



# Newsletter

The White Hills Park Trust

Issue 231 - 13th December 2019

## It's (nearly) Christmas!

Schools are wonderful places to be as we get close to Christmas. Although we don't have the Nativity plays and Christmas parties that take place in most primary schools, the Christmas spirit is alive and well in our schools. Our Christmas trees are up, and lots of classes are looking very festive. On Tuesday evening, I attended the Alderman White Carol Service at Beeston Methodist Church. As always, it was a really lovely occasion, with some memorable performances from our talented students, and some full-blooded carol singing. It is an occasion that always seems to signal that Christmas is getting closer.

We have lots of other seasonal activities taking place between now and the end of term at both schools. Christmas Dinners, the Alderman White Swing Band concert next Thursday, Bramcote College PTA Year 7/8 Christmas Disco on Monday, and I know that there will be spectacular Christmas assemblies currently being planned. We know it's a time of excitement and joy for our students, and we want their school experience to reflect that. Both schools have been visited by Crossteach, who have presented the Christmas Experience to Year 7s, an interactive drama presentation of the original Christmas story. We also do everything we can to ensure that this time of year is an inclusive experience for all of our students, of all faiths and none, so that the role of the Christian festival of Christmas is recognised at the same time as we share the modern secular celebration.

Although we continue with regular lessons until the end of term, rather than a distraction from the curriculum, an occasion like the Christmas season is an opportunity to enrich the curriculum and give it extra meaning. For example, both schools have had Christmas markets this week. If you had been able to visit them, you would have seen a colourful and bustling school Hall, with lots of students buying Christmas items and eating cakes and snacks. You may not have realised that they are run by our GCSE Business classes, who prepare for a considerable time, applying the things that they have learnt in class to a real-life context (very successfully).

Music is another key part of the curriculum, both within the formal timetable, but also in the enrichment opportunities we give students to perform, and this is a feature of the Christmas period. I am looking forward to hearing talented musicians from both schools entertaining us over the next week, and to a happy and productive end to the term.

## Well-deserved recognition

On Wednesday evening our Trust schools were both well-represented at the Nottinghamshire Live Education Awards. I am very proud to report that Heidi Gale was the runner-up in the Head Teacher of the Year award, recognizing the huge impact of her work in moving Bramcote College forward - improving achievement, increasing pupil numbers and securing positive outcomes across the board.

I am also very pleased to let you know that Julie Francis received the runners-up award in the Community Champion category. As she prepares to retire at the end of term, this was well-deserved recognition for Julie's tireless contribution to our schools over many years, in particular her recent work at Alderman White. Many congratulations to them both.

*Paul Heery*  
Executive Principal

## Dates for your Diary

December	TRUST	AWS	BC	BC6F
12th 13th 14th	School Production: 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' 19:00 - 22:00			
17th	Year 9 Trip Science Museum, Bradford			
18th	Year 7 Christmas Party 15:45 - 17:30			
18th	Year 9 Reports Issued			
19th	PTA Year 7/8 Christmas Disco 14:00 - 16:00			
19th	Swingband Festive Concert 19:00 - 21:00			
20th	Last Day of Term Schools close at 1pm			
23rd	Christmas Holidays Begin Schools Closed			
January				
6th	Schools Reopen			
22nd	Year 11 Reports Published			
23rd	Year 9 Options Evening 16:00 - 19:00			
28th	Year 9 Options Evening 16:00 - 18:30			
28th	Specialisms Morning			

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

## Admissions Arrangements Consultation - 2021-2022

Alderman White School and Bramcote College are currently consulting on their admissions arrangements for 2021 and beyond. The purpose of the consultation is to ensure that both schools maximise their resources fully and reflect their local communities. The following are proposed under the current admissions consultation:

- ◇ **The Pupil Admissions Number (PAN) for Bramcote College is amended to 120.** This is because the design for the new school, scheduled to open in early 2022, is for 600 pupils aged 11-16, making each year group a maximum of 120 pupils.
- ◇ **The PAN for Alderman White School is 145.** The Trust has worked with Nottinghamshire County Council who have confirmed the maximum capacity of the Chilwell Lane site is 725, making each year group a maximum of 145.
- ◇ **Both schools have clearly defined their catchment areas, with the A52 being the geographical boundary.** Therefore, for Alderman White School, its linked feeder primary schools are those to the south of the A52. For Bramcote College, it is the linked feeder primary schools to the north of the A52.
- ◇ **Sunnyside Spencer School has been removed from the linked schools to Alderman White School.** This is because it has been linked to George Spencer Academy and therefore ensures equality of opportunity for students applying to a secondary school in the area in not giving one feeder primary school two linked secondary schools.

All parents and carers of students within the Trust for whom we hold a valid email address should have received an email with a link to follow to comment on the consultation.

If you aren't a parent or carer, or didn't receive the email and you would like to make any comment on the consultation then please follow these links (also available on the respective school websites):

[Alderman White School](#)

[Bramcote College](#)

If you are unable to complete the questionnaire or have difficulty accessing it, please contact James Macdonald on 0115 916 8900 or email your views to [consultation@whptrust.org](mailto:consultation@whptrust.org). All comments must be received by Friday 31st January 2020.

The consultation remains open until 5pm on 31st January 2020 after which Governors and Trustees will review the responses before making a final decision which will be published on the school's websites no later than 14th March 2020.

**Mr J Macdonald**

## A Midsummer Night's Dream

What a great opening night for the Alderman White Production of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'!



Many congratulations to the outstanding cast, directed by Geoff Liptrot, who brought Shakespeare's masterpiece to life in such a vivid and entertaining way, superbly accompanied by members of the MSND orchestra conducted by Cameron Wedgeworth. This is a show you will not want to miss!



There are still tickets for tonight's performance - please email me to reserve seats: [karsten.stephan@whptrust.org](mailto:karsten.stephan@whptrust.org)

**Mr K Stephan**

## Sport

### Sports Leaders host Year 7 Rowing Competition

One of the tasks set for the Year 9 Alderman White Sports Leaders was to plan, promote and deliver an inter-form competition. The leaders did just this as they hosted a Year 7 rowing competition over 3 lunch times. The leaders designed the format, team sheets and promoted through assemblies and notices. Their hard work paid off as the event was well attended by over 60 students! They will be rolling out inter form competition to other year groups in the new year.



### Active In Mind Launch

This Thursday, the Alderman White PE Department hosted GB tennis star Jade Windley, who helped us to launch our Active In Mind project. Active In Mind is a Youth Sports Trust project aimed at students who might feel more anxious than most or lack general self confidence. 15 students from Year 7 & 8 worked with Jade and some select Year 10 mentors, on some team building and self esteem tasks. The mentors spent the morning with Jade learning some fun ways in which to engage with the group in the new year. Outcomes of the project will include happier more resilient young people, with improved mental and emotional health.



**Mrs A Kilbane**

## Music

### Bramcote Band Christmas Roadshow

On Thursday 12th December the Bramcote College band went on their first tour. We had the joy of visiting Broadgate House care home first, where our Christmas pieces were warmly received by the residents. After piling all our equipment back onto the mini bus we headed off to Chetwynd House Care Home, where it was the carols that were the hits of the day. We were so pleased to be able to take requests from the audience and play their favourite carols. Away in a Manger was the first to be requested – thankfully we were able to oblige. All the students played their hearts out and did a superb job with a highly professional attitude. Both homes have invited us to play again in the very near future. Special thanks go to Rachel Semken in Y13 who has been an excellent role model and mentor to our younger students, and to Mrs Colley for playing and driving the mini bus. We arrived back in school just in time for this term's lunchtime concert.



Rachel Semken & Lily Whittaker (flute), Sam Jones (trumpet), Jacob Slowey (saxophone), Mrs Colley (french horn), Sam Baird (trombone), Will Baird (double bass), Tom Ison (guitar), Zac Graham & Ansgar Molthan-Hill (keyboard)

### Summer Term Lunchtime Concert

At the end of each term our Band Craft groups and the students of our visiting keyboard teacher, Kat West, put on a short lunchtime concert to showcase the progress made. It is such a lovely supportive environment and an opportunity for students to gain confidence in performing for an audience. Incredibly well done to all those who performed, but special congratulations to those who performed for the first time.

**Mrs C Franklin**

## Supporting your Child with Apprenticeships

Over the last few years apprenticeships have changed dramatically, with some amazing opportunities being available for the right candidate. If you want to find out more about apprenticeships and help your child to become the 'right candidate' then a great place to start is by downloading and reading the December Parent Pack produced by the National Apprenticeship Service, available on our [Virtual Careers Library](#)

**Ms C Welch**

## Haven visit to QMC

The Haven tutor group have supported another charity this term.

The Hospital Wear to Care is a campaign established by Lilya Coleman Jones who died following treatment for leukaemia in June 2019.

One of our tutees was a friend of Lilya's and so it was important to us to continue the fantastic work of the family.

We collected money and donations of headphones and splitters as well as toys and gifts.



On Monday 9th December Mrs Neal and Mrs Orchard-Robson along with two students, Lucy our Haven Ambassador in Year 11 and Year 7 student Orson, visited the Queens Medical Centre, Ward E39, to handover their donations.



Paul the Receptionist and 2 Nurses were grateful to receive these on behalf of the young people and thanked us for enhancing their patient's experiences.

Well done Team Haven!

**Mrs S Neal**

## BC Christmas Party - Chocolate Needed!

The Bramcote College Year 7 and 8 Christmas party is only days away, and we're still in need of chocolatey donations for our tombola!

**Bramcote College**  
YEAR 7 AND 8  
**CHRISTMAS PARTY**  
AND NON-UNIFORM DAY  
£2 DONATION - NO EXTRA TICKET NEEDED  
**THURSDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2:00 - 4:00 PM**  
DISCO · PARTY GAMES  
CHALLENGES · SOFT DRINKS  
CHOCOLATE TOMBOLA  
HENNA · AND MORE

Please could any donated chocolate tombola prizes or cakes/biscuits be dropped off at reception by 12 noon on Thursday 19th December .

Thank you and wishing you all a very merry Christmas

**Bramcote College PTA**

**Hospital Wear to Care**  
is a campaign established by  
Lilya Coleman Jones  
who died following treatment  
for leukaemia in June 2019.

**#hospitalweartocare**

Lilya was autistic, and she struggled with the noise on hospital wards and, in particular, the noise coming from other TVs in her bay. It struck her as odd that on planes nobody would ever watch TV without headphones but on wards, where everybody needed peace and quiet to rest, nobody wore them.

Friends raised money to pay for headphones and splitters, and staff on ward E39 at Nottingham University Hospital (NUH) decided to kick off a culture change which it is hoped will spread throughout the hospital and then to every hospital in the country.

In future it is hoped people will bring headphones from home for hospital stays to reduce unnecessary use of plastic. Where possible, Lilya's friends and family will seek to raise funds for splitters and headphones for initial roll out of the project at any new hospital joining the scheme. Subsequent to that, it is hoped charities or business sponsorship could help. Research to measure the benefit of quieter wards for patient well-being and reduced length of stay is key.

@lighthouse.lilya [www.lilyastlighthouses.co.uk](http://www.lilyastlighthouses.co.uk)  
[www.theyurl.com/weartocare](http://www.theyurl.com/weartocare)

ALDERMAN WHITE  
**SWING BAND**  
presents...

**A Festive Celebration**  
Mince pies, mulled wine and music.  
Thursday 19th December, 7pm, School Hall  
Suggested entrance donation: £2.50

## Trip to Bletchley Park

On Friday 13th December a group of computer scientists from Years 8,9,10,11,12 and 13 had the opportunity to visit the birth place of the modern computer; Bletchley Park. The students had a fantastic day which involved the chance to see the Enigma and Bombe machines.



They had a guided tour of the site which included the mansion and huts. They also took part in a cyber security workshop; which included learning about modernised cybercrime, specifically how to spot a phishing email, as well as the opportunity to send a message using a real Enigma machine. The students learnt a lot and tested their code breaking skills during the day and are looking forward to getting back into lessons to apply their new knowledge and skills.

**Mrs F Gulshan**

## Hope Nottingham Foodbanks

Below are the opening hours of the foodbanks provided by Hope Nottingham over the holiday period.

Please note Hope Nottingham office will be closed from Tuesday 24th Dec and will re-open on Monday 6th January.

ARBORETUM (Covenant Restoration Church NG7 4DL): open Sat 21st & 28th Dec

ASPLEY (St Margaret's Church Hall NG8 5GE): open only on Mon 23rd Dec, and re-starting on Mon 6th Jan

BEESTON (Hope House NG9 2RF): reduced hours as follows ONLY – Sat 21st, Mon 23rd, Mon 30th Dec, & Sat 4th Jan (all at 9.30-10.30am)

BROXTOWE (St Martha's Church NG8 6GR): open on Fri 20th Dec, and re-opening on Fri 3rd Jan (usual hours)

CARLTON (Main Street Methodist Church NG4 1EE): open on Tues 24th and 31st Dec (12-2pm only)

CHILWELL (St Barnabas' Church NG9 4HU): open on Tues 24th & 31st Dec (usual hours)

GEDLING (Phoenix Farm Methodist Church NG4 4HX): open on Fri 27th Dec & 3rd Jan (usual hours)

MEADOWS (Bridgeway Hall Methodist Centre, NG2 2JD): open on Tues 24th, Fri 27th, Sat 28th, Tues 31st Dec, Fri 3rd & Sat 4th Jan (all at usual times)

RADFORD (Mount Zion Millennium Church, NG7 5QS): open on Thurs 19th Dec (10am-1pm), & reopening Thurs 2nd Jan (usual time)

SNEINTON (Salvation Army base, NG2 4QG): only open on Thurs 2nd Jan (usual time)

STAPLEFORD (Montrose Court Church NG9 8LJ): open only on Mon 23rd, Mon 30th Dec, Thurs 2nd Jan (usual time)

STAPLEFORD (The Haven Church NG9 8BD): open only on Thurs 2nd & Fri 3rd Jan (usual time)

WOLLATON (Grangewood Methodist Church, NG8 2SJ): open as usual Friday 27th Dec & 3rd Jan (10am-12noon)

BILBOROUGH (@the Library) & NETHERFIELD: closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day

Just to remind you HOCKLEY (Springs of Life International Church) is now permanently closed.

**Miss J Francis**