

Birches Head High School

Newsletter



Winners of UK bid- A tribute to staff and students

Throughout the last school year the exciting work taking place at Birches Head has been recognised by the internationally recognised 'Innovation Unit' who have been working alongside our teaching staff and learning support team in a variety of ways to develop the way we think about student learning. Students and staff have been working on developing 8 WAY THINKING in History; in English students have been developing Masters of...



...Learning and SEN have been developing a tool for helping students and staff choose strategies to support needs.

1 of 6 in UK

In June we were informed that we are one of only six schools in the UK that have been...

...successful in securing a second year's contract with the 'Innovation Unit' to develop the work we have begun developing learning. Throughout the next year we will be working closely with them to develop a way for students and teachers to learn alongside each other as well as looking to create even more exciting learning opportunities outside of the classroom and benefit from the expertise and skills of local people from our community.



Extended Services

Summer Activities

There are lots of activities and events planned for the summer holidays taking place all over the city. A brochure containing hundreds of opportunities, many of them free of charge, has again been published. Included in the brochure is a range of exciting activities which can be booked with the Youth Service for a minimal charge.

Also at Birches Head High School:



Every Thursday



Sports camp



Recording Sessions



Multi-sports

Community Classes

Our IT for beginners sessions are for people who want to learn computer skills at their own pace.

Every Tuesday 3 – 5pm

For more information on IT for beginners, or level 2 qualifications, contact Jill Shaw or Rob Smith on 01782 233595

Baseball League

To encourage positive activity, healthy lifestyles and developing good relationships within the community, our cluster has established a high school baseball league. Partners include other mainstream high schools, local neighborhood police, the British Baseball Federation, Youth Services and the local authority's Sport Development team.

We were provided with professional coaching and all the regulation equipment needed for Year 10 team to take on other high schools in our area.

Our team practice every Thursday after school and got their first win against Holden Lane in a mini tournament in May.



Community Cohesion

Our website is starting to take shape and you will soon be able to access lots of useful information on various local agencies & services.

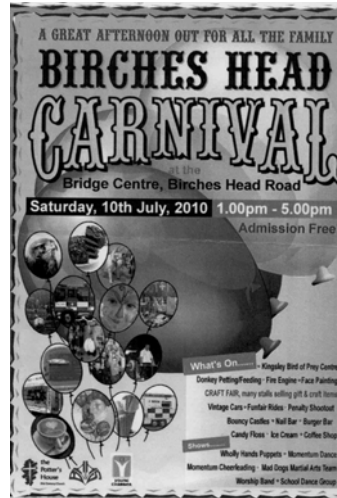
Action Teams

Younger Children Stay Safe On-line

Year 9 English groups have worked with Forest Park Primary School on Internet Safety. We used some fun books that are produced by the Police Clubs Federation. All the characters are woodland creatures who sometimes do silly things. Barney keeps an “eagle” eye on Echo Squirrel, Spike Hedgehog, Digsby Mole and friends. He tells the youngsters not to give personal details if they are on-line, and warns about the dangers of social networking sites. He is also worried about cyber-bullying - using computers or mobile phones.

We visited the school, read the stories and did puzzles and games to help the children remember the messages. Then the Forest Park students visited our school to see all the different types of IT rooms that we have.

If you want advice, check out www.thinkuknow.com



Young Chamber

On 10th July, the Birches Head carnival took place at the Bridge Centre.

Some students from Birches Head High School ran stalls to help raise money. These included nail painting, selling cakes, sponge the teacher, dance show, donkey rides, birds of prey and many more stalls.

There was a bouncy castle and inflatable obstacle courses, penalty shoot out, craft stalls, face painting, a cafe and much more.

It was lots of fun for the whole family. Thanks to those who took part.

Congress Students Win Funding for a CAPITAL VENTURE!

What happened as a result of the High School Congress, hosted by us in January? The students' opinions were reported to groups of adult decision-makers and one of the ideas has been given funding. Our students will lead the project.

The young people at the Congress said that they don't really know much about elections, political parties, or how national and local government works. Do you know who your MP or MEP is? Have you ever seen the Houses of Parliament? The thinking was, everyone should visit our nation's capital and see where decisions are made. We will organise guided visits to “Citizenship Sights” in London and in Stoke-on-Trent. Then we are going to come up with some creative solutions to let young people know – Who is Speaking Up for Stoke?



Learning Resource Centre

What's happening in the LRC?

The LRC has become a great meeting place before school with the breakfast club running from 7:30am until 8:25am. Average attendance is 32 with approx 18 pupils a day taking advantage of the toast yoghurt and fruit juice on offer.

Average attendance through the day is 170 with pupils across all year groups enjoying the Laptop computers, Books, Magazines, Games and Daily newspapers which are always available.

After school from 2:40pm to 4:00pm a variety of clubs are in place including Homework & revision, English as an additional language and on Thursdays and Fridays the Movie club.



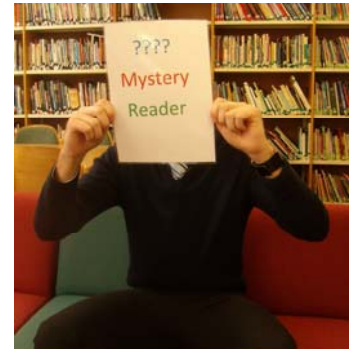
Wildlife Garden

The wild life section of the garden is now complete and the plants are establishing well and already doing their job of attracting butterflies, bumblebees, various species of birds and frogs. Any suggestions as to how the frogs have got into such an enclosed area would be appreciated!

The willow bottle kiln is a piece of living art that is attracting a great deal of interest, there are five tree stumps in the kiln which will provide an enclosed seating area for pupils to use as part of their lessons and Mrs Owen has her art club working on designs for platters based on Arnold Bennett's Five towns that will be fired at a local pottery and be set into the stumps.

Areas of the garden still to be completed are the composting area the insect houses and vegetable plot. These will be started in September so that fruit and vegetables can be planted in the spring of 2011.

A gardening club will be started in September so if you are interested let Mr Jones know in the LRC.



Monthly Mystery Reader competition is proving very popular across all year groups and is linked to the national Make Reading fun initiative which is designed to encourage boys to read, this is showing good results.

See Mr Jones in the LRC for more information and details of new topics being planned.

Woodlands Project 2009

The saplings that were planted in April 2009 are now well established and the final planting out will commence during autumn/ winter 2010. Abbey Hulton Primary school have requested 6 trees for their grounds and we will be planting out 3 Mountain Ash and 3 Wild Cherry in their school grounds.

If you would like a tree or trees please contact the LRC.

Premises News



Parking Restrictions

You will be aware from previous newsletters that we have concerns that parking on double yellow lines, blocking the cycle lane and sometimes the pavement, is creating a health and safety issue for students at the end of the school day.

In order to address this issue, we will be installing barriers on both sides of the road throughout the length of the entry/exit road. We will also be installing collapsible bollards across the drop off pull in. The drop off will be open in the mornings to allow students to be dropped off but closed in the afternoon. From September 2010 students may only be picked up from the playground.

It is hoped that these measures will reduce the risk to students by preventing students from walking into the path of oncoming cars to reach cars parked on double yellow lines, and improve the safety of cyclists by enabling them to use the cycle lane which is

frequently blocked by parked cars and cars entering and leaving the drop off.

Continued thanks to the majority for their co-operation.



Cycling to School

The number of students cycling to and from school has increased considerably during the good weather. We wish to encourage students to cycle but concerns have been raised by staff and other road users over the lack of safety awareness of some students on the way to and from school and also the safety of the bike itself eg lack of functioning brakes. We will be looking into the availability of cycle safety awareness training for students in the new term which will include basic cycle maintenance. However, parents/carers are strongly advised to ensure that their child's bike is safety checked at regular intervals and ensure that appropriate safety clothing eg cycling helmet is worn.



School Meals Price Increase

City Catering Service has announced an increase in school meal prices from September 2010. The new free meals entitlement from September will be £2.10 – an increase of 5p. The price of 'Deal of the Day' which includes a main course, potatoes, vegetables a dessert and juice will also go up to £2.10.

School Visitors

Parents and visitors coming to school are asked to come to the main reception at the front of the building. For security reasons, parents and visitors are asked not to enter the building via any other entrance. If parents/carers wish to see a member of staff or are accompanying a student, the reception staff at main reception will make the necessary arrangements for you, and will ask you to sign in and out of the building.

Curriculum News



College Partnerships

Tuesday 27 April was the College Partnerships Awards Day. The event was a huge success, held at the Victoria Hall in Hanley. The achievements of those students who study part time at Stoke-on-Trent College were celebrated and all of the Birches Head students were a credit to the school.

100% attendance certificates and a voucher were awarded to Vian Hussein, Atilla Szegedi, Allen You, Mary Bickerton, Rachel Shaw, Hakima Alinzi, Adam Beardmore, David Price, James Carr, Matthew Hewitt, David Meredith, Ashley Mulliner, Jack Owen and Shaun Riley of Year 11 and Jamie Wrench, Sebastian Szklarski, Sadia Bibi and Ebony Barrett from Year 10.

Four of our students were awarded a special trophy for Best Effort and Progress, James Carr in Year 11, Idris Rehman, Ryan Lockett and Sebastian Szklarski of Year 10.

All 44 students who attended, gained a course certificate, presented on stage by the heads of faculties. Well done to all these students and a huge thank you to the parents who attended and helped to make the event a success.

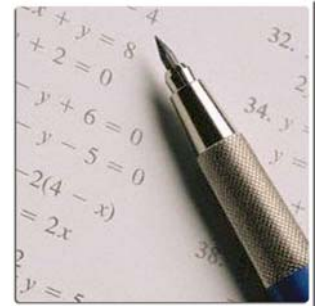
Congratulations to James Carr, Matthew Hewitt, Jason Thompson and Jake Heesom, who successfully took their City & Guilds Construction Test as part of their Young Apprenticeship in June.



The Year 10 girls who are training on the NHS Young Apprenticeship in Health and Social Care have all had outstanding reports, especially for their work placements in the Health Care Sector. Well done to them, they are a credit to the school.

Mary Bickerton, Kirsty Fox, Harley Tinsley and Samantha Holmes, were all offered the opportunity to take part in the APEX Scheme. This allows the students to spend an extended

length of time on work placements, linked into the CoPE qualification in school. All four girls passed the course, and were awarded certificates and vouchers at an awards celebration at the Bridge Centre on 5 May. Well done.



Exams News

Results for the Summer 2010 examinations for year 11, 10 and 9 will be available for collection on the **24th August 2010** from the school at 10am.

Please note if you wish someone else to collect your results, you must clear it with Mr Bagley first, and then send the person representing you in with a signed note from yourself stating who is collecting your results and that you give permission for them to collect them.

Curriculum News

KS4 Options

The options process this year has allowed students to access more courses than ever before. Not only are students completing courses in school, they are completing courses in many different organisations and venues; supporting academic need and aspiration. More of our students will be studying the new Diploma course, and especially the Diploma in Environment and Land based, which they study mainly at Reaseheath College and others will be accessing BTEC Level 1 courses at other high schools and training providers.

Y9 students will continue to start their GCSE qualifications in Core subjects; English, maths and Science.

Y7 and Y8 students will show case their hard work from the Futures Curriculum at their Celebration event, which I hope many of you attended.



Creative Partnerships

Creative Partnerships have worked closely with Y10 and the English team to develop some exciting approaches to learning in KS4. A number of students have seen characters from their plays and stories brought to life and they themselves have taken on characters as English teachers and Creative Partnerships have supported them in producing outstanding coursework that will really help them on their way to achieving their GCSE target grades in English.

The English team have been busy throughout June and July planning how they can transfer these strategies into Y7, Y8 and Y9 lessons as well as considering how they can build on them throughout Y10. English lessons will never be the same!

Learning Futures

Throughout the last school year the exciting work taking place at Birches Head has been recognised by the internationally recognised 'Innovation Unit' who have been working alongside our teaching staff and learning support team in a variety of ways to develop the way we think about student learning.



I'm pleased to inform you that we are one of only six schools in the UK that have been successful in securing a second year's contract with the 'Innovation Unit'. Throughout the next year we will be working closely with them to develop a way for students and teachers to learn alongside each other as well as looking to create even more exciting learning opportunities outside of the classroom and benefit from the expertise and skills of local people from our community.

ICT News



Operation Montserrat

Year eight took part in Operation Montserrat. Operation Montserrat involved the students working in small teams to save the residents of Montserrat from certain destruction. Teachers and students used a number of ICT resources such as laptops to measure volcanic activity and weather reports. The students involved in the data reporting team used video conferencing to provide reports on volcanic activity and weather conditions back to the National Space Centre in Leicester.

The video conferencing was linked in real time to a member of the space centre team who along with Birches Head Students co-ordinated the evacuation of Montserrat. The aim was to evacuate as many residents as possible from the island.

Laptop Usage Increases

There has been huge demand for more laptops to be placed into the system in school and the start of the new school year will see this happening. The 20 laptops that were placed into the English department earlier in the year was successful. Students' preferred the larger size and sleeker design of the laptops compared to the smaller ones they were using previously.



Student services will be working with the ICT department from September to broadcast their services via a brand new LCD screen in the student reception area of the school. All of the sessions student reception offer such as **MACs** place, Clinic in a box, Youth Services and lunch clubs will be advertised at intervals. There is also the opportunity for student's to create their own advertisements on there. The IT department will be overseeing the content and requests for any new messages or advertisements that student's wish to see.



Write Online

We are taking part in a City wide trial for a new resourceful software package called **Write Online**. The software will be used to help students with grammar difficulties. **Write Online** will be available on the school computer system from September. This ingenious program uses voice technology to repeat words once students have typed them. It also predicts words as student's type the first few letters and assists in spelling and pronunciation difficulties.

Access Your Childs Attendance

If any parents would like access to their child's attendance and registration details via the school gateway then please contact **Mr David Johnson** on **01782 881444**. He will be able to provide any parent with login details for access to their child's attendance records. This was introduced last year to year 7 and 8 parents and has seen great success so far.

SEN – The Support Zone

The Support Zone provides additional support for students identified as having a Special Educational Need. We offer:

1. Small group, in class and 1:1 support across a variety of subjects.
2. Personalised learning packages to support the individual needs of our students.
3. Recommended intervention packages to support the needs of students with academic and behavioural difficulties.
4. Collaborative working with outside partners to accommodate the needs of each individual student.
5. Key workers to provide enhanced pastoral and/or academic support to students.
6. Books and other resources available to support students, staff and parents.

Coming Soon

We will shortly be launching the use of a new word processing software which has particular benefits for some of our students with Special Educational Needs. With built in word-wall and mind mapping facilities it will be a useful tool for all abilities. Watch this space for more information....



Working with Partners

The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) provide a valuable service to some of our students with social, emotional and behavioural barriers. We have worked collaboratively with our partners at CAMHS throughout this academic year to support the needs of some of our most vulnerable students. Clinical psychologists, counsellors and therapists help us to identify and address complex emotional needs and provide support for students and their families.

Green Fingers for Learning Support Unit Success

The garden area developed by the Learning Support Unit is going from strength to strength. Students have worked extremely hard to make this new venture a success. They have now started to sell their home grown produce with the first sale of their lettuce crop taking place recently. Well done to Mr Jackson and all students involved.



Extra Curricular Fun

Mr Morgan, Lead Behaviour Inclusion Support Assistant, has been working with the PE Department to deliver extra-curricular rugby training. This is particularly successful for some of our students with behavioural and emotional difficulties. This is also an opportunity for some of our students to experience new successes in school, build new friendships and become a member of a team. For further information please speak to Mr Morgan.

Communication Team

English

Student Voice

Students have enjoyed the department's supportive atmosphere and the way that their efforts are rewarded. Shir Khan of Year 10 felt that within lessons he was confident to seek guidance but asked for "ways to express ourselves other than writing." The next challenge for the department is to offer the students opportunities, such as those offered by drama, to express their ideas and investigate themes in a challenging yet enjoyable way.



2018 World Cup Bids

Year 7 classes have been taking on the roles of important figures from the worlds of politics and football to put together their own bids for the 2018 World Cup. Drama based activities have seen pupils host meetings to piece together their bids which were then presented to their peers, with students concentrating upon their presentational and persuasive skills.



Cultures Project, World Cup Journals

Year 7 have been carrying out a project based on cultures from around the world, using the 2010 World Cup as inspiration. The cultures of the nations who play in the World Cup have been researched, with students producing fact files based on the historical events which have formed the nations as well as a range of written pieces inspired by the tournament.

Y9 + Y11 Booster Sessions

A series of half term examination booster sessions have been hosted by the English department to ensure that pupils sitting the English GCSE examination were as prepared as possible.

Making Day

Following the success of previous making days Year 8 used their creativity to produce pieces of art inspired by the novel 'Refugee Boy.' While some students produced 3D maps to show the emotional journey he takes, others chose to produce memory boxes which contained items from his lost family and lifestyle.

The buzz of creativity filled the English corridor. Bradley Riley and Shannon Garner produced a wonderful memory box containing letters and pictures to bring the character's adventures to life. Well done to all Year 8s who made the day such a success!

Early Exam Entry for Year 11

Year 11 will take their GCSE English Language paper in November, which has meant that year 10 has been a busy year, producing the coursework and speaking and listening tasks needed. Year 10 has risen to this challenge in style, with coursework folders bursting at the seams due to the results of their hard work. Well done Year 10 and good luck for November's examination!

Communication Team

ICT

Student Voice

Students enjoy ICT lessons and Y9 and 10 students have “enjoyed the independent nature of coursework” but said that often learning outcomes were not always referred to as a result. This is to be addressed with the introduction of the new academic GCSE course in 2010-11 with lessons following the pattern of theory, skills practice and controlled assessment throughout each year.



Interactive Wall Charts

The World Cup has been used to inspire students within Functional Skills ICT with classes producing interactive wall charts using their skills on the spreadsheet Excel. Students have also developed their own fantasy leagues using their ICT skills. Mr Simcock says, “Football has been used to enthuse learners to produce their best work to date.”

Early Entry for Year 9

Year 9 students have worked hard this year and for some this will pay off with the reward of early entry for the OCR National Certificate! This will give the students a GCSE equivalent vocational ICT qualification prior to commencing studies for the academic GCSE in year 10.



Homework

This has often been raised as a concern for parents as the majority of ICT homework has been given as an extension of coursework tasks. This will be addressed with the introduction of the new academic ICT GCSE in September with formal homework to be given during the theory part of the course and research /planning tasks during controlled assessment sessions.

Communication Team

Music

Year 8

Students have developed their musical skills and knowledge by learning to play electronic keyboards. They have used this knowledge and skills to compose and record their own compositions.

Next year students will follow a six module Media, Dance and Music Arts Award. They will complete one module in each subject to further develop their skills and knowledge in each subject and then complete three modules which will lead to a Level One or Level Two Arts Award.

Year 9 Music

Students have been carrying out the Band Instrumental unit from the Musical Futures unit and learning to play the song I Predict A Riot on either drums, keyboard, guitar, bass or vocals. Working in small self-driven groups, students have made amazing progress and many have already achieved a high level of proficiency with part of the project still remaining. The next step will



be the forming of bands within classes to rehearse together and further develop both individual and group performance skills.

The impact of this project has been amazing, with many students taking work home to practise or booking rooms before, during break, lunch or after school to work on their skills. As a result the music department is full of music and a very lively place to be!

Year 10 Music

The GCSE class continue to make good progress and there was an excellent set of results in December's mock exam. This term students have looked at film music, including discussing what they didn't like about silent movies while appreciating their place in film music history.

Coursework is going very well and half will be completed by the end of this half term. We

also enjoyed the KS4 Dance and Music celebration evening on 26th March which showcased the talents of our year 10 and 11 students.



Extra-curricular Activities

Monday lunch time is now firmly established as keyboard club, with a regular group developing their skills to a good standard at their own pace with Mr Thompson. Music technology drop-in sessions, where students have a chance to record their own music, happen Monday to Thursday after school and Friday lunch time.

The number of students having instrumental and vocal lessons in school has now grown to just under 100 and, due to large waiting lists for vocals and guitar, we are planning to increase the number of lessons in these areas next year.

Communication Team

Media

Year 7 Showcase

Within media lessons Year 7 pupils have consolidated the year's learning by creating a media text, using Power Point, which showcases the year's learning journey. These were a feature of the Futures Evening as they enabled parents to see the hard work and ever growing skills of their industrious children.



Media Skills ready for next year ?

Year 9 students have honed their media skills ready for the next stage whilst making music videos, animations and magazines. The best examples will be hosted on 'Space TV' - see what you think.

Year 10 CAM Diploma

'We wanted to make an EP based on Aristotle's five elements' so we are spending hours in a boiling room producing, mixing, editing and mastering our music...it sounds like a professional recording.' 'We wanted to bring a major theme park to the centre of Hanley... so we imagined it happening, maybe someone will like the ideas so much they'll use it to promote Hanley.' 'I wanted to really understand how animation works ... so I created an animation of me dancing and learnt how to add loads of special effects... it looks good so far!' 'I wanted to do more animation because I realised I had a real talent for this and I like working things out for myself, I have really moved my skills on.' 'I'm creating a professional leaflet for a farm because I really like animals and wanted to do something that involved both... I 'm ready to put it together.' 'This term has been exactly what we signed up for, this is the best course we could have done.'

Pick and Mix

Indiana Jones, Birches Head pinball, escaped convicts, chewy Ice-cream and animated American air conditioners? Not your average menu on a BTEC but showing year 11s creativity and imagination which has pushed the bar to raise achievement as they produced animations, music videos and advertisements for the final piece of their portfolios. Students will be able to view these on 'Space TV'.



Advertising Doritos

Two animations produced by Year 10 BTEC students have made it to the Doritos King of Ads web site. We didn't win the big prize but students made the cut and were delighted to see their advertisements on the web. 'Wicked!'

Human Sciences

Art

Year 7 –Identity Project

Students have been undertaking a thought-provoking and innovative project based around the theme of identity. They have explored a variety of different techniques and processes in art and design whilst thinking carefully about developing their 'Futures Curriculum'



Year 8 – City Scapes

Students have been taking part in a stimulating art project exploring mark making techniques and paper manipulation as demonstrated by the artist 'Hundertwasser'. They have had the opportunity to develop their own artwork based around 'Futures Curriculum' skills and experiences and then decorated them artistically with collage materials and found objects.

Good News In Art

The BTEC students enjoyed an exciting day at 'Bridgemere Garden Centre' to inspire their next BTEC project which relates to the designing and making of a new innovative garden ornament to be displayed in the school eco garden.

15 Year 9 students have also been out and about in the city as they enjoyed an exciting morning at Staffordshire University Degree Show. Many students came away from the show showing great levels of enthusiasm for art and revealing an interest to pursue art as a career.

Lunch time art clubs are still running successfully with new members attending on a regular basis. A small number of year 8 girls continue to show interest and enthusiasm on a weekly basis and have even produced a celebratory piece of artwork for the Bentilee Neighborhood Centre.

Year 9 – Aboriginal Maps

Students have been taking part in an imaginative and creative project based around 1950's and 1960's film posters. They have had the opportunity to work independently to invent and produce their very own film poster and synopsis. The students have experimented with a variety of different techniques and processes in order to produce their final outcome.



Year 10 – Sea Life Project

Students have been finalising and refining their final response to the sea life project. They have all developed fascinating ideas that were intended to stretch their imagination and thought-processes. The project was aimed at facilitating independence and creativity which all students in the group have successfully achieved as all final outcomes are different, quirky and interesting.

Human Sciences

Human Development

Licence to Cook

Y7 Students will be developing practical food skills as part of the government's 'Cooking Entitlement' in order to encourage healthy choices & lifestyle.

Students will also be taught about 'Diet & Nutrition' and will complete an on-line assessment.

The above will be underpinned by the ECM agenda themes of 'Be Healthy', 'Be Safe' during term 1, developing Emotional & Social skills of co-operation and developing positive relationships.

Recipes will be communicated to parents weekly and will be put on the gateway.

Psychology/Sociology

Y10/11 students will study units on 'memory and non-verbal communication'. Students will focus on various models of different types of memory and look at studies on communication.

Child Development

Y10 Students will complete a unit of work entitled 'Family & Parenting' where they will learn about how family structures have changed, the role of the family and responsibilities of parenthood.

Y11 Students will continue work on a unit entitled 'Intellectual, Social & Emotional Development' and will spend time looking at how children learn through play.

Health & Social Care

Y10 Students will complete two units of work, the first on one entitled 'Communication in Health & Social Care' and the second 'Individual Rights in Health & Social Care'. They will learn about the importance of good communication when working with people in health and social care environments and also rights and responsibilities of clients and care workers.

Y11 Students will complete a unit of work entitled 'Creative & Therapeutic activities in Health & Social Care'. They will learn about activities which are therapeutic, the benefits and health & safety legislation around creative and therapeutic activities.

Student Voice

Students stated, through 'student voice' that they would like to go on more visits to make education 'real' and 'relevant'. To this end, we have worked with more local partners/agencies and the BTEC Health & Social Care group have visited Northwood Day Care Centre, the New Vic Theatre, 6th Form College, Keele University and Mitchell High School for a Health & Social Care 'Showcase Event'.

Good News Stories

Through student voice, all students interviewed said that they enjoy and achieve in all Human Development subjects. They can talk confidently about their target grade, what grade they are working at now and how to do better. Please talk to your child, as a lot of students are working above their target grade and are striving to be the best they can in order to be in a strong position to compete for college places. These students are a credit to their families and the school!

Human Sciences



Geography

Year 10 have chosen to visit Blackpool to investigate strategies that have been put into place to try and solve some of the problems experienced in the resort and to see for themselves how effective these strategies have been.

Year 9 students who have chosen to study Geography next year to GCSE level visited North Wales to look at coastal and river landforms and processes.

Year 8 students who consistently performed at or above their target level went to the Peak District to study the River Dane and look at various landforms including a waterfall.

Every year 8 class took part in an e-Mission project. The students were linked live via video conferencing to the

British Space Centre and each group had to work as a team to evacuate the island of Montserrat in the Caribbean. Every form group demonstrated excellent communication skills as well as getting to grips with tracking a hurricane, monitoring lava flows and eruptions from a volcano, co-ordinating an evacuation team and recording all this via their very own media teams. 8TV were the most successful team who saved all but 18 of the 6000 residents on the island. The volcano claimed the lives of 19 people in the “real event” which happened in 1995.



History

History club continues to run every Tuesday lunchtime in C14 by Miss Chilton for Y7 and Y8.

On June 22nd Y7 students visited the Warwick Castle, students had the opportunity to explore the castle and even saw a trebuchet war machine being fired. The visit was a great success and we look forward to repeating the visit.

Y10 History students have sat their first modular exam; this was based on the International relations module, students have also sat 2/3 of their controlled assessments. After the summer holidays students will begin their British History module which will be assessed in January, support sessions continue after school every Tuesday.

Human Sciences



CoPE

Following on from the success of earlier in the year a group of Y10 students are working with Stoke City Football Club to gain their Problem Solving Wider Key Skill.

The remaining group are now coming to the end of their Arts Award which has been supported by the Cultural Sisters and they have had a six day exhibition of their work, including sculpture, painting and graffiti art 'A Creative Exploration into Relationships' at Burslem School of Art.

To improve knowledge on Health and Fitness a small number of the CoPE students are working with Marvin Molloy from the NHS 'My Health Matters' team where they are learning about mental and physical health which includes them learning how to make smoothies and cook healthy food!

Four CoPE students are working towards the St Johns Ambulance Young First Aider award with Mrs Beswick from student reception who is a trained First Aider, the aim is for all CoPE students to gain this award.



Society and Faith

Years 10 students have worked hard this term and this is reflected in their mock exam grades. They have studied the unit 'marriage and the family' exploring topics such as marriage, divorce, adultery and promiscuity. Students have been encouraged to watch soap operas to see how these issues have been used by the media.

Year 9 students have taken their exam in Citizenship and are awaiting their results in August. They have now been given the opportunity to carry out an independent research project on the religion of their choice or create a piece of artwork for a national competition called 'spirited arts'

Year 8 students have studied the skill of risk taking by exploring the early life of Moses and the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt. They have also had the opportunity to study aspects of the Jewish faith.

Year 7 students have addressed the skill of seeing and connecting relationships. They have studied the events of Holy week and have made connections between this and the festival of Easter. Students have had to design and create an Easter gift that reflects the true meaning of Easter. The majority of students have chosen to create stained glass windows whilst some have created other items. All students have worked incredible hard and their work will be displayed in the department.

Science, Technology and Human Performance

Science

Science has had a fantastic year with Y11 results expected to be the highest ever!

Transition

On the 15th July, the Y6 students from the local primary schools will be experiencing Science in our department as part of transition day.

They will be participating in a circus of practical activities, aimed at developing their

STEM Club

STEM club is up and running for Y7 students, in conjunction with D&T, where students are helping develop the "Eco" garden. They have constructed wooden bird feeders to be hung in the garden, and will be comparing organic and chemical fertilisers on crops.

Pond dipping

This term, Y7 students will be taking part in activities that focus on wildlife and the environment. As part of this, we will be walking along the canal to Hanley Park, looking at animal habitats along the way. We will then study the local wildlife in the park and pond dipping in the breeder pond. Lets hope the rain holds off!!



Eco Challenge Project

During the last week of term, 30 Y8 students are visiting the Lake district as part of the eco-challenge project. The trip is lottery funded and so is completely free!

Eco challenge consists of a 3 night residential experience in Blencathra which will provide students with the opportunity to enjoy the natural environment as well as benefit from the personal development which is often associated with being away from home. Next year there will be 3 post course sessions to evaluate and build upon experiences gained at Blencathra.



Dance

Sponsored Dance a-thon

On Saturday 3rd July 30 Dance students from all years at Birches Head attended a Sponsored Dance-a-thon to raise money for CLIC Sargent a registered charity for children and families affected by Leukaemia. The Dance-a-thon complimented the many hours of rehearsals that students have undertaken to prepare for the upcoming Summer Show. All students involved were a credit to themselves and the school. A special thank you to Mrs Wright for her help and support on the day.

GCSE Dance

During the past year GCSE Dance students in Y11 have increased their combined predicted grades in dance from 18% to 50%! This is due to their hard work and commitment in lessons, and their attendance at extra curricular support sessions. This culminated in an informal showcase to friends and family at Easter. Well done to everybody involved!

Science, Technology and Human Performance

Dance

KS3 Achievement

End of year assessments in Dance were held at the beginning of July and the progress made since September has been great, especially by those students in Year 7 and 8 who have gained a high level 6! Let's make next year even better!

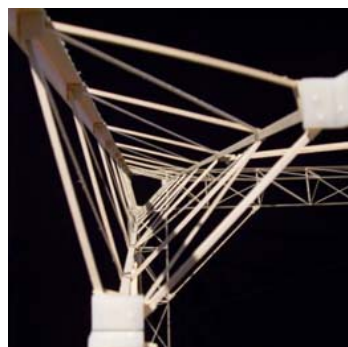
Community Links

During the year the Dance department has been fortunate enough to work with many of our partner schools including: Carmountside, Northwood Infants, Forest Park and Abbey Hill. These projects have been a great success leading to many performances both at Birches Head High School and at separate schools. All students involved have shown bundles of enthusiasm towards Dance but a special mention should go to Josh.... from Abbey Hill who has made fantastic progress in his dance studies and attended Year 7 dance lessons once a week at Birches Head.



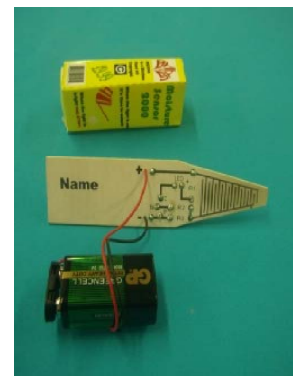
D & T Y7 Egg Drop

This term year 7 pupils have been egg-sperimenting with structures, they have been asked to design and build structure to encase a raw egg, protecting it to withstand a drop from a height so that the egg won't break. Pupils are encouraged to look at existing logos, produce a unique logo for their team, to identify shapes in existing structures, forces and triangulation. In groups of 4 students build their structure using only masking tape and 30 paper straws!



Y8 Moisture Sensor

Year 8 pupils have been designing and making a moisture sensor that indicates when a plant needs watering. This project familiarises pupils with component recognition and assembly. A new component this year is a resistor. Resistors come in different values from 0 – 100,000,000 ohms. With such long numbers students have learned how to decode the different striped bands. This project also included integrating aspects of graphics, product and packaging design reinforcing CAD skills.



Science, Technology and Human Performance

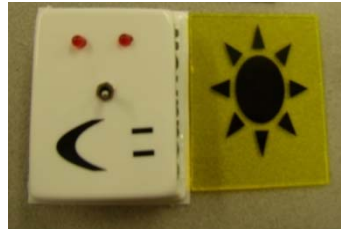
D & T

Year 8 Balancing Toy Project

At the start of this summer term Year 8 students were given the brief of producing a small balancing object. The brief was to design their toy for a local trinket shop owner who was looking to expand his range of merchandise to include balancing objects. Each student was asked to come up with designs which could be manufactured by using more traditional hand tools including tin snips, hacksaws, files and were introduced to various ways of polishing and finishing these pieces to a high standard.

Each student was given two pieces of brass plate and asked to design a shape for each. Students quickly became aware, however, just how difficult and time consuming it is to shape and form a design using the brass. They have also been introduced to the centre lathe to produce the mild steel rod, ways of fixing the brass to the copper rod and various high quality finishes to the hard wood base.

As this newsletter goes out, students are busily trying to finish off their last project in Year 8.

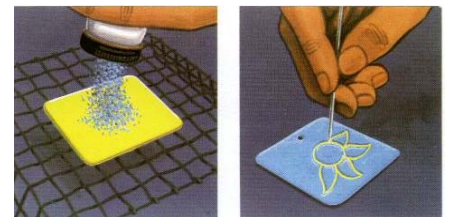


Y9 Be Seen at Night

The other project that year 9's have been designing and making is a 'Be Seen at Night' flashing unit. This electronic based project has added a new element to the students knowledge – the introduction of a 555 timer (computer chip to you and me). This chip along with resistors and a capacitor sets the time on/off for each of the two lights. Students covered how to vacuum form a plastic case and used a vinyl cutter to add some 'stickers' to the outside of the case. The make was followed up by a design element by creating a safety leaflet about the hazards of walking to/from school in the dark for our primary school feeder students. A selection of leaflets are on display in C2.

Y9 Enamelling

During this term pupils have been looking at a variety of enamelling techniques. Enamelling is the process of using heat to fuse powdered glass to metal. Pupils have experimented with various enamelling techniques including stencilling and sgraffitio. After doing several test pieces of enamelling pupils carried out research into insects and how they use camouflage. Based on their findings pupils' then designed their own copper enamel insect. The aim of the project is to help pupils learn valuable metal working techniques such as making templates, marking out, cutting and shaping sheet metal, how to use a file, and achieving quality finish with enamel.



Science, Technology and Human Performance

PE

Babar is Birches answer to Usain Bolt

Year 7 sprint sensation Abdul Babar was the highlight of the City athletics event in June. He competed in the 100m and 200m sprint events qualifying for the finals in 1st and 2nd respectively. In the 200m final he finished 3rd and in the 100m he was narrowly beaten by 4 hundredths of a second to claim second.

Student Leadership

Student leadership has really taken off this academic year within the department with lots of students demonstrating excellent skills both within school and within the local community. Julia Unwin is currently our longest standing member of the Stoke North Leadership Academy. Julia represents the school at numerous events throughout the year and has accumulated over 200 hours of volunteering within the local community. Julia will continue as an Adistar Sports Ambassador next year alongside Katie Malbon who has been nominated because of the excellent progress she has made this year.

Your Sport continues to thrive

The 'Your Sport' dinner time programme continues to produce some nail biting performances from year 7&8 pupils. This terms activities have seen pupils give up their free time to represent their form in rounder's and cricket. The organisation has been a knock out format so the pupils have had to be performing at their best to ensure progression to the finals. It is important to recognise that these events are officiated by fellow pupils in various years and would not be possible to run without them, so thank you.

Birches Students take up leadership camp

James Mountford and Lauren Glover, were invited to attend the city leadership camp at Stanley Head. The weekend's events developed their leadership skills throughout different theoretical and practical activities. These students were a credit to the school and worked very hard throughout the whole weekend. They have been keen to share their skills during their PE lessons which demonstrates fantastic application of knowledge. Well done.

Tops Activity Club

Alexandra Gould has continued her good work in Hamilton Infant School running a multiskills club every Tuesday for the year 1 students. 10 students attend the club each week and they really seem to enjoy all of the activities which Alex organises for them.

Hanley Sports Association Athletics

Birches Head hosted this event for the first time. 80 students from 10 Hanley schools took part in the event. Birches Head students assisted with running the events and recording the results. The students did a fantastic job so good that they were invited to help out at the track event held at Northwood Stadium on June 24th. The students who lead the events were James Mountford, Jordan Doughty, Katie Malbon, Emillie Corden, Jack Keen, Callum Higgin, Rhea Dobson, Hayleigh Rathbone, Julia Unwin, Lauren Forrester, Hayleigh Faulkner, Megan Eagles, Jessica Kennedy, Chelle Jolly, Nisat Sami.

Maths and MFL

Maths

P6 has been very popular this term with many year 10s already preparing for early entry exams in November.

STEM Awards

Y8 are doing a stem award based around Fair Trade this summer.

Mathletics

All year 7 and 8 students now have access to Mathletics. Each pupil has been given an access code and it would be fantastic if they could be encouraged to go on this site and try it out. It's a great way to improve their mathematical abilities in a fun way.

Mathjam 2010

BHHS pupils took part in a variety of individual and team challenges at Mathjam 2010. It was a very enjoyable afternoon seeing the facilities and campus at the new Newcastle Sixth Form College.

Examination Success

2 sets of Y9 and 4 sets of Y10 students have taken their GCSE exams this summer

Best of Luck to Year 11 and 10 who sat their exams this summer!

MFL

Space TV

Year 8 pupils created their own role plays in French in a restaurant using the facilities of the 'green' room with a background of Paris. They organised themselves and produced sophisticated – yet fun – plays. Go on Space TV to see the result! Very well done, year 8!

Making languages work

In April 2010 Mr Stevens accompanied a group of year 8 students on the third Routes into Languages residential course at Keele University.

Following a German themed meal with parents and teachers in Keele Hall Ballroom, parents were sent home, allowing students to enjoy a fun-packed evening of ice-breaker activities with University student Mentors.

The evening's activities were focused on language learning/different cultures, including games of Mingle, the Balloon Game and Survival Shopping. After a night spent in University Halls of Residence, Birches Head High students socialised with students from other schools over a hearty breakfast in Keele Hall Ballroom, prior to German/Spanish activities in the Chancellor's building.

Following lunch, students had taster sessions in a number of languages, including Arabic, Chinese, Portugese, Japanese, Swahili, Vietnamese and Wolof! Everyone enjoyed learning about the history, culture and language of these countries and students were very enthusiastic, memorably when dancing to the beat of Wolof music!

There were smiles all around as students were awarded their Routes into Languages certificates. Congratulations to those who went from Birches Head High, it was a fun and inspiring experience for everyone involved in the project - parents, teachers, lecturers, mentors and students!

Year 7 Student Services

Year 7 students continue to maintain the highest attendance throughout the school. The best attending tutor group this academic year goes to 7MON - Well Done! I would like to congratulate EVERYONE and especially the students who remain triumphant with 100% attendance; it's a great achievement and you should be very proud of yourselves.

The summer term has been packed full of exciting events some which require a worthy mention include;

Several Year 7 students took part in the Variety Summer Show, which was definitely a night to remember!. I am sure everyone who attended will agree that the students who were involved are all super talented and put on a show stopping performance!

Awards evening on Thursday 24th June, was a real pleasure to attend. The evening saw several Year 7 students receive various nominations and awards for attendance, service to the school, community, progress and achievement. It was lovely to see so many students, their families, guest visitors and staff join together to celebrate their achievements.

All Year 7 students showed immense generosity by taking part in the one water project, which focused on raising money to fund a play pump in Africa. Year 7 students raised a staggering £578.70. I would like to thank both parents and students for supporting the project and raising such a fantastic amount of money – THANK YOU!

On Tuesday 29th June, all year 7 students were invited to take part in Staffordshire, Stoke on Trent & Lincolnshire Hooping world record attempt. A huge well done to all those who took part especially the four students who's weeks worth of hard work and training paid off as they wrote themselves into the Guinness book of records - congratulation's to you all it's a fantastic achievement and definitely something to share with your grand children.

The finale of last term was the trip to Alton Towers on 15th July, where Year 7 students were rewarded for good attendance/punctuality and behaviour. All students and staff had a fantastic evening and thoroughly enjoyed themselves, a big thank you to

everyone for their impeccable behaviour and the way they represented the school. I was really proud of each and everyone of you!

As a team we will join together to celebrate all the successes of the final summer term in the celebration assembly on Friday 23rd July, which will hopefully be as exciting as previous occasions and will again see a programme packed full of nominations and awards for attendance, achievement and conduct. Good luck to everyone!

As the summer term quickly draws to an end, and after all the celebrations have come to a close, all that is left for me to say is that I hope you all have a fantastic summer holiday, make sure you look after yourselves, and you return in September and embark upon a successful Year 8 career. Thanks for being a fantastic year group I have loved working with you, remember I am always around if you need me.

Year 8 Student Services

Y8 students are conquering the new reward system for good attendance, uniform and equipment, which is fantastic, as we have won the reward of free cinema tickets 3 times since half term.



The NHS Career Pathways performed a hilarious play for students. They were really enjoying the scenes that gave the perspective from the NHS staff. The midwifery and orthopaedics scenes were the funniest. The students are all clamouring for information of courses from the Connexions service.



Well done to the two students who successfully represented Y8 in the Maths Jam at Newcastle-Under-Lyme College with 26 schools from across the North West Region.

Congratulations to the PE department who participated with four students in the Able and Talented Team Athletics Event at another high school in the city, they were very impressive.

We are currently in the middle of a very popular tutor team competition with 5 students representing each tutor team, playing 3 different sports over the term. The competition is being taken very seriously by all students involved.



The after school activities are Art, Fishing, Football, Rugby, Netball and Athletics Club. The fishing students were chosen to take part in an Angling competition against the Police and Youth Service.

For the Students who have good attendance, punctuality and behaviour they have enjoyed a rewards trip to Delta Force Paintballing, Old Trafford Museum and Grounds Tour or Rudyard Lake for water based activities. Everyone had a thoroughly enjoyable day, with their bruises to prove it.

We would like to wish everyone a relaxed Summer break from the year 8 team.

Year 9 Student Services

Congratulations Year Nine on a very busy term! Many of our students have taken GCSE examinations and we wish them success in August as they collect their results. Coursework in many subjects has been completed to a high standard, which will give students a “flying start” to Year Ten. The Year group has shown a very mature attitude taking on the challenge of GCSEs and leading the way for younger students to follow.

Standards of uniform and behaviour have remained high through out the year and attitudes to learning are positive. Attendance and punctuality have improved, showing that students are aware of the importance of these in improving achievement.

Year nine students have again taken part in a range of extra curricular activities with partners within the learning community. Year nine students visited Forest Park to participate with Year Five students in a Community Internet Safety Project; they were then hosts to the younger children as they visited Birches Head High School. Students have worked with staff in developing student voice to ensure learning needs of all students are met. One hundred students had the opportunity to visit the Aiming Higher Road Show, an interactive experience, which encourages students to think about career paths for the future. Ten students worked with the “Cultural Sisters” considering how to avoid risky situations. Students also attended a workshop “Change school sharing day” organised by Creative Partnerships an Open Space Event led by the B arts theatre company.

Sports Day was enthusiastically entered into and congratulations to 9CB on their first position!

 Aimhigher...

Out and About Week covered the topics of: health and fitness, creativity and environment. Students and staff were engaged in a variety of activities to explore these areas, ranging from cycling, mosaic, banner making, yoga, football, aerobics, walking and photography, many including staff finding they had hidden talents!

Once again well done Year Nine as you move into Year Ten and ever nearer the Top of the school! As they join their new tutor groups and houses I am sure that they will continue to be assets to the school environment! Have a Happy and Safe Summer!

Year 10 Student Services

Achievement

I would like to congratulate year 10 in their hard work and commitment in the past year, getting accustomed to options and coursework deadlines, it has been hard work but it will be worth it this time next year. Some students have already been entered for GCSE Maths in May of this year and get the results in August, I am sure they will have reached their target.



Liverpool_k

This year out and about week theme for Year 10 was focused around completing the Work Skills qualification. The emphasis on practical activities within the unit required, we also visited Liverpool city centre soaking up the cultural of Liverpool, visiting museums, the Docks, or even doing a spot of shopping in the vast shopping centre.

Student Leaders and Vertical Tutoring

Next year we are entering an exciting new phase at Birches Head High School with the introduction of Vertical Tutoring, with a three House system, three House Learning Managers and 15 Personal Tutors within each house. Each Personal Tutor group will have approximately 15 students in total from Year 7 – 11.

We recognise that change is a daunting prospect for some students but we are very proud of the way the students have welcomed and rose to the challenge of change. Twenty students from Year 10 have been selected to represent the House and school as Student Leaders for Community, Learning and Sports this will be a challenging time for those students but I without any doubt that they will rise to the challenge and become shining ambassadors for the school.

Well done to you all and we cannot wait to see what you have to offer and how you can develop the school and yourselves.



Media Project

Since January 2010 five students from year 10 have been involved in media project with Junction 15 Productions. They wrote the script, dialogue, directed, and even had starring roles in film. It was a fantastic project and the finished product is great accolade to their hard work and persistence. The students thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience and said "it was a brilliant programme". We would like to thank Darren Teal and Simon from Junction 15 for their guidance, advice and for their equipment and expertise. Most of all I would like to thank, Luke Scrivens, Luke Birks, Sharnie Brindley, Chrissie Hewitt and Jason Haywood for their commitment and enthusiasm throughout. You will all get a chance to see it next year in House assemblies.

Year 11 Student Services

Year 11 have now finished their exams. The cohort have worked exceptionally hard and we look forward to seeing them on the results day in August. Year 11 have high expectations and should achieve their full potential.

Our final assembly on Friday was a very happy occasion; the students watched video footage and photographs from earlier years. We were all amazed at how much our students had changed and matured. Shirt signing took place, taking away these treasured mementos to view in years to come and recall happy memories.



The Prom was a huge success! Our young ladies looked magnificent in their gowns. Our young gentleman matched our ladies in their lounge suits. It was a night of music and celebration. A magical night where all our young people sparkled. Many photographs were taken; these will also become treasured possessions.

School Calendar 2010-11

Date	Event	Audience
Tuesday 24 August	GCSE Results issued to students (10am onwards)	Year 11 Leavers 2010 (and early GCSE entrants)
Monday 6 and Tuesday 7 September 2010	STAFF INSET DAYS School closed to students.	All students/parents/carers
Wednesday 8 September 2010	SCHOOL REOPENS TO STUDENTS – please see detailed arrangements enclosed.	All students/parents/carers
Monday 13 and Tuesday 14 September 2010	Six Towns Project Year 11	Year 11 students
Thursday 23 September	Introduction to KS4 and Options event for Year 9 (5 - 6pm)	Year 9 students/parents/carers
w/c Monday 27 September	Year 11 Mock Exams – English & Maths	Year 11 students
Wednesday 29 September	Y5/6 Open Evening (6.30 – 8.30pm)	Year 5 & 6 students/parents/carers
Tuesday 5 October	Y8 girls HPV Immunisations (*plus students who did not complete full course last year)	Year 8 girls/parents/carers
Thursday 7 October	Year 7 Progress Evening with Personal Tutors (4 – 6pm)	Year 7 students/parents/carers
w/c Monday 18 October	Army Insight Course (Mon-Fri)	Year 10/11 boys
Monday 25 to Friday 29 October	HALF TERM	All students/parents/carers
Wednesday 3 November	Individual school photographs	All students
Monday 8 to Monday 15 November	GCSE Exam period for Y10 and Y11 students	All Year 10 and 11 students
Tuesday 9 November	Y8 girls HPV Immunisations	Year 8 girls/Parents/carers
Thursday 11 November	Celebration Evening for Class of 2010 (6.30 – 8pm)	Last year's Year 11/parents/carers
Friday 19 November	CONSULTATION DAY – 8.30am - 2.40pm. Students attend meeting with Tutors – preferably with parents/carers	All students/parents/carers
Monday 29 November to 3 December	Year 11 Mock Exams	Year 11 students
Friday 17 December	Year 9 Reports sent home with students	Year 9 students
Friday 17 December	SCHOOL CLOSSES FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	All students/parents/carers
Tuesday 4 January 2011	SCHOOL REOPENS TO STAFF AND STUDENTS	All students/parents/carers
Monday 10 January 2011 to Wednesday 2 February	GCSE Exam period	Year 10 and Year 11 students

School Calendar 2010-11

Friday 14 January	Year 11 Reports sent out	Year 11 students/ parents/carers
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Thursday 27 January	Year 9 Options Marketplace and information event for Parent/Carers 4.30-6pm	Year 9 students/parents/carers
Thursday 27 January	Year 11 Subject Consultation Evening (4.30 – 6.30pm)	Year 11 students/parents/carers
Monday 14 to Friday 18 February	Work Experience Week for Year 10	Year 10 students
Monday 21 to Friday 25 February	HALF TERM School closed to students	All students/parents/carers
Tuesday 1 to Friday 11 March	GCSE Exam period	Year 10 and Year 11 students
Monday 14 March	Year 11 Mock Exams – English & Maths	Year 11 students
Friday 1 April	Year 8 Reports sent out	Year 8 students/ parents/carers
Tuesday 5 April	Y8 girls HPV Immunisations	Year 8 girls/ parents/carers
Monday 11 to Monday 25 April	EASTER HOLIDAYS School closed to students	All students/parents/carers
Monday 2 May	MAY DAY School closed to students.	All students/parents/carers
Monday 9 May to 24 June	GCSE Exam period begins	Year 10 & Year 11 students
Friday 13 May	CONSULTATION DAY – 8.30am - 2.40pm. Students attend meeting with their Tutors – preferably with parents/carers	All students/parents/carers
Wednesday 18 May	Subject Consultation Evening for Years 7 to 10 (4.30 – 6.30pm)	Year 7, 8, 9 & 10 students/parents/carers
Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June	HALF TERM School closed to students.	All students/parents/carers
Thursday, 23 June	Awards Evening (7-8.30pm)	
Friday 1 July	Year 11 Prom	Year 11 students
w/c Monday 11 July	Out and About Week	All year groups
Thursday 14 July	Y6 Induction Day / Parent/Carer Evening	Year 6 students/parents/carers
Friday 15 July	Year 10 Reports sent out	Year 10 students/ parents/carers
July 2011	Sports Day (date to be confirmed)	All year groups
Friday 22 July	Year 7 Reports sent out	Year 7 students/parents/carers
Friday 22 July	School closes for summer holidays	All Students/parents/carers
Thursday 18 August 2011	GCSE results issued to students	

*Please note: Calendar correct at time of print – any changes to dates, times or additional information will be distributed separately nearer the time of the event.

Parent Governor Position

Birches Head High School

Would you like to support Birches' students achieve their full potential?

Could you be part of a team with collective responsibilities?

Do you have spare time to work voluntarily for the benefit of the school and its community?

Would you enjoy working with the school in planning for the future?

If the answer to the above questions is yes: Becoming a **School Governor** could be for you.

Interested and would like to know more?

Please ask the school to put you in touch with Steve Barlow, Chair of Governors, who will gladly explain what is involved in being a parent governor. Alternatively, please complete the self-nomination from below and return it to the school office.

To be eligible for election, you must be the parent of (or have parental responsibility for) a child who is registered at the school and your nomination must be supported by someone else who also has a child at the school.

In the event of more persons being nominated for the available positions, an election will be organised. For this eventuality, please could you send a short personal statement (for the benefit of other parents should there be a need for an election) saying something about your background and explaining why you would like to become a governor.

Nomination for Parent Governor:

I, (print name) would like to nominate myself for the position of parent governor of Birches Head High School.

Signature: Date:

Child's name: Tutor Group: