

BETTER TIMES

Bohunt Education Trust Termly Events Review

ISSUE 4 – AUTUMN 2019 – THE ACHIEVE ISSUE



BOHUNT
EDUCATION TRUST



BOHUNT
SIXTH FORM



BOHUNT SIXTH FORM CONFIRMS SUCCESS WITH FIRST A LEVEL RESULTS

On 15 August, students and staff at Bohunt Sixth Form in Liphook celebrated its first cohort of A Level students receiving results.

Exceptional results were achieved across the board, as well as confirmed places at some of the UK's leading universities, including Oxbridge. The students are the first year group to graduate from Bohunt Education Trust's first sixth form, which opened in 2017.

Overall, 35% of A levels were graded A* or A, 10% higher than the national average; two thirds at grades A* to B, and 88% of exams achieved A* to C. These results put Bohunt Sixth Form at the top of the list of state providers in the local area – an incredible achievement.

There were exceptionally strong performances across the board, for example in maths and further maths half of entries received the highest grades of A*/A.

Students from the Year 13 cohort will be studying prestigious university courses including Medicine and Veterinary Science where all students were successful in securing their places. Amongst some of the individual success stories and exceptional performances were:

- **Imogen Haydon** achieved A* AAA. She has secured a place at Oxford to read Materials Science.
- **Izzy Broadmeadow** achieved AAA. She has secured a place to study Medicine at Birmingham.
- **Molly Reckord**, who achieved an impressive A*AA, will be going on to study Medicine at Bristol University.
- **George Cruikshank** achieved A*AA and will study Business Economics at Cardiff University.
- **Harry Mercer** achieved AAA and will study Jazz guitar at Guildhall Conservatoire of Music.

Clare Hodgson, Head of Bohunt Sixth Form, said:

"I am immensely proud of all our students, who have worked so hard over the past two years and thoroughly deserve their results. I would also like to thank our exceptional teachers and sixth form team who have helped to make today's achievements possible. We look forward to continuing on our successful journey as a sixth form, as we provide high quality educational opportunities to young people from the local area."

Damian Hinds, MP for East Hampshire, said:

"I would like to offer my sincere congratulations to students and staff at Bohunt on these A Level Results. I have seen for myself the commitment and energy of students and staff and I know how much work goes in towards A Levels. I wish all students the very best for the future."

Schools Minister Lord Agnew said:

"Congratulations to all the pupils and staff at Bohunt Sixth, and the wider team at Bohunt Education Trust, on such an impressive set of results. A Level results day marks the moment so many young people will make choices that can shape the rest of their lives, so whatever path they choose, every pupil at Bohunt Sixth should do so full of confidence."

Izzy Broadmeadow, who was interviewed live on air for the BBC Radio Solent Breakfast Show about her results and experience at Bohunt Sixth Form, said:

"I really loved Bohunt Sixth Form. The support system was amazing all the way through my two years. I was always confident in who I could go to and that they could help me."

IN THIS ISSUE...

GCSE RESULTS | CHINESE HEADS' TRIP | PROM PHOTOS | 'BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW' INTERVIEWS | AND MORE...



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

BET continues to go from strength to strength. Wokingham's first Ofsted Report last term was very pleasing, with Good overall and Outstanding judgement on leadership and management, personal development and pupil welfare. For a new school, this is a major achievement; the staff have laid solid foundations over the last four years for the first cohort's GCSE exams next summer.

The Trustees and I are delighted with this year's GCSE results. As a whole, the Trust continues to outperform the national picture, demonstrating particular strength in core areas such as English and Maths. Many students from all of our schools had superb results, with several gaining more than 8 GCSEs at grades 7 to 9, and more than 25% of all grades achieved being grade 7 and above. All this against a background of major changes to the individual course curricula, a totally different grading scheme and a harder marking regime!

Worthing's first cohort to take GCSEs produced a set of results that are the best in the town, for which many congratulations. A gratifying and very positive confirmation of the Ofsted judgement last September that the "quality of teaching... interested and motivated students."

As always, Liphook and TPS continue to provide outstanding education in depth and breadth, confirming their positions as the schools of choice for East Hampshire and further afield.

Mention must be made of the amazing results from Liphook's Year 9 CLiL Mandarin entrants, 100% of whom achieved grades 5 to 9 (96% grades 7 to 9) – particularly impressive considering that they took these exams two years earlier than normal!

Since joining the Trust in 2014, Priory results have continued to improve, with five pupils this year achieving an impressive 9 GCSEs at grades 7 to 9.

Costello School achieved record results, being some 7% above those of last year. The changes brought about by the new leadership team will consolidate and improve upon this base to the benefit of pupils going forward.



Liphook's first Sixth Form cohort also produced excellent A-Level results, with 88% of all grades being at A*-C, a performance surpassing that of the two main local Sixth Form Colleges. This is a tribute to the efforts of both the pupils and teachers, underlining further the benefits of the collaboration between Liphook and TPS to provide the very best teaching at this tertiary level. Recruitment into the new Year 12 has reached another high, due to the growing reputation of Liphook as a Sixth Form provider, coupled with these excellent results. All pupils were enabled to join their desired courses for the next stage of their education, including several students who are proceeding to Oxbridge places, as well many others joining other prestigious Universities.

In May, following an enormous amount of work by Georgette Ayling and her (then!) small team, supported by the Trust central staff, the DfE approved all the facilities, curricula and plans for the new Free School for Bohunt Horsham. As the Trust was asked only last December to open the Horsham school in September 2019 (a year earlier than our original plan), this Ready to Open approval is an amazing achievement. Partly as a result of this, Georgette and I (as Chair of the Trust) were invited to a special networking event in the House of Commons early in July. Bohunt Horsham has now opened with a full roll in Year 7 in its temporary accommodation, and we look forward to the transfer to their new permanent school in September 2021.

DR RAY MORTON

Chair of the Trust Board



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

DEAR COLLEAGUES,

Welcome to the Achieve issue of Better Times – the final element of the ERA trilogy - it is almost as if it was planned to coincide with a summer of record breaking successes!

At the time of writing term is just beginning across our schools and it is always wonderful to see so many smartly dressed, relaxed and happy people, and that is just the staff, eager to face the challenges and opportunities a new academic year brings.

I would like to convey my thanks and gratitude to all teachers and support staff who have given so much to ensure the many tremendous successes of our 'Class of 2019'. Inaugural public examination results at Bohunt School Worthing and Bohunt Sixth have set the bar high for the cohorts which follow, several schools and many subject areas have recorded their best ever results and estimated Progress 8 scores for many have also improved from last year. Already high standards have been maintained or exceeded.

As the historians among us will be aware, when planning for the future, we forget the past at our peril. I fully endorse the Chairman's message of congratulations for the very many individual and collective successes of this summer's A Level and GCSE results. There is undeniably good cause for celebration. However, there remains a group of pupils in our schools for whom we must all continue to do everything in our power to improve their life-chances and outcomes.

The Virtual School has been created to help us all do better for those children from disadvantaged backgrounds and I am convinced that as a collective, we have the passion, determination and mind-set to ensure that these students continue to close the gap with their more privileged peers.

The considerable investment in Lexia PowerUp across the BET for all of our new year 7 promises much in our drive to improve literacy for all. The research is indeed compelling, as is the centrality of high quality teaching and learning in our schools. Our Trust Subject Directors and Coordinators are working hard

to produce the highest possible quality knowledge organisers and continued work on memorisation and retrieval practice will be invaluable tools in our provision this year and beyond.

We are in the embryonic stage of a new inspection framework this year and there are certainly diverse views regarding HMCI's new foci and emphases. I believe the re-visioning of our provision and attendant identification of the key knowledge, skills and experiences intrinsic to our subject schemata has led, and continues to lead, to enriching and challenging discussion of the purpose of education and articulation of the essence of BET.

We believe in the highest expectations of ourselves and our students. We believe that students should enjoy coming to school, have respect for each other and engagement in the world around us, our young people must have enriching experiences and achieve the requisite knowledge and skills to have positive choices before them. And, finally, not only do they need to achieve academically and experientially, our young people need to have the self-confidence, fortitude and resilience to change the game, to make a difference.

Lofty ideals perhaps but as last year has demonstrated in spades together we are achieving great things and making a palpable and positive difference to thousands of children.

With best wishes for the exciting, exhilarating and almost certainly exhausting year which lies ahead.

NEIL STROWGER

CEO of BET



TOP MARKS IN EXAMS AND ATTAINMENT GAP PROGRESS MARKS A SUMMER OF SUCCESS FOR BOHUNT EDUCATION TRUST

THREE QUARTERS OF BOHUNT STUDENTS ACHIEVED A GRADE 4 OR HIGHER IN THE HEADLINE MEASURE OF ENGLISH AND MATHS, AND SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENTS IN SCIENCE HAVE BEEN RECORDED ACROSS THE TRUST.

- Bohunt School Liphook secured its best set of GCSE results in five years, with 81% of students achieving a Grade 4 or better in English and maths – significantly above the national average. Hesper Aldwinckle was amongst the top-performers on the day, achieving an exceptional 10 grades at levels 8-9, equivalent of 10 A*s.
- The Petersfield School (TPS) also sustained strong outcomes following last year's record results. Sarah Arnold secured achieved an incredible nine grade 9s, the highest grade possible, equivalent to an A**. She is planning to study A Level English Literature, History and Geography plus an EPQ in Law at Bohunt Sixth Form. It was another a successful year for English at TPS too, with 90% of students achieving at least a Grade 4 in their English examination.
- In Costello School's first year receiving GCSE results as part of the Bohunt family, students and staff worked hard to secure the highest set of outcomes on record. The number of students achieving a Grade 4 or better in English and maths surpassed previous outcomes, with an impressive seven percentage point increase on last year's figure.
- At Priory School in Portsmouth, outcomes demonstrated another year of consolidation under BET's sponsorship. 73% of students at the school received at least a Grade 4 in English, as well almost a quarter of students achieving the EBacc – an increase on previous years.
- Marking its first ever GCSE cohort, Bohunt School Worthing has recorded strong results, with some outstanding individual success stories. Issy Walker achieved 10 GCSEs, with an impressive eight Grade 9s, one Grade 8 and one Grade 7.

As well as the BET schools securing some of the top grades, the Trust has also been successful in narrowing the attainment gap between disadvantaged students and their peers. At the Costello School, the gap was reduced by 20 percentage points and by 16 at Liphook, whilst at TPS, 80% of pupil premium students achieved a Grade 4 or higher in English and maths.

It has been an incredibly successful summer of examination results for BET, with more students receiving their GCSE results than ever before, and the first ever Year 13 cohort officially completing their A Levels. BET has a broad, balanced and innovative curriculum, and its schools are renowned for

their commitment to outdoor education, immersion teaching (e.g. Mandarin) and superb support from subject specialists in curriculum and pedagogy.

A third of A Level entries for students attending BET's first post-16 provision, Bohunt Sixth Form, achieved the top A*-A grades, with two thirds achieving A*-B and 88% of exams achieving A*-C.

Bohunt Education Trust is opening its newest school, Bohunt Horsham, this month (September 2019) which will eventually cater for 4-16 year olds.

Neil Strowger, Chief Executive Officer of Bohunt Education Trust said:

"I would like to congratulate all Bohunt Education Trust students who have collected their GCSE and A Level results this year. It has been another excellent year of examination results for BET – with record-breaking achievements, significant improvements, and countless individual success stories being celebrated across every single one of our schools.

"These results really are a reflection of our talented students, who have shown dedication, commitment and a love for learning throughout their time with us. We are thrilled with the achievements, which closely follow last week's exceptional outcomes for A Level. We look forward to continuing to build on the successes achieved to date, as we move forward as a continually growing and ever-ambitious Trust."



BET HOSTS MULTIPLE DUKE OF EDINBURGH EXPEDITIONS IN LARGEST EVER TRUST PARTICIPATION

AS THE SUMMER TERM DREW TO A CLOSE, THE TRUST ACHIEVED ITS HIGHEST EVER NUMBER OF STUDENTS TAKING PART THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD.

Each centre has taken on more students each year, culminating in the highest ever number in 2018/19, thanks in part to greater fundraising across the Trust. BET schools have been able to purchase more equipment for pupil premium students and there has been more awareness of the scheme across schools. This year, over 800 students across BET schools have participated in the award. Of those, 640 students completed the Bronze award and a record 150 students completed the Silver award.

As each school has dedicated teams of Outdoor Co-ordinators, BET is well placed to meet its objectives and prepare the students for the many tasks each level of D of E awards require. Bronze award is offered to all students, regardless of experience and costs. As students progress through the stages, separate costs can be met by fundraising or sharing equipment and resources across the Trust as much as possible.

This year was the first year that Bohunt Wokingham has offered the Bronze course to students. Starting any new project from scratch takes resources, but for Wokingham this was just one of the challenges they faced. Only two of their teacher and staff volunteers had ever been away on an expedition, so the task began in earnest to train the staff and parent helpers, making them 'expedition ready' before they could train the students.

George Peters, Outdoor Education Co-ordinator for Wokingham said, "We launched DoE due to the large scale impact it has on the students. It's about getting students more involved in all areas of life."

Student Jamal (14) said, "We learned a lot from DoE. We learned resilience, perseverance and respect. Our goal was to complete the weekends, which we achieved with flying colours. It was a once in a lifetime experience and we enjoyed almost every moment."

Bohunt Worthing took 94 students on an expedition to the South Downs with D of E Coordinator George Imbert and 14 students to the Brecon Beacons, climbing the 700m Black



mountain as part of their Silver expedition. Alistair Clewley, Head of Outdoors at TPS took more than 150 students to complete their Bronze award, whilst 18 completed their Silver award in the New Forest. Shaf Hansraj, D of E Coordinator at Bohunt Liphook, supported over 230 students to complete their the Bronze award, 61 to Silver award in Dartmoor and 13 to the Gold award, making Liphook one of the largest centres running the award in Hampshire. George Dean, D of E Coordinator at Bohunt Priory, supported over 100 students to complete their Bronze and Silver awards in the South Downs and along the Dorset coastline. The learning that takes place throughout the award makes a significant contribution to student development as they progress up through each school.

The Duke of Edinburgh perfectly demonstrates the Trust's ethos of Enjoy, Respect Achieve, giving students a practical resilience to the worlds outside of school, enabling students to challenge themselves, beyond what they find comfortable.

Liz Briggs, BET Manager of D of E said, "I am very proud of all the hard work by our students, co-ordinators and volunteers this academic year. The effort and support on all aspects of the award has been truly fantastic and represents our core values as a Trust, the impact of which has not only made a difference to our students but also to our local communities through the volunteering, skills and physical activities that have taken place to enable the number of students completing the award."

Bohunt Education Trust is the only multi-academy trust (MAT) given Operating Authority status in South East of England, and will be hosting the annual D of E donor event for the South East of England next term at TPS. Laura Puddefoot-Knaggs (D of E senior relationships manager) said,

"BET is a prime example of our vision for developing D of E in schools across Hampshire, particularly in its approach to supporting the most disadvantaged and vulnerable students."

Last year, HRH Prince Edward spent the day in the South visiting schools and charity organisations in a bid to raise donors for the award scheme. Students from Bohunt Priory had the chance to meet the Prince and demonstrate their volunteering through knitting for dementia patients (to the Earl of Wessex). This year TPS is proud to be honoured to host the donor day again, an event that guaranteed to display BET's commitment to teamwork and responsibility.



BOHUNT WOKINGHAM PRAISED IN FIRST OFSTED REPORT FOR OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP

BOHUNT SCHOOL WOKINGHAM RECEIVED A GLOWING FIRST OFSTED REPORT IN JUNE, WITH INSPECTORS RATING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT, AND THE PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE OF PUPILS, AS 'OUTSTANDING'.



The school in Arborfield opened its doors in 2016. Reflective of the success achieved in its first three years, Ofsted recognised that the “overall educational experience for many pupils at the school is ‘life-changing’.”

Inspectors praised school leaders, governors and the Trust for having a “clear and uncompromising vision” for the School, with leaders being ambitious for “academic excellence” and for pupils to “become confident, resilient and independent.”

Ofsted commended the “inspirational Headteacher”, Ben Godber, for establishing a “highly aspirational culture” which develops the potential of all members of the School community. These high expectations are collectively shared by the Trust and by staff, who are “fully supportive of his vision” with morale being “very high.”

Alongside the high expectations and morale, inspectors recognised the “great pride” that students take in their school. The report, which rated the School as ‘Good’ overall, noted that “pupils love coming to school” and that they are “completely engaged in their learning”, demonstrating excellent behaviour in and out of lessons. Inspectors commented that rarely have they seen attitudes and engagement levels as strong as here in the others schools they had inspected.

The report also praised the Trust for providing “highly effective” support and extensive quality assurance” to ensure high standards in all aspects of the School’s work.

Amongst the many strengths of the report, Ofsted also highlighted:

- The “highly effective” relationships between staff and students help them to feel secure and promote their learning and personal development very well.
- The “capable and experienced governors” carry out their duties “conscientiously and rigorously.” They visit regularly and have an accurate understanding of the school.
- The rich curriculum offers pupils a wide choice of subjects, with the taught curriculum being enhanced well by an “exceptionally wide range of extracurricular activities and trips”, in line with the Trust’s vision for Outdoor Education and creating a generating of game changers.
- Inspectors highlighted that parents and carers are “overwhelmingly supportive of the School” and appreciate its strengths.

Headteacher Ben Godber said:

“I am delighted that Ofsted has recognised the success of Bohunt School Wokingham in its first inspection since opening. We take enormous pride in all aspects of our school and it is wonderful to see our culture of high expectations, strong school community, pupil development and leadership recognised in this way. I would like to thank the students, staff, leadership team, governors and Bohunt Education Trust, all of whom have worked tirelessly to make Bohunt School Wokingham the inspirational place it is today. We have laid fantastic foundations and are now ready for the next exciting stage of our life as we move on to becoming a full school by 2021.”

Neil Strowger, CEO Bohunt Education Trust said:

“We are committed to providing our schools with the support and tools necessary to ensure provision of educational excellence for students. Receiving an Outstanding rating in two key categories within its first three years of opening is a fantastic accomplishment for Bohunt School Wokingham and I congratulate everyone involved. We look forward to working with the School to ensure it continues to build on its successes.”



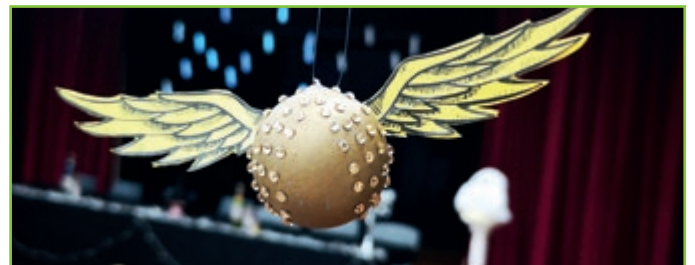
FUTURE BET STUDENTS ACROSS THE TRUST ENJOY INDUCTION DAY



COSTELLO SCHOOL IN BASINGSTOKE WAS JUST ONE OF ALL SIX BET SCHOOLS TO DELIGHT NEW STARTERS FOR SEPTEMBER 2019. BUT COSTELLO HAD A DIFFERENCE: IT TRANSFORMED ITS SITE INTO 'HOGWARTS' SCHOOL FOR YEAR 6 INDUCTION DAY.

The morning began with the chance for students to visit the Great Hall of Hogwarts whilst they donned invisibility cloaks. After a quick sip of 'memory potion', students gathered around the 'High Table' to meet their new Headmaster, Professor Dumbledore, otherwise known as Randall Jull. Not only could students mix potions and master the art of spell casting and wizardry, they had the chance to play 'Quidditch', eat in the Grand Hall Dining Room, take part in an essential wizard hat sorting ceremony and get to know their fellow Hermiones, Harrys or Rons.

Head of Year 7, Tracy Joy, masterminded the idea to alleviate any nerves that the new intake of students might have. Starting at any new school can be daunting but not only was this day a fun introduction to secondary school for the students, it fully



demonstrated one of BET's ethos words, 'enjoy' and was of course a bonus for any book-loving student. The initiative was broadcast on BBC Radio Berkshire and BBC South Today later that day, with live coverage at lunchtime and an extended story in the evening with local coverage in the Gazette newspaper.

Headteacher Randall Jull said, "I am very proud of all staff at Costello. What a wonderful start to life at the School for our new Year 7 students. School should be a place where ideas and imagination can flourish and I believe by creating a friendly, nurturing environment from the very start, students develop lasting, strong bonds with their peers and teachers. We look forward to welcoming this cohort back to experience the true Costello magic in September."

Across the Trust, induction day initiatives ranged from the imaginative to the sporty, with year 6 students getting a fantastic insight into BET school culture and life.



BOHUNT EDUCATION TRUST HOSTS LARGEST EVER UK / CHINA HEADS VISIT



LAST TERM, BET WELCOMED HEADS OF SCHOOLS FROM PARTNER SCHOOLS IN CHENGDU, GUANGZHOU AND SHENZHEN, CHINA. 26 REPRESENTATIVES AND HEADS OF SCHOOLS VISITED BOHUNT SCHOOL IN LIPHOOK, CAMELSDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND HERNE JUNIORS AS PART OF A TRUST WIDE EXPERIENCE FOR THE OVERSEAS SCHOOLS.

As our long-standing, warm relationship between the schools develops, Bohunt Education Trust welcomed the Heads to strengthen the ongoing cultural enrichment exchange programme. The heads of the Chinese Schools are education professionals based in primary and secondary schools. Their aim in coming to the UK was to see life in British schools through a practical introduction of tours, workshops and lectures.

A fully immersive trip, the Heads had the chance to sit in on lessons in all of the schools as well as having first-hand experience of the British system by learning from lectures at

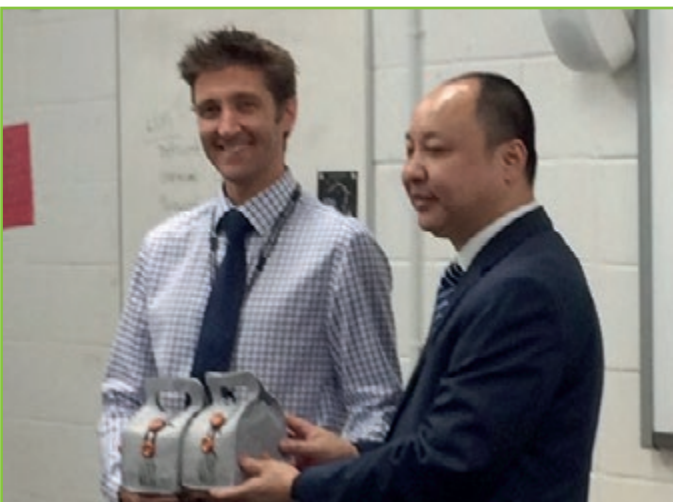
Bohunt School, workshops on the practicalities of the system and meeting Heads of the UK schools.

The Chinese Heads spent time in practical STEM demonstrations with the children and discovered the latest iPad band with some of our Yr 8 students in Liphook.

On the second day, the delegates were treated to a working lunch and talks by both the Assistant Head Rebecca Clarke and TPS Principal, Mark Marande. As well as time spent in the Trust schools, delegates took cultural trips in and around the South of England including Oxford and London. They also sampled life in the UK with host families.

Director of Education for Bohunt Education Trust Phil Avery said,

“It has been a pleasure to welcome all 26 Heads and staff from our Chinese School partnership this year. This partnership has been developed to build links between the Chinese and British systems, building on our long-standing connection overseas, we hope that our strong relationship with these schools will enable a cross-Trust alliance and champion greater collaboration with approaches to education.”



THE BIG BANG FAIR SOUTH EAST – JUNE 2019

AS PART OF BOHUNT EDUCATION TRUST'S COMMITMENT TO STEM BASED LEARNING, THIS YEAR STUDENTS FROM THE ACROSS BET VISITED THE BIG BANG FAIR SOUTH EAST 2019 – AND WERE AMONGST THE WINNING TEAMS!

A regional local heat of The UK Young Scientists and Engineers Fair, the fair is an annual event designed to show case STEM achievements in all areas of student education and one which provides an opportunity for students to practice and develop their skills. Students from the Bohunt School STEM club were eager to take part and test their skills!

Having practised at school, students presented their work on testing the memory of a hamster and were praised for the originality and presentation of their idea. Students had spent the term building a 'memory maze' for one of their pet hamsters. The students used recycled Styrofoam from the DT department and were able to train the hamster to remember his path back to his food bowl, and out of the maze. They were able to prove that small mammals could use their memory to learn cause and effect.

TPS students also had a strong presence and demonstrated their work on genetics and students of Bohunt Worthing visited the fair. All three schools visited each other's booths and exchanged ideas.

Stratianna Davi, Head of STEM at Bohunt School said,

"The trip to the Big Bang Fair was a great opportunity to meet Bohunt students from across the Trust and be involved in a positive competition in a way that brings out the best in everyone involved. Events like these are very important because STEM pervades every part of our lives. By exposing BET students to STEM and giving them opportunities to explore STEM-related concepts, they will develop passion and hopefully pursue a job in a STEM field."



The Liphook team went on to win first prize for maths skills and runner-up for science. This secured students a place in the Big Bang Finals in March... Watch this space.



SCHOOL HIGHLIGHT:

PRIORY STUDENTS REPRESENT THE SOUTH IN NATIONAL FINALS OF THE BIG IDEAS



Schools around the country recently took part in 'The Big Ideas' day run by Solutions for the Planet. 29 different schools submitted ideas that involved some 3887 students who had 799 ideas, which tackled 36 sustainability solutions. These have been tracked from concept to solution with over 1850 business mentor hours put in by local experts.

150 Priory students took part in the early generation of ideas back in February 2019, with students in small groups looking at ways to tackle some of the world's sustainability problems. From that one day, eight groups of dedicated young scientists continued with their ideas and developed them, attending the school's very popular STEM Club and dedicating their thoughts to pursue a tangible solution to an environmental problem.

Local businesses sent in mentors who assisted the students with their business plans – from SGN, TARMAC, MEARS, and SUEZ giving the children invaluable help and advice.

Out of the eight initial Priory groups, four were chosen by the panel to go through to the Regional Finals - against other local schools such as Mayfield, Castle View, and Ark Charter. The ideas being worked through ranged from a solution to clean plastic waste from the world's oceans, a Search Engine type App so that consumers can source environmentally friendly products, a campaign for cleaner energy and the overall winner Energy Gym, a gym where the use of fitness apparatus helps to save the planet.

The regional final was a great day for all of the schools involved as they had the opportunity to work with staff at Portsmouth University. Priory's 'Energy Gym' candidates came out as very worthy winners and joined some very stiff competition at the National Final in June. Priory Science teacher, Bridgeen England-Wood, said, "I am so proud of our students who have amazed me almost every day with their enthusiasm and dedication to detail. Energy Gym is a great idea and when you think of the number of people signed up to fitness regimes all over the world, it is not hard to imagine how this could really work."



BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW... PRIORY STUDENT TEACHER INTERVIEW



MATHS TEACHER AND CAREERS LEAD KAT MILLMORE-DAVIS AND NELLIE, Y7

NELLIE TO KAT:

What inspired you to be a teacher?

Both my parents were teachers and I was so proud of the difference they made. I loved helping out at my dance school and by 12 years old I was helping my Dance Teacher every Saturday and getting my lessons for free! I loved helping others improve and watching them get better and better and love dancing all the more.

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

I think I would still be involved in education somehow. Be it through working for the education department at a Theatre, or maybe at my favourite place on Earth, Osborne House on the Isle of Wight. I think it's in my genes. I'd been involved with education somehow.

What's the best part of your job?

Meeting and working with such a range of people; staff and students. Visitors, Speakers. Never having any day the same, and actually learning something new every day from those people.

Who are your heroes?

From childhood I've always admired Gene Kelly; incredible dancer with an incredible work ethic. So talented, and someone who moved the world of dance along. On a professional level, some of my colleagues both current and previous. You will never know it all in teaching and those moments when you feel changed because of the time they've spent with you are priceless.

Why did you choose to teach at Priory?

My husband worked at Priory and loved the camaraderie and team spirit amongst the staff. He was very happy working there so I thought I'd be too...and I am!

Tell me about a teacher that inspired you

My Yr7 teacher, Mrs Wiltshire, was a fabulous historian. She made me love History. She brought it to life and would never worry about 'going a bit off track' to fill in the back story, or tell us some gruesome facts! I loved her!

What are your thoughts on education today?

I think that students today have more opportunities than any student has ever had before. More subjects on offer, variety of qualification, trips, support, technology...I think students who realise this will be extremely successful.

KAT TO NELLIE:

Tell me about yourself in 30 seconds...

I'm a nice person, but I'm not a push-over; I'm quite stubborn! I like to swim and I play the guitar.

What are your strengths?

My stubborn streak means I don't give up on things. I'm hardworking and I think I'm quite kind too.

What are your weaknesses?

I often doubt myself or worry a bit too much about, 'am I doing everything correctly?'

Give an example of something you enjoy, respect or have achieved at Priory.

Well, I'm on 85 ERAs, so I think I've achieved quite a lot at Priory. My confidence has improved a lot as well; I've always been quite quiet.

What/whom inspires you?

Greta Thunberg who is the 16 year-old activist from Sweden inspires me. She isn't afraid of what other people think of her when she expresses her views. Also she has autism but she doesn't let it stop her.

What are your plans for the future once you've left school?

Well, they might change because I'm just a Year 7, so I might find a new thing that I like but I really like 'Space'. My Aunty and Uncle live in Sydney, which is my favourite place in the world, so I'd like to live in Sydney and study Aerospace Engineering at Sydney University.

What's your favourite line from a book/film/song?

It's from 'Lilo and Stitch'. "Ohana means family, family means nobody gets left behind or forgotten". It kind of reminds me that I should treasure my family and friends and always keep them close.



SCHOOL HIGHLIGHT:

GREEN FOR GO!

Getting Bohunt Horsham ready for opening in September has been a full time job since Georgette Ayling was appointed as Headteacher.

As well as making sure that the temporary building work is on schedule and recruiting a new team, Georgette has been in consultation with the DfE prior to our Ofsted Readiness to Open meeting. In the final meeting at Sanctuary Building in London Georgette was joined by Phil Avery and Rachael Jarrett from BET and Ray Morton from the Board of Trustees. The team faced a panel who had prepared a wide ranging list of rigorous questions about every aspect of the school, from Governance to Curriculum, to ascertain whether we were in a position to open our doors in September. The DfE had to be confident that Bohunt Horsham has everything in place to ensure we are in a position to deliver the highest standard of education, which schools across the Trust are known for, to our founding Year 7 pupils.



The DfE worked to a traffic light system and we were hoping we were going to be given the green light for all our preparations to open in September. Any red warnings would have given the DfE cause for concern and although we were confident that we were prepared for all eventualities, it was still a very tense time, waiting to hear the outcome of the meeting. When the results came in, there was just cause for celebration as we were given the green light across the board.

As if that wasn't exciting enough, Georgette and Phil also visited No 10 Downing Street for a Free Schools Reception, celebrating the 13th wave of Free Schools. The event offered a rare opportunity to be part of discussions at the heart of government. Damian Hinds, at the time the Secretary of State for Education, opened the proceedings, followed by a speech by the then Prime Minister Theresa May. It was a privilege to be invited to attend such a prestigious event, especially during such a heady political period and a very proud moment for both Bohunt Horsham and Bohunt Education Trust.

Bohunt Horsham opened its doors to its first cohort of Y7s on Thursday 5 September.

EMPLOYEE INTERVIEW:

CLARE JENKINS, HEAD OF FACULTY, STEM – BOHUNT HORSHAM

What gets you out of bed in the morning?

Usually my cat jumping on me!

How would you describe your day job to a child?

I am a teacher who also looks after a team of adults. The team and myself are specialists in science, technology, engineering or maths. We aim to help young people better appreciate, understand and interact with the world around them.

What is your biggest achievement to date, personal or professional?

About a year ago, my dog was very ill and I had to take her to the vets. Her name was called and we were led to the treatment room. There, a student I had taught three years prior greeted me with a hug. Her dream was to be a vet and here she was, on placement, able to reassure me that she would take care of my pet. This isn't my achievement by any stretch, but as one of my A-level chemists, I knew the support I gave her day to day would have helped her get the grades necessary for vet school. So my biggest achievement is being a teacher, knowing I can support and hopefully inspire others in realising their own dreams. Thanks to her support, my dog recovered in full.

What does a typical day look like to you and what are you currently working on?

When you work in a school, I don't think there is a typical day, that's part of the reason I love being part of this profession. I'm looking forward to planning transition events over the summer term to help develop our new community.

What 3 words would you use to describe your role?

Exciting, varied, supportive.

What is on your wish list for the next five years at BET?

So many things! The wish list will keep growing as I get to know our students better. In five years' time, our first cohort will be taking their GCSE exams and graduating from us. I hope that they will leave us as confident, happy individuals ready to make their mark on the world.

What's your favourite line from a film?

"Just keep swimming", Finding Nemo.

What do you like most about your job?

I love the fact that everyday is different. I also find it such a privilege to be part of a community of learners and their families. Being able to celebrate an individual's academic or personal success is also pretty special.

What are your biggest professional challenges?

I'm sure there will be lots coming up as we grow the Bohunt Horsham community. However, having met the new team, a lot of the founding families and new colleagues across the Trust, I know that these challenges will be a great opportunity for personal growth within a supportive environment.

What's your personal mantra?

Be kind.



BOHUNT WOKINGHAM LAUNCHES DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

WHEN A SCHOOL SETS OUT TO LAUNCH AN ACTIVITY AS WELL RESPECTED AND PRESTIGIOUS AS THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD THERE ARE VAST AMOUNTS OF PLANNING AND PREPARATION THAT NEED GO INTO IT AHEAD OF TIME.



Determined to 'go large', the Bohunt Wokingham community rose to the challenge with no fewer than 30 staff, parent and community volunteers putting themselves forward to help with the award.

It was back in 2017 that the initial planning began. Many maps were purchased and pored over with the aim of finding wild countryside on our doorstep for students to explore. We settled on the area of the North Downs National Park to the west of Guildford (known as Shere Hell by some at Liphook) for our practice and new territory to the Trust in the Tilford area for the qualifying expedition.

Summer holidays were spent walking routes and identifying suitable check points. Volunteers were also invited to walk the routes as part of their own training and we were all soon becoming familiar with what would be our stomping ground. A night navigation evening in the pouring rain did not deter our steely volunteers who dried off in a local hostelry where tales of derring-do were exchanged.

The Trust rallied round to help us, with Liz Briggs paying us regular visits and Shaf Hansraj and his team helping with everything from the loan of maps and kit, to training our assessors. A fantastic example of Trust first!

Fast forward to January 2019 and a hall filled with Year 9 students and their parents had an air of eager anticipation for our launch of the award. 104 of the 180 students in the Year group signed up and we were on our way.

As students diligently began logging hours spent participating in various skills and sports as well as volunteering in the local community, the team held a kit evening at our local Go Outdoors store. The store manager eagerly inviting us back in 2020 for our next event possibly having met his monthly sales target in one day. With equipment purchased everyone was ready for our practice expeditions to begin in April. Nervous hugs goodbye were given in the car park as we took eight teams at a time to experience the joy, and sometimes tears, of walking with a full pack across open countryside and into the bewildering entanglement of paths that are Hurt Wood. Bentley Cope campsite hosted our weary adventurers before they were off again for day two.

At the time of writing, we have returned from our qualifying expedition weekend where every student that started finished. The last day was a real test of our students' grit and determination as they battled uphill at the Devil's punchbowl, longing for sight of the coaches to deliver them both home and also perhaps to the start of another adventure...

With a special thanks to all the volunteers at Bohunt School Wokingham for making this happen - we are changing lives.



SCHOOL HIGHLIGHT:

ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS AT TPS



Last term, there were many brilliant ways in which TPS students got involved in projects to help reduce our impact upon our planet. Their passion, ideas and willingness to take action was hugely impressive.

Following the work of their growing student Eco-Committee, TPS held their first ever disposable plastic free day. This day coincided with Sir David Attenborough's birthday and really made the whole school community think about their habits. The site saw much less rubbish produced (and less seagulls!) than usual and the Committee has plans for more such awareness raising activities in the future. In their lessons, the students learnt about the impacts of single use plastics on the environment and especially the oceans. Two competitions were also launched on the day, one to make a sculpture out of discarded plastic and the other to come up with a 'genius idea' to reduce plastic waste at TPS.

Both competitions attracted a lot of entries and the winner was a piece of 3D art depicting elephants made from plastic milk bottles alongside a waterfall made from plastic straws and netting. The 'genius idea' winners suggested reusable exercise book covers instead of the current single use sticky back plastic. This is certainly an idea that TPS will be taking forward.

It was also very encouraging to see the numbers of Year 7 students who volunteered to go litter picking to clean up the local area in Petersfield. They did this with great enthusiasm and a fantastic sense of community spirit. Again, this is something that the school will now aim to do on a regular basis.

Principal, Mark Marande, said, "The students at TPS today will not retire until the year 2073. Over the course of their working lives, the choices we and they collectively make as a society will have significant and, in some cases, irreversible consequences. It gives me great optimism to see first-hand the massive amount of creativity, caring and determination in our students to create a better world than the one they find themselves inheriting."



BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW... TPS STUDENT TEACHER INTERVIEW

FRANCESCA (YEAR 8) TO JON LEY (HEAD OF GEOGRAPHY):

What inspired you to be a teacher?

I really like working with young people and I had a very good tutor at school who inspired me to go to University and be a teacher.

If you were not a teacher, what would you be?

A paramedic. I like helping people. I would not want to sit in an office all day.

Who are your heroes?

Barack Obama, the first black US President; Alex Honnold, the climber who free climbed El Capitan in Yosemite National Park, and does a lot of charity work. Kelly Slater, an American professional surfer, environmental activist, businessman and innovator, most well-known for his unprecedented 11 World Surfing championships.

What is the best part of your job?

I get to laugh every single day – kids are just so funny!

Why did you choose to teach at TPS?

It was sort of by accident! But I am very lucky to work at such a great school with wonderful students.

Tell me about the teacher who inspired you the most?

A primary school teacher called Chris Wright who was different in his approach to teaching and really inspired me.

What is the one exciting teaching method you use?

Distributed Practice in GCSE lessons where we design many ways of ensuring students remember things.

What are your thoughts on education today?

I am lucky to work in such a great school, but my biggest bugbear is that the Government have narrowed the curriculum to a very academic route which may not suit all students who would benefit from a more practical approach.



JON LEY (HEAD OF GEOGRAPHY) TO FRANCESCA (YEAR 8)

Tell me about yourself in 30 seconds?

I am in Year 8 and enjoy Performing Arts and also writing subjects like English. I have performed since I was young when I started ballet. I think Performing Arts help creativity in other subjects – for example in Geography when considering how to make a sustainable city. I will be auditioning for the next big school musical, “Fame”.

What are your strengths?

Writing and thinking creatively.

What are your weaknesses?

Stressing over everything! I am a perfectionist and that can be a problem. I deal with it by thinking carefully about how much I am taking on and trying to prioritise.

Can you give me one example of Enjoy Respect and Achieve?

Rock Challenge takes a long time and a lot of hard work to put together and requires collaboration, but it is great fun and really pays off.

What or who inspires you?

All my teachers have really helped me to learn and take in everything and keep me engaged. Also, Greta Thunberg has shown me that one person can really make a difference.

What plans for the future do you have?

I would like to work in the Performing Arts, and TPS has really inspired me for that. Otherwise I would like to be an environmentalist.

What is your favourite saying from a song or book?

There is a line in one of the Harry Potter books by Dumbledore – “It is your choices that define who you truly are, not your abilities.”

What one thing would you change about school life?

I like project style homework over several weeks, and would like to see more of that.

SCHOOL HIGHLIGHT:

EDUCATING YORKSHIRE STAR INSPIRES STUDENTS AT CITY ACADEMY NORWICH



Musharaf “Mushy” Asghar is a TV sensation who captured the hearts of the nation after appearing on Channel 4’s ‘Educating Yorkshire’ programme, and last term shared his inspirational message to captivated Year II students at City Academy Norwich (CAN).

Musharaf first appeared on the TV show six years ago when he was a student at Thornhill Community Academy in Dewsbury, West Yorkshire and had viewers in tears when he succeeded in overcoming his stammer with the help of his teachers, giving a speech to his fellow students.

Now 22 years old, Musharaf speaks to groups of young people across the UK as a motivational speaker sharing his story and message of how resilience, hard work and self-belief can overcome the seemingly impossible.

As part of Year II intervention day in April, Mushy spoke to more than 100 students at CAN about his incredible journey. He told the students: “When I was a kid a doctor told my parents that I would never be able to talk. I hated myself. But after Educating Yorkshire, I was proud of who I was. My advice to all of you is to be proud of who you are, believe in yourself. I’m not saying it is going to be easy, but six years ago I never thought I would be able to do something like this.”

Musharaf described his on-going struggle with his speech impediment and encouraged students to make the most of their time at school. He also praised the work of the teachers in the school, saying, “you probably won’t really get this until a few years after you leave, but the teachers in this school care so much and are working so hard so you can achieve - there is so much passion here. Every single day you are working towards your goals. Enjoy these moments.”

**CITY
ACADEMY
NORWICH**

Headteacher Paul Collin said:

“At CAN, we are absolutely committed to giving every child the same chance in life, to become the best versions of themselves through exceptional education and opportunities. We believe in instilling all our young people with the highest expectations of themselves and building character through relentless aspiration and determination. Musharaf’s message, about hope above fear, making the most of every opportunity in school and focusing on being the best ‘you’, resonated across all our staff and students today.”

Year II student Linda Afriyie said: “It was inspirational to see how Musharaf reached his goal; to see how appreciative he was of his teachers and the difference they made to him – we can really relate to that here as our teachers really enjoy helping others and always have our best interests in mind.”

Year II Martyna Risevaite said: “It was totally inspirational to hear from someone who has faced obstacles but has seen them as challenges to be overcome. Musharaf really made me think about being that best version of myself, and that I shouldn’t see any path I take as the only route to success – that there are many routes and the key is believing in myself.”

Musharaf said: “I loved spending every moment at CAN today. From seeing how teachers would go the extra mile in setting activities for the students or setting extra revision classes for students. I have no doubt the students who leave CAN in the summer will feel saddened from leaving such an amazing school.”



SPOTLIGHT ON...

RACHEL CRICKMORE, ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER



What gets you out of bed in the morning?

First and foremost, I love teaching. I was explaining to a student recently that I am lucky to have a job that I thoroughly enjoy. I don't take that for granted. I went on to say how privileged I feel to support young people with their learning and their growth of character to become the best versions of themselves. #Bethebestyou #WeCAN

How would you describe your day to a child?

I would explain that every day is different, made up of its own challenges and rewards. But the one thing that remains steadfast are my high expectations for every young person in the Academy.

What is your biggest achievement to date, personal/professional?

My biggest achievement are my children; Annabelle and Oliver. They have brought a real purpose to my life; my most important role.

What does a typical day look like to you and what are you currently working on?

A typical day is incredibly busy! From purposeful conversations that focus on driving our Academy forward, to walking through stinging nettles to get a lost football that has gone over the fence. You never quite know what the day is going to bring, but that is what I thrive on! I am currently working on the Inductions Days for Year 7 in September to raise their awareness of our values and expectations.

What three words would you use to describe your role?
Rewarding, collaborative and engaging

What is on your wish list for the next 5 years at BET?

My wish list for the next 5 years is to keep learning and growing as a leader; to take on new roles and broaden my skills. I like a challenge.

What's your favourite line from a film?

Que sera, whatever will be, will be! from *The Man Who Knew Too Much* by Alfred Hitchcock.

What do you like most about your job?

One of the best aspects of my job is being part of the team at CAN. I feel very privileged to work with an amazing group of staff who are relentlessly committed to driving CAN forward. I have worked at CAN for eight years and thoroughly enjoy working with this community. Our students never cease to amaze me in all that they do. For example when doing door duty in the morning, it is wonderful to receive so many students responding with, 'Morning Miss'. It always makes my day.

What are your biggest professional challenges?

My biggest challenge is lack of time! I wish I had an extra five hours a day, that would be most helpful!

What is your personal mantra?

'I can do this! I will do this!' or 'We can do this! We will do this!'

**CITY
ACADEMY
NORWICH**

SCHOOL HIGHLIGHT:

BOHUNT SCHOOL Y9 HISTORY BATTLEFIELDS TRIP, YPRES, BELGIUM



History being one of my favourite topics, I was really looking forward to visiting the sites of the WWI War Cemeteries in Belgium. (I have to admit I was also really excited about going on the ferry and spending a few days away with my friends!)

Before I went I was talking to my Grandma about the upcoming trip and as a huge enthusiast for family history and ancestry, my Grandma was keen to tell me and provide me with documents about my Great- Great- Great Uncle who was buried at Bedford House Cemetery, Zillbeke, Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

My Grandma explained to me that George Edward Carey fought for 7th Battalion, Canadian Infantry (British Columbia Regiment) died aged 27 on Tuesday, 13th June 1916. He was the first employer of his newspaper The Reporter in Galt to die in battle. I knew it would mean a lot to her if we were to find his grave.

Once we had seen the packed itinerary I thought it was unlikely we would get to visit this Cemetery. However on the Saturday I showed Miss Roff the documents and asked whether or not we were stood in the same Cemetery he was buried in. It was not and would appear that the access for 40 plus students to get to it was a bit problematic.

The following morning after breakfast when Miss Moore explained what we were doing for the day she mentioned that we were visiting a cemetery they had never been to before on the trip. I was amazed that they managed to schedule a visit to my family members' grave.

Getting to the cemetery was the first hurdle to overcome, once we were there it was like finding a needle in a haystack to locate the exact resting place of my Great uncle. Mr Hansraj was methodically researching via the Commonwealth War Grave Commissions' website to find the exact plot number. I began to question whether we were in the right place or whether it even existed. However, it was the determination and perseverance of my fellow Bohunt Year 9 Students, traipsing along rows and rows of headstones that after 30 minutes we heard someone

had found him.

We all gathered round to pay our respects and to remember the sacrifice he and all the other soldiers had made. (I was also thinking how pleased my Grandma would be!). Once I had a few moments alone and taken a few photos for the record we left and continued our trip.

On my return, I was speaking to my parents and Grandma who then told me how emotional they were when I reported that we had found him.

This trip has made a huge impact of my understanding of war and loss of life and that all the soldiers that died for us are all somebody's close relative. I truly believe that the rest of the students benefitted from having someone on the trip that had a connection to someone who fought and died in the war. It reinforced to all of us the importance of remembering the millions that died.

It would not have been possible without my Grandma (Barbara Taylor Crawshaw) and the help of all the amazing teachers on the trip. I would highly recommend any future Year 9 History Student to go on this trip and I cannot stress enough how beneficial small acts like this can change viewpoints on life-changing events like this.







BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW... BOHUNT SCHOOL STUDENT TEACHER INTERVIEW



PHOEBE, Y7 AND TUTOR SARAH REA

PHOEBE TO SARAH

What inspired you to teach?

Everyone remembers one teacher from their school years that really helped them either academically or pastorally. I have always wanted to help other people with my life and if I could be that teacher for one pupil, then I will feel like I have done that.

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

If I wasn't a teacher I would be trying to become an astronaut, even though I'm too short!

What is the best part of your job?

The best part of my job is how supportive my colleagues are. But I also love that every day is different because of the unpredictability of pupils.

Who are your heroes?

My hero is Stephen Hawking because of the resilience and positive mind-set he had.

Why did you choose to teach at Bohunt?

I visited Bohunt while I was training to teach and loved the atmosphere around the site. Plus it is far enough from where I live that I don't bump into pupils on the weekends!

Which teacher inspired you?

Miss Morphy taught me maths from year 9 up until year 13. She always had the answers for all my problems, both academic and pastoral. I could always tell she really cared about how we all did.

Name an exciting teaching method?

One exciting method I use is based on the game Cluedo. At the beginning of the lesson a person, weapon and room card are placed in an envelope. Pupils have 12 sets of questions and get one clue per set they complete correctly, much like the game. The first person to guess correctly or complete all 12 wins a prize.

What are your thoughts on education today?

I like that education today is becoming more and more pupil focused. The progress of each pupil is at the front of every teachers mind and the impact that you have on each pupil has to be very clear. I think it's a shame that so many teachers leave the profession quickly but I think it is all about finding the right school that fits you.

SARAH TO PHOEBE:

Tell me about yourself

My name is Phoebe and I'm 12 years old. I live with my parents and younger brother. My main interests are music and design.

What are your strengths?

I am determined and I have a big sense of humour. My main school interests include art, music and drama.

What are your weaknesses?

My weaknesses are my self-esteem in maths and P.E is quite low but my good friends (Lyla, Pippa and Lucy) help me with this.

Can you give me an example of ERA?

At Bohunt Liphook, I feel as if I have achieved a lot over the last year but I feel as if one of my main achievements are in French. I can speak the language more fluently and have become more confident.

Who inspires you?

A lot of people have inspired me over my life but the two main people have to be my mum and Taylor Swift. I feel as if they are both strong and independent women who love others.

What are your future plans?

After I leave school I would love to travel and have the opportunity to explore the world. After that I would like to go to University to study design or take an internship to get a degree. My dream job would be an interior designer.

What is your favourite line?

My favourite line from a song is 'I'd like to be my old self again, but I'm still trying to find it.'

Why?

This line says to me that no one is perfect and even if you're down, there is a sense of determination and resilience.

What would you change about school life?

The one thing that I would change about the school is the amount we are doing for the environment. I feel that this school could do more things to help like beach clean-up and more recycling bins.



THE COSTELLO SCHOOL RETAINS BASINGSTOKE DISTRICT ATHLETICS TITLE

ON AN UNSEASONAL DAY WITH THE WEATHER MORE ASSOCIATED WITH CROSS-COUNTRY THAN A SUMMER ATHLETICS EVENT, COSTELLO MADE THE SHORT TRIP ACROSS TOWN ON 13 JUNE TO DOWN GRANGE SPORTS COMPLEX TO TAKE PART IN THE ANNUAL BASINGSTOKE DISTRICT ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS.

The event, which is organised by Costello for all Basingstoke schools, serves two purposes. It is the inter-schools team event between the Basingstoke schools to decide the district schools champions, with separate age categories for years 7 and 8 and combined age categories for years 9/10. In addition to the team element, for the year 7 and year 8 athletes the event is also the opportunity to get selected for the county championships which are held in Southampton on 9th July. Athletes finishing first or second in their events would qualify for the county event and achieve district selection, which is a great honour in itself.

As usual, the event was a great success with approximately 700 athletes taking part from the various Basingstoke schools and despite the weather there were several good performances on the day too. Costello, who have a strong tradition in this event, coped well with the wet and miserable conditions and put in many good performances across the six age categories and this consistent accumulation of points helped them to victory in every section.

This meant that for the tenth year in succession, Costello retained the title, this year by a large winning margin.

On an individual note, twenty year 7 or 8 Costello athletes gained district selection, by finishing first or second in their events and will now represent the district and in the year 9/10 competitions. An additional thirteen athletes won or were runners up in their respective events.

If addition to the athletes that competed on the day, sixteen of our year 9 students helped to organise the event by scoring, timekeeping or officiating. As always they did a fabulous job and helped to ensure the event was successful.



SPOTLIGHT ON...

ELIZABETH BENNET, ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER, COSTELLO



What gets you out of bed in the morning?

Two children and a very loud alarm clock. I'm naturally a bit of a morning person so I don't mind getting up and facing the day ahead.

How would you describe your day job to a child?

I help big children learn all they can so they can be whatever they want to be. I also do a lot of work with Google docs and spread sheets.

What is your biggest achievement to date, personal or professional?

Being able to balance a young family and a demanding full time job is probably my biggest achievement. Of course it's something many people do, but it's what I work hardest at. I am a fulfilled human being because I work in a job I love which in turn, I think makes me a better mum.

What does a typical day look like to you and what are you currently working on?

That's a tough one. One of the reasons I enjoy being a teacher so much is because every day is different. On the whole my day usually starts with coffee and emails. I review my planner, see who I'm teaching and which deadlines need to be met that day, and depending on that I might continue with operational or strategic work.

What 3 words would you use to describe your role?

Challenging, Surprising, Reassuring.

What is on your wish list for the next five years at BET?
I'm very excited to see where the school will go under BET, we are hoping for some more outdoor learning opportunities for our students in the future. I'm also keen to work collaboratively with more staff across the trust.

What's your favourite line from a film?

"It is not our abilities that show what we truly are. It is our choices." - Dumbledore, from *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*

What do you like most about your job?

No two days are the same. I couldn't imagine going back and working in an office. I love the challenge that teaching brings to my life. My job keeps me on my toes.

What are your biggest professional challenges?

Keeping up to date with changes to education, how to implement new strategies across the school, keeping all the balls in the air.

What's your personal mantra?

What doesn't kill you makes you stronger.



The
Costello School

ESTABLISHED SINCE 1908

SCHOOL HIGHLIGHT:

BOHUNT WORTHING ART FESTIVAL AS PART OF THE ANNUAL WORTHING ARTISTS OPEN HOUSES JUNE 2019



Saturday 22 June saw the School open its gates to the community as an official venue of the Worthing Artists Open Houses event. Celebrating the school and local community's achievements in the arts, there was everything from painting and sculpture to dance and drama on display. This year we were delighted to invite special guest David Henty, considered to the best copyist artist in the world today. He demonstrated his uncanny ability to replicate artistic works and met with visitors to discuss his work. The school was also delighted to welcome Councillor Hazel Thorpe, the Mayor of Worthing, to open the event and also help judge the all-important charity bake sale!

The events at BSW gave young people of all age groups the opportunity to attend a series of free workshops throughout the day. Music, drama, art and sports activities were all available and the day included an extract from the school's upcoming musical, *Oliver!* Elsewhere West Sussex Music students put on a brilliant performance while a Steel Pan Drum workshop, Indonesian Gamelan sessions and the opportunity to try traditional Chinese instruments and dances provided unforgettable musical experiences for visitors. A Drama workshop run by Helen O'Grady gave visitors of all ages a chance to try out their expressive and acting skills.

As well as proudly showcasing the fantastic GCSE art works of our Year 11 students in a brilliantly curated exhibition by Hannah Chapman, there were displays from Downsbrook and Thomas A Becket primary schools and a showcase of art by BSW staff. The school's Photography Club also displayed students' work and

there were Origami bird making and clay and paper sculpture workshops. These were just some of the excellent displays and events on show at the BSW Worthing Artists Open Houses event. A big thank you to all of our contributors and visitors and a huge thank you to Miranda Palmer and Lisa Day for organising the day's events. The icing on the cake (literally) was the announcing of the winner of this year's BSW Cake Baking competition, which raised £170 for charity. The winner was Eden Brownlee in Year 7 for her amazing Mad Hatter cake!

Adam Whitehead, Headteacher, said:

'Our second Art Festival proved to be even better than last year! Once again we were blessed with great weather and we welcomed more than 600 visitors through the door. With a fantastic offer of creativity on display, our students showed the local community what a wonderfully talented school we are.'




BOHUNT
WORTHING

SPOTLIGHT ON...

PAUL JONES, ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING



What is on your wish list for the next five years at BET?
To continue to review and improve teaching and learning at Bohunt School Worthing. Hopefully work with new schools, such as Bohunt Horsham, to support the delivery of electronic content and to have a wider trust role alongside my work at Bohunt School Worthing.

What's your favourite line from a film?

'Get busy living, or get busy dying' Ellis Boy "Red" Redding in Shawshank Redemption.

What do you like most about your job?

The students; they always make me laugh and the sense of pride I feel when they achieve. I also work with some very inspiring people who have become my close friends. For me it's important to enjoy coming to work.

What are your biggest professional challenges?

The constant learning curve of working in a new school. Everything we do is for the first time – we set precedents in all we do. Although the biggest challenge, this is also what makes the job so special and unique.

What's your personal mantra?

'Always look on the bright side of life'. I renamed my house 'Bright Side'.

What gets you out of bed in the morning?

Ultimately I have a huge sense of pride in the job I do. Every day is different, it's not a job where you are ever watching the clock.

How would you describe your day job to a child?

I try to give the best educational experience to youngsters, whilst looking the big picture of their education and getting them ready for further education, the workplace and the wider community. Ensuring students leave with a menu of choice and are not restricted by the outcomes of their exam results.

What is your biggest achievement to date, personal or professional?

Doing the job I do; my commitment at work whilst trying to be a good father to my two girls. It's not always an easy balance to find, but I'm proud to tell people about the job I do.

What does a typical day look like to you and what are you currently working on?

My day is spent in the classroom teaching and day to day problem solving. I am currently working on the teaching and learning priorities for next year, both for BSW and for BET. Ultimately ensuring the vision for teaching and learning is clear across the whole school and staff body.

What 3 words would you use to describe your role?

Energetic, Motivating, Inspiring



FORTHCOMING EVENT:

BOHUNT SIXTH FORM

Flo Clarke, a Bohunt Sixth Form drama student, was so inspired by a visit to see Timberlake Wertenbaker's powerful play, *Our Country's Good*, at The Tobacco Theatre in Bristol, that she wrote a response to it, a condensed version of which is below.

Drama teacher Deborah Lampard and Bohunt Sixth Form students will also be performing the show in 2020 – date to be confirmed so keep your eyes peeled!

'A crime is a crime. You commit a crime or you don't. If you commit a crime, you are a criminal. Surely that is logical.'

When first reading *Our Country's Good* by Timberlake Wertenbaker, interesting discussions of crime, punishment and justice were immediately raised among our Drama A-Level class. We soon started talking of justice today and how the justice system has been improved significantly since the 1700s, whilst concluding it is still corrupted by fault and injustice.

However, when we were taken to see a performance *Our Country's Good* at The Tobacco Factory Theatre in Bristol during April, suddenly, for me at least, I saw a whole new angle to crime and punishment. The play was eclectic and full of energy, with a strong cast, showcasing a high level of technique with accent, character dynamics and stylised movements. A standout for me was Dan Wheeler as Major Robbie Ross, Ketch Freeman and John Arscott. These characters are all incredibly differing in morals, reactions and personality, and Wheeler excelled in showing the dichotomy between these individuals effortlessly.

I, for one, started to question my own responses to difficult situations that we experience in everyday life, things that may seem like big crimes to us, but in reality are not as important as we thought. This caused me to think about feminism, the #metoo movement and the role of social media in terms of social injustice.

All too recently, for example, there has been a rise in 'cancel culture', a movement that seems to dig up any faults, however big or small, in a celebrity or person of influence, and immediately condemn them for this behaviour, no matter the extremity of what they said or did. While this may seem harmless on the surface, this can be extremely damaging to a career and incredibly toxic to an individual's mental health, with people blowing situations out of proportion, latching on to any hate or abuse, out of fear as being labelled as supporting the person who did wrong, or just turning 'cancelling' into something more what it should be, ruining an individual's career. This modern phenomenon is represented, in a different way, in the character of Duckling Smith from *Our Country's Good*. We, as an audience know the pain and injustice that Duckling experienced in her younger years and how Harry saved her from the incredibly difficult situations that she was faced with, the other women in the colony, however, do not. This, to me, mirrors the damaging effects of social media today and highlights not only the harsh struggles of women but just the raw punishments that contemporary day life deals us.



WINNER! OF LAST ISSUE'S CAPTION COMPETITION

Neil S to Neil P: **"We've nailed the skiing, time to master the curling. Sweep, Sweep!"**

Vicky Sands – TESLA Support Manager


FUTURE ISSUES OF BETTER TIMES

We want to ensure you enjoy BETTER Times and find it a useful and engaging platform. If you have any suggestions for future content, please email Polly Sharpe, BET Director of Communications, at psharpe@bohunt.hants.sch.uk



BOHUNT
EDUCATION TRUST



www.bohuntrust.com Longmoor Road Liphook Hampshire GU30 7NY
t: 01428 725 904 e: psharpe@bohunt.hants.sch.uk : @Bohunt_Trust

Enjoy. Respect. Achieve.