

Be INSPIRED.  
Be OUTSTANDING.  
Be BREDA.



BREDA. Merry Christmas

# the bulletin

## Music Department

In September, the Music Department was delighted to have a String Quartet from the **Ulster Orchestra** visit school as part of a series of Music Inspiration workshops. The musicians performed a wide variety of different styles of music including film music, classical, rock and pop. The pupils who took part in this workshop had a wonderful experience. Many of the year 12 pupils were given great inspiration for their GCSE compositions and some of our new pupils in year 8 were encouraged to take instrumental lessons in school.



Our school **Choir** and **Senior Guitar Group** spent this term rehearsing and preparing pieces for a performance at our annual Prize Night. The choir performed the song "A Million Dreams" from the film *The Greatest Showman*; this performance featured a lovely solo by Aimee Woods in year 12. The piece "A Song for Someone" by U2 was also performed and featured a beautiful guitar and vocal solo by Elise Montgomery in year 12. The Senior Guitar Group (Elise Montgomery, Kristen Sanlon, Jordan McClean, Kian Hallam and Curtis Southam) performed an arrangement of "Largo" from *The Four Seasons* by Vivaldi.



Since September, our new year 8 pupils have been taking part in action packed music lessons. They have had the opportunity to learn to play the drum kit, the ukulele, the guitar and have been taking part in group composing and performing activities using both tuned and untuned percussion instruments. The year 8 pupils have been learning about the elements of music, as well as completing a topic on rhythm and pulse. In year 9 pupils have completed a unit called Texture and learnt to play the melody "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" on the keyboard. Year 10 pupils have completed a topic on Blues Music and have learnt how to perform a 12 Bar Blues.

The music department continues to offer pupils the opportunity to take part in the following activities. All activities are free and instruments are provided. New pupils are very welcome to attend.

- GCSE Music Club      Tuesday 3.05 to 4pm
- Senior Guitar          Thursday 2.25 to 3pm
- Choir                      Friday, Period 3
- Year 8 Guitar Group    Friday Lunchtime

Private lessons continue to be offered to pupils on the following instruments: Voice, Piano, Strings, Drum Kit and Guitar. Our enthusiastic and highly qualified tutors offer lessons at competitive rates. Anyone who is interested and would like further information should contact Miss Broadhurst.

## Breda Prize Distribution

The pupils, their families and the staff of Breda Academy attended the school's 'Prize Distribution Evening' on Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> October 2018. Over fifty pupils received prizes in recognition of their academic achievements for the preceding school

year. Prizes were also distributed to pupils who had achieved full attendance. Notable awards were



also presented, including: 'The Artistic Endeavour Award in memory of Jordan Kingston-Trotman' (James Todd), 'The Adam McCormack Prize for Friendship' (Joshua Carlisle), 'Sportsperson of the Year' (Joshua Andrews), GRIT Award (Jordan-Leigh Corry), Principal's Award for Positive Engagement and Contribution to School Life (Joel Keys), Heather Gibson Prize for Kindness (Hollie McKay) and Best GCSE Results (Curtis Douglas).

Our Guest Speaker, Mr Jonathan Cooke BEM, delivered an inspirational speech which



was well received by all in attendance. Musical performances by the school choir and guitar group, under the direction of Miss Broadhurst, ranged from 'A Song for Someone' by U2 to 'Largo' from 'The Four Seasons by Vivaldi'. After the prize distribution we were treated to a delicious supper prepared by the Home Economics Department and their pupils. As always, it was a wonderful evening and we are all very proud of the pupils who received prizes and those pupils who helped with music, catering, lighting and speeches.

*Well done to everyone.*

**Open to the Public**

**CRAFT CLASS**

NEW

FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH

3PM-3PM

6TH DEC  
10TH JAN  
17TH FEB  
7TH MARCH  
4TH APRIL  
2ND MAY  
6TH JUNE

For further details or to book your place, contact Mrs Towell by emailing: [btowell315@breda.belfast.ni.sch.uk](mailto:btowell315@breda.belfast.ni.sch.uk)

Or telephone the school on: 028 9064 5374

Breda Academy, Newtownbreda Road, Belfast, County Antrim, BT8 6PY

# PUBLIC SERVICES

On the 21st September we had a visit from Alderman Tommy Sandford who spoke to us about the work of Belfast City Council and explained how local government works. He was informative and all the students benefited greatly from his visit.

Year 14 attended the Holocaust Memorial Event at the City Hall Belfast along with Year 11 and 12 History Students. We listened to the harrowing testimony of a former Rwandan footballer and Holocaust survivor Eric Eugène Murangwa. This was to complement our in depth study on Human Rights, Citizenship and Diversity.

Year 13 attended the Top Table, a BBC current affairs debating programme for 16 – 21 year olds, hosted by Stephen Nolan. The Year 13 students visited Blackstaff Studios and were part of the audience. The debates focused on Brexit and the future of Northern Ireland. They got to hear Alastair Campbell, several local MLAs and business leaders debate current issues. Unfortunately, they didn't get to ask their questions this time, but all pupils were complimented on how well they represented our school by both the public and staff at the BBC.

## Digital Youth

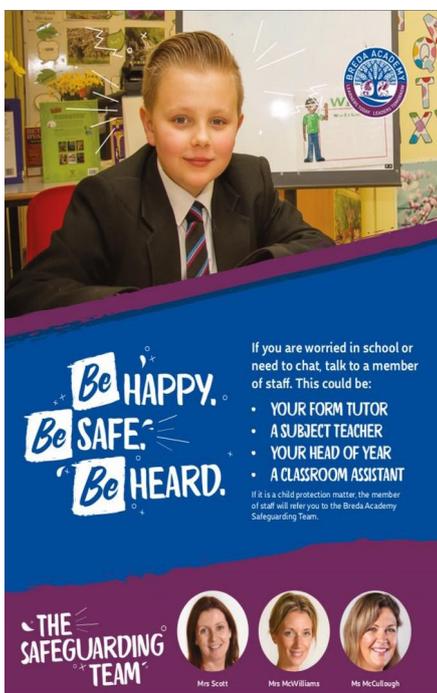
Digital Youth, in partnership with Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council, SERC and the McAvoy group visited Breda Academy in November. Students got to participate in presentations and create their own business ideas in groups. They also enjoyed exploring the technology available, including Green screens, Virtual Reality, Augmented Reality, Leap motion and Robotics.



## Exploring future skills and getting ready for work at

### Skills NI Careers Fair

Year 11 and Year 14 were given the opportunity to visit the Skills NI event this month. It was a fantastic careers fair, with representatives from all industry sectors providing advice on careers, courses, specific jobs, skills and apprenticeships. Our pupils really enjoyed the interactive aspect- with cookery and special effect make-up demonstrations, diagnosing faults with engines, learning



about music copyrights, STEM careers and much more...

Thank you to Northern Ireland Electricity Networks for sponsoring the event; we look forward to returning next year!

# Prefects 2018/2019



**Deputy Heads of School**

**Heads of School**

**Senior Prefects**

## **Corey Adair - Head of School (left)**

*(Strandtown Primary School)*

I wanted to be Head of School for a number of reasons. I wanted to become a role model, try and improve the school and try to make school as fun as possible for all pupils. I want our pupils to achieve the best possible results in their exams. I really enjoy the relationships with some teachers in our school as they are really helpful and I really enjoy having a chat with them. I have been involved in running table tennis and football for Year 8 and 9 pupils. I also organise prefects to help at school events. Next year I want to go to the University of Ulster to do a Sports Degree. After University, I will either start my own personal trainer business or enrol within the RAF as a personal trainer. My main interest outside school is RAF Cadets, where I am a Sergeant. I enjoy this as I am able to go around the world and do things that most people my age only wish they could do. My other interest was I played rugby for Malone for nearly 9 years, but I gave up rugby this year so I could focus on my studies. My advice for pupils is to focus on your school work. It is really important to focus on your studies so you can achieve the best results possible in your GCSEs and be able to stay on at Breda to do your A Levels.

## **Jack Brannigan - Head of School (right)**

*(Inchmarlo Preparatory School)*

I wanted to be Head of School to develop my leadership skills and most importantly, I enjoy ensuring that Breda is a friendly and welcoming place - I know most people in the school! I enjoy being part of the school community and making new friends. I only joined Breda last year and have been made very welcome by everyone. This year I started up a year 8 film club at lunchtime, I go to the Judo club and I help with Year 8 football during Friday lunchtime. Last year, I helped year 8 pupils during their Literacy support lessons. I am really looking forward to the annual Breda ski trip as I went last year and it was amazing! When I leave school I would absolutely love to be a famous musician or actor. Outside of school I play the trumpet and I am a member of Downshire Youth Brass Band which is great as I get to play in lots of concerts. I also got to take part in a performance with the Ulster Orchestra's Come and Play event last year and will be taking part again in February 2019 in the Ulster Hall. I go to a group called Solas every week and I also have a part time job in Tesco. I always ensure I go to the cinema at least once a week as well - movies (and music) are my life! My advice to younger pupils would be; If you have a dream, go for it! Achieve your dream and never give up!

## Mrs Taggart - Head of Art



In October, Mrs Taggart was elected as the new president of the Association for Arts and Design Education, Northern Ireland.

This is professional association that was formed in 1986 and currently has 200 members. The association provides a welcoming and interactive group where teachers can meet to: work with artists, exhibit in an annual exhibition, go on cultural outings to galleries and generally network in any way that can support art and design teachers' professional practice.

The AADE aims to make a positive contribution to art and design education, promoting public and governmental awareness and

professional development. It enables its members to network with like-minded art teachers, across Northern Ireland.

Mrs Taggart has long been a creative contributor and attendee at AADE events and the association will benefit from her talents as a teacher, her humour and her leadership over the year.

**Congratulations to Mrs Taggart for being elected to this important position.**

### Numeracy Corner



5 Friends A, B, C, D and E live in the same road.

The numbers of B, C, D when multiplied together equals 1260. The numbers B, C, D when added equal twice E's number and is even. A's number is half as much again as E's. The road numbers run from 2 to 222. What are the 5 house numbers?

If you complete the numeracy quiz, please hand it in to Mrs Savage. The first correct entry received by the closing date (Monday, 7th January) will win a small prize!

### **AUTUMN SUDOKU**

Every row, column and mini-grid must contain the letters –

A-C-O-R-N-S





## Careers Education - Meet the Marines!

This September, a steely group of Year 11s met up with 4 other schools at Palace Barracks to 'Meet the Marines'. It was a full-day event and pupils were given an insight into the recruitment process for the Marines. They had opportunities to take part in: abseiling, firearms training, team building exercises, including the 'spider's nest' and endurance circuit training. It was a challenging but enjoyable day and a great opportunity for Breda!



## Year 14 Psychology Prize Winners

### British Psychological Society's (NI) A Level Conference

The Year 14 Psychology class took part in the BPS's (NI) Annual A Level Conference at Queen's University on 3rd December. The girls had designed and conducted their own piece of research in school entitled **'Are Teenagers Tone Deaf? Gender Differences in Teenagers' Ability to Decode Speakers' Feelings'**. The team had to present their work in front of other schools and were declared overall winners by the judges from the University of Ulster, Queen's University and a practising Forensic Psychologist. The team comprised of **Vanda Brito, Rebecca Donaldson, Karina Kralinska, Yele Ladi-Taiwo, Amy Mineely, Hollie Shaw and Demileigh Washbourne**. The girls' research produced some interesting findings: the boys in their study were significantly better at reading emotions in vocal cues, girls were better at identifying sadness in the speaker's voice and boys were better at identifying anger. This was the second year that Breda Psychology students have won this prize and we are very proud of the girls' ability to work as a team and their excellent delivery of their presentation. They have now been invited to the British Psychological Society's annual conference in April 2019 to present their work to chartered psychologists, which will be a very exciting experience.



Thursday, 13th December

**Parents' Afternoon - Year 9**

Friday, 21st December

**Last day of term / half day**

Friday, 4th January

**Study Support Day (Years 12,13 &14 only) Details to follow**

Monday, 7th January

**All pupils return to school. Normal school day.**

Thursday, 17th January

**Open Night**

Friday, 18th January

**Staff Development Day—Pupils not in school**

Tuesday, 12th February

**Parents' afternoon—Year 10**

**Key Dates**

# My Advice to Younger Pupils

By Beth Mayne - year 14 (Knockbreda Primary School)

During my time at school, I have experienced, heard and seen a lot. Here's my advice:

## Have good friends

This one seems obvious, but your friends have an important influence on you and the decisions you will make. Good friends won't make you change or go against your beliefs / standards, but will embrace who you are.

## Join After School Clubs

You may want to go straight home after a long day of school, but after school clubs will help you meet new pupils and you will make memories. Some of the best memories I have are because of Drama club and I'm still friendly with some of the other pupils.

## Be Involved

Other than the after school clubs

offered, there are other ways to be involved. There are school trips or you can volunteer to help with a school event. Recently, four year 9 pupils helped me with a film for my Creative Media course. There are so many ways to 'Be Breda'.

## Study

This is one thing I don't like to do, but it can make the difference between passing or failing an exam. I personally love mind maps, flash cards and lists of words. The best tip I have; don't leave it all to the last minute.

## Listen to your Teachers

Seriously. Your teachers have worked hard on the lessons they deliver and they deserve our respect. The teachers know what you need to do so that you can succeed. Talk to them - they may just understand what

you're going through!

## Don't Rush to Grow Up

Don't feel that you have to look just like your friends and that you have to do everything they do. You have your own path. And take your time. What feels like a long time goes by so quickly and I should know! I'm in Year 14 and despite any disappointments I've had in my life, I wish I could rewind it all to relive all of my happy memories.

Enjoy the time that you have to be a child; it doesn't last long. Remember that your phone and social media aren't going anywhere, so take the time to actually interact with and talk to your friends and family - along the way you will make unforgettable memories.

## High Achievers in Health and Social Care

Congratulations to three of our Year 13 Breda students, who were recognised by CCEA as three of the top-performing students at GCSE level in 2018. The Double Award Health & Social Care students were awarded first, second and third place in Northern Ireland. This is a fantastic achievement - well done girls!

(l-r Molly Earle, Jordan-Leigh Corry and Nicole Conway).



## Bronze Award Winners

Pupils can be awarded achievement points for excellent effort, behaviour and extra-curricular involvement. These pupils were presented with their bronze awards in October and November as they had been awarded 50 achievement points.

**Congratulations!**

Jack Ferguson	9D
Jack Veighey	9D
Amy Floyd	9C
Nicole Lamrock	9C
Alisha Plant	9D
Jamie Lee Gallagher	9E
Emma Brown	9C
Anna Hayes	10F
Mark Truesdale	9C
Paige Summerhayes	9D

Joshua Collins	9D
Demi Rainey	9D
Andrew Wisoner	9D
Demileigh Campbell	9D
Louise Boyd	9D
Harvey Donaghy	9C
Joel Abosi	9D
Jordan Reilly	9D
Madison Oliver	9D
Lekan Sule	9D
Molly Clarke	9D

## Zambia 2018

Mrs Millar

During the summer this year I had the privilege to go to Zambia with a team of twenty young people from my church and our very own Gemma Fairfield from Year 12. We were going to work alongside a family (The Moyos) who have set up an orphanage, school and church in N'dola in Zambia. There are over 50 children living in the orphanage ranging from two years old to eighteen years old. During the time there we got to know the children, had fun playing with them and a



personal favourite of mine was when we gathered the young children together to read them bedtime stories. Going into the villages where some of the children came from really highlighted the difference in their lives now that they live in Oasis village. The children share a house with 5/6 other children and a house mum looks after them. They are happy, clothed and well fed and even get swimming and music lessons if they want to. We also completed some practical work – helping to build a church (well I varnished some wood but



you know what I mean), paint rooms, make seats and a few of the artistic members of the team painted a mural with the kids' handprints. Other activities included a church conference, crusade, baptisms in the river and

church meetings.

We even had an overnight safari trip (which just happened to be on my birthday) and saw deer, antelope, zebras and giraffes up close in their natural environment which was amazing.

I had a fantastic time away and the warm welcome we received from everyone we met will stay with me for a long time. Over the course of the year I have been sharing my experiences with my classes to encourage them to value education, as in some countries their access to education is so limiting and how fortunate they really are here in Breda Academy.

**Believe you can – and you're half way there!**

**(Theodore Roosevelt)**

## 'Read On'

'Thank you' to the English Department for holding another successful 'Read On' event at the end of June. **£652.75** was raised for the NI Cancer Fund for Children and special thanks go to Ms McLaughlin for organising the event.

The star fundraiser was **Hollie McKay** who raised a staggering **£184!** Hollie was then presented with 'The Heather Gibson Award for Kindness' for her excellent fundraising, for this and other charity events in school.

## YEAR 14 BTEC LEVEL 3 EXTENDED CERTIFICATE IN BUSINESS

### TESCO RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION VISIT

Friday 14 September 2018, saw the visit of two Tesco managers, Mr Reynolds and Mr McCullough, to the Year 14 BTEC Level 3 Business group to speak to them regarding the Recruitment and Selection process authorised by Tesco headquarters in Hertfordshire. During this talk, students listened intently as they gathered valuable information which would be of use to them in writing up part of their Level 3 Extended Certificate in Business assignment. This was followed by an interesting question and answer session during which students were able to extract further details relevant to this subject matter.

Mr Reynolds and Mr McCullough were able to provide students with great insight on Tesco's online recruitment programme, its benefits to the company and applicants, their shortlisting, interview and selection process, Tesco's legal and ethical obligations during this process and how it is monitored to ensure there is no bias nor unfairness to any applicant seeking employment with the company.



All in all, it was a very interesting afternoon – not least because several of our students have actually gone through the online recruitment and selection programme first hand – so it was interesting for them to hear what Managers look for regarding potential employees for the company and what determines their selection of one candidate over another.

# We all know that every day at school counts

and that excellent attendance at school is important in enabling our young people to fulfil their potential.

Research shows that children with high attendance are

- **3x more likely to gain qualifications**
- **7 x more likely to form social networks**
- **7 x more likely to end up in positive relationships**

School Leavers Data for Northern Ireland shows that

77.6% of pupils achieved at least 5 GCSEs including English and Maths when they attended more than 95%.	50.3% of pupils achieved at least 5 GCSEs including English and Maths when they attended less than 90%.	38.8% of pupils achieved at least 5 GCSEs including English and Maths when they attended less than 80%.	34% of pupils achieved at least 5 GCSEs including English and Maths when they attended less than 70%.
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100% Attendance	0 days missed	Excellent
95% Attendance	9 days of absence One week and 4 days of learning missed	Satisfactory
90% Attendance	19 days of absence 3 weeks and 4 days of learning missed	Poor
85% Attendance	28 days of absence 5 weeks and 3 days of learning missed	Very Poor
80% Attendance	38 days of absence 7 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed	Unacceptable
75% Attendance	46 Days of Absence 9 Weeks and 1 Day of Learning Missed	Unacceptable

At Breda, we use a traffic light system so that pupils can easily understand what their attendance percentage means. Whilst 85% might be considered a good score in a test, in terms of attendance, it is very poor.

Below and on the following page are our **Breda Top Attenders** for term one - those pupils with 95% and above attendance. Well done everyone!

Joel Abosi	Matthew Burns	Melanie Crowe
Corey Adair	Christopher Busteed	Sam Crowe
Chelsea Anderson	Lauren Cairns	Katie Cullen
Joel Anderson	Asha Caldwell	Aaron Davidson
Simon Anderson	Kenzie Calvert	Nicole Dawson
Gareth Anderson	Joshua Carlisle	Lois Dickson
David Anjorin	Toby Chambers	Curtis Dobbin
Lena Baldyga	Joshua Cherry	Kelsie Donald
Jamie Barnes	Syki Chmil	Curtis Douglas
Adam Barnes	Kin Wing Chung	Adrian Drahota
Andrew Barr	Ryan Clark	Katie Dransfield
Robyn Beattie	Jodie Clarke	Kelsey Farnhill
Cruz Beatty	Kyle Cleland	Cameron Farr
Oliver Beggs	Hannah Cockcroft	Kayleigh Fekkes
Sara Beldi Bouhnouf	Jonathan Cockcroft	Megan Ferguson
Laurentiu Bob	Luke Conway	Dean Finlay
Eryk Borkowski	Nicole Conway	Scott Flynn
Travis Bowes	Jade Cook	Neil Forbes
Jessica Bowman	Ben Corry	Jodie Fulton
Maisy Bradney	Jordan-Leigh Corry	Ellie Galashan
Jack Brannigan	Ronaldo Covaci	Jamie Lee Gallagher
Larisa Budacea	Lewis Crawford	Justin Galloway
Koby Bunting Walker	Rovic Cristobal	Roberto Gheorghiu

Katie	Gilmore	Warren	Lloyd	Kaide	Mulholland	Chloe	Trimble
Jasmine	Girvin	Max	Lowry	Katie	Murdock	Joshua	Trimble
Holly	Glover	Cameron	Lyttle	Corey	Newberry	James	Tun
Justin	Gourley	Pierce	Madden	Nadia	Nixon	Chloe	Walker
Lauren	Graham	Olivia	Madden	Madison	Oliver	Olivia	Ward
Andrew	Graham	Georgia	Magee	Adele	Oliver	Alek	Watt
Lloyd	Gray	Glenn	Magill	Jasmine	Orr	Nicole	Weir
Michael	Greenwood	Craig	Malone	Ryan	Orr	Lewis	White
Aaron	Greenwood	Carter	Marshall	Katie	Oslon	Rhiannon	White
Oliver	Grierson	Rebecca	Maxwell	Charlie	Owen	Madison	Wightman Stitt
Array	Hafizi	Beth	Mayne	Taylor	Owen	Jessica	Wightman Stitt
Bradley	Hamilton	Sophie	McAdams	Lara	Pavis	Jasmin	Wilkinson
Adam	Harper	Cleona	McAlvenny	Simon	Penaflo	Steven	Williams
Whitney-Rose	Harvey	Helena	McCamley	Stephen	Quate	Ben	Willis
Dean	Harvey	Reese	McCann	Jack	Rainey	Barry	Wilson
Dawid	Hasnik	Daniel	McCausland	Katie	Rankin	Andrew	Wisoner
Warda	Hassan	Scott	McCausland	Kurtis	Roberts	Aimee	Woods
Mohamed	Hassan	Jordan	McClelland	Holly	Roberts	Mia	Young
Anna	Hayes	Paige	McClements	Alex	Robson	Olivia	Young
Emily	Henry	Matthew	McConaghie	Alyssa	Ross	Jakub	Zawadski
William	Hicks	Luke	McConnell	Jayde	Ryan		
John	Hicks	Karl	McCoy	Jamie	Sandford		
Charli	Hill	Carson	McCrorry	Alexandra	Sargent		
Kelly	Ho	Rhyanna	McCurrie	Matthew	Sargent		
Ryan	Horner	Ryan	McDowell	Callum	Scott		
Cody	Houston	Stephen	McDowell	Rhys	Scott		
Erin	Howard	Max	McFadden	Megan	Shah		
Hannah	Hoyles	Abigail	McGoogan	Hollie	Shaw		
Hannah	Huddleson	Victoria	McIlroy	Lauren	Shields		
Leah	Hutton	Hollie	McKay	Alexandru	Simion		
Ahmed	Ibrahim	Matthew	McKee	Jessica	Skillen		
Zack	Irvine	Tyler	McKee	Ben	Smith		
Cameron	Irwin	Brandon	McKelvie	Jamie	Spence		
Mason	Jackson	Sophie	McKenzie	Connie	Spence		
Megan	Jackson	Katie	McKenzie	Carter	Spiers		
Jakub	Jakobiak	Stuart	McKibbin	Harvey	Stewart		
Carter	Johnston	Rachel	McLees	Kyle	Stratton		
Andrew	Johnston	Keelan	McMaster	Lekan	Sule		
Ben	Jordan	Emma	McMillan	Boye	Sule		
Emma	Kerr	Cody	McQuitty	FREDDIE	SWAN		
Emma	Kerr	Brandon	Meneely	Marika	Sych		
Shakira	Kewley	Tom	Mildenhall	Craig	Sykes		
Sharon	Keys	Amy	Mineely	Rachel	Sykes		
Joel	Keys	Parsa	Mohammaditari	Lauren	Tate		
Karina	Kralinska	Mohammed	Mohammed	John	Teixeira		
Ben	Kumetis	Chloe	Mooney	Andrew	Todd		
Yele	Ladi-Taiwo	Nathan	Moore	James	Todd		
Charlotte	Lamont	Kathryn	Moore	Denis	Trifoi		
Kyrene	Laverty	Mika	Morton	Erin	Trimble		
Ryan	Lloyd	Fartun	Muhaiden	Aaron	Trimble		



## Year 14 Creative Arts & Digital Media

have had a busy few weeks out in filming locations around school grounds.

Pupils are required to plan, shoot and edit a short film shoot. Here is Year 14 student Neil Forbes making use of our extensive school grounds to shoot his film.



## My Time in Breda Academy... So Far

by Joanna McAdam 8D

(Lisnasharragh Primary School)

When I started my first official day at Breda Academy, I was both nervous and excited. I had come from Lisnasharragh PS, so coming to Breda was a big move for me. On the first day I was introduced to my Form Tutor, who is called Mrs Jennings. She was really nice and

made us all feel welcome. As the first school days went by, I made lots of friends, and made some really good friendships that I hope will last throughout school. We have had so much fun so far. All the Year 8s went on a trip to Belfast Zoo where I had great fun with my friends and I enjoyed looking at all the animals. As the first few weeks flew by, I got stuck in to all of my subjects, and started getting to know my teachers. We have been playing basketball in PE. I've have had a great time and had so much fun, so I can't wait to play more sports. My favourite subject so far would have to be Science as I really love doing experiments, and my favourite teacher so far would have to be my English teacher Ms McLaughlin. In October we had our first set of assessments. I was really nervous about them at first. However, when I did them I felt better and I did really well in some of my subjects. I do want to do better in some subjects, so I'm going to work really hard to make sure I improve. I have started going to cookery club, as I really love cooking at home. The first week we made Fifteens, and I just love Fifteens! I also have started lessons to learn to play the piano which I'm very excited about, and I'm in the choir, which is so much fun. Before half term we sang at Prize Night, and it was fantastic!

I'm really enjoying Year 8 so far and am excited for the rest of the journey!

## My First Half Term at Breda

Kayleigh Fekkes 8A

(Orangefield Primary School)

My year at Breda Academy so far has overall been amazing! The biggest challenge I have had so far was the first day. I was so scared. Any first day is hard, but this year was and always will be the hardest. From being the eldest to the youngest, from going to Primary to Secondary; there are a lot of changes. From being in one class to moving to floor to floor.



In terms of friends, that has been great as I have a great bunch of friends that I know so well. It also helped that some people in my primary school also came on the same journey. We have always been there for each other and always will be. The thing that has really helped me this term was my teachers. They were so supportive and helpful throughout this term. So far I have loved it here at Breda and hopefully it will stay that way!

### **Our new year 8 pupils have been fantastic and there has been a lot to keep them busy during their first term at Breda!**

- Trip to Belfast Zoo
- MS Sponsored Walk (Ormeau Park)
- Translink Safety Bus
- Gideons' visit
- Digital Youth Event – looking at new technologies in ICT
- Extra Curricular activities - football, cookery club, music, etc.
- Lunch time sports with the Sixth Form.
- Choir performance at Prize Night
- Learning new subjects.

If any parents of Primary school pupils would like to know more about Breda Academy, the following members of staff will be happy to speak to you:

- ◆ Mr Galbraith (Head of Year 8)
- ◆ Mrs Parry (Head of Key Stage 3)
- ◆ Mrs Gordon (Vice Principal - Pastoral)

## WORK EXPERIENCE

Work experience is an essential programme which takes place during years 11 and 13. It helps students get a unique insight into the world of work for one week. Here is an interview with year 13 student Kyle Stratton about his work experience.

Where did you do your work experience?

**Belfast Activity Centre in Barnett's Park.**

What kind of things did you do on your placement?

**In my placement I had a variety of things to do, including setting out equipment, mowing the grass, looking after the children and cleaning.**

Do you think this has helped prepare you for the workplace?

**Oh, yes definitely. Having the extra responsibilities really has opened my eyes on how much work goes into these projects.**

What advice would you give to younger students who are doing work experience soon?

**I think don't leave it until last minute. Have it prepared, have a number of places lined up to contact in case one of them cannot take you. Many people found this to be an issue and it was very stressful finding a place last minute.**

What was your favourite part of the work experience?

**I think working with the children was the most enjoyable part of my week.**

Out of 10, how useful would you say the week was to you?

**I'd say a solid 8 as I did enjoy it while I was there.**

*By Joel Keys - Year 13 (Taughmonagh Primary School)*



### Landing a 'plumb' job!

Year 11, it is time to start planning your work experience placement for June 2019. You never know, you may impress your boss so much that you'll be offered permanent employment, just like Simon Anderson in Year 12.

Simon always knew he wanted to join a trade, so arranged his work experience with John

Rodgers' Plumbing and Heating . Throughout the week he was trained in gas conversions, underfloor heating and tracking walls with pipes.

The team was so impressed with Simon's work ethic, ability to work in a team and problem-solving skills that he was not only offered a summer job with John Rodgers' Heating and Plumbing, but full-time employment, once he finishes his GCSE exams.

We, at Breda Academy, are very proud of Simon and wish him all the best in the future; we will know who to call if our sink is blocked!

**Be INSPIRED.  
Be OUTSTANDING.  
Be BRED A.**



The pupils on Army Work Experience were the best they had seen in a long time and they described our group of pupils as

**'Very cooperate and enthusiastic about everything.'**



### Mr McFarland - Geography

I wanted to become a teacher, because my teacher at A-Level, Mrs Stewart, inspired me to do so. We are currently living in changing times for our planet. The sustainability of our planet is balancing, rather precariously, at the edge of a cliff. If



we don't turn back now, by changing our global habits and attitudes towards consumption and Climate Change, generations to come will be so much worse off- particularly the poorest in society. Geography, I feel, is at the fore of education in this area. If I inspire one pupil in every class to step out and make a difference in the world- I will be a happy man. My favourite place in the world locally is Edinburgh, I love Scotland. Interestingly the McFarland name has traces back to Scotland-perhaps that's why. Globally though, The Grand Canyon is my favourite place I have visited- it is just majestic. In my spare time, I am heavily involved in youth and young adult work. I am a Scout Leader and also run a team of adults who put on monthly events for young adults from all over Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. Outside of structured events, I love drinking coffee, canoeing and mountaineering. The best advice I have been given is from my dad. Always try your best. I think when you do that, you take your eyes off others around you and focus on what your best is, which is what I encourage all my pupils to do.



### Mr Cooley - Head of I.C.T.

Before joining Breda Academy I was teaching in a school in Newcastle Upon Tyne for 11 years. It was one of the biggest schools in England with around 2000 pupils. Most of them like making fun of my accent so it is nice to be back in Belfast where everyone sounds as bad as me. In my spare time I like to play football - I am probably the best footballer I know. I also like to play golf and see my friends. If I have time I like to spend it with my wife and 2 children. If I didn't teach I would probably be a professional footballer. I have all the skills and qualities that you need to play in the premiership I think but I wouldn't like all the attention I would get. That's why I decided to teach ICT instead.

### Miss Perry - Maths

As a student at school I loved Maths and found it exciting. I always looked forward to the lessons; my Maths teacher made learning Maths fun. He inspired me to want to become a teacher, so that I too could help students learn in a positive and fun way. Maths is often seen as a boring subject, but there are so many ways that Maths is used in daily life and most people don't even realize they are using it. For the past 3 years I have been a Maths teacher to A Level at a private boarding school in England and also lived in one of the boarding houses (I have taught some amazing and famous students there!) I love to dance and was Head of Dance at my last school also. I am involved with the Girls' Brigade and my time is taken up training the skippers and dancers in prep for competition in the early part of next year. I also like to run every day and when I can, go to the gym. My favourite place in the world is Marbella. I love the sun, the people, the sea, the restaurants and the whole buzz of the place. My greatest passion in the past has been horses and they have been part of my life since I was 7; I have even competed at international level for NI. So I would like to get back into that again. Dance is also something I would love to bring to Breda! My advice is don't put off until tomorrow what you can do today! Life is uncertain and we have to make the most of it. So if you aspire for something, don't leave it until tomorrow, don't wait for it to happen, as chances are it probably never will. We only get one chance, so you have the choice to make things happen.



### Miss Foy - P.E.

This is my first year teaching. I studied a sports degree at Ulster University for four years, before completing a PGCE. My main subject is Physical Education. Prior to completing a PGCE I had experience working with young people through coaching. I worked part time coaching football camps and after-school clubs in both primary and secondary schools. Most of my spare time is consumed with sport, training and playing matches. I play football for Glentoran Women and Northern Ireland. I have had the opportunity to play in Champions League, European and World Cup qualifiers. I also enjoy coaching football. I am actively involved in the Glentoran Academy, currently coaching the girls U15 team. Prior to

becoming a PE teacher I had considered a career as a physiotherapist as I was interested in sports and physical activity. However, if I wasn't a teacher I would still like to pursue a career working with young people. I would still like to be involved in coaching and teaching in some capacity.