

# BA

BLOXWICH ACADEMY | SECONDARY

**NEWSLETTER**  
MARCH 2018

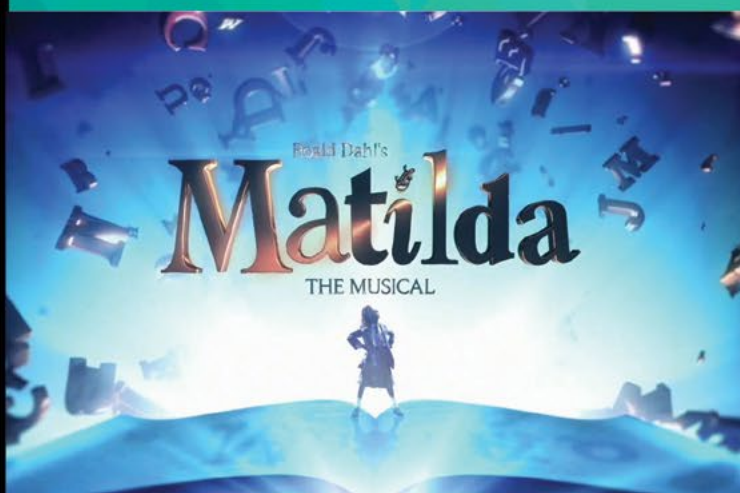


**WORLD BOOK DAY  
PERFORMING ARTS SUCCESS  
BBC BIRMINGHAM TOURS  
AND MUCH MORE**

## Waving The Flag For Bloxwich Academy



## YEAR 7 MATILDA VISIT



## WONDERFUL WORLD OF BOOKS



@bloxwichacademy



[www.bloxwichacademy.co.uk](http://www.bloxwichacademy.co.uk)



## HEADTEACHERS MESSAGE



Dear Parent/Carer,

Easter greetings from Bloxwich Academy.

This year is flying by and I cannot believe our pupils have already completed two thirds of the Academic year.

With so many events that have taken place it is hard to fit them all in just one newsletter. However, you can keep up to date with all events by joining us on Twitter at Bloxwich Academy or logging on to our website [www.bloxwichacademy.co.uk](http://www.bloxwichacademy.co.uk). We have weekly updates of all the activities our pupils take part in.

With Bloxwich Academy rated as 'the most improved school in the country' for pupil progress we are working hard to improve our standard even greater than last year.

I wish you all a very restful and peaceful Easter and I look forward to seeing you during the summer term.

Please note the forthcoming events:-

Year 10 Progress Evening	Wednesday 18th April 2018
Year 8 Progress Evening	Thursday 10th May 2018
Year 6 Induction Evening	Tuesday 3rd July 2018
Year 7 End of First Year Evening	Thursday 5th July 2018

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Seager'.

A Seager  
Headteacher

## Parent Forum

On Thursday 8th March the third parent forum meeting took place, again the meeting was very beneficial for parents and school. All parents were informed about actions that have taken place since last forum meeting that had taken place in December. Also, the local authority attended the meeting and shared a workshop on Child Sex Exploitation.

### YOU SAID

The parent forum told us that they were very happy with events that were happening in school for parents to engage in, especially the Basic IT Skills session. Parent forum told us they would like the event of how to cook £5 meals be open for parents and their child to attend. Also, they would like to see the Child Sex Exploitation workshop to be rolled out for all parents.

### WE DID

**YOUR CHILD REVISE EVENING (YEAR 11)**  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March

**HOW TO COOK £5 MEALS SESSION**  
Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March

**CHILD SEX EXPLOITATION WORKSHOP**  
*to be confirmed*

On 6th February the Academy provided an opportunity for parents to attend a Basic IT skills session led by Mr Evans. We had 6 parents attend the event and all parents commented on how beneficial the event was and how it will help them with their child at home. All parents commented on how they would like to do the session more often to be able to continue their development in IT.

*Quote from a parent: "Very well organised, lots of interesting content and would like to participate in more sessions like this one."*



### WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE PART OF PARENT FORUM?

If you are interested and would like to take part in parent forum, please call the Academy and leave a message for Mr Bradley and he will be more than happy to call you to discuss parent forum.



## Waving the flag for Bloxwich Academy



## BBC Birmingham Budding Journalists

# TOURS

Saturday 10th February 2018 saw Connor Male represent Bloxwich Academy at the 'CBRE All Schools Rugby Event'. The day was packed full of exciting opportunities for Connor to experience and have a phenomenal pitch involvement.

The day started firstly with Connor getting lots of goodies including: England Rugby shorts, socks, jumper and flag, after this Connor was interviewed and was treated like a star, this was followed by Connor meeting two professional rugby players Harriet Millar-Mills and Ellis Genge and having the opportunity to have photos taken with them. The day continued with inspirational speakers from professional coaches as well as a Google representative. After this it was time for Connor to head to Twickenham Stadium to represent Bloxwich Academy on the pitch with both England and Wales rugby players, Connor was waving his flag whilst both national anthems were sang and he then took his seat to watch the game. This was a fabulous experience and something I'm sure Connor will never forget.

On Wednesday 7th February selected year 7 and 8 students were treated to a tour of the BBC studios based at the Mail Box in Birmingham.

It was a chance to see what it is like to work in such a busy and important place. The students enjoyed everything in the studios and were fascinated by the information the tour guides gave. During the tour they were able to watch live coverage of news reporting on the multitude of screens in the live hub. They witnessed the rapid responses of the technicians dealing with day to day issues of the presenters. They sat on the famous red sofa in the studio where the news is presented on a daily basis and Mrs Fox even got to meet her hero – Nick Owen.



The highlight of the day though was when the students took part in their very own mini radio drama session. Students were taken into the 'interactive' studio where they were given scripts to follow – five acted as characters and others operated the sound effects machines, whilst their 'episode' was recorded. The students performed to 'perfection' according to Emma; one of the guides.







**Performing Arts  
Department**



**International  
Women's Day**

Year 11 Drama and Dance visited the Wolverhampton Grand Theatre in February to watch the amazing Hairspray. The pupils and staff all loved the professional and exciting performance and have gained lots of ideas towards their final written exams.



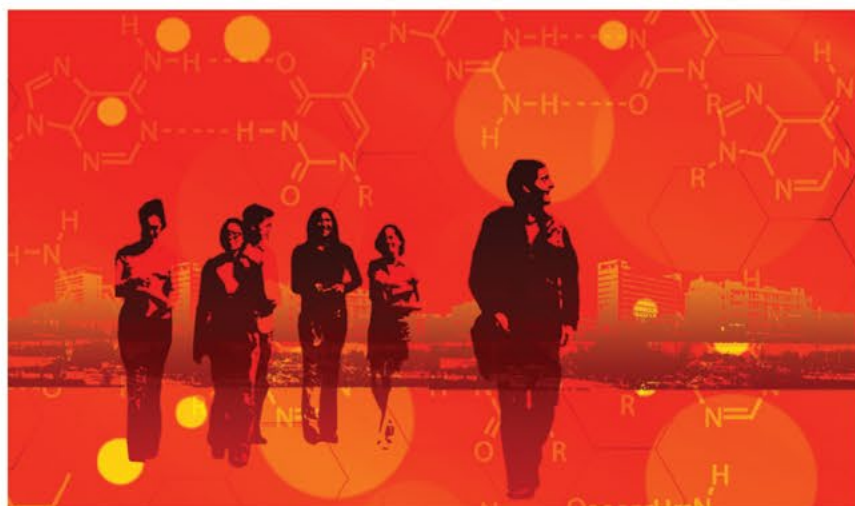
### **Year 7 Dance Team Performance at The Forest Arts Centre**

The year 7s performed a piece to Beyonce's Freedom to represent womens rights around the world. Their first performance was excellent and they should be very proud of their progress. The first of many performances!



### **Year 11 Drama Trip to The Rep Theatre**

The pupils will be visiting the REP Theatre in Birmingham at the end of March to watch DNA which is part of their Component 3 Written exam.



### **The Matrix Academy Trust Performing Arts Show**

Preparations have started for the Matrix Show at the end of March. There will be a mixture of dance, music and drama performances showcased at the event and Bloxwich Academy are very excited to be hosting this year!







International  
Women's Day



Performing Arts  
Department

### Dazzling Dance Performance | Year 10 BTEC

The dance show was a huge success! Pupils gained valuable experience, with some fantastic outcomes just before their final practical assessment for Component 1 of their qualification.

The pupils should all be very proud of the grit and determination they put in to improve their performances. It was a privilege to watch.



Year 10 Dancers performing to Beyoncé's Single Ladies on women's international day during lunch time sittings in the canteen.

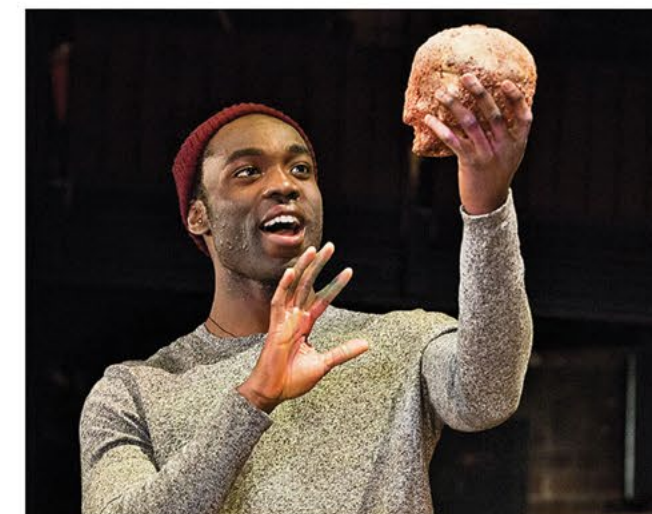
8W1 boys performing to Finesse to celebrate International Women's Day.



### Hamlet | A Class Act

On February 26th 2018, VI form students were treated to an outstanding performance of Shakespeare's Hamlet. This is a searing tragedy about a teenager whose life is turned upside down, resulting in acts of murder and revenge.

Currently a set text on the English Literature GCE syllabus, this was a fantastic opportunity to see this amazing controversial play adapted on stage. It was a perfect performance and a wonderful opportunity for students to experience such powerful and remarkable acting.





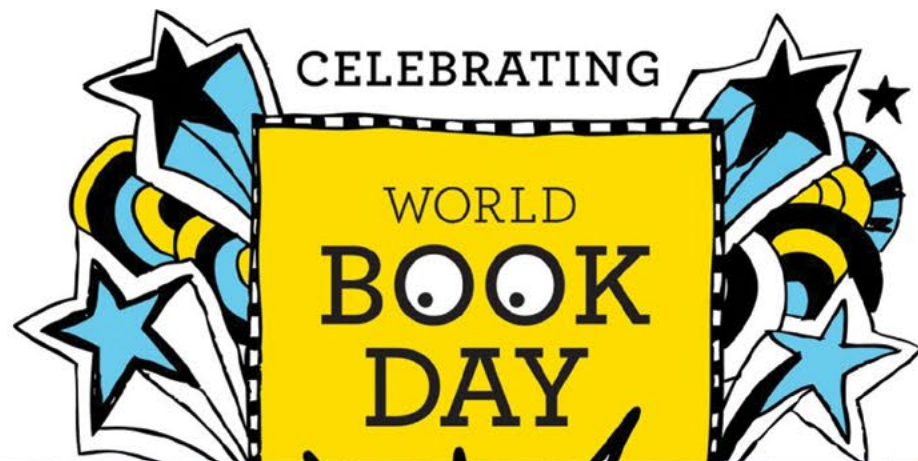
## The Wonderful World of Books!



Thursday 1st of March 2018 and in through the doors of Bloxwich Academy came a throng of characters all eager to celebrate World Book Day. Students and staff dressed as characters from their favourite novels; the breadth of coverage was amazing. We had Dalmatians, Alice in Wonderland, Harry Potter, Thing 1 and Thing 2 not to mention he who must not be named – Voldemort! Death Eaters were patrolling the corridors, The Mad Hatter was having a break down and don't get me started on Gangsta Granny and the Lion, Witch and Wardrobe all in one!

Students and staff had a fantastic day taking part in competitions where they had to 'Desperately Seek Seager,' design a book token, share their favourite stories and then head off to the dining hall for their Harry Potter dining experience where they were encouraged to sample freshly made 'Hogwart's Specials' like: Hagrid's Ham, Dursley's Dessert and Leaky Cauldron Broth.

Prizes are being presented to the winners of: best dressed student, best dressed member of staff, largest collection of 'Desperately Seeking Seager' stickers and best Book Token designer, during the last assembly prior to Easter.



## Year 7 Matilda on Mass



After half term in February the whole of Year 7 braved the 'Beast from the East' to travel to London to visit the theatre to watch a performance of Roald Dahl's Matilda. This musical, in London, has won awards for its production and is immensely enjoyable to watch. The reward trip was organised by the English department in connection with World Book Day. For the majority of our students it was the first time they had visited a theatre and experienced a live production. The pupils arrived excited and slightly nervous as they were unsure what treat was in store for them.

Students in 7S1 commented that 'it was a good experience to see the story of Matilda being acted out on stage instead of just reading the book'. It gave them a better understanding of the feelings and emotions of the characters portrayed by the actors rather than reading them. The actors were very good at bringing the book to life. Other students were amazed by the scenery and the whole content of the production of the show. Pupils could sing along to the songs and thought the Headteacher Agatha Trunchbull was 'scary'.

Students were able to see some of London's famous sights before going to the theatre. They were amazed at the size of Marble Arch and how much traffic is on the roads in London. One pupil said it was like 'being on a red bus tour' as the coach driver took the time to explain the sights to the pupils. Apart from the weather all our students had a memorable day out and they were a credit to the school.





## Humanities Updates

## John Denaro GCSE and A Level Visit



During this half term, subjects within the Humanities Department have started some interesting topics.

Within Geography, Year 7 have been looking at how different animals adapt to survive in the conditions they live in. Did you know that a camel can go a week or more without water, and they can last for several months without food? They can drink up to 46 litres of water in one drinking session! As part of their assessment, Year 7 were asked to design their own adapted animal – there were some very interesting ideas!



Year 8 History pupils have recently started a new topic. They are now exploring how Britain changed between 1745 and 1914 during the Industrial Revolution. Many of them simply can't believe that Britain once existed without telephones, cars or electricity! I think it might be time for a visit to the Black Country Museum to show them what life used to be like, especially punishments for naughty students in a Victorian school. Watch this space...

During Geography lessons, Year 9 have been looking at tropical rainforests. They have been looking at deforestation in Malaysia and have looked at orang-utan endangerment due to palm oil. Pupils have been looking at the short-term and long-term effects of deforestation.

Year 10 History pupils are coming to the end of their paper one topic Medicine in Britain. The last section requires them to investigate the problems encountered treating the wounded in the trenches of the First World War and the methods that were used to overcome those problems. It has been fantastic to see how well the students have engaged so far with what can be a tough and upsetting topic. There will be a mock exam at the end of the unit (I'm sure they'll be delighted) and then they'll probably be glad to know that after a hard slog through a long topic, they're moving on to a brand new unit after Easter. Well done guys!

Year 11 Psychology students have been learning how animals (and humans!) can be trained into performing behaviours based on reward and punishment systems. One student was even trained to flinch every time Miss Pagett rang a bell as he knew he was about to be flicked with water!

Within Sociology, students have been looking at how patterns of marriage and divorce have changed over the past years in the UK. We have looked at some interesting explanations for the increase in divorce rate – increasing life expectancy being one of them! The longer you are with your partner, the more opportunities there are for you to argue!

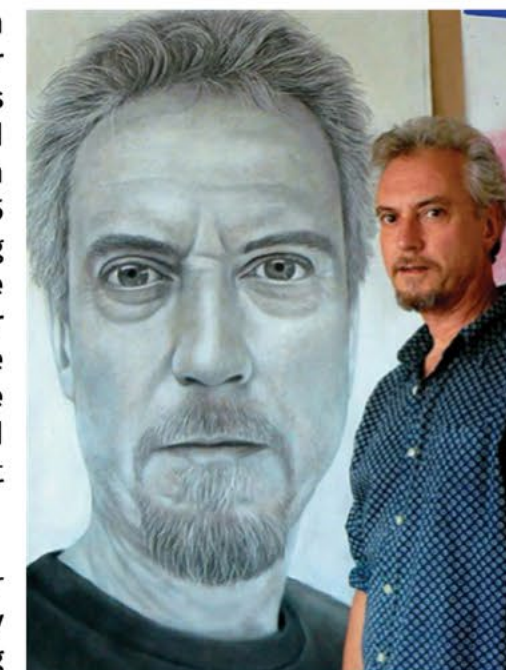
Year 13 Psychology students have been investigating how our gender develops according to several theories. The students were surprised to find out there is a difference between sex identity and gender identity. Another surprise was the number of genders currently recognised by Facebook – 71!



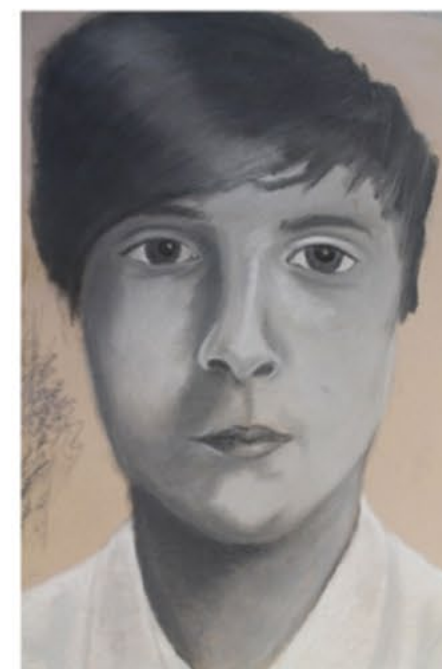
The Art department recently had the pleasure of inviting John Denaro, a Derbyshire based artist into the department over four days to work with year 11, 12 and 13 students. John demonstrated his techniques and artwork to students; they were greatly inspired and tried to emulate the detail he captures in his own work. The realism in his portraiture work is astonishingly lifelike. Our KS4 and 5 students were invited to work with him in small groups, recording large scale self-portraits in chalk, charcoal and coloured pastels. The students worked extremely hard and impressed the artist with their talents, producing stunning pieces of artwork towards the coursework content of their GCSE and A-Level courses. The opportunity for students to work with a professional artist provided an insight into the Art industry and the world of work, whilst building their confidence and resilience in problem solving.

This cohort of students created accurate portraits capturing their personalities and characteristics brilliantly. The workshops really build the confidence of the students and they have been buzzing about it ever since!

*"I always enjoy working with students at Bloxwich Academy and it was a pleasure to watch their confidence flourish throughout the workshop". John Denaro 2018.*



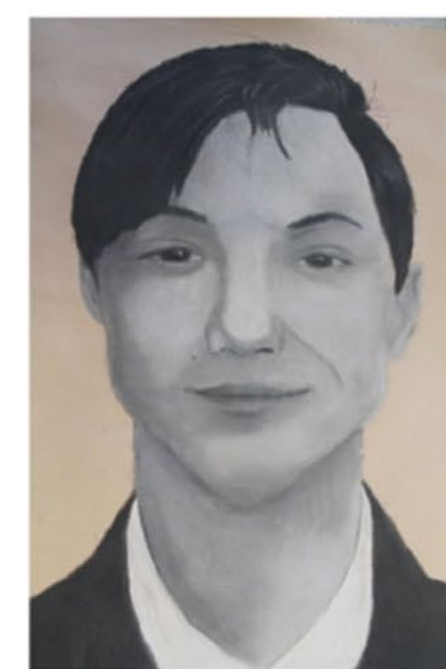
### Year 10 portraits



C. Parrish



B. Thacker



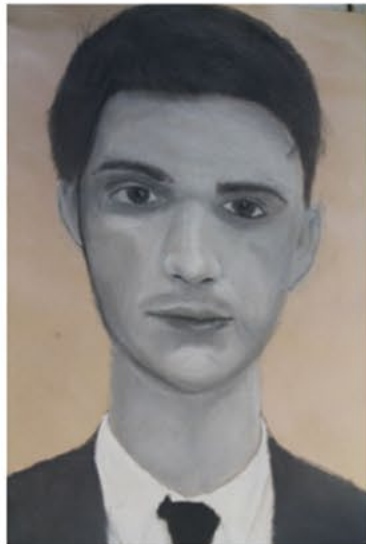
M. Price



## John Denaro GCSE and A Level Visit



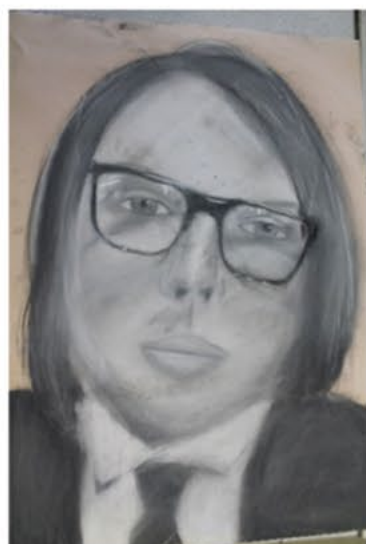
D. Mace



N. Menear



J. Mbozo



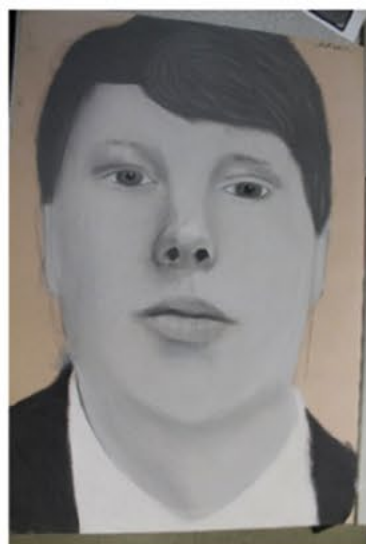
A. Selvey



R. Muzuwa



D. Betteley



J. Hurst



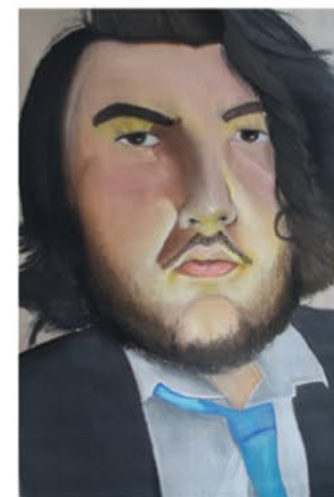
A. Tolley



E. Nicholls

## John Denaro GCSE and A Level Visit

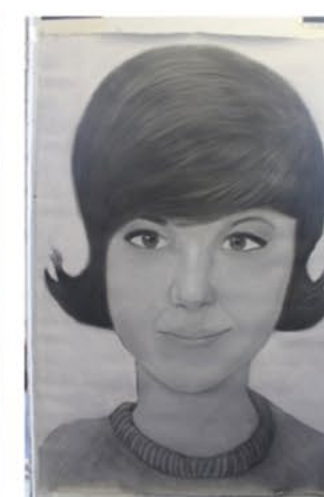
### Year 12



L. Keen



D. Holland



L. Bird



S. Harrison



C. Yates



R. Rounds

### Year 13



M. Bassett



J. Abley



L. Clarke



## House Message **Brindley**



What a half term this has been with the change of weather. I would like to start off by saying a huge well done to all of Brindley who have worked fantastically well during this half term and show commitment to attend school even through the adverse weather conditions. Also, I would like to say how proud I am of all the year 11 pupils who are working extremely hard to make sure they get the best possible results in the summer, well done and keep it up, it will be all worth it!

I would like to congratulate the following pupils for all their hard work so far, they are the best achieving pupils in Brindley and are on target or above target for their end of year baseline: S. Babic (Year 11), E. Nicholls (Year 11), P. Sarzynski (Year 11), H. Hall (Year 10), B. Johnson (Year 10), A. Thompson (Year 10), E. Bowyer (Year 9), S. Froggatt (Year 9), A. Garbett (Year 9), K. Jones (Year 9), S. Price (Year 9), K. Vickers (Year 9), A. Bishop-Withnall (Year 8), C. Haskett (Year 8), J. Perkins (Year 8), L. Hopkins (Year 7), A. Platt (Year 7) and C. Willey (Year 7). Congratulations and keep up all your fabulous work.

I would like to congratulate the following pupils for achieving 100% since September: C. Bailey (Year 7), G. Benton (Year 11), E. Bowyer (Year 9), L. Bowyer (Year 8), S. Bowyer (Year 7), R. Czop (Year 8), K. Dusza (Year 9), R. Evans (Year 7), A. Garbett (Year 9), R. Hammerton (Year 11), M. Haskett (Year 7), M. Jukes (Year 10), M. Kaba (Year 7), M. Nyatanga (Year 9), S. Price (Year 9), P. Sarzynski (Year 11), M. Sliwinska (Year 9), M. Taylor (Year 8), A. Thompson (Year 10), G. Williams (Year 7) and M. Withers (Year 8). Also, I would like to mention that since the start of half term we have got 91 pupils with 100%. Well done to 21 pupils in year 7, well done to 20 pupils in year 8, well done to 20 pupils year 9, well done to 14 pupils in year 10 and well done to 5 pupils in year 11. Congratulations to everyone on attending and pushing Brindley attendance forward.

I am looking forward to the next half term as we will begin to see more inter-house competitions happening; giving us more chances to gain house points. I want us to be participating in all these competitions and I look forward to congratulating you on your superb efforts. All in all, this has been a successful half term; we have seen great commitment around school and your efforts aren't going unnoticed. I would like to wish you all a great break and happy Easter.

Mr Bradley  
Head of Brindley

## House Message **Stephenson**



Firstly, we have to celebrate the following pupils who have 100% attendance this term:

Year 7 - K. Blanazs, R. Killian, J. Morris, E. Robins

Year 8 - K. Bagley, P. Enuoma, C. Nicholls, T. Ojolo, M. Omotuyi Omotuyi, R. Plooi, J.

Year 9 - B. Chige, C. Handley, D. Irodotou, F. Jackson, J. Kielczewska, L. Peach

Year 10 - M. Ambrus, K. Benton, M. Blanazs, S. Enosakhare Riet, T. Hammond, K. Johnson, C. Siamplidis, E. Sproston, D. Till, A. Yates, C. Arrowsmith, H. Brown, H. Nicholls, B. O'Neil, L. Opoku, D. Sliwka, B. Thacker.

We are celebrating that our year 10 pupils who have been attending the 'Teens and Toddlers' course with reception age students have successfully completed the course with flying colours! The four pupils from Stephenson House have been mentoring young children in reception for 18 weeks along with class room work. They have covered wide variation of topics from communication skills, interpersonal skill, self-esteem and making healthy choices. This has resulted in them gaining valuable work experience of over 15 hours while mentoring their toddler in reception. They are now putting the knowledge they have learnt into their Health and Social care course at Bloxwich Academy. The teachers of the reception age students have said that they have seen our student's confidence grow and they were pleased with how our students formed strong bonds with their toddlers. Kirsty has gained an Entry Level 3 award in communication skills. Well Done to H. Brown, C. Arrowsmith, M. Lycett and M. Taundry.

M. Blanazs is one of the forms School Council Reps and attends weekly meetings. She is currently getting the School council to organise the fundraising events for Sports Relief Day later in March. So far, they have suggested cuddly toy tombola, cake stalls and a lollipop tree raffle (made by Mr Hughes). She says it is good that in the School council meetings the pupils can discuss ways to improve attendance and punctuality to school which she feels are important to pupils making progress. She likes the fact that they are given opportunities to discuss issues that her form is concerned about and that issues raised were being followed up, for example the school executive meeting with the Bloxwich Academy Leadership team to share their ideas.



All that is left for me to say is a big thank you to our Parents for their continued support and to wish everyone a very Happy Easter.

Miss Stanley  
Stephenson House



## House Message **Telford**



Having been in post as Head of Telford house for just over two weeks, can I firstly say how impressed I have been with how everyone has started the new half term. From coming into lessons it is clear that Telford students have a drive to succeed and this is epitomised by the hard work and due diligence shown by all students across the curriculum.

Congratulations to the following pupils for achieving 100% attendance since the first day in September, this is no mean feat and needs to be applauded. Those students are:

R. Cole, E. Czop, C. Doherty, M. Duroe, C. Emery, V. Enosakhare Riet, B. Enuoma, M. Erinayo, B. Fox, P. Hampton, A. Hamer, B. Hitchcock, A. Kielczewski, B. Marlow, D. Morris, B. Thacker, K. Venables and C. Wilson.

This is an extremely impressive achievement and with this proven track record stands all of these students in good stead for the 100% attendance challenge in March. Let's have a real push on getting as many Telford students up to 100% as possible.

Well done must also go to 7T1 who have the highest form attendance across Telford house since the turn of the year.

Over the coming months I am very much looking forward to getting to know you all and to see you excel in both academic and extra-curricular events which are coming up. I am extremely competitive something all students will come to see and as a result, there is only one place I want to finish at the end of the year and that is in first place!!!! I know we can do it, so let's have a real push to be the best that we can be and that will drive us towards success.

Mr Booth  
Telford

## House Message **Watt**



I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Watt House on continuing the fantastic work they have produced since we returned in January. This can only be accomplished through continued hard work, determination and resilience.

Year 11 have started to work towards the finishing line of their GCSEs. They have continued to push beyond their mock exams and have started to establish improvements to ensure they can meet and exceed their own expectations by the end of year 11. You have made me very proud with the way you have carried yourselves through a particularly stressful time. I am sure that this invaluable experience will prepare you for the summer term when you sit your final exams.

Congratulations to the following pupils for their fantastic effort and determination in school. The following pupils have achieved praise postcards and are showing what it means to be a Watt pupil: M. Rogan, C. Withers, P. Lowndes, D. Griffin, J. Myatt, S. Stentiford, F. Evans, A. Price, S. Nelson, M. Spellman, T. Hodgkiss, A. Matthews, R. Chambers, B. Smith, C. Payton, M. Corcoran, L. Joynes, J. Lewis, J. Holmes, R. Taylor, L. Harris, C. Brown, L. Oakey, D. Lockley and Jake Nicholls.

Well done to 7W1 for achieving the highest Watt form attendance in the school since January. With the challenge of achieving 100% attendance for this academic period, it will be fantastic to see as many pupils as possible participating in the reward trip. You have got to be in it to win it!

Watt have shown once again, their sheer determination to strive to achieve. The "Get Fit for January" inter-house competition was won by Watt. In total, Watt covered 133Km which is roughly the equivalent of the distance from the school to Oxford and lifted the equivalent weight of 8 JCB tractors. A special mention must go to R. Scott for the best cardio in year 8 and M. Spellman for the best resistant weight lifted.

B. Smith and C. Swain also deserve special consideration for achieving their Headteacher's award for commendations.

C. Swain also supported the year 11 pupils with a drama exam. This act of selflessness allowed pupils to complete their externally assessed components moreover, a fantastic show of support and commitment to our school community.

As always I will end with the motto "Be the best you can be." Let us work hard, strive for excellence and make Watt House the best it can be!

Miss Williamson  
Watt House