

NEWSLETTER

December 2021



THE
BURGESS HILL
ACADEMY



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Dear all,

Like most terms this one has been very busy and not without its challenges. I thank the whole academy community for their support. Some events managed to take place, such as some trips, and others unfortunately had to be cancelled.

Sadly, our annual GCSE Certificate and Awards Presentation Evening was not able to go ahead and we were unable to celebrate the achievements of last year's year 11 students and more formally present award winners.



Ex-student Michael Tout, with the Reed Trophy.



It was great that the Geography field trip was able to go ahead earlier this term.

This term we say farewell to two members of the Learning Development Team, Mrs Harris, who has worked at the academy for 14 years, and Mrs Downing, 18 months. We wish them both well for the future.

Wishing you and your families a happy and safe Christmas and New Year, and I look forward to the start of the new term on Tuesday 4th January.

Anthony Snape
Interim Principal

INSET Days
Thurs 2/9/21
Fri 3/9/21
Fri 22/10/21
Fri 26/11/21
Mon 25/04/22
Fri 1/07/22
Mon 4/07/22

Revised Term Dates 2021/22
Term 1 Thurs 2/9/21 - Fri 22/10/21
Term 2 Mon 1/11/20 - Fri 17/12/21
Term 3 Tues 4/1/22 - Fri 18/2/22
Term 4 Mon 28/2/22 - Fri 8/4/22
Term 5 Mon 25/4/22 - Fri 27/5/22
Term 6 Mon 6/6/22 - Thurs 21/7/22

Student Leadership Team

This term has seen the re-establishment of the Student Leadership Team.

All year groups have been invited to take part. Year 9 and 10 met this week to start the process of sharing their student voice and will be making presentations to the academy Senior Leadership Team in due course. Other aspects of the student's role will be to assist within mentoring roles, leading visitor tours, assisting at academy events and working with key groups of younger students.

Student voice is really important to us at the academy and we look forward to the coming year and our Student Leaders having an impact on day-to-day life at the academy.



Academy Christmas Card Competition

Congratulations to Sahana, year 7, whose design below won the Christmas Card Competition. The design will be used on the academy's e-Christmas card this year.



Reminders

Could we please remind parents that it is their responsibility to check that medicines for their child which are carried by the student or held by the Medical Room are in date, eg asthma inhalers, auto injectors etc.

If further clarification is needed, please contact the Medical Room staff, Tel 01444 241691 or via email firstaid@theburgesshillacademy.org.uk

Email addresses for academy staff

Please be aware that you can find email addresses for academy staff on our website <https://www.theburgesshillacademy.org.uk/our-school/meet-our-team>

Reporting Absence

Absences should be reported to 01444 241691 or by email to absence@theburgesshillacademy.org.uk (please do not email our office@theburgesshillacademy.org.uk email for this purpose) . A reminder to parents about a more efficient and secure system for reporting your child's absence due to illness, called Studybugs.

If you haven't already, please get the free Studybugs app, or register on the Studybugs website, and use it to tell us whenever your child is ill and unable to attend school.

Get the app or register now (<https://studybugs.com/about/parents>).

Food Allergies

All food is prepared in our kitchen where allergens may be present. We do not use nuts.

Please contact us if you are concerned about allergies, and encourage your students to ask the Kitchen team about the ingredients in our dishes.

Lost Property

Items of lost property are held in our Reception area. Please ask your child to check there if they have lost something.

Due to lack of space, items not collected at the end of the academic year are donated to charity or destroyed.

Autumn Careers Events at The Burgess Hill Academy

The Autumn term has been a busy one for the Careers Department. We held Post 16 Evening for year 11 parents/carers and students with 27 post-16 colleges and apprenticeship providers in attendance. We have also had post 16 provision assemblies from all the local colleges and sixth forms. All year 11 students have received a one-to-one interview with our Careers Adviser, Kate Beecham and we are now busy supporting them to make their college applications.

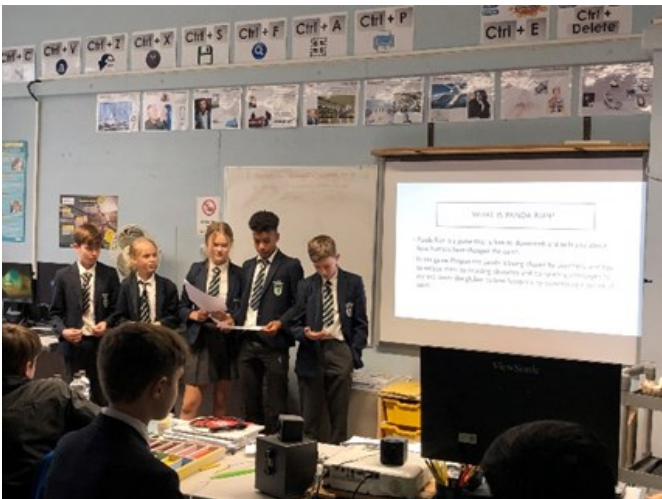
Year 8 students received an assembly from the companies responsible for the construction/engineering works on the Northern Arc site. Hearing about the different ways that people can enter engineering.

Thirty-five year 9 students participated in BIMA Digital Day, which is a national competition aimed at raising awareness of digital careers. We were so fortunate that the agency we were partnered with, Tommy in London were able to send 6 volunteers (pictured below) to help our students develop their ideas to raise awareness of climate change looking specifically at the challenges the WWF charity face. Congratulations to our winning group, Pambou comprising Isaac, Bob, Brooke, Kacey, Luca who have now been entered in the national challenge.

The whole of year 9 received an assembly from HHJ Sarah Venn, Civil Circuit Judge. Sarah explained the process of a court case and her career path to being a Civil Circuit Judge. Year 9 students had the opportunity to try on her robes and participate in mock trials. Sarah encouraged students to think about the cases she presented and decide upon a result. This was a fantastic opportunity for our students as this presentation supported learning about the law in Citizenship lessons.



We started the careers learning journey with the whole of year 7 participating in the University Game which is run by the Outreach department of the University of Brighton. This is a fun way of investigating University life whilst playing a board game. Six student ambassadors from the University came into the Academy over two days to help groups of year 7 students play the game and answer questions. Year 7 were a fantastic year group to work with, intelligent questions, well behaved and so engaged.



As part of the Speakers for Schools programme, Year 10 were very lucky to receive a presentation from Martin Houghton-Brown, CEO of St Johns Ambulance. Martin spoke eloquently on mental health, the impact that the pandemic has had on this and his personal journey with his mental health based around his sexuality. Martin also talked about the work that St Johns Ambulance does and his career path to CEO. As part of this session, Year 10 students were tasked to become journalists in their tutor time and research Martin. Their research was then the basis for questions that were asked during the presentation.



The Academy are very grateful to the volunteers who come into school and help our students understand the "Working World". If any parent/carer would like to help our students shape their future, please contact me at L.Dorgan@theburgesshillacademy.org.uk.

Mrs Dorgan

St John's Ambulance CEO Visit

This term, we were visited by the C.E O of St. John's Ambulance, Martin Houghton Brown. He came in to give us some insights into life as a C.E.O and the challenges that come as a result.

The week before he was due to meet with us, each tutor group were tasked with preparing five questions that would be asked on the day.

These ranged from "what did you have to do to get where you are today?" to "have you ever flown in a helicopter?"

The talk was inspirational and definitely had us laughing when he told of some of his more humorous experiences.

Personally, I enjoyed the experience as Martin took us through his life story, he spoke about being a part of LGBTG+ himself and the hardships that presented him as a child, and then the success he garnered as a result of perseverance.

Hopefully year 10 and all the other year groups will get to have experienced industry professionals speak to them about how success is not given, but earned, as the whole year group gained something from the talk.

Samuel, Year 10

Charity Abseil

Congratulations to Robyn in year 10 who along with her older brother Matt (an ex-student, year 11 last year) who took part in a charity abseil to raise money for Care for Veterans <http://www.careforveterans.org.uk/>

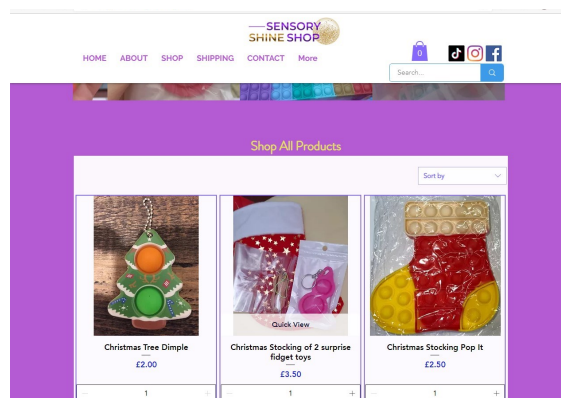
They abseiled the i360 in Brighton and raised £665.



Year 8 Entrepreneur

Our congratulations to year 8 student, Grace who has opened her own online shop selling fidget toys and all things sensory. Grace has herself experience of anxiety and social communication difficulties, however, her obsession for fidget toys and all things sensory have helped her self-regulate and engage with others.

Please support her by checking out her website www.sensoryshineshop.co.uk



Rotary Young Photographer 2021-22

The deadline for receipt of entries will be Monday 31st January 2022.

Images will be required by email only and sent to youth@burge-hill.rotary1145.org

This year's theme is **COLOURS OF NATURE**

There are 3 categories in which students can enter:
JUNIOR aged 7-10,
INTERMEDIATE aged 11-13,
SENIOR aged 14-17,

One image per student and must not exceed 15mb in size.

Each entry must also be accompanied with a sentence that details how it links to the image.

Each student will need to complete an entry form. Any queries, and to receive an entry form, please contact youth@burge-hill.rotary1145.org

Rotary **YOUNG** **PHOTOGRAPHER** **COMPETITION**



Calling all young photographers

Express yourself by putting your photography skills to the test at the annual Rotary Young Photographer competition.

To nominate, contact:

Rotary Club:

Download the competition information pack at: rotarygbi.org

Rotary
Great Britain & Ireland



Network Rail have shared important information about works being undertaken in February 2022

Significant works which take place in February next year. They will close the railway between Three Bridges & Brighton and between Three Bridges & Lewes.

From Saturday 19 February to Sunday 27 February 2022 Network Rail engineers will renew a major junction near Haywards Heath, replace track at Burgess Hill and they will build a new underpass providing safe access under the railway at Hassocks.

Network Rail, Southern and Thameslink are working on plans for alternative travel arrangements, including rail replacement buses, and these will be available nearer the time.

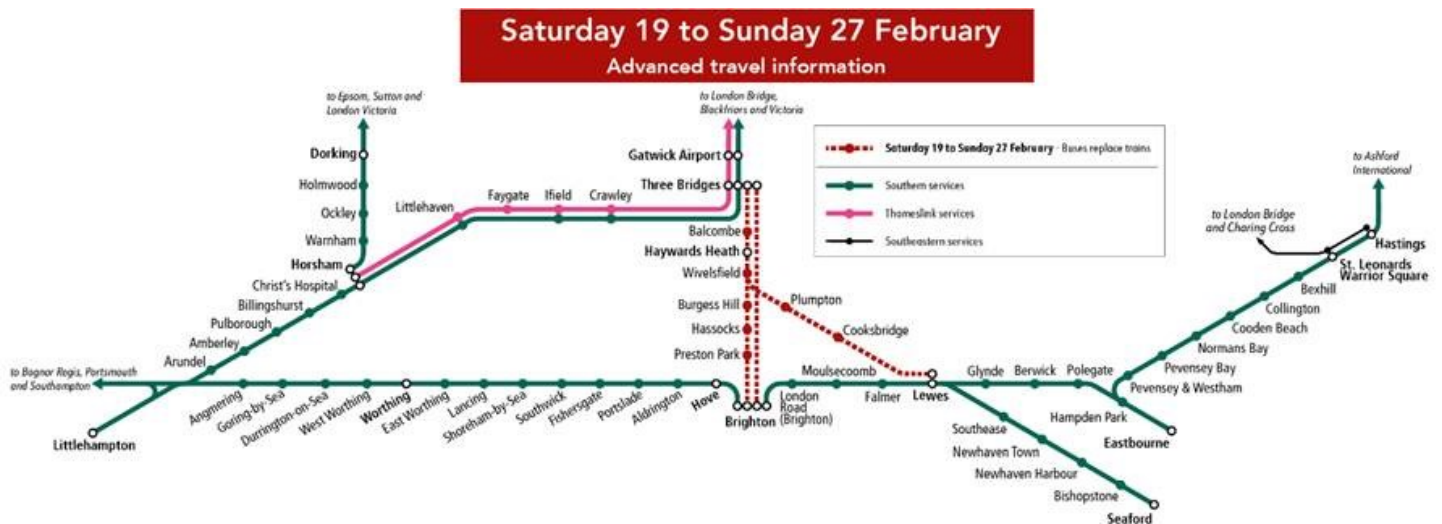
Half term

The work will coincide with West Sussex county school's half term. Unfortunately, the school half term for both Brighton & Hove and East Sussex runs from 14-18 February 2022, the week before the closure, so schools in these areas will be open during the works.

We appreciate that this will mean that parents, students and staff who use the rail service during term time may need to make alternative arrangements during these works. We wanted to provide this information to you in advance and ask if you would be able to share it through your communication channels.

The map below shows the lines which will be closed to trains.

Doing the work over the West Sussex half term helps ensure that there are adequate numbers of buses available for the rail replacement bus service as many of these same buses are used in the county to move school children during term time.



Background

The Brighton Main Line is among the most complex and congested routes in the country and the infrastructure on the line is also some of the oldest and most intensively used. This major project has been planned in an efficient way to deliver long-term reliability improvements for passengers who use the line. Network Rail continually reviews work to minimise passenger disruption and keep the railway running as much as possible. By doing this vital work over a nine-day closure, it can be done more quickly with less overall disruption to passengers, and it will deliver more improvement work than using the traditional approach of weekend working.

Further information

Further details and updates about the Brighton Main Line renewals work can be found on our websites: at [Southern](#) or at [Thameslink](#)



TRAIN TO TEACH SECONDARY



**LOOKING FOR AN INTERESTING AND REWARDING CAREER?
TRAIN TO TEACH WITH US.**

Our teacher training programme 'Secondary School Direct' provides classroom experience based at one of our secondary academies in Sussex, alongside study at the University of Brighton. With personalised support from highly experienced teachers and tutors you can qualify with a Postgraduate Certificate in Education within a year and go on to make a real difference to a child's future as a qualified teacher!

- Train to teach at one of our of secondary academies in Burgess Hill, Hastings or St Leonards
- Attend training sessions at the University of Brighton, rated by Ofsted as an outstanding provider of initial teacher training
- Graduate with a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) from the University of Brighton and Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) within 1 year
- Personalised support from highly experienced teachers and tutors.
- Generous tax-free bursaries and scholarships up to £26,000 are available for certain subjects

Train to Teach: Art & design | Biology | Chemistry | Dance | English | Geography | Mathematics | Modern Languages | Physics

brightonacademiestrust.org.uk/traintoteach



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