership card number. A link to book will become available on our website and social media before we open. Lapsed/cancelled memberships will need to be renewed in order for this to work.
- Each time slot will have a maximum capacity for the gym and a separate max capacity for the pool.

All developing COVID-19 information and Heron's updates will be posted on our website and social media between now and the 25th including information about our exciting kick start your fitness sessions which will help you regain, maintain or find the fitness you are looking for.

Please check in frequently to keep up to date.

Or you can call/leave a message on **01522 880425**

Don't miss out - **Join here at:**

<https://secure.ashbournmanagement.co.uk/signupuk/index.aspx?fn=GRAE1>

Stay safe, and we look forward to seeing you this summer.

The Heron's Team



Heron's Fitness is located at: Branston Community Academy, Station Road, Branston, LN4 1LH

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🖥 www.branstonca.lincs.sch.uk/key-information/for-parents/easy-fundraising/