

# **Weekly Newsletter**

# **Our Vision**

"Nurturing within our community; aspiration, self-worth, courage, a respect for learning, the drive for a successful personal and collective future and the desire for all to achieve and prosper."

## **Dear Parents and Carers**

Welcome to what I can hardly believe is our last newsletter of this very short half term. I know it didn't feel as such as we returned in April, with the weeks planned ahead to assure completion of work and study and then 'boom' here we are!

Our Year 11s started the term with the prospect of a number of weeks of re-learning and honing their knowledge and solidifying confidence, to find they are fully within their examination window and how proud we are of them all.

Their attendance has been brilliant and attitude to match and with the half term break, which is much deserved at their finger-tips, we need them to rest and clear their minds, but to keep that really positive momentum going. Remember, the Bank Holiday allows everyone to enjoy a natural break, therefore, ensure our Year 11s enjoy theirs, for the few weeks upon their return will be as busy and as draining and we wish for them to be at their best.

Mr Sadler and our staff have arranged further revision sessions, next week, so do ensure your Year 11 child takes note of arrangements and arrives in good time, to be well cared for and supported. Thanks, as always, go to our staff for giving this additional time to their students. Such great feedback was gained about the Easter revision, that we know it makes that vital difference.

And a reminder, as our Year 11s return on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> June, for our parents and carers to ensure they are fully dressed in uniform and not jeans or leggings.... for they need to be in academy uniform to complete their examinations.

This is an exceptionally busy time of year, for Mr Sadler, for with one eye firmly on the Year 11s, Mr Sadler begins his work with our Year 10 students, as they start their countdown journey to their final public exams. Many of our Year 10s are also exam ready for they have sat many sections of coursework and completed papers that will all form part of a final mark.

However, Monday marked the turning point for our Year 10s who were advised that soon, they will be the elder statesmen and women of the academy and it is they that will lead the charge for the academy. Our Year 10s have always known as they embarked on their GCSE journey in September, that their career path is truly in their hands. Soon, they, too, will be in the examination hall sitting their summer examinations and the results of these will support the work and learning they need to do to achieve their own personal goals. Time during this May break studying, will serve them well.

Our last week of assemblies is always to celebrate the improvements and sustained great attitude, attendance and behaviour of our students. During the week, each Head of House has presented to their students, those children who have been identified by their staff as going over and above their daily learning. The instant recognition cards are much prized and it is so good to see more students gain these throughout the year. In addition, I am always pleased to find my staff collecting their next batch of recognition cards, for I know they, too, take seriously the privilege of evidencing good attitude and success in our students. And...we must always pass on our congratulations to all our students who continue to attend 100% of the time. No mean feat for any individual!

# **Celebration of Work**



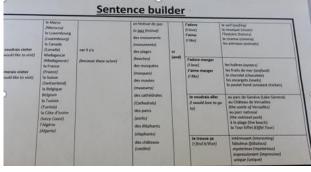


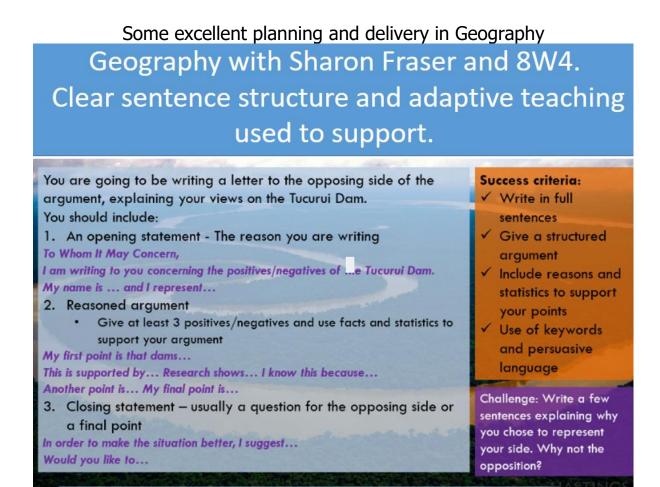
Staff and students working together and independently

French speaking lesson with our Year 9s and our brilliant trainee French teacher!



Using supportive resources to help get the students to start talking!







#### Students ready and able to complete their task



#### Science with Miss Hardy, learning about puberty



Year 10 plotting graphs with Mrs King in maths, with some really well-planned extension tasks



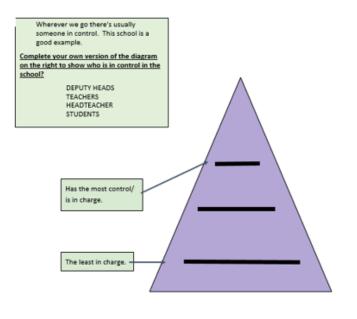
# Year 9 delivering a speech on communism using Animal Farm as his platform Speech on communism using Animal Farm as a starting point.



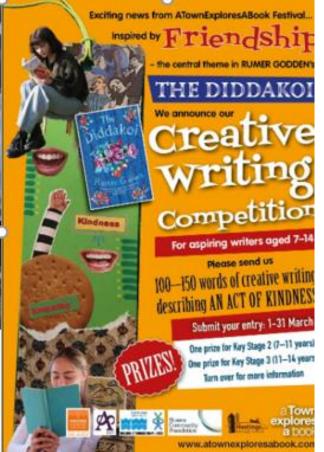
Ooohh.. I have been made a King (albeit with my name and title a little inaccurate! Great work in History!

# Fabulous work in History to explain the Feudal System

<u>Mrs Morowska - The King</u> <u>Mr Sadler- A Baron</u> <u>Ms Chamberlain and Mr Evans-Knights</u> <u>The students – Peasants!</u>



## Workshops in the community - amazing experience





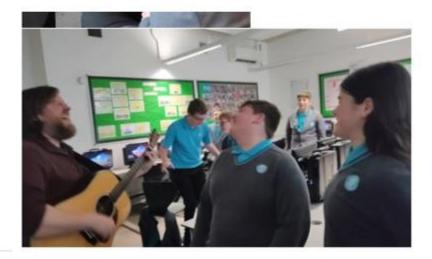


## Local artists supporting our students: Hastings Thrives Songwriters

#### Hastings Thrives Songwriters

Some of our KS3 musicians have been writing some original songs with local songwriter Mike Willis. Mike has inspired us with his Nashville style of song writing and the students have written two songs 'Jelly Bean' and 'Looking for Trouble'. Our musicians were the lyricists behind these songs and both songs embrace a Blues/ Country style which we have enjoyed singing alongside Mike on the guitar. We are looking forward to showcasing both of these songs at our upcoming gig at The Brass on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022.





Miss Dengate with her Year 11 Dance Superstars as they closed the show at White Rock



Mr Follington and KS3 students supporting our Year 11 BTEC Music students



## Year 10 Rye Harbour Photography Trip









## And do not forget our Musical Summer Send off!



So much learning, for our students, has taken place and as many experiences gained in these last six weeks. These snapshots of their day, along with the curriculum spotlights highlighted weekly, do present a wealth of knowledge and capital that has been shared and absorbed. A true celebration of the benefits of attending the academy and working with our staff, who are truly dedicated to their work and the students and of whom I am rightly proud.

## **Personal Development**

For the last week of this term, Year 7 had some mindfulness time doing some quiet colouring in. Their colourful work will be displayed in student services and other various parts of the school. Last week PD students did some wonderful art depicting what the words 'loneliness' and 'connection' mean, which is in the process of being put on display. The art work is not only lovely to look at, but shows a very mature in depth understanding of what loneliness and connection mean. We looked at how important it is to ensure we connect

with others to reduce feelings of isolation. Year 8s have been exploring historical attitudes in the UK and the US to the LGBTQ+ community as well as discrimination around the world. Year 9s this week conclude their examination of contraception as well as learning about different methods used around the world throughout history. Year 10s have had several RE lessons included in their PD timetable as RE needs to be studied through Key Stage 4 as well as Key Stage 3. Recently they've had lessons on attitudes to crime and punishment and the death penalty which have been very interesting.

Well done everyone and enjoy your holiday!

## **Ms Williams, Head of PD**

# English Department – Miss K Mulcair

### **Bedrock Rewards**

Well done to all the winners for this term's Bedrock competitions. Students enjoyed a games and cake celebration as a reward.



# Year 10 Speaking and Listening

All of our Year 10s are working hard in English to prepare for their GCSE Speaking and Listening assessment next term. Students have been conducting their own research to write speeches on a range of topics, demonstrating resilience through the re-drafting and rehearsal process in lesson.

The Year 10s will be continuing to practise these speeches over the half term break and will be formally assessed in the week beginning 13th June. Good luck everyone!

# Val Larkin Bi-lingual Writing Award

On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May Ms Kurek and Mrs French accompanied Fatma Abuaisha (year 10) and her mum to the Val Larkin Bi-lingual Writing Awards in Eastbourne. This was an event for EAL pupils and their families to gather and celebrate their writing achievements. Fatma had entered her poem entitled My Dream Cafe into the competition with the support of our EAL teacher Fiona Neda.

On arrival we were served tea and biscuits and then gathered to watch the pupils from various schools across East Sussex awarded with certificates for their entries. To our delight Fatma was awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the KS4 category and she received a certificate and book token.

The pupils, including Fatma, then read their poems aloud in both English and their home language. A very proud moment for everyone concerned.

Mrs French



#### My Dream Café

like coffee, Coffee makes me happy, Coffee brings me back to Places and people I love.

A warm cup of coffee Made by tender hands with love, With a piece of soft chocolate – It can bring happiness to my heart.

I would love to have a café Fresh and full of warm sunshine, It would bring love and happiness to everyone Who entered <u>it.</u>

People leave their worries and sorrows behind, Happy after they finish a cup Made with love.

A cup of coffee with a bouquet of roses, Fill the place with fragrance.

I love coffee.

By Fatma Abuaisha, Year 10.



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	الفهوة تعبرتني بالداكرة
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ف	مهنوع منا يد دنونة وبكل
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# The Hastings Academy Uniform



The following items are compulsory:

- . The Hastings Academy Blazer: Grey blazer with the Academy logo
- The Hastings Academy Polo shirt: Turquoise polo shirt with Academy logo
- Trousers or skirt: Plain black standard-fit school trousers or blackpleated knee length uniform skirt
- Socks or tights: Plain black socks (up to below the knee) or plain/neutral/black coloured tights
- Shoes: Plain black shoes or black trainers no logos or white trims
- Backpack: A school backpack in which students can carry their exercise books
- Coat / rain jacket: A coat / rain jacket (for colder/wetter days and months)

The following items are optional:

- The Hastings Academy Jumper: Grey v-neck jumper with Academy logo. This may be worn under The Hastings Academy Blazer
- School Shorts: Plain black shorts: We will advise when students are allowed to wear shorts in school.

# PE Kit

The following items are compulsory:

- The Hastings Academy PE Sweatshirt: Crewneck sweatshirt with the Academy logo, or, until 1/9/22: The Hastings Academy PE Hoodie or a plain black PE Sweatshirt
- . The Hastings Academy PE T-shirt: Academy logo t-shirt
- PE Shorts: Plain black shorts
- PE bottoms or leggings: Plain black leggings / jogging bottoms
- PE Socks: Plain black PE socks
- PE bag: A PE bag in which students can carry their PE kit.
- Sports trainers: no flat-soled shoes, e.g. Converse style or plimsolls

# Jewellery / Accessories

Students are permitted to wear the following, should they meet these criteria:

- . Earrings: One pair of small stud earrings in the ear lobe
- Piercings: Clear plastic retainers should be used in place of any facial piercing
- Hair adornments: These should be minimal and plain (not brightly coloured or patterned)

# **Banned Clothing and Accessories**

Students are not permitted to wear the following:

- . Boots (nothing covering the ankle)
- Leggings/jeggings
- Jeans/skinny jeans
- Skinny/drainpipe trousers
- Hotpants (in place of shorts for PE)
- Sweatshirts/hoodies
- Heavy make-up including eyeliner flicks, heavy eyebrows/eye shadow/foundation
- False eyelashes
- Dyed hair colouring
- Extreme haircuts shaved heads 'zero cuts'
- Facial piercings (Health and Safety)
- Nail varnish, long nails or false long nails (Health and Safety)
- . Hooped earrings (Health and Safety)
- Rings (Health and Safety)
- Bracelets (Health and Safety)
- Necklaces (Health and Safety)
- Badges other than official school badges

# Year 11 – Mr Sadler, Assistant Principal

We have now completed two weeks of Year 11 Public exams. We recognise our year 11 students for their commitment and dedication to their revision and exams. Below is the planning for May Half Term Revision and the first week back after Half Term.

Yr 11 Revision - May Half Term					
Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> May	Science - 9am - 11am				
	History 10am-2pm				
Tues 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Media Studies 10am- 12.30pm				
Weds 1 <sup>st</sup> June	English 10am-12.30pm				
	Music 10am-12.30pm				

<u>INSET Day - - Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June</u> Revision Sessions - From 1.30pm - Geography & Maths

JUNE							
Day	Exam Date	Subject	Exam Time	Duration		1.30pm - 3.30pm	
Monday (INSET)	06-Jun-22					Maths & Geography	
Tuesday	07-Jun-22	Maths Cal 1	AM	1 Hr 30m	Before School 8am	Period 3 & 4	After Schoo 3pm
		Geography 2	PM	1 Hr 30m	Maths & Geography	English	English
Wednesday	08-Jun-22	English Lit 2	AM	1 Hr 45m	Before School 8am	Period 3 & 4	After Schoo 3pm
					English		History & Science
Thursday	09-Jun-22	History	AM	1 Hr	Before School 8am	Period 3 & 4	After Schoo 3pm
		Physics	РМ	1 Hr 45m	History & Science	Science	Englisł
		Combined Science P1		1 Hr 10m			
Friday	10-Jun-22	English Lang 2	AM	1 Hr 45m	Before School 8am	Period 3 & 4	
Yr 11 Finish - 11.35am - Maths & Business Revision available - 11.35-						Maths &	
1.35pm	AM	00.20 54-4			English	Business	
Exam Times	A™ PM	09:30 Start 13:30 Start					

#### **Key Information**

- Revision focus in timetabled lessons Yr 11 attend their full timetable
- Breakfast revision sessions from 7.45am on day of exam with breakfast snacks in Atrium
- For Morning Exams Yr 11 Students register with Tutors 8.50-9am make way to Atrium at 9am and then walk onto Exam Hall/Learning support supported by Yr 11 Period 1 Teachers
- Identified revision sessions for subjects during school day period 3 and 4
- Afternoon exams start from 1.30pm Lunch at 1pm & Revision session from 11.35am
- After school revision from 3pm for next day exams

#### Key Dates

- Friday 27th May Yr 11 Well Being finish 12.35pm. (Independent Revision available)
- May Half Term Revision Sessions Mon 30th, Tues 31st May & Weds 1st June
- Mon 6<sup>th</sup> June (INSET Day) Revision sessions 1.30-4pm –(Maths & Geography)
- Fri 10<sup>th</sup> June last day of full Yr 11 timetable
- Mon 13<sup>th</sup> Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> June Yr 11 Students only attend for Exams and Revision sessions (Revision Timetabled Sessions to be published)
- Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> June 11.30am Year 11 Leavers Assembly
- Prom Tues 28 <sup>th</sup> June Leeford Place Hotel
- Results Day Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August

## Year 8/9/10 – Miss MacMillan, Assistant Principal

#### Year 8 into 9 options

Thank you to all of you who have completed your creative arts option choices for Y9. We are now processing these choices and confirmation emails will come to you at the beginning of term 6.

#### Year 9 into 10 options

Thank you to all of you who have completed your options for Y10. We have been busy this week speaking to students who have chosen food technology as unfortunately we are no longer able to offer food technology in Y10. We have solved this and all students are happy to move to their reserve choice. It is always very difficult when we cannot honour a student's choice, however one again students at the Hastings Academy have shown great resilience and have made alternative worthy choices!

## News from The Hills West Hill

Wow!! I cannot believe we are at the end term 5, and to celebrate all the amazing things the West Hill we had our Recognition assembly today.

I am so proud of all our students: 64 students have 100% attendance; 79 students have received Instant Recognition points. David Hemsley, Immy Webb, Poppy Chapman and Elizabeth DishKivska been rewarded with a free lunch for them and a friend. We have the following students who are still on 100% attendance AND zero behaviour points; Freya Deaves, Matthew Fantham, Nelly Jones, Tigerlily Lomax, Jasmine McDade, Alisia Wells and Bethany Winslet. FANTASTIC!!!! My student of the term has overcome challenges thrown her way, she has engaged with staff and has made great strives to improve herself, well done Olivia Lawrence-Strachan.

Our moto is simple *West is the BEST and we achieve this through WIT, ENTHUSIAM, SUCCESS, TEAMWORK.* 

Mrs Oliver-Murphy and I would like to wish all our awesome students a restful half term to recharge their batteries in readiness for the final term.

Miss J Wickens Head of House - West Hill

#### Easthill

This week we held our recognition assembly where we celebrated all of our fantastic students who have gone over and above this term. Our Head of Hill student of the term was our wonderful year 11 student Tye Howell who has been our senior student for fundraising!

Tye has been a fantastic support and organiser for all of our fundraising events. We will miss him next year.

Today we held a Jubilee event in Easthill where we had cake and live music. This was a lovely event to end the term. Special thanks to Conor Askew and Jack Chillingworth for they rocking band!!!

We hope you all have a wonderful time off over half term and look forward to you all returning ready to make term 6 a success.

Mrs S Reed Head of House - East Hill

## Silverhill Recognition Assembly 26.05.2022



# Attendance

**Arrival after the close of registration is an unauthorised absence**. Regular attendance, which includes punctuality, is not only an important educational requirement but is also a **legal requirement**.

Our Academy day starts at 08:50, *where all pupils must register with their form tutor promptly at this time*. This register closes at 09:20, where pupils will then be classed as late after the close of register (unauthorised absence). Pupils who arrive late not only disrupt their education but also the education of others. Therefore, in bringing this to your attention we hope you will do everything possible to improve your child's punctuality and contact us if there are any issues you would wish to discuss.

# **REPORT STUDENT ABSENCE (01424 711950 OPTION 2) OR VIA EMAIL BELOW**

All absences should be reported by 8:45am on each day of the student's absence.

Attendance mailbox: tha.attendance@thehastingsacademy.org.uk - please leave your child's name, House Team, Year Group and reason for absence.

Medical evidence must be handed in on return to the academy to your child's Tutor, Student Support Manager or sent to the attendance mailbox as above, stating medical evidence and name of child.

# Spotlight on...





### **Hastings Thrives Songwriters**

Some of our KS3 musicians have been writing some original songs with local songwriter Mike Willis. Mike has inspired us with his Nashville song writing style and method and we have written two songs 'Jelly Bean' and 'Looking for Trouble'. Our musicians were the lyricists behind these two songs and both songs embrace a Blues/ Country style which we have enjoyed singing alongside Mike on the guitar. We are looking forward to showcasing both of these songs at our upcoming gig at The Brass on 7th July 2022.





#### **Guitar Lessons**

We warmly welcome to the music department our new guitar teacher Nick Webb. Nick teaches guitar at many of our feeder primary schools and it's really lovely that he can continue the students guitar tuition at The Hastings Academy. Nick already has a busy timetable but he is ready to welcome any new students who wish to start playing or are wanting to take their guitar skills to the next level. If you wish to start guitar lessons please grab a letter from the music department.

## The Hastings Piano Festival Workshop

In collaboration with The Hastings Piano Festival we were treated to a workshop with internationally recognised solo cellist Matthew Sharp who gave us a swift introduction to his composition methods and inspiration. After focusing on chord progression and melodic shape we ended the session with a spontaneous group composition of a piece of music we decided would be suitable for a Lord of the Rings style film. Over the next few weeks we will continue to develop this idea in preparation for when Matthew returns in July. We loved how Matthew encouraged our musicians to take risks when composing, he highlighted the importance of there being no rules when it comes to this component and to just have fun.





The Summer Send Off - 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022

We are very excited to be performing down The Brass again, watch our Hastings Academy musicians, Years 7 - 11, showcase some of the music they have recently been rehearsing. For those performing, you will soon receive an invitation over ParentPay.



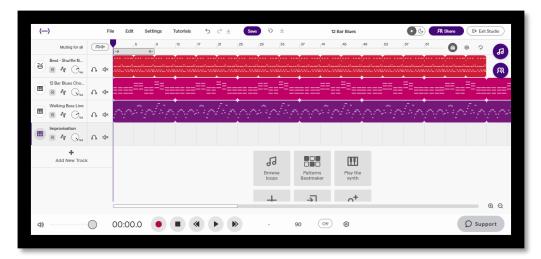
## Year 7 – Horror Soundscape

Year 7 have been making use of their knowledge of melody, harmony and rhythm by channelling it into their composition soundscapes this term. Using Soundtrap we have been composing a piece of music suitable for a horror soundscape. By working in a minor tonality the students have created some very effective pieces that make use of some great sound effects and timbres which can be found in the Soundtrap library. If your son/ daughter hasn't shown you Soundtrap yet please get them to log in at home as it is a great resource that can be used in and out of school.



## Year 8 – Blues

Alongside their understanding of the transatlantic slave trade, which they have been studying in History this term, our students have been researching the origins of The Blues. This is an iconic style of music which has inspired and created so much of the music we listen to today. This term we have been recording the 12 Bar Blues and walking bass line into Soundtrap, using this recording we were able to be spontaneous and play about with the C Blues scale. We have some very natural improvisers in year 8 and it has been great capturing it all in Soundtrap.



## Year 8 – Reggae

As well as the Blues our Year 8s have been listening to and understanding Reggae, again linking to the slave trade and the impact of Caribbean culture on our island. We have been looking at how to recreate the songs of Bob Marley and what makes a Reggae song a Reggae song. We have been using Ukulele, Pianos, Guitar, Bass, Drums and Vocals to allow our students to form bands and start practising the essential musical skills. Some of our new band's sound great and there is certainly a lot of potential.



## Year 9 – In at the Deep End

Year 9 have been thrown into the deep end selecting songs to play in their bands to add to their repertoire. The selections are a range of styles from heavy metal through grunge to pop which enhances the depth and breadth of our students' musical tastes. Our acts have started to develop their songs and by the end of the year we will have plenty of live acts ready for the Brass in years to come. On the other side some students have been programming songs into Soundtrap to develop their understanding of DAW software which is an essential skill for a modern musician, these skills will allow them to write, record and produce their own tracks.



## Year 10 – South Downs Song Project

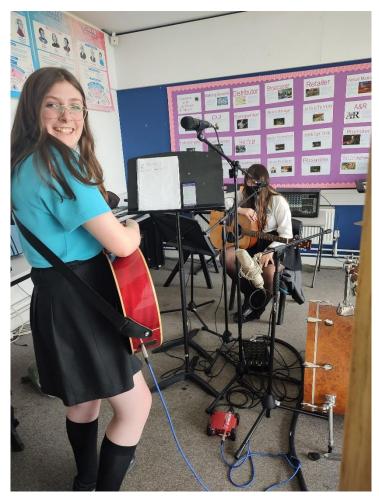
This term our year 10s have continued to develop their compositions inspired by The South Downs. They have been focusing on adding structure to these pieces and adding finer details ready for when The Orchestra of Light and Sound come back on the 29<sup>th</sup> June. When the Orchestra return they are going to be sharing their own commissioned pieces which they have composed using the same brief. The Orchestra are looking forward to hearing our year 10s work and they are also looking forward to performing some of the parts our musicians have written for them. The sharing of this work will take place in the Main Hall on 29<sup>th</sup> June at 12pm, parents/ carers of the students involved are invited to come and watch, more details on this event will be shared nearer the time.





# Year 11 – GCSE & BTEC

A huge well done to all our year 11 musicians who have worked hard on their performances and compositions this term, not only did we complete the coursework but it was all completed to a high standard which reflects the abundance of musical talent we have in both our BTEC and GCSE music classes. Now all is left is the exam element, it is incredibly important that our GCSE musicians still attend their music lessons and revision sessions so we can continue to revise for the listening exam. Please ask your son/ daughter to show you our online revision guide 'Focus on Sound', this is a useful resource that helps support their aural skills in preparation for the listening exam.



Our BTEC students pulled together this term to organise and put on a gig, for some incredibly lucky year 7s, as part of their coursework. Every BTEC music student was involved from creating posters, organising and auditioning acts, lifting and shifting equipment, sound checking and finally performing. The acts were brilliant showing real confidence and professionalism. Congratulations to the BTEC students that have now completed their coursework and have just completed their exam, they have worked hard and will reap the rewards.



Miss K East Head of Music



# **Jubilee Celebrations**





## **Tree Planting Ceremony**

On Thursday, we planted two crab apple trees as part of the Queens Green Canopy project. This is a tree planting initiative created to mark her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee and invites people across the UK to 'Plant a Tree for the Jubilee'. We were delighted to invite Ms Morawska to do the honours, so although we will sadly be losing her at the end of the academic year, she will leave us with two new trees that will grow and flourish, and be part of the academy for years to come. Crab apple trees can live for up to 100 years!

Thanks to the wonderful Pete and Sally of our Forest School team for organising the saplings and identifying the location, on the bank just inside the main entrance. They are already looking forward to the trees maturing so the fruits can be picked and used, with the crab apples renowned for their use in jellies and jams.



With the Jubilee Celebrations around the corner (another indicator of how time flies), the academy has been marking this historical event by planting a tree and sharing of some red, white and blue cakes, all overseen by Her Majesty!





I do hope that the weather holds for you all, where ever you travel and with whatever you choose to do.

Enjoy the half term break. Keep safe and well and take time to do what you wish to.



As always, I wish you all the very best of weeks and we all look forward to seeing your students, again, on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June.

Kindest regards

autoromaniska

Hilary Morawska Principal