



# Summer 2023

## Welcome from Principal Moon



Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents for their continued support for Brayton Academy. As we breakup for the long summer holiday I have been reflecting on all that we do.

This newsletter gives some indication of the fantastic efforts of our students as well as informing us about aspects of school life. This is just part of what happens, day in day out the students work hard and continue to learn and make progress.

It has been great to see students take part in those activities we do annually, French Resilience Camp, Sports day and the Annual Art and Design Exhibition for example. These regular events give rhythm and routine to academy life. Seeing students speak publicly, perform on stage or helping others is a joy.

I would like to wish students and parents a peaceful and restful summer.

Yours faithfully,

Al Moon  
Principal

## Speakers Trust Final

Olivia E was shortlisted as being one of only 15 pupils across Yorkshire to compete in the Yorkshire Speak Out Challenge Final 2023. The final was held at The Carriageworks, Leeds on 29<sup>th</sup> June.

We are immensely proud of Olivia E for her stunning performance at the final. She did incredibly well, and spoke with great passion. It was lovely to see how she lit up the stage, and handled her nerves impeccably.

Mrs Turnbull and Mrs Cockshutt said Olivia was absolutely amazing and we all congratulate her.



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## Year 7 Transition Week

Our new Year 7 students joined us for their Transition Week on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July. On the first day they had their introduction to the academy including a tour around the building, introduction to timetables and the behaviour policy and where to go during a fire alarm. In the afternoon students prepared for the upcoming Sports Day on Thursday.

On Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday students stayed within form groups and followed a normal school timetable allowing them to experience moving around the building themselves, different lessons and meeting members of staff. Here is some of the work they completed this week across different subjects:

**History:** Pupils examined and discussed what it means to 'do' History, and the importance of History in understanding the world around them. Pupils then constructed a timeline of some of the main events they will study throughout KS3.

**Aspire:** Pupils were introduced the purpose of the Aspire Curriculum and a roadmap of their lessons over the next year. Pupils then answered the following key questions:

- *What are 'aspirations' and why are they important?*
- *What do you aspire to be?*
- *What do you think you need to do to reach your goals?*

At the end, pupils were given chance to interrogate their aspirations with their peers.

**Geography:** Pupils worked in pairs to complete an Atlas scavenger hunt.

**Drama:** Pupils were looking at what elements make up a script. They then used this to learn lines and perform a short script in front of their peers.

**RSE:** Students had an introduction to RSE. Students looked at the skills required to work successfully as a team and carried out several teamwork activities to demonstrate the skills learnt.

**PE:** Pupils had an introduction in to our own innovate game of Brayton Ball which would then be played during sports day.

**Science:** In Science students gained their Bunsen burner licenses by learning how to safely light and use a Bunsen burner. They carried out flame tests to design flares and participated in a fun Science quiz.

**French:** Pupils looked at some mini roleplays with partners.

**English:** Year 7 students started with the exciting news that everyone has their pen licence at Brayton Academy. Lessons focused on showing off their creative writing skills. We practiced lots of different sentence types and collaborated on a piece of descriptive writing. We had lots of fun with Year 7 and look forward to seeing them all in September.

**Maths:** Year 7 students had an introduction into some of the Maths routines they will be doing after the summer including form time maths, Sparks homework's and Numeracy Ninjas.

On Thursday our Year 7's participated in our annual whole school Sports Day. They were out on the fields all day competing in forms across various different events. This included Brayton Ball, softball, track and field events and an inflatable assault course race. The day was completed with the 100m for all year groups been competed against in front of the school and staff body. The winning form for Year 7 this year was 7.7 NCL (Costa Rica).

I would like to thank all of Year 7 for the effort and resilience they have shown during transition week. It has been a big change for a lot of our Year 7's and they have all been excellent. We hope they all have a great summer and look forward to seeing them after the summer break.



## Sports Day 2023

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On Thursday 13th July we held our annual Sports Day and what a success it was for our biggest yet!

At Brayton Academy each year form groups are given a country to represent. They spend the week building up to sports day learning about the country and decorating their form room doors. They also begin to discuss who will be taking part in each event and tactics for the team events.

Students compete in their forms taking part in a variety of events throughout the day, making their way around each activity. This year the activities included were Softball, Brayton Ball, Track and Field and not forgetting the 135ft Inflatable Obstacle Course!

The atmosphere throughout the whole day was fantastic to see, everyone was in brilliant spirit and cheering each other on during all the competitions. During break times students were able to get refreshments from our outdoor American Diner or the Ice Cream Trucks.

To finish off the day we had our main event 100m with the whole school in attendance cheering on the athletes.

There were some very close fixtures and competitions throughout the day but the winners from each year group were as followed:

Year 7 - Costa Rica  
Year 8 - South Africa  
Year 9 - South Korea  
Year 10 - Australia  
Year 11 - Trinidad

The overall winners of Brayton Academy Sports Day 2023 were South Africa. Congratulations!

## National Playmaking Festival

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The National Playmaking Festival in Stratford-Upon-Avon took place on the 10th and 11th July, with the Royal Shakespeare Company.

Four Year 10 students were selected to perform scenes from Julius Caesar performing at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre. All students did a fantastic job and had great fun!



## Year 11 Selby College Taster Day

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Year 11 students had a 'taster day' visit to Selby College where they had the opportunity to experience some of the different subjects available to them for Post 16 education. These were a wide variety of subjects and at the different levels of A level, vocational and T level courses. The students thoroughly enjoyed the day and were a credit to Brayton Academy. Two of our students, Martha Loveland and Joe McDonald were awarded with vouchers for their excellent attitudes and work on the day.



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## Reading Plus

Reading Plus, our online reading and homework programme, is doing wonders for the reading of all our students. On average students have read 119 lessons each over the course of this year, are now reading 69 words a minute more quickly and have gained an average of 3.5 levels in their reading age. We are very proud of the work all our students put into improving their reading and are delighted that the hard work is paying off. This year Brayton Academy have been recognised in the Reading Plus awards (chosen from over 220 UK secondary schools) for these fabulous achievements and have won the following awards:

Most reading progress in a secondary school

Most average words read in a secondary school

Most average lessons passed in a secondary school



We are also super proud of Ethan in year 9 who, of all the students in the country on Reading Plus, has read the most words this year: a staggering 769707 words! Ethan has also progressed 5.6 levels on Reading Plus since September. Ethan has won a personalised trophy, a certificate and a £25 voucher from Reading Plus.

Could you be the next winner? We have entered the summer reading challenge with Reading Plus which has some fabulous prizes.

### Prizes to be won\*

**A trophy, and a £100 National Book Voucher and certificate.**  
For the school with the most average reading lessons (based on Reading Plus data).

**A trophy and certificate, and the choice between a £100 National Book Voucher or a doughnut party for one class.**  
For the class with the most average reading lessons (based on Reading Plus data).

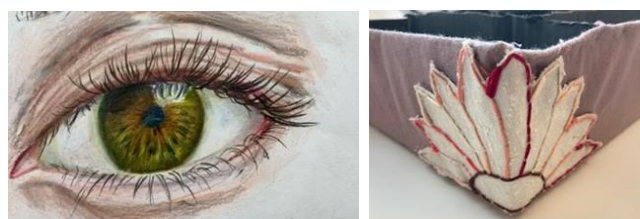
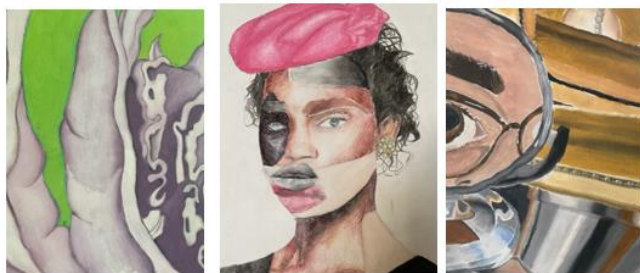
**Bonus Prize - A £50 National Book Voucher, trophy, and certificate.**

Students have until the 21st of September to test their bingo skills and participate in several mini-reading challenges using the Bonus Challenge [Bingo Resource](#).

We would like to thank all parents and carers for their support with Reading Plus over the past year and remind everyone that the weekly expectation is that students complete four reading and one vocabulary task weekly. This should take around an hour. Homework is due in at midnight on Sunday each week. We strongly recommend that students break this down into smaller sections and complete one task per night rather than trying to do all tasks on a Sunday evening.

## Annual Art and Design Exhibition

On Monday 10<sup>th</sup> of July, we held our Annual Exhibition. This was a celebration of the work produced by KS4 students completing GCSE Fine Art and GCSE Design and Technology. The work exhibited was a combination of Portfolio pieces and work produced for Non-Exam Assessments. Work was displayed around the school in the Art rooms, DT classrooms and workshops. Students attended with their family and friends and we were very proud to showcase the excellent work they have achieved.





## France Resilience Trip

Over the course of two weeks 65 Brayton students and 10 staff went on the Year 7 Resilience trip to the Ardeche region in Southern France.

The weather was glorious and it was fantastic to see all the students (and staff) test their resilience across the different activities; these included a 32km Kayak down the river, mountain biking routes, high rope activities and a lake walk. The students got the opportunity to use their French speaking at a local market and a visit to a local town on an evening.

These activities along with plenty of swimming, football, socialising, and in the case of the second week making new friends from different schools across the trust meant that all involved had a fantastic time.



St Leonard's Hospice  
Caring for Local People



## Applied Resilience: Charity

Throughout the last Academic Year 8 Applied Resilience-Charity students took part in the Flourishing Fivers Challenge raising funds for St Leonard Hospice. Students held 3 bake sale events, with a grand total raised of £235.57, it was a great effort for a great cause. Thank you to students from the Cooking Applied Resilience who helped us baked some delicious buns to raise funds for this fantastic charity. Jasmine Rodgers, a representee from St Leonard Hospice presented students with Certificates in appreciation for their hard work.



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## Attendance matters

Huge Congratulations to the following pupils who achieved 100% attendance for the 2022 - 2023 Academic Year. Students with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best GCSE and A Level results!

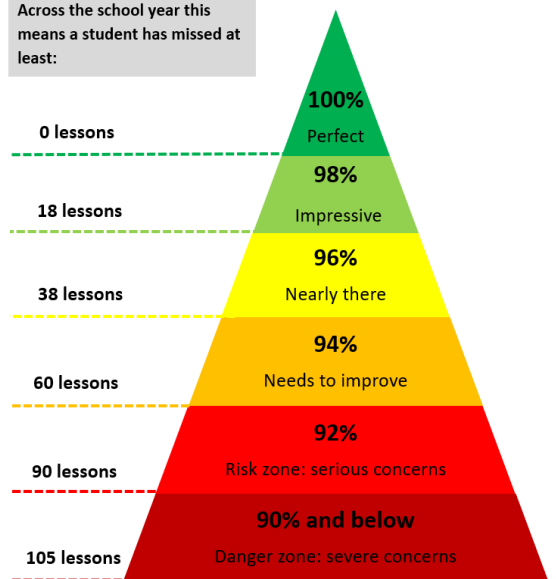


Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
★ Isla C	★ Noah H	★ Lily F	★ Ben B
★ Maisie F	★ Oliver M	★ Kaylem P	★ Stevie D
★ Max A	★ Joshua A	★ Changel R	★ Hollie S
★ Martyna B	★ George E	★ Esmae S	★ Abby B
★ Tristan D	★ Maja S	★ Ben W	★ Isla C
★ Lydia L	★ Alfie W	★ Joshua H	★ Elspeth C
★ Daisy M	★ Tyra B-W	★ Nicolae I	★ Charlie J
★ Mia S	★ William J	★ Natasha R	★ Lucas P
★ Isaac H	★ Edwin TDV	★ Evie H	★ Hannah D
★ Harry T	★ Emma-Mae H	★ Joseph TDV	★ Emily N
★ Jazmine H	★ Mila M	★ Charlie H	★ Joshua K
★ Ethan L	★ Charlotte R	★ Ella L	★ William T
★ Alesha M	★ Phoebe D	★ Samuel W	★ Lola G
★ Oliver A	★ Ethan H	★ Emilia F	★ Christian W
★ Eva H	★ Noah M	★ Jack P	★ Isabel W
★ Keira R-W		★ Max V	
★ Ryan S		★ Beau B	
★ Neive W		★ Millie D	
★ Libby F		★ Chloe R	
★ Elliot H			
★ Harry T			

**Attendance at school is a priority for us.** We want to give all our student's the best start in life, and we know that education and support from school can help to do this.

All students should strive for 100% attendance. This should not drop below the school target of 98% for each academic year.

Across the school year this means a student has missed at least:



To report a child's absence please call 01757 293243 before 9:00am on the first and every day of absence. The absence is open from 7:00am.