

Newsletter

The White Hills Park Trust

Issue 199 – 8th February 2019

Young People and Technology

The tragic death of Molly Russell, aged only 14, has been in the news this week. Molly committed suicide in 2017 and since her death, her family has been campaigning for a change in the law to restrict potentially harmful material easily available online through social media sites such as Instagram. Many commentators, including the Secretary of State for Education, have discussed whether the time that teenagers spend online, and on social media in particular should be limited or more closely governed.

Whilst this case shows graphically the dangers that can exist, the use of technology by young people is not a simple issue. Alongside the dangers come many benefits. Our lives have been transformed in many ways by the internet, and by the power of the technology that most of us now hold in the palm of our hands. Like all institutions, our schools use social media to keep people informed and to celebrate the work we do, and technology has become ever-present in the classroom. This has had huge implications for us in school, as we try and harness this potential to help students learn.

Many subjects such as Photography, Media and PE depend on the creative use of technology, and the resources available on the internet have transformed possibilities across the curriculum. One example is the Seneca Learning App, that many of our Key Stage 4 students use to support revision in preparation for exams. We have noticed how this has built enthusiasm and motivation for learning in a way that was not always possible through traditional forms of revision. We have been looking recently at ways that we can use technology to support 6th Form learning and will be talking soon to students about an exciting project for next year's Year 12.

In school, we have maintained a strict policy on the use of phones and social media. Whilst we recognise that students may well have a phone with them when they arrive in school, we insist that this is switched off during the whole time they are in school. If students are found to be using their phone during the school day, the phone will be confiscated and a sanction will be applied according to the behaviour policy. We recognise the increased maturity expected of 6th Form students and so 6th formers are allowed to use their phones in the Common Room only. On very limited occasions, students may be given permission by a teacher to use their phone for a specific purpose linked to the lesson. This is rare, and applies only to the lesson concerned.

In our experience, the greatest issues come from students' use of social media outside school, particularly where students have fallen out with each other and this has led to comments from others. Students will often communicate with each other online in a way that they would never dream of doing face to face, and this can easily cause hurt and upset. Although we will try and resolve issues, I am sure you can understand our frustration when this has an impact on students' attitude, behaviour and well-being in school, given the limited control we can exercise.

Last year, Audrey Boot, our Trust counsellor, carried out some fascinating research on the effect of smartphones and social media on the mental health of young people. She identified some of the increasing dangers and the way that our brains react to the use of smartphones, and also identified some tips that families can take to build 'digital resilience'. We will be posting this on the Discussions and Debates section of our new Trust website which will be launched later this month.

This week, the government published the United Kingdom Chief Medical Officers' commentary on 'Screen-based activities and children and young people's mental health and psychosocial wellbeing'. Despite the rather long-winded title, it is a helpful and readable guide that includes advice for parents and carers, and is available here: <https://goo.gl/jFsSLM>

We will continue to look at research, and to discuss with colleagues, parents and students. If you have any concerns about your child's online activity or use of social media, we would advise you to speak to them directly, and to discuss with us at school.

Paul Heery
Executive Principal

Dates for your Diary

February	TRUST	AWS	BC	BC6F
11th - 15th	Portugal Trip			
13th - 25th	German Exchange Visit			
13th	Y7 Brilliant Book Author Trip			
13th	BC6F Breakfast Seminar: Government & Politics			
13th	Year 10 Parents' Evening 16:00 - 19:00			
14th	Year 10 Parents' Evening 16:00 - 19:00			
18th - 22nd	Half Term			
25th	INSET Day Schools Closed			
27th	BC6F Breakfast Seminar: Government & Politics			
28th	Help Your Child To Succeed Years 10-13 18:00 - 19:30			
28th	Talk : 'Parenting girls safely through their teens' 19:00 - 20:30 Alderman White School			

Please see the My Ed app or our websites for a full calendar of upcoming events and important dates.

TED Talk Breakfast Seminars

We have now successfully launched our series of TED Talk-style breakfast seminars at BC6F. They are aimed at Year 11 students from both schools who are considering A Levels in relevant subjects. Students have been invited into our Common Room for coffee, pastries and an inspirational talk in the following areas:

Geography - It's the end of the world as we know it! (Mr Staszkiwicz)

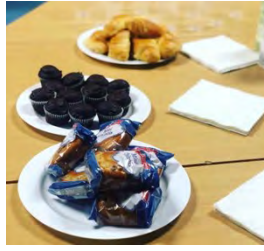
Photography - When I have a camera in my hand, I know no fear... (Miss Cooper)

Science - Can we save the planet... from ourselves? (Mr Remon)

Students have been really engaged and it has been a great opportunity for them to see what sixth form lessons are really like at Bramcote College. Still to come are seminars in Government and Politics, English, Economics and Computing to name but a few. Year 11s can sign up by accepting their emailed invitation for each session.

Mrs F Parker Dennis

Head of Sixth Form



Vacancy



Deputy Headteacher at Alderman White School

Leadership Pay Range (L13-17), £53,724 - £59,265

Are you a creative and inspirational leader with a record of school improvement looking for an exciting new opportunity? We are seeking an outstanding candidate with successful experience of senior leadership.

See the Trust website for more information: whptrust.org/index.php/vacancies

PTA Fashion Show and Clothes Sale Evenings, with Risley Fashion House

ALDERMAN WHITE PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION PRESENT ON

THURSDAY
28th MARCH
6:30 PM

FASHION SHOW & CLOTHES SALE

Risley Fashion House

TICKETS

IN ADVANCE	ON THE DOOR
£3 Adults	£4 Adults
£2 Children	£3 Children

Ⓧ Alderman White School, Chilwell Lane, Bramcote NG9 3DU

Bramcote College
A member of The White Hills Park Federation Trust

Fashion Show and Clothes Sale

DEBENHAMS
next **White Stuff** M&S
MONSOON oasis Wollis
PURPLISH LONDON NEW LOOK DOROTHY PERKINS

Friday 10th May @7:00pm
Doors Open 6:30pm

Ⓧ Bramcote College - Just off of the A52, Moor Lane, Bramcote

Tickets in Advance £3 Adults | £2 Children Under 16
Tickets on the Door £4 Adults | £3 Children Under 16

Find us on Facebook & Twitter

Risley Fashion House. @BramcoteColl

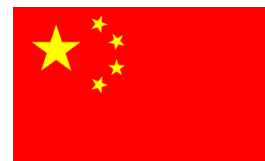
THE BRAMCOTE SCHOOLS AND COLLEGE

Trips Around The World!

Next week 17 students from Alderman White and Bramcote College leave for Germany on our annual exchange, spending 12 days staying with a student at our partner-school in Guetersloh in North Germany. We wish them a great stay - I know they will be made to feel very welcome by their host-families as well as our partner-school, the Städtisches Gymnasium. The programme also includes a 2-day trip to the cities of Hamburg and Lübeck.



Yesterday, Toni Camilleri from Access China UK gave a presentation to almost 30 students and their parents from both Alderman White and Bramcote College who are travelling to China at the start of April. The trip will include stays in Shanghai and Ningbo where our students will spend several days at our partner school. This will be the first time that students in Years 8-11 have taken part in an exchange visit to China. How exciting is that!



Finally, we are expanding the many languages we are offering at the Language College based at Alderman White to include Russian for the first-time. Anyone interested in attending the classes should email us at languages@whptrust.org.

More information, including the programme of classes, is available on the Alderman White [website](#).

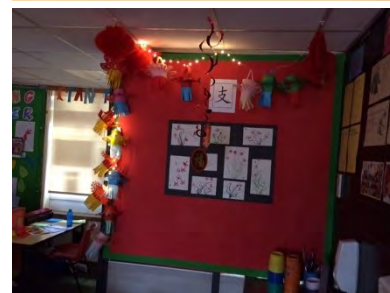
Mr K Stephan

Chinese New Year

Happy New Year to all our Chinese colleagues here at the Alderman White Confucius Classroom and of course to all our students of Chinese heritage!



Tomorrow Alderman White will be hosting the annual Chinese New Year celebrations of the Nottingham Chinese School attended by more than 200 students. Our Chinese teachers, Ms Xie and Ms Deng, have also been running a series of highly popular celebrations across the Trust as well as in local primary schools. The photos are of the two Chinese cookery sessions delivered by Hefang Deng at both AW and BC - over 50 students attended, practising their culinary skills, making traditional Spring Festival dumplings. Our thanks also go to Ms Shaw, Ms Noon, Ms Wheatcroft & Ms Mucke for giving up their lunch-hour to support the classes. Earlier in the week Jing Xie taught pupils at Bramcote Hills Primary School how to make Chinese New Year cards and Hefang Deng went to Eskdale Primary School to talk about Chinese New Year, in particular the Lantern Festival which traditionally marks the end of the Chinese New Year celebrations.



Mr K Stephan

Debate Mate Urban Debate League Round 1

On Wednesday 6th February Bramcote College's debating teams participated in the first round of the urban debate league. It was an evening of two debates against other local schools. The motion of the first debate was "This House believes the rise of digital technologies has done more harm than good," and saw students arguing about the effectiveness of parental controls and questioned whether the ease with which we can communicate really is a benefit. For the second motion, "This house believes schools should teach art subjects through modern rather than classical work," students had to consider if schools should study the rhymes and words of grime musician Stormzy rather than Shakespeare. As always our students conducted themselves perfectly and demonstrated excellent sportsmanship. We eagerly await the publication of the leader board in the next coming weeks to see where we placed among schools nationwide.

Mrs S Anderson

Theatre Visit: Noughts and Crosses

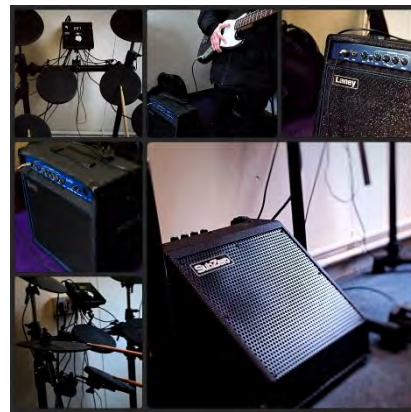
20 students from across the Trust attended Derby Theatre to watch 'Noughts and Crosses' on Wednesday evening. This was a valuable opportunity for those studying Performing Arts to develop their reviewing skills as well as increase their awareness of contemporary theatre. Attending the theatre regularly is a great way to support your child's Drama and English learning. Nottingham Playhouse offer 'pay what you can performances' for most of their shows and Lakeside theatre often run reduced or free performances for young people.

Miss Z Armitage-Giles

New Music Equipment at Bramcote College

In July 2018 Julia Gibbs (our Trust Accountant) and I put together a bid to EMI Universal Music for funds to purchase musical equipment. Thanks to Julia's persistence we were awarded £500 to spend on equipment to support our Band Craft programme. We have purchased a fully height adjustable electric drum set (which also has the added bonus of having multiple sound settings, meaning it can be programmed to sound like a kit typical of any era or genre), three multipurpose dynamic microphones and a bass guitar amplifier.

Our school rock band S.L.A.S.H are enjoying great success and are continuing to progress from strength to strength. However, they are in Years 10 & 11 and, in time, they will leave us. The Band Craft programme is designed to give anyone who plays a musical instrument/sings the opportunity to experience playing in a group setting and hopefully bring musicians together to start up new bands. Band Craft runs on a Thursday lunchtime and is run by Katrina Patrick and Mrs Franklin.



Mrs C Franklin

Congratulations Amelia!

Amelia Wright in Year 10 is part of the Nottingham Synchronized ice skating advanced novice and junior teams.

She recently competed in the British championships held in Nottingham and secured two gold medals. The event was televised on BBC sport live.

Her junior team have qualified to represent Great Britain at the junior worlds in Switzerland in March.




Rachel Wright

Bramcote College Table Tennis Tables

Bramcote College has recently taken receipt of two brand new CORNILLEAU 510 PRO OUTDOOR tables. The tables have generously been funded by donations from Councillor Steve Carr and the EMA and they are making a huge difference to the extra-curricular provision available to students at break, lunch and after school. This fund was supported by the fantastic work of our PTA and local governing body. We are also encouraging the community to use the tables and they can be used as part of our facility lettings. Please get in touch for more details. The staff and student body are extremely grateful for these welcome additions to our Bramcote Community.

Mr S Morton

Make A Difference

Diversity Watch

THE BLACK, ASIAN & MINORITY ETHNIC
Blueprint to Police and Military Career Success

This workshop will focus on successful individuals from BAME backgrounds (from the Police, RAF, Army and Navy) with the aim to motivate and influence individuals from our local diverse communities to consider careers within the uniformed public services and make a positive impact on career related goals






The aim of this event will be:

- To raise awareness and promote career progression within uniformed public services from senior BAME officers who will share their career success
- To explore career opportunities within uniformed public services and possible career progression
- To motivate and influence individuals from our local diverse communities to consider career opportunities within uniformed public services

Come and meet us and start your journey to an exciting career

FEBRUARY
23RD 2019
12.30 - 4PM

HYSON GREEN
YOUTH CLUB
TERRACE STREET,
NOTTINGHAM, NG7 6ER

For catering purposes, please register your attendance to info@diversitywatch.uk

www.diversitywatch.uk
info@diversitywatch.uk

Office: 01773687170
Mobile: 07888767943


Alderman White School Presents....

MATILDA

The Musical...and other Roald Dahl delights!!

Meeting and workshop:
3.30pm-4.30pm, Wednesday 13th February
at the Alderman White School Hall

Auditions:
3.30pm-4.30pm, Wednesday 27th February
at the Alderman White School Hall



Please contact Mrs. Armitage-Giles for more details...

Understanding and Surviving Modern Family Life

I would like to invite parents within The White Hills Park Trust and within Broxtowe to participate in the Course outlined below
Please email julie.francis@whpfederation.org. Places are limited - we have 11 funded free places.

Venue: Alderman White School Library

Content to include: the changing roles and dynamics within families; children- their awareness of rights/ their expectations and how to manage these; rights and responsibilities! ; balancing everyone's interests within families; outside influences/keeping safe; generational ideals; tools to manage unreasonable behaviour; play and creativity for family wellbeing.

Start date: 13.02.19 Time 5.30pm - 7.30pm

Followed by: 27.02.19 - 03.04.19 Time 5.30pm - 7.30pm

Ms J Francis

IT'S A HARD-KNOCK LIFE.

BRAMCOTE COLLEGE PRESENTS

Annie

THE MUSICAL

Tickets on sale now!

£4 each

2nd, 3rd and 4th April



The Bramcote Study Lounge

Monday to Thursday

3:30pm to 5:00pm

in the 6th Form Common Room

GCSE and A-Level students welcome

(... don't let the bunnies take over Bramcote after 3:20pm)

Computers, advice and revision help!

Mwahahahahaha!
Ah-hahahahaha!



GCSE
Thought For The Week



A lovely calm thing to look at to relax you.

For each subject you should have a 'to do' list - colour code your lists ... Green = Happy, Yellow = needs some work, Red = I have no idea ... that way you know what to revise first ... get confident with the red parts ... and mix in some yellow & green if you're running out of energy.

13
weeks to go until the exams start

20
weeks to go until the exams FINISH!!!

Work Hard. Be Well. Do Well.



from daughter to woman

PARENTING GIRLS SAFELY THROUGH THEIR TEENS



28 February

7.00pm-8.30pm

Alderman White School, Bramcote, Nottingham

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/parenting-girls-safely-through-their-teens-with-author-kim-mccabe-tickets-54717131413>

Attendance is free of charge. Tickets are available via Eventbrite. For security reasons, seating is strictly limited to advance-order ticket holders only.

"Here is a friend for the teenage years that will help you in uncountable ways. I can't believe how much depth Kim has put into one book... Kim's work puts back something that should never have been taken away."
- Steve Biddulph, best-selling author of Raising Girls

