t's summer

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very unusual school year! However, in the face of adversity we stood strong together and demonstrated the resilience and determination needed to ensure our young people continued their education with as little disruption as possible. I have been extremely pleased with how our students, parents/carers and staff have worked together and responded so positively to the challenges we have all faced during the pandemic.

Albeit somewhat disrupted, there has still been so much that our students have achieved this year, as evident in our regular Facebook posts and highlighted in this edition of the Breda Bulletin. I was particularly

proud to welcome just last week the NI Commissioner for Children and Young People, Koulla Yiasouma, who opened our new 'Dare to Dream' mural. This mural was completed by year 8 students in partnership with East Belfast Alternatives, one of the many external agencies we work with here at the Academy. This message is a very powerful reminder to our students of the importance of having high aspirations and the need to work hard to, DREAM BIG!

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Thank you for your support and I am very proud to be continuing as your Acting Principal next academic year. On behalf of all the staff at Breda Academy I wish you and your family a very enjoyable, rejuvenating and safe summer break and I very much look forward to welcoming back all of our current students and our new Year 8s at the start of the new academic year.

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My very best wishes and kind regards,

Mr P Perry - Acting Principal



8CB participated in a 10-week DARE Project with East Belfast Alternatives, which culminated in a bright and positive message for all to enjoy in our school community. 8CB, supported by Ms.Coulter, have engaged fully in the programme, with their ideas turned into a painting by Zippy, a Belfast-based artist.

Last week, we were proud to have our new mural unveiled by Koulla Yiasouma, the Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People. A huge thanks to Koulla for cutting the ribbon and all the team at EBA, in particular Barry and Ashleigh, for their delivery of this aspirational project.



(For more details on the DARE project, please see page 2).

DARE Project LLW

Breda Academy welcomed two youth workers from East Belfast Alternatives this term. Ashleigh and Barry have joined 8CB for their LLW lessons for a ten week session.

The pupils involved are taking part in a project named DARE (dream, achieve, respect, engage) which focuses on raising aspirations with young people from East Belfast aged 4-16.

The finale of the project will result in the class completing an activity which will benefit our school in the months ahead.

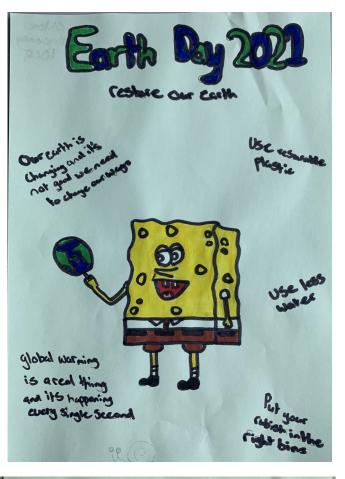
The photographs are from our first session which involved ice breaker and team work activities. There was also the more serious discussion involving all pupils about what the final project might be. There were lots of great ideas being put forward by very enthusiastic and forward thinking pupils.

2



The Geography Department celebrated Earth Day 2021 on 22nd April 2021. **Earth Day** is an annual global event that celebrates the environmental movement and raises awareness about pollution and ways to maintain a clean habitat. Below are some of the posters which pupils created to raise awareness about climate change and the ways in which we can all make changes in our everyday lives.











Best Athletes	Boys	Girls
Year 8	Jake Calvert	Jaime Morrow
Year 9	Jaiden Kurucz	Leona Swift
Year 10	William Hicks	Chloe Mooney

Event - 100m	Award	Boys	Girls
Year 8	Gold	Jake Calvert	Jaime Morrow
Year 9	Gold	Jaiden Kurucz	Leona Swift
Year 10	Gold	Cameron McShane	Chloe Mooney

Event - 200m	Award	Boys	Girls
Year 8	Gold	Jake Calvert	Jaime Morrow
Year 9	Gold	Jaiden Kurucz	Leona Swift
Year 10	Gold	William Hicks	Chloe Mooney

Event - 800m	Award	Boys	Girls
Year 8	Gold	Max Wareing	Chloe Parker
Year 9	Gold	Jayden Rodgers	Eloise Shaw
Year 10	Gold	William Hicks	Joanna McAdam

Event – Long Jump	Award	Boys	Girls
Year 8	Gold	Jake Calvert	Christina Hutton
Year 9	Gold	Matthew Rodgers	Leona Swift
Year 10	Gold	Daniel McCausland	Joanna McAdam

Event – Shot Put	Award	Boys	Girls
Year 8	Gold	Alexandru Dan	Macy McGrugan
Year 9	Gold	Jaiden Kurucz	Sophie Higginson
Year 10	Gold	Callum Webster	Monalisa Tima





We asked our Year 8 pupils to reflect upon

their first year at Breda Academy ...



What is the most important thing which you have learnt since you started at Breda Academy?

"You have to be more organised, get buses and adapt to following a timetable. I also got to meet new people." (Hannah)

"In English, my reading and writing have improved. Also, I now know how to use grammar correctly and can now talk out loud in class which has boosted my confidence." (Jay)

"I now know how to cook and bake!" (Bea)

"To respect others, take part in team work, we're not alone and that we are in this together." (Luci)

"Since being at Breda I have learnt about a lot of different things in class which I hadn't even heard of before." (Emma)

"How to get better at conversations and how to genuinely get closer to people." (Mia)

"Science. It has made me think, so I want to get into University to study Science." (Jake)

"To accept others and their opinions." (Inishka)



What are you looking forward to in year 9?

"Home Economics - I can't wait to cook more!" (Lacey)

"Progressing and advancing, new knowledge and meeting new teachers." (Inishka).

"Meeting different teachers and different people." (Eden)

"Having a full year in school!" (Emma)

"Having my little brother in the school and I can show him around." (Anna)

What advice would you give to year 8 pupils starting in September?

"Don't be scared! You will make new friends and don't worry about thinking the work will be a lot harder. Everyone else is feeling the same way." (Lacey)

"Keep going, always try your best and make sure to take care of yourself. Focus on what you want." (Mia)

"Don't worry about finding your classes, you get to know the school in no time." (Emma)

"Respect others and listen." (Luci)

"Ask questions in class and believe in yourself." (Bea)

What has been the best part of Year 8?

"My favourite things about Breda have been making friends, all the different subjects that you learn and the school dinners." (Jack)

"Getting to know people, improving my skills and focusing on my ambitions." (Mia)

"Doing more practical classes such as HE, Geography and more!" (Eden)

"Meeting new friends and teachers." (Anna)

Breda Academy Word Search

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Mrs Brittain

The English Department would like to say a huge thank you and goodbye to Christine Brittain. Christine stepped in at the last minute to replace Kate Quinn, picking up a Year 12 GCSE group and six junior school classes, along with a Year 8 form class. She truly is a teacher who goes above and beyond; her commitment to our pupils has been second to none. It is no surprise that pupils were in tears on her last day when saying their goodbyes, as they have lost a teacher who gave them her all and got the best out of them. Christine's GCSE class will be particularly grateful for her dedication, as they are predicted to achieve GCSE grades far beyond what they ever thought possible, thanks to her "Never Give Up" attitude.

Therefore, it is with a heavy heart that we have to say goodbye. However, Christine will be taking up a different challenge in her new role as an English teacher in Jordanstown School; our loss is most definitely their gain. Good luck Christine!

Mrs Shivers

This month we say goodbye to our School Receptionist, Angela Shivers, as she begins her retirement after working at Knockbreda High School and Breda Academy for a total of 21 years! A major part of Angela's role involved administering first aid and caring for our students; a role she went above and beyond in, by looking after hundreds of pupils over the years. In recent years she has been looking after second generation students and fondly remembers their parents. Angela is very much a part of our school community; she is always the first to volunteer to help and support events with her smile and welcoming words! Over the years, Angela has attended many of our school formals and was always first on the dance floor. We will miss everything about you: your friendship, your hospitality, your flower arranging skills and who could forget your delicious fridge cake that you would make for us on birthdays or special occasions? We all wish you a very happy, healthy retirement and know a lot of this time will be spent in Scotland and Wales visiting your son and daughter. Enjoy it Angie!



Ms Currid

Ms Currid has been a valued member of the Technology and Design team for many years. It has been an absolute honour to work with someone who is so organised and committed to the achievement of all her pupils. I will miss her silly wee cheerful dances at my door along with the occasional scream of frustration, but I will not miss her feline obsession! Great teachers always make a difference and Ms Currid has made a difference here. We know she's going to do an excellent job in her new role and they are very lucky to have her. Thanks and best wishes from everyone at Breda. (Mrs Ryan)

9









We were blessed with some beautiful weather this term, so Mrs



Brittain took the opportunity for some outside learning with 10WD. The pupils enjoyed performing a scene from Macbeth featuring the three witches, Hecate and Macbeth.

Breda Academy Prince's Trust Programme

How does the Prince's Trust benefit students at Breda Academy?

This two year course work based qualification, worth two Grade B GCSE equivalences, allows students whose talents lie in tasks of a more practical nature to gain valuable qualifications and experience vocational challenges.

Course Content?

In Year 11 and Year 12, students will be given the opportunity to gain credits in a wide variety of areas, which will equip them for the workplace. These include Digital Skills, Work Experience, Presentation Skills and Interpersonal and Self-Management Skills. All modules contain some aspects of a practical nature.

Our Year 11 Prince's Trust students are pictured here cooking the healthy meals they designed as part of the module: Preparing for a Healthy Lifestyle.





New Staff Under The Spotlight

Mr Patterson Technology & Design

Why did you want to become a teacher?

I never really thought of becoming a teacher, but

throughout high school I loved the subject Technology and Design and being able to continue it from GCSE to A-level has gave me a real interest in the whole subject. I found the teachers of these subjects very engaging and they encouraged me with projects and coursework. I knew I liked working with materials and learning new paradigms and felt I had the enthusiasm and passion to teach young people and engage with them in this subject.



Did you enjoy school?

Yes, I enjoyed my school days. Travelling on the bus, making life long friends, being involved in rugby training and being part of the team was all enjoyable. I loved learning new topics in school and understanding how things worked. I always enjoyed practical subjects especially!

If you weren't a teacher, what would you be?

I would definitely work in the car industry. I find the work of being a mechanic or in car sales very enjoyable .

What do you like to do outside of school?

I like work on cars, hang out with friends, follow the rugby and keep fit!

What is your favourite thing about working at Breda?

This is my second position since graduating so I have enjoyed teaching the subject in more detail and working as part of a team in the Department. The days go by very quickly with the various classes, especially with the practical lessons.

Why do you think your subject is important?

Technology and Design is one of the STEM subjects, which can open many avenues into various careers in industry. As well as the practical side of the subject, it encourages pupils to develop life and problem solving skills. There is also great satisfaction in seeing a project develop from an idea through to something useable and practical.

Most achievement points in school 2020-2021



Pupils are awarded achievement points by staff for kindness, effort,

achievement, showing a positive attitude, politeness and other positive

behaviours which they may demonstrate in school. This year, despite the

period of lockdown, many of our pupils achieved their bronze awards (50

achievement points). The pupil with the most achievement points this

year was Inishka Phillips in Year 8. Inishka will be invited to

our Prize Distribution evening to receive her award. Congratulations!

Messages from our Heads of Year



Mr Galbraith - Head of Year 8

I've been thinking about what I'm most proud of this year and there are two things that stick out. Firstly, the manner in which Year 8 pupils have dealt with starting a new school after missing half of P7, missing three months of Year 8 due to COVID and then coming back into school. The Year 8s have shown a tremendous amount of grit, determination and the ability

to overcome many obstacles and they are an absolute credit to themselves and their families.

Secondly, I have the privilege to be Year Head of some of the most pleasant, friendliest, well-mannered and good natured pupils, not only in the school, but in the whole country and I'm proud to be their Year Head.

My advice for the summer is- get off the mobile phone, put the x box controllers down, turn off the television and get outside, there's a big world out there.

Miss Lynas - Head of Year 9

I'm so proud of my Year 9 students taking on the challenge of cooking something new and trying out



to seeing what recipes you try over the summer with your family.









Mrs Boyle - Head of Year 10

I'm so proud of Year 10 and how they have matured over the past year. It has not been easy for many teenagers living through the pandemic, but Year 10 have risen to the many challenges faced this year. Well done Year 10 and have a peaceful summer! It won't be easy to get away to the usual holiday hotspots, so here is some advice for a good summer...

- Go green find a green space and enjoy the fresh air. Don't sit on computer games all day! Why not try gardening?
- Borrow books from your library and have time off from the usual social media sites.
- Keep to a regular and healthy sleep routine.
- Try cooking some new recipes.
- Make plans and have something to look forward to.

Mrs McWilliams - Head of Year 11

As we approach the summer holidays I wanted to wish you a safe and relaxing break with your family and friends. Hopefully you will get to enjoy the things that you were unable to do last summer and that we get plenty of warm, sunny weather! Whatever you decide to do, please stay safe and look out for each other.

I am so proud of how you all returned to school after the last lockdown and approached things in such a mature and resilient manner. You have worked hard this term and I have no doubt this will continue into Year 12. I look forward to another year working with and supporting you as you approach your GCSE examinations.

Mr Rendall - Head of Year 12

The Class of 2021 - As we say goodbye to our year 12 pupils, I look back over your five years here with great fondness; from the first day of you entering the large gates, meeting your new teachers and class mates. Then, watching and supporting you as you grew, achieving many goals along the way. Our pupils will look back on their time with happiness, from ski trips to learning new skills. I'm sure that these experiences will help them to fulfil the potential they have shown and go on to have successful careers.

If I could offer you one piece of advice it's this -"Attitude is a choice. Happiness is a choice. Optimism is a choice. Kindness is a choice. Giving is a choice. Respect is a choice. Whatever choice you make, makes you. Choose wisely."

Mr Henry - Head of Sixth Form

I know as a person, not as a teacher, how difficult lockdown was for me and my family. This clearly made me even more conscious that, as a pastoral leader in Breda Academy for Sixth Form, it was my role and responsibility to help as much as I could during lockdown . I sent various links of encouragement, webinars and even some advice from myself as to how we all could get through this difficult time. Thankfully we did and I am so proud of the interaction and response that I received from the whole of Sixth Form! Let's look forward now to a more positive future together!

Year 14 students enjoying a game of rounders organised by Mr Henry on their last day of school.















Hospitality

Colin, Cuthbert, Clyde, Curly and Wiggles... These are just some of the names of the delicious chocolate

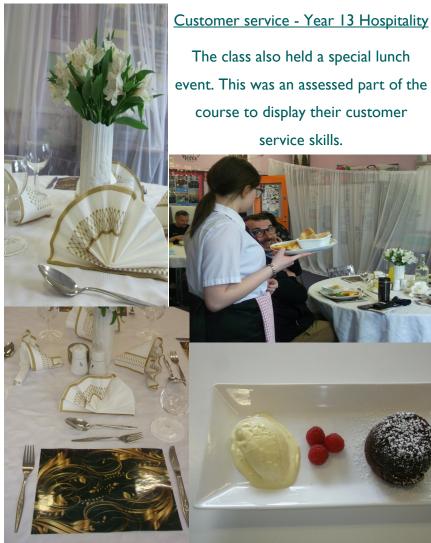
caterpillar cakes which you are able to buy in the supermarkets. However, this spring saw a flurry of media reports about the legal action M & S was taking against



Aldi because their Cuthbert the Caterpillar cake was too similar to the M & S Colin the Caterpillar cake, which was launched around 30 years ago. This inspired our Hospitality department to ask their Year 13 students to create their own version of a Caterpillar Cake using egg sponge and Swiss meringue buttercream. We think they look just

as good as the real thing!





The class also held a special lunch event. This was an assessed part of the course to display their customer service skills.



Menu

Lasagne, garlic bread & green salad or Katsu Chicken curry, rice & naan bread

> Profiteroles or Chocolate fondant

> > Tea or coffee



CHILD DEVELOPMENT

The Year 11 Occupational studies Child Development class have worked hard completing their practical assessment. The pupils were required to choose a nursery rhyme and make a prop to go with it. The rhyme is to be read to nursery school aged children and the props need to be colourful, interesting, safe and include different textures. Unfortunately, we couldn't visit a nursey this year, but we got to enjoy some time in the Hub. Our next practical is to make a game from recycled materials and already they are starting to take shape. Well done girls.





From September 2021, Breda Academy will be using School Gateway, the UK's best parent engagement software, to make sure our parents are as closely involved with their children's school lives as possible.

This will replace the SIMS Parent App.

School related communication, newsletters, reports, timetables, attendance figures and payments (through parent pay) will go through School Gateway, which will be the central hub of information for our parents and carers. So to stay up to date with what's going on at school and make sure you download the app for free. Just search *School Gateway* in your App store and download.

Apple iPhone users, download the app here: schoolgateway.co.uk/iosdownload

Android phone users, download the app here: schoolgateway.co.uk/androiddownload

Your login details will be automatically generated using the contact information Breda Academy already has, so please make sure the details we hold for you are up to date. You can check and change these details by sending an email to hbell926@c2ken.net.

If you have any questions or would like some more information, please see the School Gateway site here: <u>https://schoolgateway.co.uk/</u>.

You can also login to the online version of School Gateway via this site if you do not have a smart phone, although we do recommend using the app if possible as it makes it far easier to get hold of parents when we need to.

Breda Academy Music Department







In Music, Year 8 pupils have been learning about the Instruments of the Orchestra this term. Pupils have been developing their creative skills by composing and performing fanfares using percussion instruments.





Year 8 and Sixth Form pupils will be school in before the dates below

for their induction days, etc.

They will receive separate correspondence about this.

Wednesday 1st September

Years 8, 12, 13 and 14 from 8.40am to 3.00pm.

Thursday 2nd September

Years 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 from 8.40am to 2.25pm.