



# ACADEMY NEWS SPRING TERM



## Welcome from Mr Carney, Principal

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach this half way point of this academic year I wanted to thank you once again for your ongoing support. As I have mentioned previously, the partnership between home and school is incredibly important to me and this joined up approach has been most evident for me in the incredibly impressive way our students have handled all the challenges of this half term, while continuing to work to be their very best. From the snow at the start of January, to the extreme temperatures, all the way through to the mock examinations for Years 10 and 11, students have worked hard, attended well, and continued to put their best foot forward at every opportunity.

I have had the pleasure of spending some time with students outside of the classroom this half term including watching our thumping rugby win against our local rivals, a number of student voice activities, taking a group of students to Selby Abbey for Holocaust Memorial Day and most recently welcoming Keir Mather, MP to visit our Academy. At every step, students have demonstrated and personified the aspiration and resilience that underpins both Brayton Academy, and Resilience Multi-Academy Trust and I am incredibly proud to be their Principal.

The start of the new half term will also signal the start of Ramadan and I want to say Ramadan Kareem to all our students and families who will be observing.

Finally, I wish you all a restful half term break, a Happy Valentine's Day, and look forward to seeing students back in the Academy on Monday 24th February.

Kind Regards

Mr Carney  
Principal

# PRINCIPAL

# STARS OF THE TERM



**Silindile N Year 7**

Silindile is a dedicated and enthusiastic member of the Academy, always eager to help, contribute, and strive to be the best he can. He is an absolute pleasure to have in the year group and is always putting a smile on others faces!



**Harry R, Year 8**

Always polite and treating others with respect and kindness, he is a true role model. His dedication to earning stamps, maintaining 100% attendance, and upholding impeccable conduct is remarkable. A hardworking, determined individual and an absolute pleasure to have in the year group.



**Jasmine A, Year 9**

Jasmine is a hardworking and determined student who always gives her best, whether in lessons or at sports fixtures. Her positivity is truly infectious—she's always smiling and lifting those around her. An absolute joy to have in the year group!

**Annie B, Year 10**  
Annie has made a fantastic start at Brayton Academy, demonstrating hard work and dedication in every lesson. She has also represented the school brilliantly in netball. Keep up the amazing work!



**Anna D, Year 11**

Despite having a broken arm throughout mocks, Anna has shown incredible resilience, barely mentioning it and refusing to let it hold her back. Her strength and progress are truly inspiring. Keep it up Anna, well done!

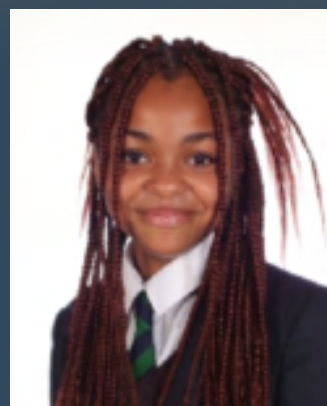
# HEAD OF YEAR

## STARS OF THE TERM



### YEAR 8

Arthur has shown outstanding dedication and perseverance in improving his behavior both in class and throughout the school. His commitment to positive change is truly commendable. Well done Arthur, keep it up!



### YEAR 9

Britney is a all-round student and a valuable member of the year group. She has helped support some of our new starters settle in smoothly. With her kindness she ensured they felt welcomed making their transition to Brayton seamless despite not knowing any other students upon arrival.



### YEAR 7

Luke T is an exceptional student who is always helpful, kind, and polite, demonstrating dedication and effort in everything he does.



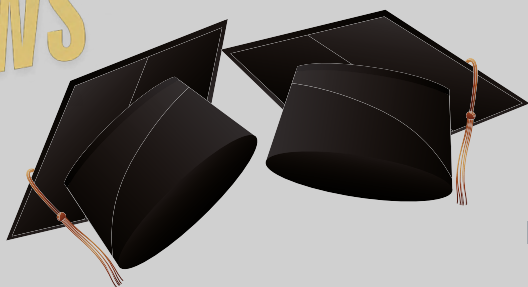
### YEAR 11

Dexter consistently demonstrates exemplary behavior and an unwavering dedication to hard work in every lesson, day in and day out. Well done Dexter!

Layla has been working exceptionally hard in the run-up to her mock exams, demonstrating great maturity in her approach to revision and preparation. Keep up the hard work, well done!

# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

## ALUMNI NEWS



We are delighted to mention the achievements of Millie W and Luke W from the class of 2023 both of whom are Oxbridge bound next year.

Millie has an offer to read architecture at Churchill College, Cambridge whilst Luke plans to read Politics, Philosophy and Economics at Oxford.

### Celebrating Millie L: Exceptional Service Recognised by St John

We are incredibly proud to congratulate Millie on receiving a Commendation for Exceptional Service from St John Ambulance. This well-deserved recognition was awarded for her quick thinking and brilliant first aid skills in assisting a gentleman who was choking.



Millie demonstrated composure, applying her training in a real-life emergency with confidence and care. Well done Millie, we are really proud of you!



Special mention to Billy who has recently been offered a contract with the Hull City Academy.

Billy has represented the club all over the country and played against a number of elite squads, securing wins over Leeds United and holding premier league giants Liverpool to a draw at their academy. Billy looks forward to his next big test against Manchester United this weekend.

Good Luck Billy, we are very proud of what you have achieved already. Keep up the hardwork!

# BRAYTON VOICE



Our Student Voice representatives recently had the exciting opportunity to meet with MP Keir Mather for an engaging and thought-provoking Q&A session. This meeting was a fantastic chance for students to raise their concerns, discuss key issues affecting young people, and gain valuable insights into the world of politics.

During the session, students posed a variety of insightful questions. They asked about his thoughts on the local anti-social behaviour, the facilities for children and those with SEND needs, and his views on the recent decisions to increase inheritance tax for farmers and take away the fuel allowance for pensioners. Mr Mather addressed each question thoughtfully, offering his views on all topics raised and what role young people can play in advocating for change.

We are incredibly proud of our students for their confidence and enthusiasm in making their voices heard.

A big thank you to MP Keir Mather for taking the time to speak with us. We look forward to continuing these important conversations and ensuring that student voices remain at the heart of discussions on key issues.

**Have an idea or feedback?  
Let us know!**

Student Voice is here to represent everyone. Look out for updates on our progress in the new year!

Recently, our KS4 representatives have been focused on new suggestions for rewards, ensuring that hard work and achievements are recognized in meaningful ways that would be welcomed by students. Their ideas and input are shaping a proposal that truly reflects students' thoughts and these will be discussed with Mr Carney after half term.

Meanwhile, in KS3, Brayton Voice has chosen to discuss a proposal for a KS3 Career Fair to help younger students explore future pathways prior to choosing their options. They would like this event to provide valuable insights into different career options, giving students the chance to interact with professionals and gain inspiration for their futures.

We're proud of the suggestions Brayton Voice has made so far, and we look forward to seeing even more student-led initiatives come to life!

# SCIENCE

## Year 7

Year 7 have started Big Idea 2 "Organisms are organised on a cellular level and have a finite life span" This topic allows the students to undertake practical work using microscopes and carry out chemical testing of food groups. Year 7 are now using their QLA slips to complete a piece of homework each week.

## Year 8

Year 8 have almost finished Big Idea 5 "Changing the movement of an object requires a net force to be acting on it" They have been using various formulae to calculate forces acting, work done, pressure and speed. They used the formula  $\text{speed} = \text{distance} \div \text{time}$  to calculate the speed of a toy car on ramps of various height.

## Year 9

Year 9 are now working on Big Idea 8 "Genetic information is passed down from one generation of organisms to another" In this topic the students have investigated variation by carrying out a class survey of hand span length, shoe size, eye colour and whether they can roll their tongues. This topic also enabled the students to clone a variety of plants. Year 9 have got an assessment week ahead; the assessments will include all the Big Ideas they have been taught so far.

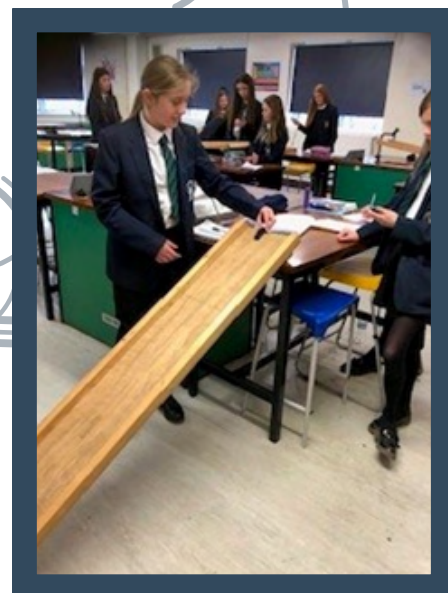


## Year 10

Year 10 are continuing to work on GCSE paper 1 content. They have completed structure and bonding, particle model and are finishing off organisation and moving onto quantitative chemistry. The triple science groups have been undertaking quantitative analysis by using titrations to find the unknown concentration of an alkali. Year 10 also have a week of assessments after half term.



Titration practical using phenolphthalein indicator



## Year 11

Year 11 have just finished sitting the latest round of mock exams and will be continuing with their studies of paper 2 content. This includes forces, waves and magnetism topics from the physics paper and hydrocarbons from the chemistry paper.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN ENGLISH?



## Exceptional Work

As a team, the English department have curated a list of students who have worked exceptionally in English recently. Congratulations to all those students featured.

### Year 7

Oscar D 7y1 – For having exceptional knowledge of English and using ambitious vocabulary  
Harrison B R 7x5 – For his amazing Shrike story

### Year 8

Julian B 8x2 – For having a really positive attitude to learning and being ready in every lesson

### Year 9

Dom K 9y2 – For making increased effort after parent's evening and being proactive in lesson  
Isla O 9y2 – For being conscientious with her writing and always maintaining 100% effort

### Year 10

Isabella B 10y1 – For always being focused and willing to absorb information.  
William J 10x1 – For excellent commitment to the class reading challenge  
Rebecca W 10x1 – For a really evocative piece of descriptive writing

### Year 11

A huge congratulations to the whole of year 11 for completing a full set of mocks over the last 3 weeks. There was a huge amount of resilience and the whole English department are pleased with how well you handled them!

## Reminder

Students are required to complete 4 reading and 1 vocabulary task. The completion window for this homework closes at midnight on Sunday. Homework completed on Monday morning will be considered late (it will be counted towards next week's homework). We encourage students to complete one task per night rather than trying to complete all tasks on a Sunday.

Students put on hold should email staff directly using their school email address as soon as possible to request to be taken off hold. We do check holds through the week, including weekends, so if you are put on hold, please log on again later and continue the tasks.

## Topics

So far this year students have been delving deep into some fantastic topics in their English classrooms.

Year 7 – Out of this world (Science-fiction stories)

Year 8 - Charles Dicken's Oliver Twist

Year 9 – Animal Farm

Year 10 - Romeo and Juliet


Year 11 - The theme of class

## Reading Plus Heroes

This term students have been making excellent progress and putting real effort into their Reading Plus.

**8y1 are still top of the leaderboard in the Reading Plus ranks, 8x1 are a very close second so continue to read accurately to soar higher on the leaderboard!**

The English department would like to shout out the following students:

|   | Year 7   | Year 8   | Year 9    | Year 10     | Year 11 |
|---|----------|----------|-----------|-------------|---------|
|  <b>Progress</b> | Oscar D  | Daniel C | Max A     | Elizabeth C |         |
| <b>Effort</b>   | Millie H | Yuki G   | Jasmine A | Charley B   | Jack B  |



# BOOK TALK With TOMÁZ

## National Storytelling week

On Friday 7th February, 10 year 7 students along with Mrs Jordan spent the afternoon with Year 6 at Whitley and Eggborough Community Primary School to celebrate storytelling week. They shared extracts from our spotlight author Philip Reeve and helped year 6 come up with their own descriptions of fantasy cities.



## Spotlight on:

Each edition we will throw the spotlight on a featured author in the school library. This month the spotlight is on **Mortal Engines** by Philip Reeve. This series is an exciting futuristic dystopian thriller, set in a London as you've never before imagined it. Join Tom and Hester as they battle to save the world from corrupt leaders and machines out to destroy them.



## Get reading this February

**Valentine** was commemorated as a martyr in the 3rd century, but the saint wasn't associated with romantic love until the 14th and 15th centuries and the works of writers like Chaucer and Shakespeare.

## KS1/2: Guess How Much I Love You - Sam McBratney

This picture book is surely a staple of all childhood libraries. The heartwarming tale of the Nutbrown Hares has captivated readers young and old and is perfect for Valentine's Day.

## KS3: Girls in Love - Jacqueline Wilson

A humorous but sensitive look at teenage life, this book perfectly captures what it is to be a teenage girl. The book explores issues of friendship, dating and family life.

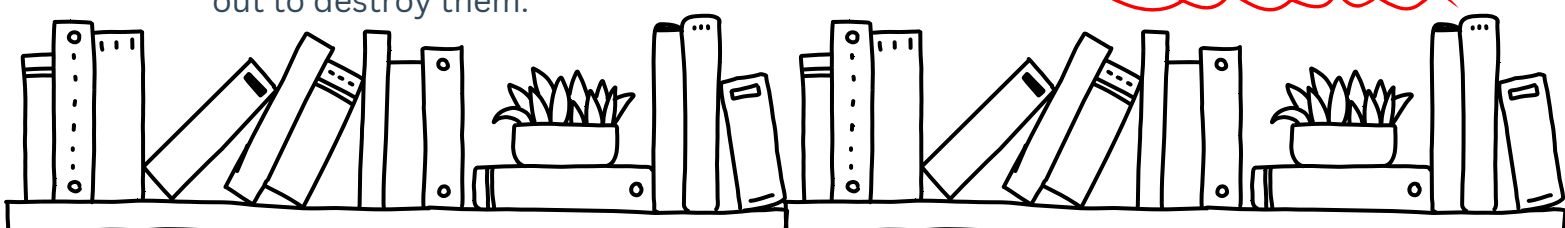
## KS4: William Shakespeare - Romeo and Juliet

Although it's a tragedy rather than a love story, we can't let the season pass us by without recommending a re-read of this classic tale of star-crossed lovers. It has captivated audiences for over half a century (and it gets some revision in too).

## KS4: Heartstopper series - Alice Oseman

This graphic novel series (and the adjacent novels *Solitaire*, *This Winter*, *Radio Silence* and *Loveless*) is perfect for those experiencing their first love.

Exploring a range of teen angst and emotion within a captivating dialogue and engaging characters, these books are a must this Valentine's Day.



# Staff and student library book recommendations

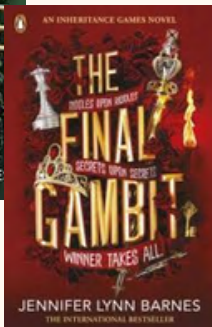
We are looking for book reviewers for future editions - if you are interested please see your English teacher. We will give five stamps for every review published.

8y1 recommends:  
Thirteen by Tom Hoyle,  
Letters from The Lighthouse by Emma Carroll,  
If My Words Had Wings by Danielle Jawando.

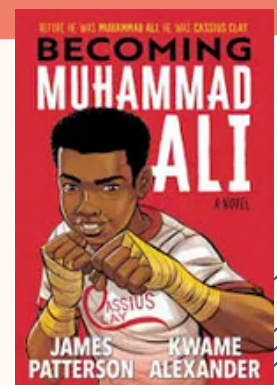
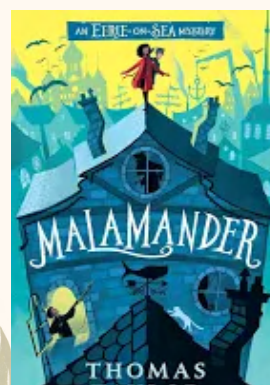
Miss Charman recommends:  
The Inheritance Games - a young adult mystery thriller series.



Miss Barnaby's year 9 class recommend:  
Becoming Mohammed Ali by James Paterson and Kwame Alexander.



Miss Tomaz recommends:  
Malamander by Thomas Taylor.





Brayton  
Academy



# THE GREAT BRAYTON BOOK SWAP

TIME: Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March

PLACE: School Library – all breaks and lunches

To celebrate World Book Day we are holding a second hand book swap event in the school library on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March. We invite students to bring in books they have read to swap at this event.

All books at the book swap will be 20p each, but every book donated by a student entitles them to a free book at our book swap.

Please bring all books you wish to swap into school by Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March. Books can be handed to any English teacher in exchange for vouchers.

All students are welcome at the book swap whether they have books to swap or not.



# MATHEMATICS



This half term a group of year 10 students and some keen year 9 mathematicians from maths club took part in the UK Maths Trust Intermediate Maths Challenge. This nationally recognised competition sees students completing mathematical problems that ask them to think outside the box of their traditional classroom mathematics, using their skills to solve tricky problems. All students approached the challenge with a fantastic attitude and we are really proud of the resilience that they showed. Riley Martin and Isaac Helstrip did particularly well, qualifying for follow-on rounds that only pupils who achieve particularly highly get to take part in.

In addition to this Isaac took part in the British Mathematical Olympiad this half term, which saw him pit his maths skills against a 3 and a half hour challenge. We are still waiting to hear back about how Isaac did on this challenge and are keeping our fingers crossed for him, but in the mean time we want to congratulate him on the impressive dedication he showed to the subject in order to take part in this challenge!

**STUDENTS HAVE COMPLETED 13,642  
HOURS OF PERSONALISED LEARNING  
THIS YEAR!**

## SPARX MATHS SUPERSTARS

**Congratulations to these students for achieving the highest number of XP points.**



A huge congratulations to the above students for their exceptional commitment to Sparx Maths homework this half-term. Your hard work and determination have set a shining example for all. Well done on this fantastic achievement - keep aiming high and inspiring others with your dedication!

**839,398 QUESTIONS ANSWERED  
CORRECTLY SO FAR THIS YEAR!**

# ART



## GCSE ART MOCK EXAMS

Year 10 and 11 have completed their second three-hour mock exam this month. With lots of previous preparation taking place, students were motivated and geared up to start their final piece for their current project: Natural Forms. The students have individually chosen a final working style, image and media which they would work with. The decision of how to present their final piece was also up to students, with a variety of options: series boards, fabric hangings, covered fabric boards and many more. It is a massive accomplishment for the students to have worked so hard prior to and during their exams. Well done GCSE Art students!

## APPLIED RESILIENCE – YEAR 8 ART

Students in year 8 have been having a close look at the four different seasons and investigating how best to represent these using different materials. The pupils had access to a wide range of materials such as oil pastels, watercolour paints, pencils and felt tip pens. Working together step by step, the group followed instructions from Mrs Jepson to draw the outline of the tree accurately. Once happy with this, students made their own decisions as to which sections would represent each season, and which materials they would like to use. Students were encouraged to mix their materials further by overlapping different medias. Creating these masterpieces took a few weeks and lots of emotional and physical resilience from students, but the outcomes all look amazing. Well done year 8!



## APPLIED RESILIENCE - YEAR 9 ART

Students were eager to try the internet trend of creating an image in four different artistic styles. We focused on: realistic, drip, movie and pixel. Students spend a long time accurately drawing out their chosen cartoon character and filling each of the four boxes. Felt tip pen was the chosen material to create a bold and cartoon like representation of their characters. Pixel was the section which students found the hardest and it was the most time consuming. Splitting their section into tiny squares and making the decision of how many squares to use was something the pupils really had to focus on. The realistic section was completed using coloured pencils, layering dark and light tones and colours to represent the texture of their chosen character.



## CRAFT CLUB

In Craft Club this term students have developed their skills in textiles to create pencil case fabric rolls.

Students created their own paper patterns and measured what they wanted them to contain.

They used a variety of upcycled fabrics to make them individual. Some students gave them as gifts. They showed resilience using sewing machines with different stitch details to make their finished products.

Next term students have voted to make bird boxes in the workshops which will hopefully be ready for nesting season!



# Geography



1991 2017



## Year 7

Year 7 students have been focusing on the development of urban environments. They've learned about the locations of early settlements and how these have evolved over time into busy cities. They have also examined the factors driving rural to urban migration and the challenges that come with rapid urban growth, including the rise of squatter settlements. Through this topic, students gained a deeper understanding of the causes and potential impacts of urbanisation, sparking thoughtful discussions about the future of cities around the world.



## Year 8

Year 8 students have been exploring the dynamic region of the Middle East. They have studied its geographic location, diverse physical features, and the unique climate that shapes life in the area. They have also learned about the rich population diversity, the vital role of oil in the economy, and the region's ongoing economic development. A particular highlight for students was the examination of Dubai, its rapid growth, and its efforts towards sustainability in an ever-evolving world. This comprehensive look at the Middle East has sparked curiosity and deeper understanding of the region's complexities and innovations.



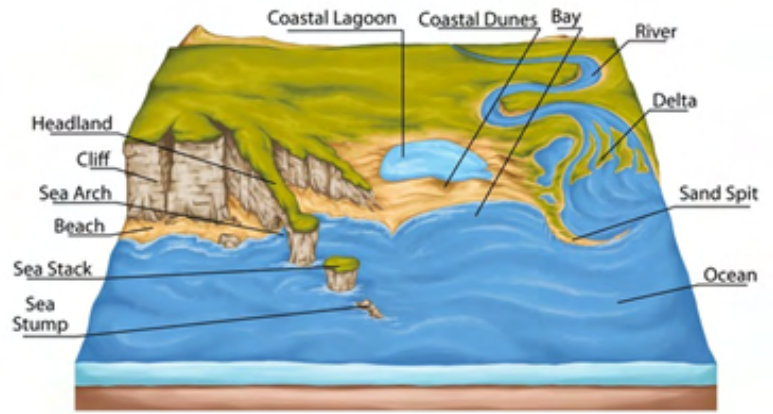
## Year 9

In Year 9, students have been diving into the world of rainforests! They've explored the structure of these vital ecosystems and how plants have developed unique adaptations to thrive in such a diverse environment. Students also examined the causes and impacts of deforestation, gaining insight into how human activities are affecting these critical habitats. Following this, they discussed sustainable deforestation strategies that can help protect rainforests for future generations.



# Year 10

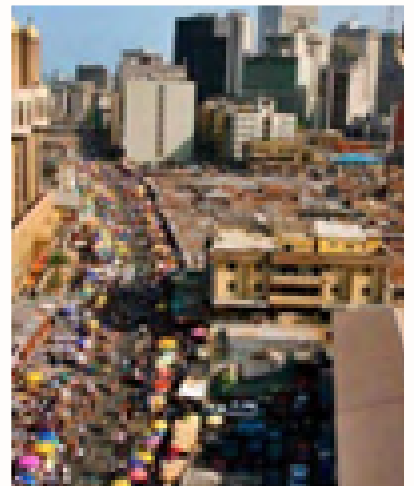
This term, our Y10s moved back to a Paper 1 topic, UK Physical Landscapes, with a focus on coasts. We have explored key coastal processes, including erosion, transportation, and deposition, and examined how these processes shape various coastal landforms such as headlands and bays, wave-cut platforms, beaches, sand dunes, and spits. From this, students discussed the significant impacts of coastal erosion on communities and the environment, along with strategies to reduce the risk, such as sea defenses and managed retreat.



# Year 11

After three weeks of mock exams, Year 11 students are back to their Economic World topic. Following a focus on the causes and consequences of uneven development, they explored strategies to reduce the development gap, including the role of tourism in Jamaica. We have now moved on to the next section, focusing on Nigeria and its rapid economic development. Students are learning how this growth is driving significant social, environmental, and cultural changes, offering them a deeper understanding of the complex impacts of development on Nigeria.

Both Y10 and Y11 are continuing to receive their weekly homework consisting of retrieval/recap questions to help with revision. We recommend that students complete revision activities alongside this (flash cards, past exam questions or mind maps – all resources that students have access to) to help prepare them for their exams.



# HISTORY

We have covered lots of different topics and stages in history this half term. We hope you enjoy reading about what our students have been studying...

## YEAR 7

Year 7 students have continued to study the Norman Conquest. Students have looked at the key battles at Fulford, Stamford Bridge and Hastings. They have also completed lessons on how and why William was able to win at Hasting. They have studied the English reactions to the conquest and the rebellions that followed. Finally they have learnt how William dealt with the rebellions and secured his position through the use castles and rewarding land to loyal supporters. After this students will move on to study how the Normans made huge and lasting changes to society and how these impacted on the lives of everyday people in medieval England.



## YEAR 8

Students in Year 8 continue to study the British Empire. They have studied how and why the empire developed in the Americas. They have looked at what life was like for the natives before Columbus arrived. They also looked at the first successful colonies, the reasons why the US became an independent nation and the importance of the Caribbean islands to the British Empire. Students have finished the term by looking at the next phase of empire - India.

## YEAR 9

Year 9 have completed their study the Rise of Fascism in Europe. Over the last few weeks they have looked specifically at how the fear of communism led to a rise in support for Fascist parties. They have also studied the rise of Hitler in Germany and have started to study the Holocaust with a number of lessons on the history of Anti Semitism in Europe from the early middle ages through to the 20th century. In addition to this a group of 14 Year 9 students were selected to attend a service at Selby Abbey for Holocaust Memorial Day.

## YEAR 10

Year 10 have completed their study of the Norman Conquest. They have recently just finished an in-depth site study of an historic environment which this year was focussed on Pevensey Castle. They then moved on to begin to study Health and the People. This study forms the second part of Paper 2 and will be studied right through until the summer term. Students have begun by looking at medieval medicine. They have looked at the key individuals and key beliefs people of the time had about the cause of illness and the best way to treat it.

## YEAR 11

Year 11 began the term by completing their studies on Germany from 1929 -33. This looks in depth at the events that occurred in Germany in the early 1930s and how these enabled Hitler to come to power. After sitting their mock exams students returned to normal lessons and have started to look at the League of Nations and International Peace from the Inter War Years unit. Students have learnt about the reasons why the League was formed, how it was structured, where it was successful and how and why it ultimately failed in the 1930s.

WHAT'S  
NEW?

## Careers update

FEBRUARY  
EDITION

- Year 10 students were visited by Selby College for an assembly to hear all about the taster day at the college that they will be taking part in next half term. All year 10 parents have been sent a letter about this via Edulink, please make sure that you have returned the form so that your child is able to attend. Year 10 students will have a similar opportunity to experience New College Pontefract later in the term.
- Year 11 students took part in a careers networking event last week. They had the opportunity to speak in small groups to a variety of employers, many of whom were from industries in the digital sector. They had the chance to put questions to our visitors and some really great conversations were overheard with some fantastic insights offered by our guests.
- A group of our most highly-achieving year 11 students attended New College Pontefract this half term to hear from their Achieving Aspirations and Oxbridge Coordinator as well as an admissions tutor from Cambridge University. Students learnt about how to put themselves in the best possible position to make a successful application to Oxbridge, should they choose to take that path.
- Selected students in years 9 and 11 are taking part in employability and life skills workshops run by the North Yorkshire Business and Enterprise Partnership over the coming weeks. Their first session was last week and students conducted themselves brilliantly and got a lot out of the session. We're looking forward to welcoming the visitors from NYBEP back to learn more in the future.
- Our careers fair for year 10 students took place this week with more than 30 volunteers from further and higher education institutions along with local and national employers of all sizes spending the morning in school talking to our students. It was a fantastic experience for all involved with students learning a lot from the conversations they had and our guests were all extremely complimentary about the students that they met. We're looking forward to making the event even bigger and better next year.

As ever if you would like to volunteer your time and expertise to help our careers programme in any way please email [bra-careers@braytonacademy.org.uk](mailto:bra-careers@braytonacademy.org.uk) to discuss ways that we could work together.

# SPORTS

## NEWS



This half term was action-packed for Brayton Academy sports teams, with incredible performances across netball, football, rugby, and cross country. Let's take a look back at the results and celebrate the achievements of our athletes!

### Rugby Action

#### Year 7 & 8 First Match of the Year

A fantastic start to the rugby season, with some great tackling and running. Despite losing 8 tries to 4, the team showed excellent effort!

**Special mentions:** Iylar R for awesome tackling & Layla W for scoring 3 out of 4 tries!



### SPORTING SUCCESSES

### Football Highlights

#### YU13 Girls Cup Match – Brayton 3-5 Richmond

A valiant effort from the girls, showing great determination and teamwork!

**Goal Scorers:** Violet G, Eva R, Maiya H

**Player of the Match:** Maiya H

#### Year 8 vs. Sherburn

A strong performance but a narrow 3-1 defeat. Special mention to Perry F for scoring a great goal!

**Player of the Match:** Perry F



#### North Yorkshire Schools Championships (Skipton)

Our students tackled a challenging, hilly course with determination, despite icy training conditions leading up to the event.

#### Top Brayton Finishers:

##### Year 7 Boys (36 Competitors):

20th: Finlay C

24th: Charlie C

##### Intermediate Boys (36 Competitors):

17th: Ewan Robertson

**A fantastic effort from all runners, well done!**



**A huge congratulations to Esme for her outstanding victory at the Northern Zonal Schools Trampolining Competition! She won by an incredible 2 whole marks and has now secured her spot at the British Schools Finals in Derby on March 15th!**

**Esme narrowly missed out on the title last year by just 0.3 points—this time, she's ready to go for gold! Best of luck, Esme—we're all cheering for you!**



# Netball Round-up

## U15 vs. The Mount

A challenging home fixture saw our U15s put in a fantastic performance, keeping the scoreline close for most of the game. However, a few lapses in concentration allowed The Mount to secure a 15-10 win. Well done to all players for their effort—keep up the hard work!

## U13 & U16 vs. Millthorpe School

Our U13 and U16 teams combined forces for a friendly match against Millthorpe, coming away with a dominant 27-11 victory! Huge credit to the players for their teamwork and outstanding sportsmanship.

### Players of the Match:

★ U16: Milly F

★ U13: Maiya H

## Year 8 A & B Teams vs. Sherburn High School

Both Year 8 teams showed resilience and skill, securing well-earned 4-2 victories!

### Players of the Match:

★ A Team: Tiana M

★ B Team: Edith P

## U15 vs. Manor (Jan 22nd)

Brayton fought hard against Manor, closing the gap in the second half despite a scrappy start, but ultimately fell 12-18. Plenty of positives to take away as the team continues to grow!

## U13 & U15 vs. Archbishop Holgate (Jan 23rd)

U13 Win 11-4

A fantastic all-around performance, with great movement and sharp shooting from Maiya and Myla!

### Player of the Match:

★ Maiya H

The U15s, with only four players available, were supported by some amazing U13s stepping up. Despite their efforts, they couldn't secure the win but demonstrated incredible team spirit!

### Player of the Match:

★ Yuki G (U13)



## Year 8 vs. Rodillian (Jan 27th)

**B Team:** 10-4 Victory!

### Player of the Match:

★ Eva Riley

**Year 7:** 9-0 Victory!

### Player of the Match:

★ Alice Welbourn

## U15 vs. Bootham

A tough league loss, but the team is using it as motivation to train harder and come back stronger!

## Looking Ahead to February!

February is packed with more fixtures, including netball, football, and rugby matches. Stay tuned for updates and best of luck to all our teams.

# PERFORMING ARTS

## News

### Royal Shakespeare Associate School Programme

Year 9 Pre-Option Drama students had the opportunity to work with Julian from the York Theatre Royal this half term. This is in preparation for their performance at the York Theatre Royal on the 3rd of March. Students will be performing *The Tempest* as part of the Royal Shakespeare Associate School programme. All students thoroughly enjoyed the workshop exploring movement creating and developing characters.



**WANTED**

If you are interested in having music lessons at school please see your music teacher for more details. We currently have spaces in piano.

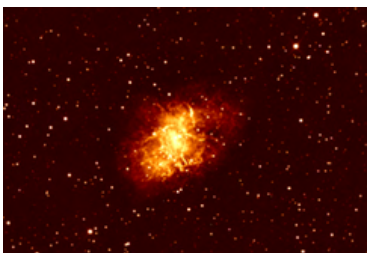
**Actors, dancers, comedians, soloist musicians, bands, magicians, poets... wanted for the Summer Showcase coming June 2025, more details to follow in the coming weeks - Performing Arts department**

# ASTRONOMY

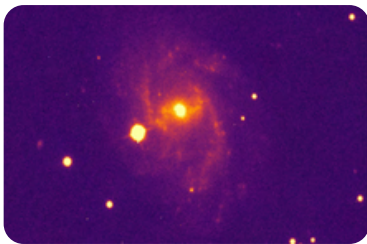
Our Astronomy group continues to go from strength to strength! We now have multiple telescopes to use thanks to help from NASA, Harvard University and Liverpool John Moores University.

Using remote telescopes is an amazing experience for our students. At different locations around the world (from the Canary Islands to Arizona) we can remotely "borrow" a telescope for a few minutes. A computer points the telescope in roughly the right direction, then students need to set the zoom, exposure time, filters, time, etc. Once we have an image, this can be downloaded into industry standard astronomy software and a laborious process of editing begins. All of the photos on this page are students own work and any editing was done entirely by them.

We have been concentrating on deep space objects and our own solar system.



Daniel was a rightful winner of the last photo of the month competition with this astonishing photo of the crab nebula. It is 6500 light years away but can be seen with binoculars.

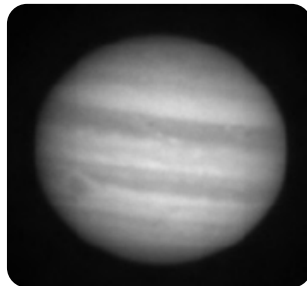


NGC 864 is a spiral galaxy 89 million light years away and many astronomers find a good photograph difficult to take. Not a problem for Ciara.

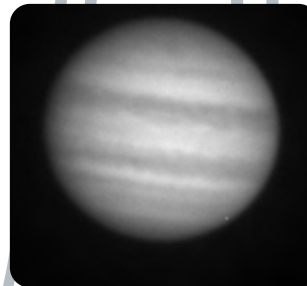
Nearer to home, objects in the solar system remain a favourite subject for our students.



We have taken hundreds of moon pictures but Harry's image is up there with the best because of the shadows on the craters.

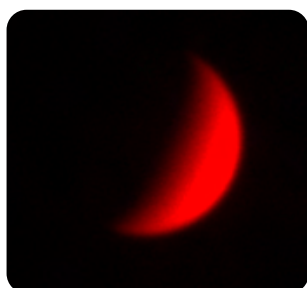


Ryan's Jupiter image shows the spot in all its glory. The spot is actually a storm greater than the size of the Earth. [Catch it while you can though - it is rapidly shrinking].

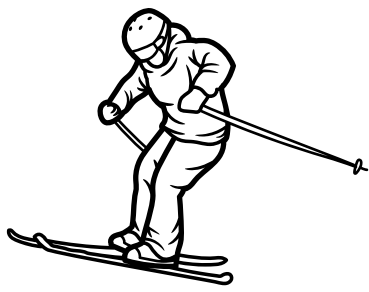


Benjamin captured the other side of Jupiter (it has a day length of only 9 hours). This photo is amazing because you can see the moon Io on the bottom right of Jupiter's surface...

the second image is a super enlarged version if your eyesight is as bad as Mr. Warrington's! We had to learn to use planetary tracking software to identify that it was actually Io.



Benjamin digitally enhanced his picture of Venus with false colour. We've now seen dawn breaking on a different planet!



# SKIING

## APPLIED RESILIENCE



The Year 8 and 9 students are thoroughly enjoying their skiing resilience sessions and the feedback from instructors has been nothing but fantastic. They consistently praise the students for their politeness and enthusiasm, making them a pleasure to teach.

The Year 9s, having more experience, are advancing to technical skiing and refining their skills, while the Year 8s are building a strong foundation. It's a joy to work with both groups and see how much they benefit from the sessions. Many students have expressed an interest in pursuing skiing further, whether as a hobby or through future ski holidays.



# February Kindness CALENDAR

At The Brayton Times, we have created a Kindness Calendar to help celebrate Kindness Month in February. There are some suggestions for you on each day of the whole month to help spread kindness around Brayton Academy.

Also, our new issue of our school newspaper will be available from 12th February!

| Monday  | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday   | Saturday  | Sunday   |
|---|---|--|--|--|---|--|
|  |   |  |  |  | 1 <sup>st</sup><br>Smile to at least 2 people.  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Set yourself a goal for today.                             |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup><br>Make a cup of warm drink for a family member.                  | 4 <sup>th</sup><br>Say Good Morning to someone on the corridor. | 5 <sup>th</sup><br>Offer to help a teacher with handing out the resources.       | 6 <sup>th</sup><br>Say please and thank you to teachers.                       | 7 <sup>th</sup><br>Put rubbish in the bin that isn't yours.  | 8 <sup>th</sup><br>Donate your old toys to charity.                                   | 9 <sup>th</sup><br>Write a nice letter to a teacher or a student.          |
| 10 <sup>th</sup><br>Open the door for someone.                                    | 11 <sup>th</sup><br>Make someone laugh.                         | 12 <sup>th</sup><br>Give someone a compliment.                                   | 13 <sup>th</sup><br>Ask someone if they're okay if not try to make them happy. | 14 <sup>th</sup><br>Help an elderly person.                  | 15 <sup>th</sup><br>Water your plants.  | 16 <sup>th</sup><br>Leave an extra tip in a restaurant.                    |
| 17 <sup>th</sup><br>Help to make dinner.  | 18 <sup>th</sup><br>Help someone carry their shopping           | 19 <sup>th</sup><br>Wash the dishes if needed.                                   | 20 <sup>th</sup><br>Help clean up mess.  | 21 <sup>st</sup><br>Say hello to a pupil you don't know yet. | 22 <sup>nd</sup><br>Help to tidy up without being asked to.                           | 23 <sup>rd</sup><br>Let someone know how much you appreciate them and why. |
| 24 <sup>th</sup><br>Say hello to someone and smile.                               | 25 <sup>th</sup><br>Share a piece of artwork with a loved one.  | 26 <sup>th</sup><br>Offer to help someone with their work they don't understand. | 27 <sup>th</sup><br>Pick up litter around you.                                 | 28 <sup>th</sup><br>Clean and organise your room.            |  |  |

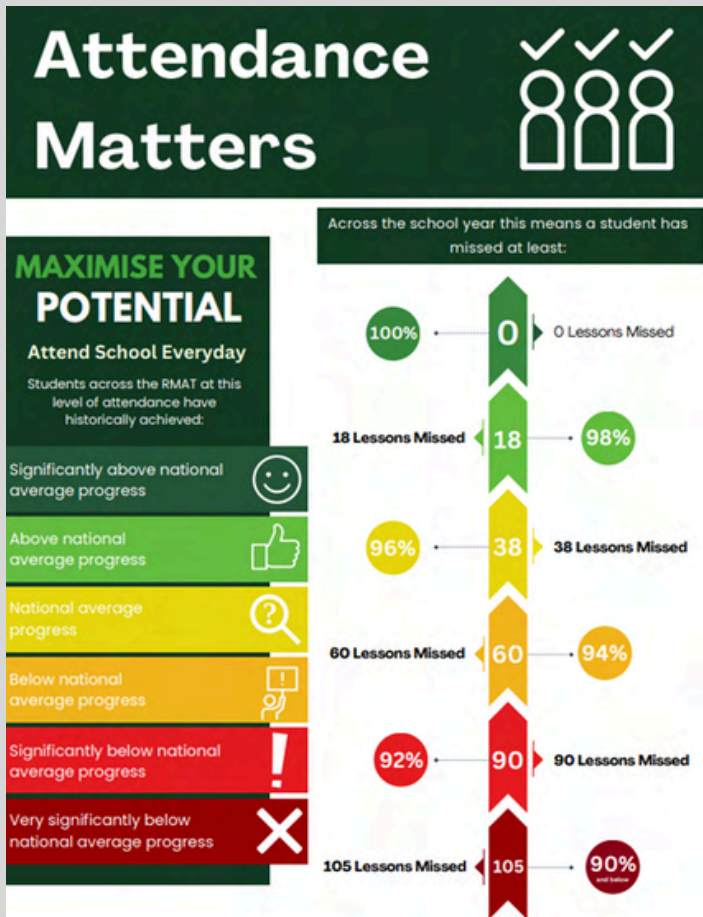
# #BeKind

# ATTEND TODAY

# ACHIEVE TOMORROW!

**Whole School attendance from the start of the Academic year is 95%. Brayton are definitely leading the way within the Trust!**

**Huge Congratulations to the Year 7 cohort who have maintained outstanding attendance habits since joining us in August 2025. Their attendance currently stands at 96.8%. This is closely followed by Year 8 with an attendance of 95.6%.**



## Attendance Matters

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.






| Description | Threshold Attendance | Actual Attendance | Whole Days Absent | Learning Lost (Lessons)<br><small>Across the school year actual lessons lost</small> |
|-------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| 😊           | 100%                 | 190 Days          | 0                 | 0  |
|             | 99%                  | 188 Days          | 2                 | 12   |
| 👍           | 98%                  | 186 Days          | 4                 | 24   |
|             | 97%                  | 184 Days          | 6                 | 36   |
| 🔍           | 96%                  | 182.5 Days        | 7.5               | 45   |
|             | 95%                  | 180.5 Days        | 9.5               | 57   |
| ⚠️          | 94%                  | 178.5 Days        | 11.5              | 69   |
|             | 93%                  | 176.5 Days        | 13.5              | 81   |
| ❗           | 92%                  | 174.5 Days        | 15.5              | 93   |
|             | 91%                  | 173 Days          | 17                | 102  |
| ❌           | 90%                  | 171 Days          | 19                | 114  |
|             | 89%                  | 169 Days          | 21                | 126  |
| ❌           | 88%                  | 167 Days          | 23                | 138  |
|             | 87%                  | 165.5 Days        | 25                | 150  |
| ❌           | 86%                  | 163.5 Days        | 26.5              | 159  |
|             | 85%                  | 161.5 Days        | 28.5              | 171  |



# EXTRA CURRICULAR TIMETABLE



ALL CLUBS RUN AFTER SCHOOL 14:30 TILL 15:30

|  | YEAR 7   | YEAR 8  | YEAR 9   | YEAR 10  | YEAR 11   |
|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| <b>MONDAY</b>  | Netball<br>Science Club<br>Knitting & Crochet<br>Boys Rugby<br>Basketball<br>Games Workshop<br>Drama Club            | Netball<br>Science Club<br>Knitting & Crochet<br>Boys Rugby<br>Basketball<br>Games Workshop<br>Drama Club | Science Club<br>Knitting & Crochet<br>Basketball<br>Games Workshop<br>Drama Club                                 | Study Support<br>Science Club<br>Games Workshop  |   |
| <b>TUESDAY</b>   |  <b>ROCK BAND</b><br><b>CHOIR</b> |   |  |  |  |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b>   | Cake Decorating<br>Homework Club<br>Craft Club<br>Girls Football<br>Girls Rugby<br>Badminton                         | Homework Club<br>Craft Club<br>Girls Football<br>Girls Rugby<br>Badminton                                 | Homework Club<br>Girls Football<br>Girls Rugby<br>Badminton  | Homework Club<br>Girls Football<br>Girls Rugby<br>Drama Club   | Homework Club<br>Girls Rugby<br>Drama Club  |
| <b>THURSDAY</b>  | Library Club<br>Chess Club<br>Anime Club<br>Reading Club<br>Art Club -<br>Fortnightly<br>Boys Football<br>Dance      | Library Club<br>Chess Club<br>Anime Club<br>Reading Club<br>Boys Football<br>Dance                        | Library Club<br>Chess Club<br>Anime Club<br>Reading Club<br>Netball<br>Boys Rugby<br>Dance<br>UK Maths Challenge | Library Club<br>Chess Club<br>Anime Club<br>Boys Rugby<br>Netball<br>Dance<br>General Fitness<br>Training Club | Netball<br>Dance<br>Chess Club<br>Anime Club<br>General Fitness<br>Training Club      |
| <b>FRIDAY</b>  |                                   | <b>BRAYTON UNION SOCIETY (HUMANITIES DEBATE CLUB)</b>   |  |  |  |
|  | <b>ECO-SCHOOL GROUP</b>  |   |  |  |   |

