

Be INSPIRED.  
Be OUTSTANDING.  
Be BREDA.

BREDA.

# the bulletin



Dear Parents, Carers, Colleagues, and Students,

I hope our Easter Bulletin finds you well. Spring is in the air, the clocks go forward and like me, I am sure you will be looking forward to hopefully enjoying warmer, lighter, brighter, drier, and longer days! We hear birds chirping, see colourful flowers blooming, leaves start to grow in hedges and trees, and we come alive after a long-wilted winter.

Whether you are religious or not, I think we can all agree that Easter represents a period of resurrection and rebirth. It is a time for joy and reflection on our many blessings and appreciate all the good things we have in our life. As we welcome the season of spring, we are reminded of the beauty and gifts of the natural world and are given hope for our future and that brighter days are ahead.

As the Easter break approaches, I believe this is a time to seek and have fun, connect and/or reconnect with family and friends, reflect, and appreciate all that is positive and good in our life; it is a time that reminds us of sacrifice and forgiveness and as the poet *Robert Muller* said, *"To forgive is the highest, most beautiful form of love. In return, you will receive untold peace and happiness."* And as Easter also represents hope and optimism, Martin Luther the German theologian summed it up by stating, *"Everything that is done in the world is done by hope."*

The beauty of working with young people is that they, on the whole, are tolerant of each other, they do forgive and move on, and also look at their future wide-eyed with excitement and hope. As we get older, we must not lose sight of these mind-set strengths and work together to ensure our young people have a bright future to look forward to. As the Greek philosopher Epictetus said, *"Be careful to leave your children well instructed rather than rich, for the hopes of the instructed are better than the wealth of the ignorant."*

Our students can look forward with hope for a positive future, as they have the opportunity to attend and embrace what our school provides, and if they persevere and work hard for 7 years, they can leave our school with the necessary qualifications and skills to attend a university, engage in an apprenticeship and/or successfully access the workplace to pursue a chosen career. And I am sure you will join me in wishing all our Year 12 and 14 students the best of luck in their summer examinations and coursework moderation.

Here at Breda Academy, our teaching and support staff continue to work tirelessly to meet the needs of our students, ensure they make progress in their learning, develop their skills and abilities, support their wellbeing, and provide them with as many exciting enrichment opportunities and experiences as possible. I am especially excited that 20 Year 13 students will once again go to Tanzania for two weeks

this June accompanied by Mr Armstrong, Mrs Scott, and Mr Moss, with all expenses paid by the 'Turing' scheme in connection with 'Challenges Abroad', to engage in a Global Citizen project. In January past 66 students went to Bulgaria for a one-week skiing holiday organised by Mrs Sweeney, and in early 2025 40 students will go to Italy for another ski-trip.

The highlight of this year for me so far was attending the Year 14 Formal party at Ten Square and the Year 12 Formal celebration at the Crowne Plaza. They were both extremely enjoyable evenings and marked the start of new chapters in our students' lives as they think ahead to what their future holds in the next few years. I was so proud of all the students who attended both these events, because they all made such an effort, not only with their outfits, fake tan, hair, nails and make-up but also by their grand entrances, as mature young adults to ensure that they all enjoyed and celebrated their time together at Breda Academy with their friends and peers in such a warm, connected, and supportive special way.

There have been so many other highlights this year for both staff and students, as featured in our Easter Breda Bulletin, kindly compiled by my Ms McMullan, Senior Teacher. It showcases and celebrates many of the events and activities students at school have so far been involved in during the academic year of 2023/2024. I hope you enjoy the articles and photographs as you will read and see that our school continues to be a vibrant and energetic community of young people to be very proud of, and we are! They're eager to achieve, to support others and work closely with their teachers.

Our Facebook and Instagram pages are updated daily to celebrate what our students do, keep you up to date with what has been going on and with important information you may need to know <https://en-gb.facebook.com/Breda-Academy-1394574960867218/>

I wish you and your families a very enjoyable and restful Easter break and hopefully you will find one or two chocolate eggs hidden around your home and garden left by the Easter Bunny for you to enjoy! Don't eat them all!

Kind regards,

Mr P. Perry – Acting Principal  
Breda Academy



## HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE



#PROUDTOBEBREDA

On January 31<sup>st</sup>, Year 13 Health and Social Care students had the fantastic opportunity to meet with 4 practitioners currently working within the Northern Ireland Health and Social Care Trust.

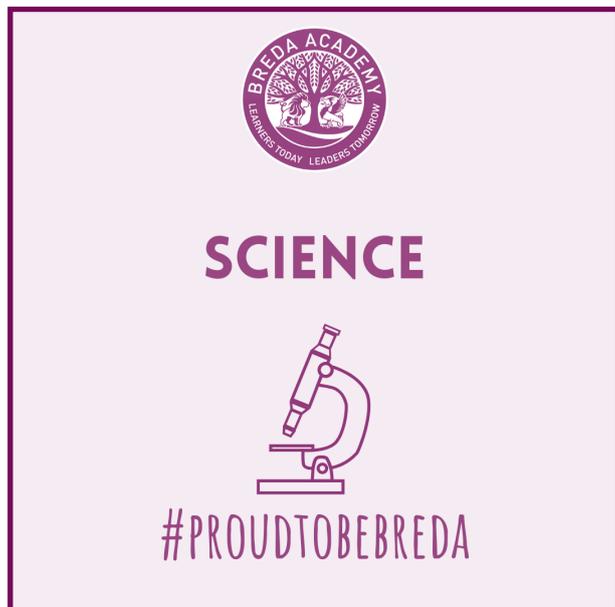
This panel enabled our Year 13 H&SC students to hear from a podiatrist, specialist nurse, pharmacist, and A&E nurse. They were able to learn more about these job roles and ask their burning questions about starting a career in H&SC.



Our Year 13 Science pupils were given the opportunity to visit the Dorisland Water Treatment Works in Carrickfergus as part of the NI Science Festival.

Our pupils were given a tour of the water treatment works and learned how NI Water purify sewage water and water from natural sources around NI, enabling us to drink it safely. They also were given a tour of the laboratories that are used to test water samples, providing them with an insight into how science is used in industry. This will be extremely beneficial for our students as examining water samples is an integral part of their Extended Certificate in Applied Science.

Our students were also made aware of the job opportunities and apprenticeships that are offered at NI Water, which they may avail of once they have completed their studies.



### Year 11 OCN Science

The Year 11 OCN class has been completing a lot of Chemistry experiments this term as part of their course.



We want our young people to leave Breda Academy with not only the qualifications they will need, but also the skills they will require when it comes to applying and interviewing for jobs. Therefore, an important part of our school calendar for Year 14 students is the Interview Skills Day.



## YEAR 14 INTERVIEW SKILLS



#PROUDTOBEBREDA

This full day workshop in January enabled our students in their final year to learn more about communication skills, completing application forms, cleansing their social media and taking part in a mock interview with professionals from a range of different fields of employment. Thank you to all of our guests who so kindly gave up their time to give our young people this experience and to Kevin O'Reilly who facilitated the workshops.



#proudtobebreda



# MUSIC DEPARTMENT



#PROUDTOBEBREDA



Year 9 Learning to play Medieval Music and getting to know what instruments were around in Medieval times



Year 8 pupils thoroughly enjoyed getting hands on with the instruments during our Orchestra topic



# Year 8



This term, Year 8 pupils have been learning all about the **Orchestra**. Using percussion, pupils performed a class arrangement of Beethoven's "Ode to Joy," learnt how to play the melody "Autumn Leaves" on the Guitar, strummed along to the song "Stand by Me" on the Ukulele and performed a Fanfare on the Keyboard. Great music making from our talented Year 8 pupils who are making amazing progress on all these instruments!



**MUSIC**

Year 8 pupils working together to find out what they know about the instruments of the orchestra



# Year 9

Medieval Music has been this term's topic for our Year 9 students. Pupils have loved learning about and listening to the unusual sounds of instruments from this time in history. Pupils have performed "The Peasants' Dance" on Guitar, used percussion to create a class arrangement of "The Knight of Rowntree, performed "Pavane" on the keyboard and composed their own piece of medieval dance music.

# Year 10



Our Year 10 pupils have been learning all about Music in Gaming. Pupils have looked at the history of video games and learnt why music is such an important part of a game. Pupils have been creating their own pieces of music using GarageBand. So far, pupils have composed music for the gameplay in Pacman, Super Mario and Sonic. We have been amazed at their creativity and imagination. If you have a keyboard at home give this theme tune a go!



# Guitar Club

Guitar club continues to meet every Tuesday after school. Pupils have been learning different styles of music, developing their guitar playing and having fun with their friends!



Our school Choir continues to rehearse on a weekly basis. At the moment, we are working on "When I Grow Up" from the musical Matilda, but we always finish with some pupil requests. Watch this space for our next public performance!



Well done to Kenzie Mohammed and Ian Dandurand who recently took part in a piano masterclass led by internationally renowned concert pianist Richard Meyrick.

Kenzie gave a very expressive performance of Yiruma's "A River Flows in You" and Ian performed a beautiful arrangement of Bach's Prelude and Fugue in C minor.





YEAR 13  
TANZANIA 2024

FUNDRAISING



#PROUDTOBEBREDA

*This year, we have a new group of year 13 students going to Tanzania in June. The students are very excited and have begun their hard work already. As we are visiting a local orphanage again this year, we have decided to collect clothing to donate to the orphanage.*

*Students are also entering the marathon this year as part of their fundraising. Please see QR code below to donate.*





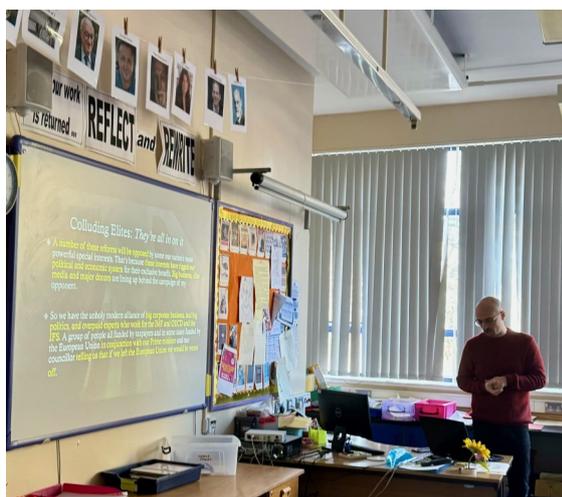
## PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT



#PROUDTOBEBREDA

Year 13 and 14 Psychology students were visited by Dr John Shayegh from the Psychology Department at Queen's University. Prospective Psychology students from Year 12 also attended to hear Dr Shayegh present to us about the qualitative research QUB is

conducting into social identity and rhetoric as used by populist political groups. Current sixth form students were already familiar with a number of the terms presented by Dr Shayegh including informational social influence, social identity and in groups / out groups, whilst it was beneficial for Year 12 students to hear, for the first time, some of the concepts in the field of social psychology.





# YEAR 12 FORMAL



#PROUDTOBEBEDA

The Year 12 students thoroughly enjoyed their Formal last week. As you can see, they had really dressed to impress!

*For more Formal photos please see our Instagram and Facebook pages.*





OPEN EVENING

*Welcome*

#PROUDTOBEBREDA

**Breda Academy held its Open Night in January and despite the very chilly weather, hundreds of people came through the doors, keen to find out more about our school.**

We hope that our guests were able to get a taste of what Breda Academy can offer them; from our broad curriculum in Key Stages 3-5, to the excellent Pastoral support and SEN provision that our school delivers.

Thank you to our staff who ensured our guests experienced an informative and welcoming evening and also to all of the pupils who gave up their free time to give tours and support staff in departments.



**BREDA ACADEMY  
HALL OF FAME**



Ollie Finlay, Travis Madden,  
William Fenton and Joel Wylie



**CHAMPIONS  
CHAMPIONS**  
SBYL U15 DIVISION 3

**BREDA ACADEMY  
HALL OF FAME**



Theo McCreery



**BREDA ACADEMY  
HALL OF FAME**



Ellie Givens



**BREDA ACADEMY  
HALL OF FAME**



Daniel Patterson



**BREDA ACADEMY  
HALL OF FAME**



Scarlett Brown



**BREDA ACADEMY  
HALL OF FAME**



Hope Nellins



**BREDA ACADEMY  
HALL OF FAME**



Kenzie Mohammed & Ian Dandurand



**BREDA ACADEMY  
HALL OF FAME**



Logan Dougherty



**BREDA ACADEMY  
HALL OF FAME**

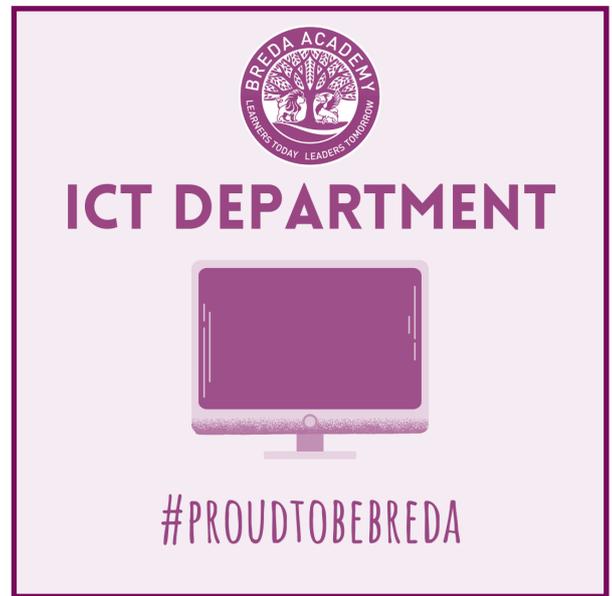


Chloe Parker



AWS GetIT is a fully-funded education programme and competition designed to inspire all 12- to 14-year-old students, especially girls and other young people from underrepresented communities, to consider a future in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics).

Schools and educators get access to a curriculum designed for students to learn foundational cloud tech skills and design app ideas to solve problems in their communities, as well as the opportunity to bring tech role models to their classroom.



Year 9 have been busy taking part in the AWS GetIT program. This is an education programme and competition designed to inspire 12 to 14 year old students to consider a future in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics). All year 9 pupils are working hard in teams to design an app which will help solve a problem in their local community. The best app design in year 9 will be entered into a competition to represent Breda Academy. Year 9 were very excited to have a visit from Amazon ambassadors recently to check in on their progress with their app designs. The students were thrilled to show the ambassadors their ideas and designs and to get some feedback and advice on their progress to date. The ambassadors were very impressed with what they saw and praised year 9 for their hard work. Good luck in the competition!



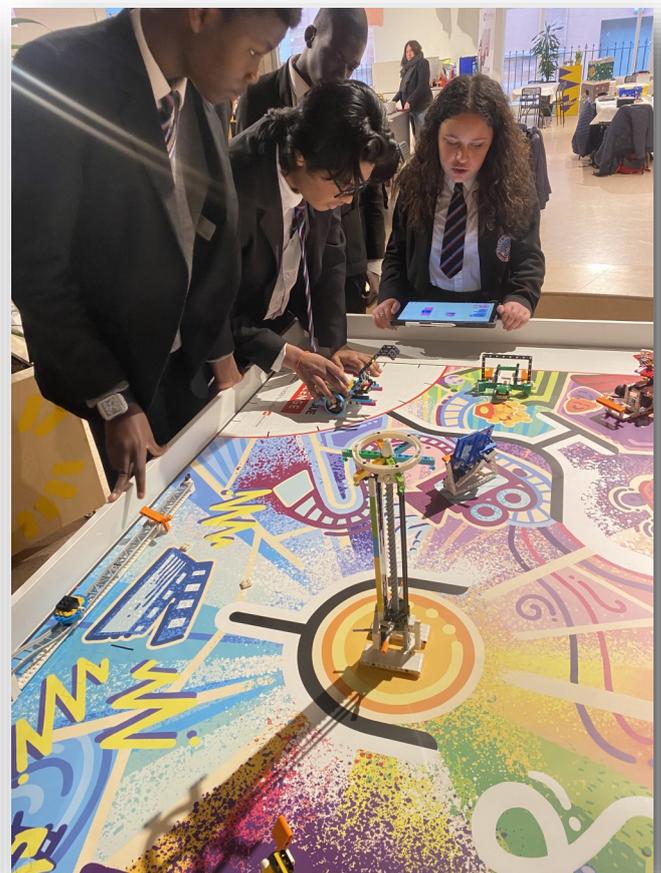
FIRST® LEGO® League Challenge is a global STEM programme for teams of young people, to encourage an interest in real world themes and develop key skills that are crucial for their future careers.

Young people work together to explore a given topic and to design, build and program an autonomous LEGO® robot to solve a series of missions.



Team Breda took part in the Northern Ireland Lego League, taking home 'The Judges' Award' for the Northern Ireland Final 2024.

CONGRATULATIONS!



## 8RL Update March 2024



8RL have had a brilliant start to 2024. They started French lessons with Mrs Scott which they are really enjoying and improving every week.

They have also been part of a year 8 social skills group. They welcomed a number of year 8 students to their classroom, where they took part in lots of different activities to help build confidence and friendships.

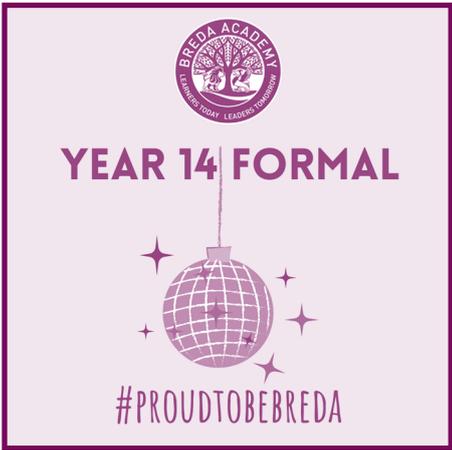
8RL also planned a trip to Tesco to get their own supplies for making toasties.

They have continued to learn new skills within HE, ICT and PE. They have been learning how to do long multiplication and division. The boys enjoy playing IWB games to reinform their learning. We are looking forward to our third and final term in year 8.



On Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February we hosted our annual careers fair for students in Year 10 to Year 14. We had over 45 employers, colleges, universities and training organisations attend and it was an excellent opportunity for our students to find out as much as they can about future options.





Year 14 students celebrated their time at Breda Academy with their Formal at Ten Square in Belfast. We know they enjoyed the evening, making memories of their final few months at school. All of us are very proud of them and wish them well for the future.





# ART DEPARTMENT



#PROUDTOBEBREDA



Year 11 pupils experimenting with the concept of Positive & Negative Space.





Year 8CM working on their David Hockney inspired landscapes.





Year 9 working on their Matisse inspired hand stitched collages.

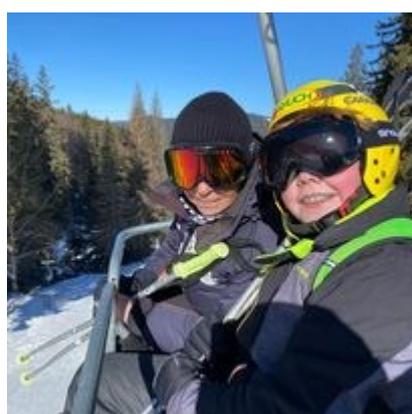


## SKI TRIP



#PROUDTOBEBREDA

On the 28th January, 67 students and accompanying staff flew to Pamporovo in Bulgaria for a week of skiing. They were blessed with plenty of snow and blue skies. Anyone who is signed up for the 2025 ski trip has a lot to look forward to! **Read more about this year's ski trip on the following page.**



On 28th January 67 students and 7 members of staff departed from Belfast International airport to fly to Plovdiv in Bulgaria for a week of skiing. We stayed at the hotel Snezhanka in the resort of Pamporovo. The trip included 6 days of skiing and lots of evening activities such as Karaoke, Ringos, quiz nights, swimming and bowling. The trip was a huge success with all groups successfully skiing down the mountain and having an adventurous time away from home. Let's hear what some of the students had to say about the trip.

### Interview with Travis Madden and Ollie Finlay Year 10

#### 1. Describe the trip in three words

Travis- Fun, different, enjoyable.

Ollie- Fun, tiring, new.



#### 2. What was your favourite part of the trip?

Travis- Having a laugh with your mates and the teachers.

Ollie- Skiing every day and being able to ski the different colours of slopes on the mountain, mainly green and blue. Also, Karaoke night.

#### 3. What was your least favourite part of the trip?

Travis- Getting your ski boots on every morning!

Ollie- Waking up early because I was tired from the day before, however, it was worth it.

#### 4. What did you learn about yourself from the trip?

Travis- I can look after myself and be more independent than I thought I was.

Ollie- I am more independent than I thought, also less homesick than I thought because I was always busy.



The R.E. department has been very busy this term. Year 10 were visited by LOGOS MI who delivered a talk called 'Why RE?' which gave useful information about why RE is an important subject to study at GCSE for a wide variety of careers. Danny and Bethany also helped Year 10 pupils to recognise the transferable skills that studying RE helps students develop. During another session they also delivered a lesson entitled 'If God exists, why does he allow pain and suffering?' This lesson produced some interesting discussion and some astute opinions from four of our Year 10 classes. Lessons like these help students to develop their critical thinking skills and to learn to see issues from both perspectives. Year 11 were treated to a discussion on Temptation through the story of the temptations of Jesus. This will be really helpful for our students when they sit the GCSE exam in May.

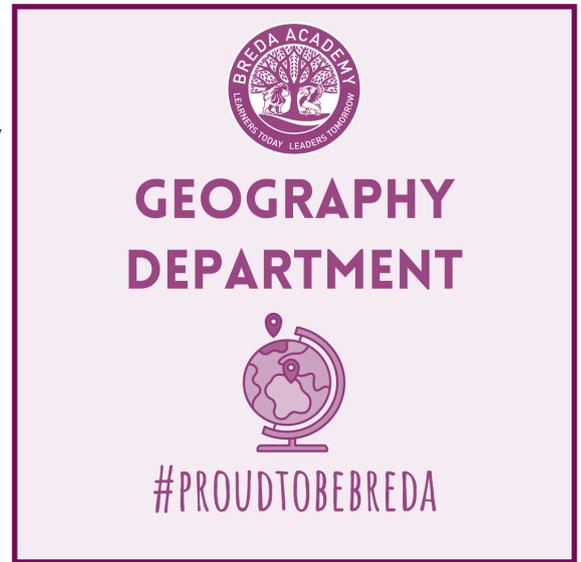


Year 9 had fun learning about the Jewish festival of Passover. They learnt about the food that Jewish people set on their Seder plate to help them remember the history behind this festival. They also got to taste some of these foods. They also learnt about Jewish festivals and practised blowing a Shofar horn. Jews blow this horn during the festivals of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, which mark the Jewish New Year and are a time for reflection and atonement for sins.



We have had a busy and enjoyable term in the Geography Department! Our students have continued to develop their knowledge, understanding and skills as they work through diverse and interesting topics.

In Key Stage 3, our *Year 8 pupils* have been learning about all the different types of maps, our *Year 9 students* have been learning about the similarities and differences in the development of countries around the world, and *Year 10* have been learning about the structure of and processes within planet Earth.



At Key Stage 4, *Year 11* have been enjoying continuing their GCSE course as they are learning about coastal environments, and our *Year 12 students* are finishing off their course with *The Restless Earth* and are working hard to prepare for their summer GCSEs.

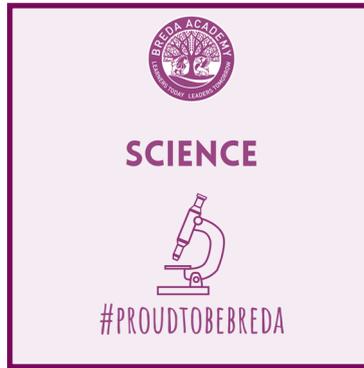
We have also been busy outside the classroom this term as we have enjoyed many different activities that have allowed us to engage with our current and future students and their families. Our *Open Evening* was a huge success as many future students were welcomed to our subject by some fantastic *Year 8* and *Year 9* volunteers!

We also enjoyed the *Breda Bonanza* as the local *P7s* had the opportunity to experience how diverse and relevant Geography at our school is. We held our *Options Evening* during which we engaged with students and their families and helped them in their decisions about GCSE and A Level Geography.



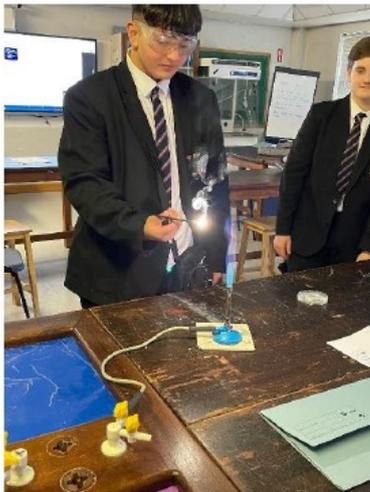
Finally, we held several *Parent/Carer Consultations* which were fantastic opportunities to discuss the progress and enthusiasm of our students!

International Day of Forests was on the 21<sup>st</sup> March so you could celebrate by treating yourself to some homemade chocolate bark!



It has been a very busy term for the science department. Our Year 8 pupils have been learning about 'The miracle of life' while studying the topic of reproduction. It has been great to see them develop such a mature attitude towards the topic. Meanwhile, our Year 9 pupils have been learning how chemical reactions occur, providing them with plenty of opportunities to build upon their investigative skills. Year 9 have also been learning about Earth and Space, giving them a better understanding of our place in the universe, as well as learning how minute Earth and human race really is!

Our Year 10 pupils have been further developing their investigative skills gained in Year 9 by studying the topic of Real-Life Chemistry, gaining a better understanding of how scientific principles can be applied in industry. They have also learnt basic engineering principles by studying the topics of Electricity and Magnetism.



It has been a very busy term for our Key Stage 4 pupils, with many of our GCSE pupils sitting their formal Science examinations. This was a huge milestone for our Year 11 pupils. Meanwhile, Year 12 have been applying all of the scientific investigation skills that they have developed during their time at Breda Academy, completing a range of complex practical activities completely independently in preparation for their practical exams.





## SPANISH



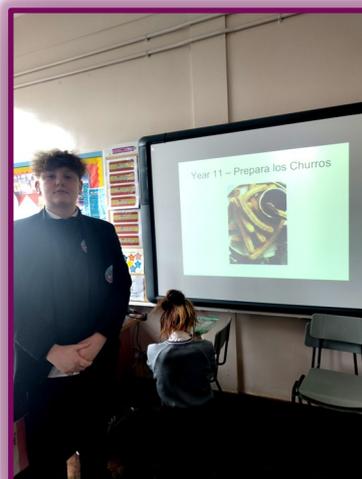
#PROUDTOBEBREDA

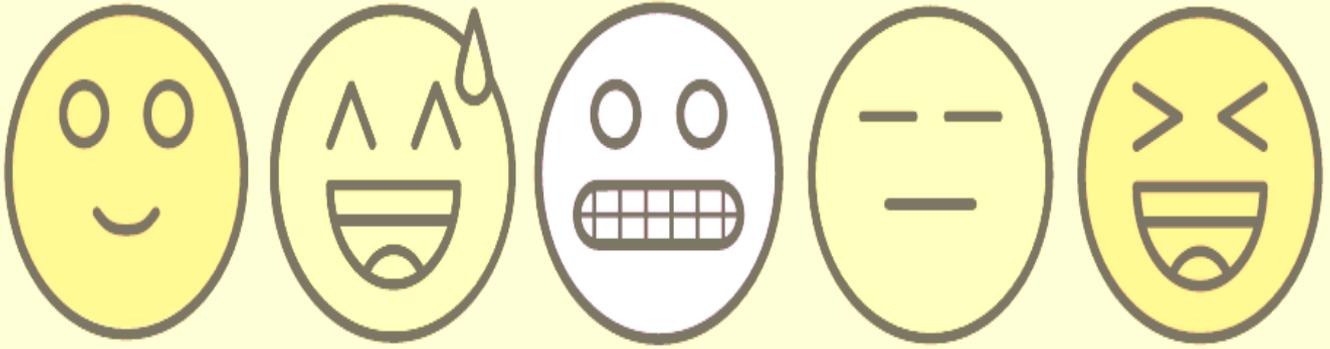
In Spanish with Miss Cowan, 8TB have been learning to talk about food and drinks and have enjoyed creating their own Spanish cafe menus.

**Buen provecho!**



Whilst Year 11 got to experience making and eating delicious Churros in their Spanish lesson with Mrs McWilliams.





**Happiness- Grace Faulkner**

Happiness is yellow  
It tastes like fresh fruit and sweets.  
It smells like fresh flowers in Spring.  
It feels like walking into cool water on a beach.  
It looks like when people love you.  
It sounds like the light wind blowing in the breeze.  
It makes me smile.

**Anger- David Covaci**

Feeling angry is red!  
It tastes like pepper.  
It feels like a rock.  
It sounds like its knocking on the door  
Anger makes me sweat.

**Calm- Fabian Lehrmann**

Feeling calm is orange.  
It smells like clean water,  
And tastes like mango.  
I feel relaxed.  
Like the sun going down on a beach.  
It sounds like the wind moving through the trees.  
It makes me sleep



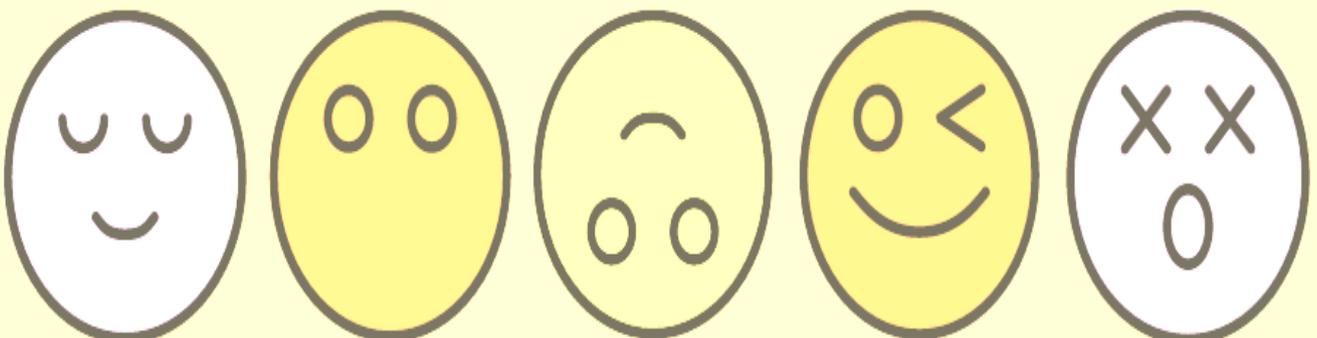
**ENGLISH  
8TB EMOTIONS POETRY**



**#PROUDTOBEBREDA**

**Jealousy - Tori Clarke**

Jealousy is red  
It tastes like jelly  
And smells of eggs.  
It feels like knives  
It looks like a couple  
And sounds like singing.  
Jealousy makes me shiver.



# Year 8 Football Team 2023 - 2024



@ACADEMYBREDA

**Scan to follow  
Breda Academy on  
Instagram**



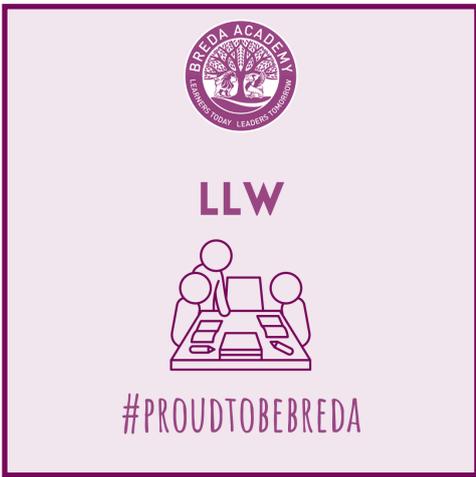
This term, Hospitality and Creative Cuisine pupils travelled to the University of Ulster for an interactive morning in the Hospitality Department.



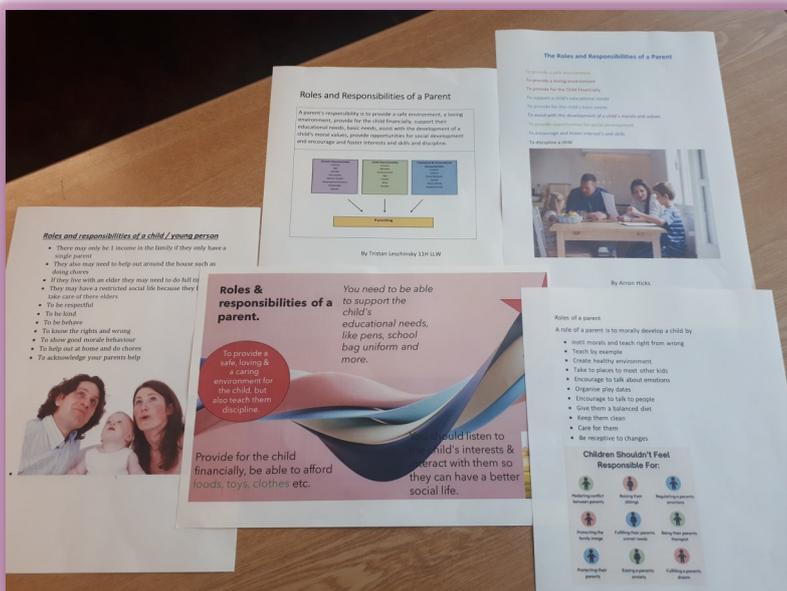
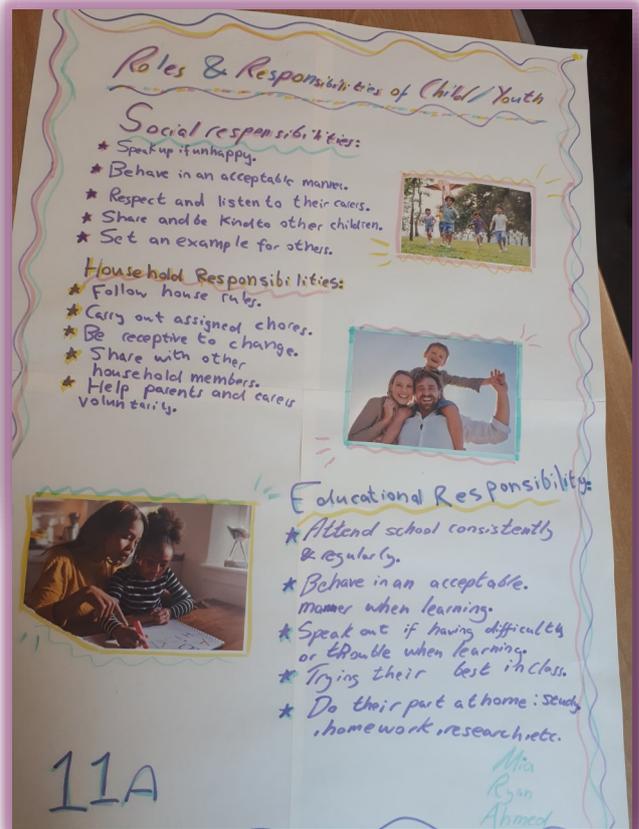
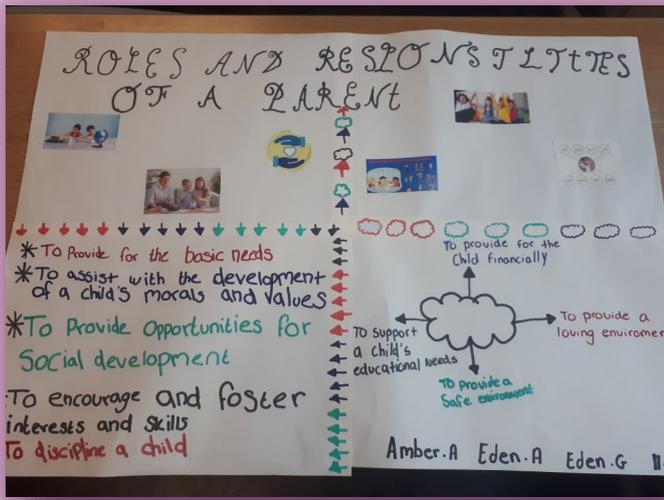
The morning comprised of three work areas: front of house, the kitchen and lecture theatre. The pupils got to make mocktails, discovered their culinary art skills, tried napkin folding, watched a demonstration of flambéing (and tasted the results) and discussed the planning of restaurants.

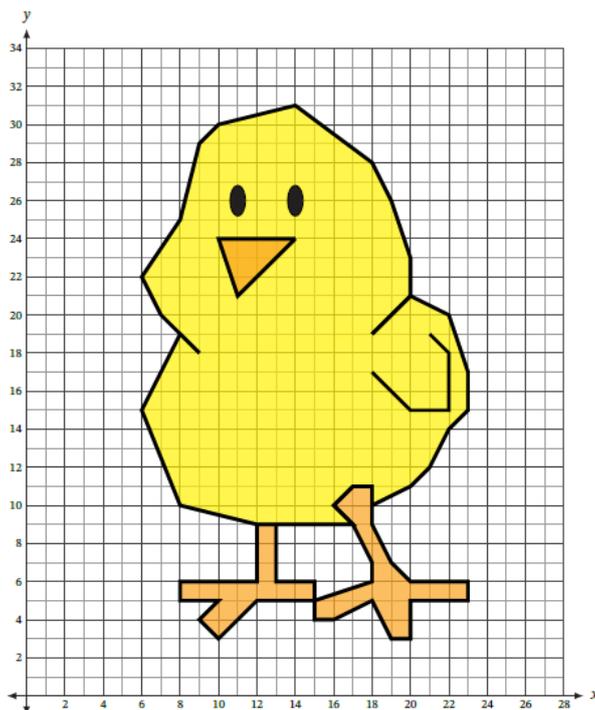
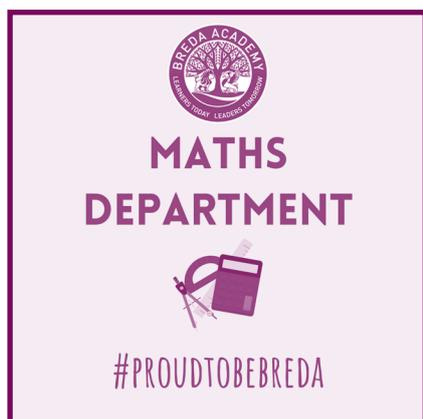
It was a wonderful, fun morning and the hospitality we received was first class. It was also great to see past pupil, Sophie McKenzie, who is now in second year and loving her course.





Year 11 GCSE LLW classes, as part of their Personal Development Unit, have been learning about the roles and responsibilities of parents and also of young people in different family contexts.





## Easter Cartesian Art Coordinates

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Plot the coordinate points on this page on a coordinate grid to discover the picture. Join the points in order with line segments. Use the colors shown for best results.

Line 1 {draw line then color the inside yellow}: (9,18), (7,20), (6,22), (8,25), (9,29), (10,30), (14,31), (18,28), (19,26), (20,23), (20,21), (18,19)

Line 2 {draw line then color the inside orange}: (12,9), (12,6), (8,6), (8,5), (10,5), (9,4), (10,3), (12,5), (15,5), (15,6), (13,6), (13,9)

Line 3 {draw line then color the inside orange}: (18,9), (18,11), (17,11), (16,10), (17,9), (18,7), (18,6), (15,5), (15,4), (16,4), (18,5), (19,3), (20,3), (20,5), (23,5), (23,6), (20,6), (19,7), (18,9)

Line 4 {draw line then color the inside yellow}: (18,19), (20,21), (22,20), (23,17), (23,15), (22,14), (21,12), (20,11), (18,10), (18,11), (17,11), (16,10), (17,9), (12,9), (8,10), (6,15), (8,19), (9,18)

Line 5 {draw line only}: (21,19), (22,18), (22,15), (20,15), (18,17)

Line 6 {draw line then color the inside orange}: (14,24), (10,24), (11,21), (14,24)

Draw two eyes centered at (11,26) and (14,26).

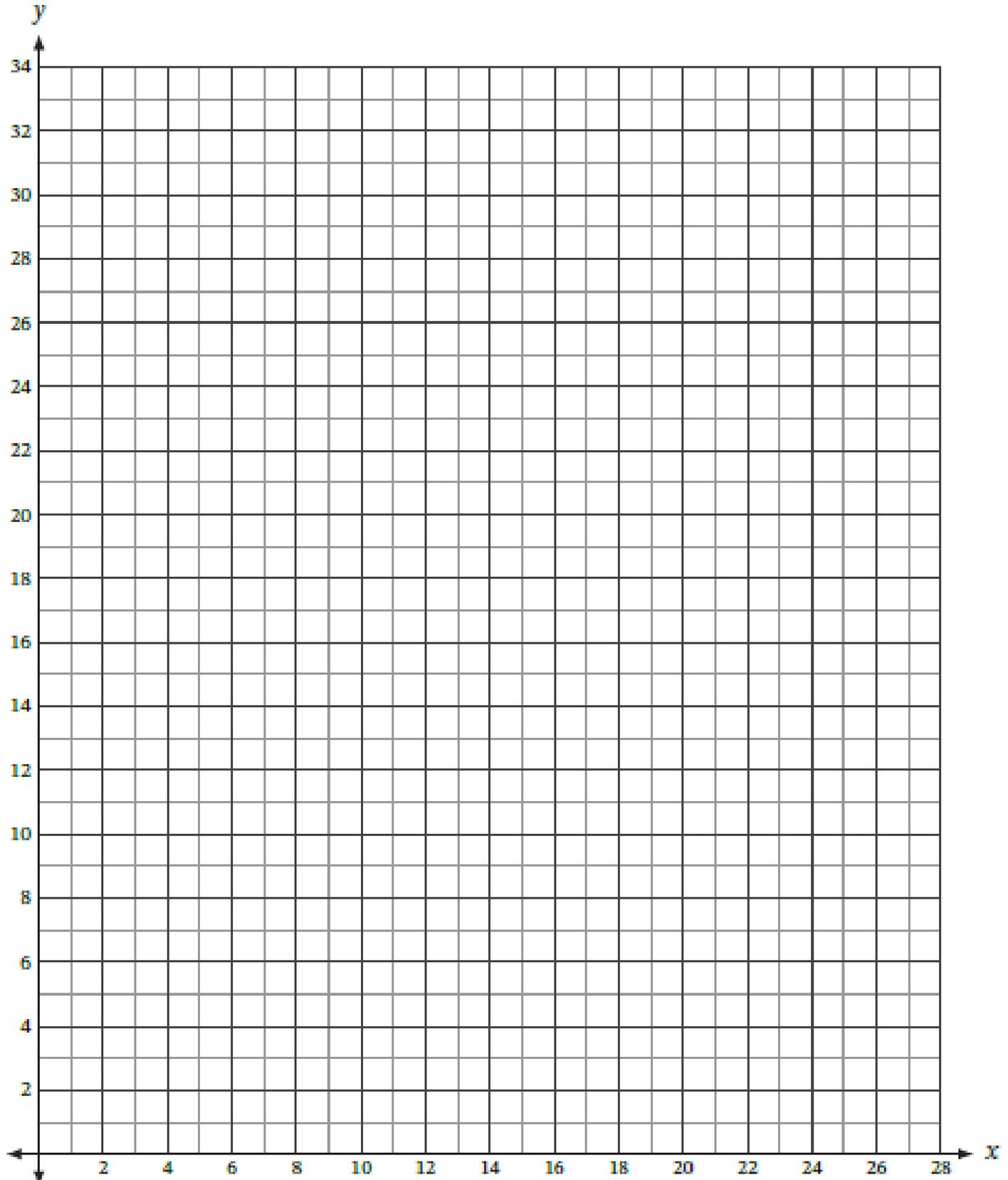
# Easter Cartesian Art Grid

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Plot the coordinate points on this grid. Color the result.



## Easter Mini Quiz

### Question 1



Fun Fact: Did you know that Snickers used to be called Marathon?

What is the **simplified** probability of randomly picking an "A" from the word "Marathon"?

### Question 2



Fun Fact: Over 500 million Crème Eggs are produced each year.

If  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the 500 million Crème Eggs are sold in the UK. How many million would that be?

### Question 3



Fun Fact: The greatest height from which fresh eggs have been dropped to earth is 213m.

What is 213 metres in km?

### Question 4



Fun Fact: Feeding chocolate to rabbits is a bad idea.

Share 48 eggs between Roger and Peter in the ratio 5:3.

**CAN YOU SOLVE  
THIS PUZZLE?**

$$\text{🌸} + \text{🌸} + \text{🌸} = 45$$

$$\text{🌸} + \text{🍫} + \text{🍫} = 35$$

$$\text{🍫} + \text{🍳} + \text{🍳} = 18$$

$$\text{🌸} + \text{🍫} \times \text{🍳} = ?$$



**Back to School on Monday, 8th April**