

Biddenham E-Newsletter

Fourth Edition



Helping children with cancer

More than 35 members of school staff are taking part in this April's 'Any-K-A-Day' challenge for Finnley's Warriors, to raise money for Children With Cancer UK.

The challenge was set up in 2017 after Mrs Neely-Hayes' son was diagnosed with cancer at 18 months old.

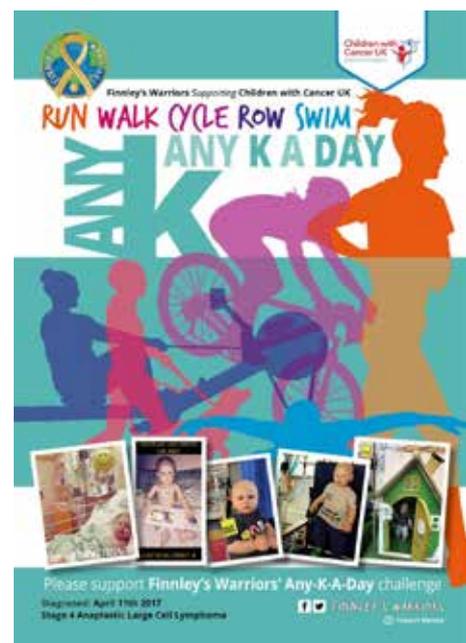
Finnley is now five, in remission and has started school, but the Biddenham family continue to support CWCUK to raise money and awareness for childhood cancer.

The idea is that you pledge to yourself to do any km each day in April over your normal school or work commitments.

You will be given a CWC t-shirt to wear whilst doing it and off you go! You can run, walk, cycle, skip, hop - anything you choose.

If any students or their parents would like to take part in the event and help raise money and awareness for childhood cancer, please email ali.neely-hayes@mybiddenham.com and she will be able to help you.

Look out for the staff looking tired in April, or pounding the streets of Bedford raising money and awareness.



The latest news from Biddenham
International School & Sports College

A message from our Principal

David Bailey



Dear all,

Welcome to our newsletter, which over the past year has morphed into an e-newsletter and now includes a mix of news and examples of the great work our students have been completing.

This introduction will focus on saying thanks to you all for your vigilance and resilience over the past year and throughout this pandemic - but more specifically for the support you have shown to the school and your children.

You've been through a lot and I hope you have all managed to cope. I very much hope that we will be able to stay in school now and get back to some semblance of normality - but we must not be complacent and must continue to follow safety measures.

Thank you also for supporting your son/daughter with remote/online learning since the start of this term - we have provided full online learning, but your support in ensuring our students fully access it has been invaluable.

Thanks also for your support with 'testing' and sending your children in for their three tests and administering the home tests - all of which is supporting the effort to keep our kids, ourselves and our communities safe.

So, we are all very pleased to be back at school again and pleased that learning was largely uninterrupted in the time from September to December and managed to get a great deal done as we did – over this lockdown.

It has been hard for our staff and students to switch to online learning over the past 9 weeks not to mention tiring and lacking in many of the key things that characterise classroom teaching - not least the social and educational benefits of learning together in the same room.

Certainly, we have become acutely aware of what we value, the need for human interaction and properly looking out for one another.

As I said last April, we will come out of this stronger as a community and we will be able to help turn the experience into a positive one and ensure our young people are the 'special' generation and go on to achieve great things in life and are happy.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter and take heart from the wonderful things our young people (and staff team) have achieved in these difficult times.

Stay safe, remain vigilant and I really look forward to seeing you all in person soon.

David Bailey
Principal

A message from our Head of School Eleanor Grylls

This has been another rollercoaster of a term here at Biddenham School!

We started with remote learning, moved to school based mass testing to home testing and now back in school over the last 2 weeks.

All of our school community - students, parents, staff and governors - have pulled together to make things happen and support each other.

At the heart of everything is the importance of good communication and positive home school relationships and it is important to emphasise here how much we value those relationships.

Our Heads of Year are sending home end of term updates to all parents sharing tutor and pastoral team contact details so that any questions or queries about school or individuals can be addressed quickly.

We are also planning further parental engagement through revised reports and parents' evenings to take place over the summer term.

In the meantime the wonderful work and articles in this newsletter show that we have much to celebrate from this strange, yet very busy term.

Let's look forward to some milder weather with the opportunity to get outside a little more and return refreshed and ready to take on the world on the 12th April.

Eleanor Grylls
Head of School



Important dates

EASTER HOLIDAYS – STUDENTS RETURN ON MONDAY 12TH APRIL 2021

BANK HOLIDAY – MONDAY 3RD MAY 2021

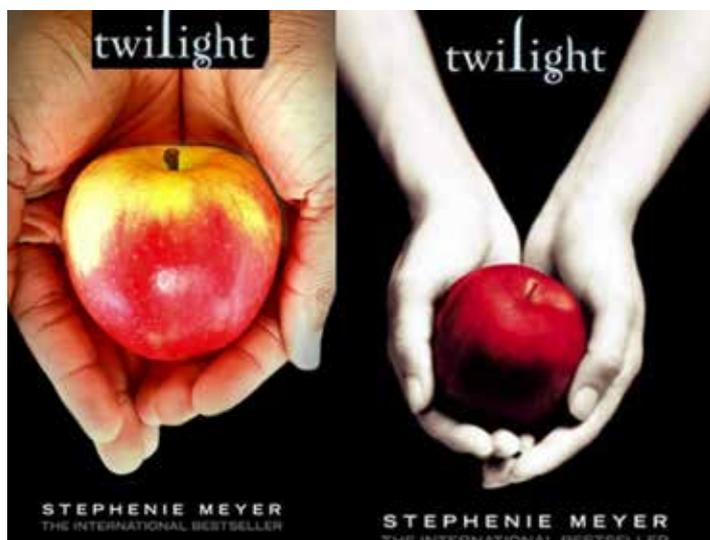
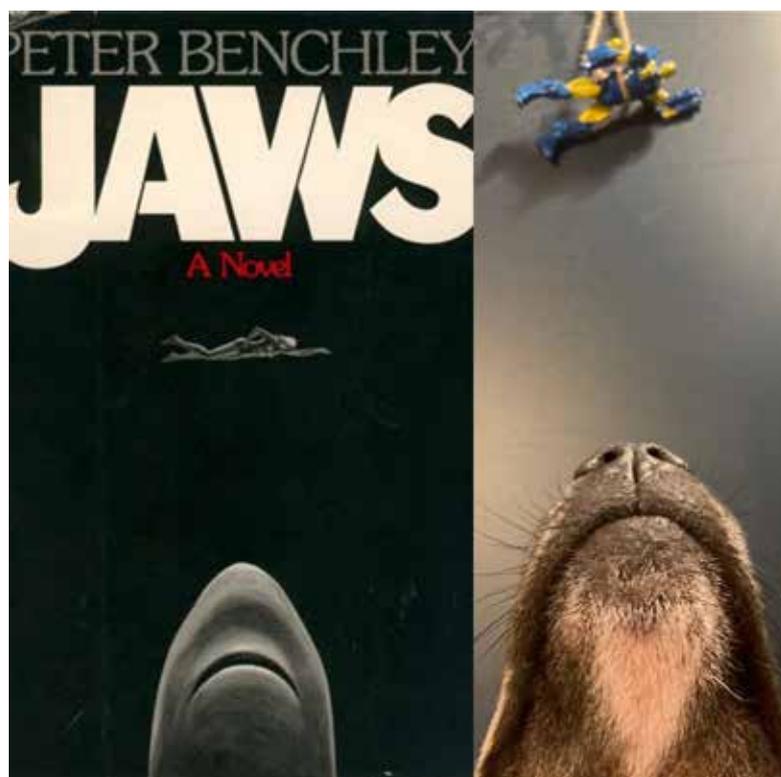
MAY HALFTERM WEEK - MONDAY 31ST MAY – 6TH JUNE 2021

LAST DAY OF TERM – FRIDAY 16TH JULY 2021

World Book Day

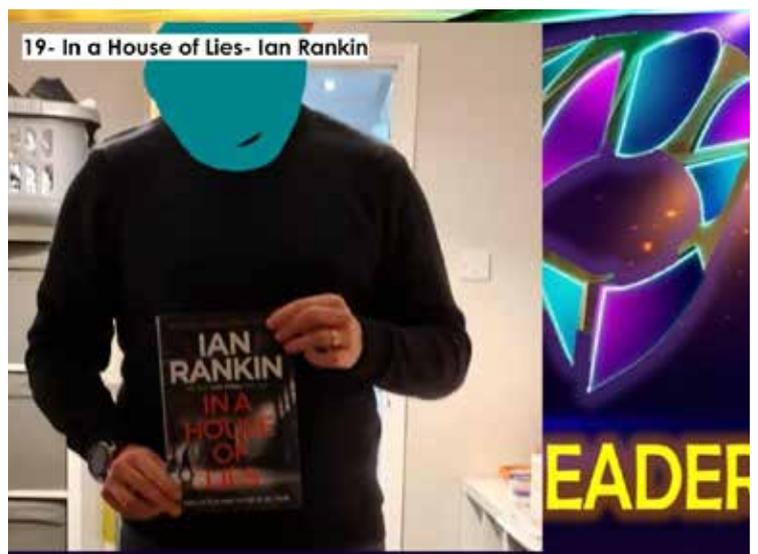
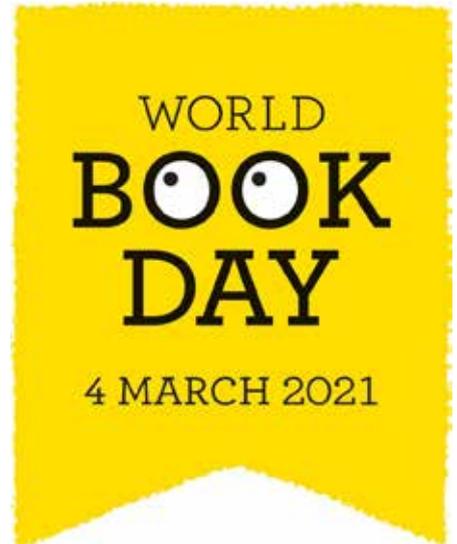
For World Book Day this year, students and staff recreated copies of their favourite books, which you can see below. Which one of these is your favourite?

Also, Year 7 students received a free World Book Day book to keep, a bookmark and a voucher to redeem for a free additional book.

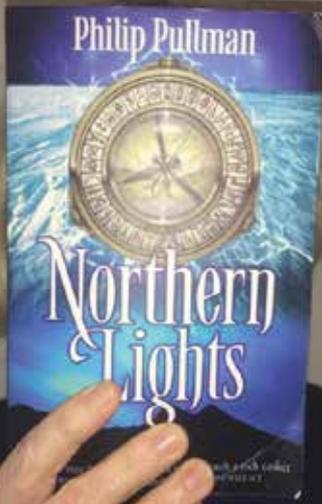


The Masked Reader

On World Book Day, students were able to participate in 'The Masked Reader' competition with their tutor group. This included a variety of pictures and videos from staff, with various clues to allow them to guess the hidden staff member! This was a fun way of celebrating World Book Day,



20- Northern Lights- Philip Pullman



6- The Woman in Black- Susan Hill



15- Old Macdonald had a Farm!



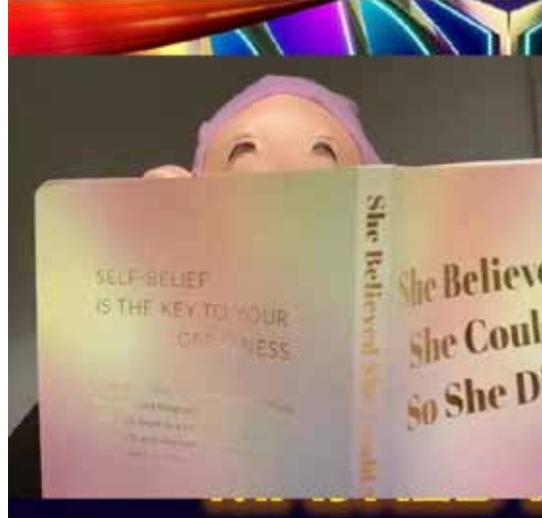
21- One Day- David Nicholls



8- Paula, My Story So Far - Paula Radcliffe and David Walsh



22- She Believed She Could So She Did- Sam Lacey



1 - Stormbreaker- Anthony Horowitz



9- The Swiss Family Robinson - Johann David Wyss



To find out more about this classic book

5- The Faraway Tree Collection- Enid Blyton



17- The Great Gatsby- F. Scott Fitzgerald



13- The Fault in Our Stars- John Green



3- Where the Crawdads Sing- Delia Owens



Holocaust Memorial Day

This year for Biddenham's annual commemoration of Holocaust Memorial Day we had to do things a bit differently.

In the past we have had Year 8 off timetable for a day run by the History Department.

This year, because of the Covid-19 pandemic, we focused on activities in History lessons as well as tutor time and our Head of History, Mrs Vaughan, gave a special Holocaust Memorial Day assembly to Year 8.

The theme for 2021 was 'Shine a Light' and our students were encouraged to use everyday items at home to 'create a light' that could 'shine' and push back the darkness of discrimination and prejudice. One of those was Hala Elabd,

whose work can be seen to the right.

She said: "The main goal here is to show people can work together to bring light into an issue that needs fixing by raising awareness, speaking out and convincing others what is the right thing to do."

"To show this idea, I have used people that feed their light through the markers to the fairy in the middle, which will turn on the lightbulb with the people's light."

Below, you can see a selection of the work by other Year 8 students.



Hala Elabd



Abu Ahmed



Daisy Lindridge



Elisa Southerden



Hummy Islam



Jack Harper



Lilliana Mirza



Lily McKay



Mariama Bah

Year 7

Year 7 art students have been showing off their talents this term, with their reimagining of famous artwork on the theme of war. Below is a selection of work done by students during remote lessons.

The first recreation is of Paul Nash's famous First World War painting, *We Are Making A New World*, which he painted in 1918.

The title of artwork is in contrast with Nash's depiction of a scarred battlefield in Ypres, Belgium on the Western Front.



Khalil Choudhury



Natalie Gregson



Zuzanna Szubryt

The second is of Henry Moore's *Grey Tube Shelter*, which depicts Londoners seeking safety during the Blitz in 1940.

All of the drawings below were created by Biddenham students using nothing but biro and paper.



Hamza Khan



Zuzanna Szubryt



Pavitha Reddy

Year 7 Social Action

Year 7 have been working on social action projects to spread awareness of local social issues.

Over the next two weeks they will selecting a group to represent the class and taking part in a workshop to improve their presentation skills before featuring in a movie for the final.

The next four pages outline the work that students have been doing, with each form looking at how to spread awareness of a particular local issue.

Below are the charities which have been chosen by each form to promote.

7EC

Maira and group created a poster to be shared online and in school media including a [tweet](#)

They also created an [online](#) presentation



A [tweet](#) has been composed to be published



Iman and group created a [newsletter](#) article to be published in the schools newsletter to raise awareness



A kahoot and pledge was made to perform acts of kindness (links still to be shared)

Kahoot!

7EP

We would like you to use the hashtags:

#quithomelessness

#donate

#kingsarmsproject

Tik tok account:



Watch this video to find out more about the kings arm project

<https://youtu.be/01EhamkyCAR>



If you are reading this then that means you are now a part of the kings arms projects text chain. This was created to spread awareness of the fact that around 280,000 people in the UK are counted as homeless and we wanted to do something to bring this to your attention. For 30 years the king's arms project has been doing their part to give people the life they deserve by delivering food to the homeless (thanks to their many donations) and helping them into better living environments. To help do your part and educate your family and friends of this cause, send this to 7 or more people to keep the chain moving. If you want to learn more about this charity search

The Poem

No one should have to go through life alone
Help us give them a comfy home
We all have a roll to play
welcoming people into our community where they feel safe and resourced and honoured to be given an opportunity.

Text Chain message to people we know

**KINGS
ARMS
PROJECT**

FACES Face
Art
Classes
Everyday
Sessions



7KRW



Created a [Kahoot](#)

Kahoot!

Look out for our social action rocks in the local community and share the pictures with us and social media

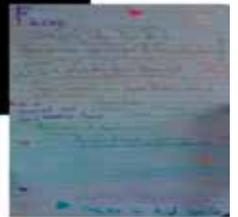


What do faces do to support our local community?



A video to make people feel better that will hopefully cheer you up if your feeling down

https://docs.google.com/file/d/1541WFO9bIeRNT4t2RwhU_wiHpcSRKY6k/preview



7LMC

Zofia's group have created an [information poster](#) on Sue ryder

Zuhaib's group have created posters and used minecraft to raise awareness for Sue Ryder

Raines group are doing something s called team rumble. This includes: A treasure hunt, a raffle and some prizes.

Ehsan's group wanted to fundraise by holding a [bake sale](#) and created a poster to help with that

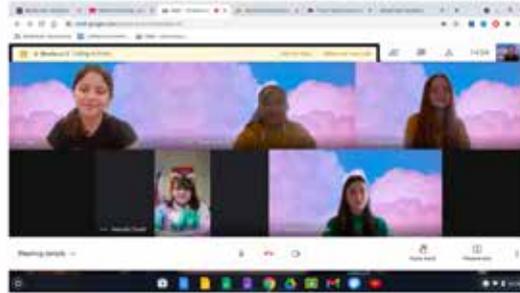


Digital poster

7GM



Shine bright wear bright class photo



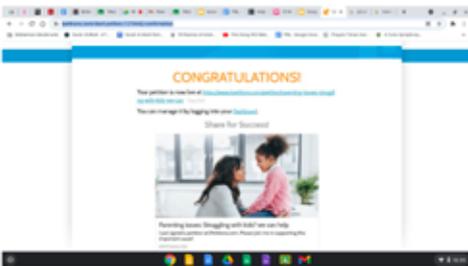
Sophie and group organised for these mindful colouring sheets to be made available to all students to give some positive messages to students and help with wellbeing

Erin and group has organised a just giving page for the wellbeing walk the students are doing.
https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/chumpanzees?experiments=62c_041_fundraising_page_donation_prompts_2%2Cb2c_045_donate_button_color%2Cb2c_029_first_to_donate%2Cb2c_040_fm_fm_sl_proposition_bar%2Cb2c_044_donate_to_yoursell%2Cb2c_048_show_hide_fitness_data&isMobile=false&successType=StaticDonateButtonClick

Poster of wellbeing walk

Samah's group have created an online petition

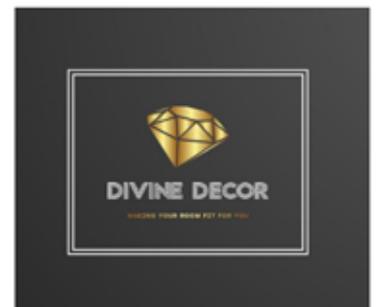
7LMG



Shakira's group have created a instagram page with posters and awareness for FACES

Olivias group have made a fundraising website with handmade home decor products available to buy

Muhammads group have made a poster to raise awareness for FACES



7RJC



Noah and group have created a quiz which they need to just advertise and have a date and time when it can be completed. [Quiz](#) requires food donations to enter

Jakub and Isa are giving up their snacks for a week and donating them to Bedford foodbank



Social Media post to spread awareness

Zuzanna and group are doing a hunger strike and donating food they don't eat to the foodbank.



7HCB

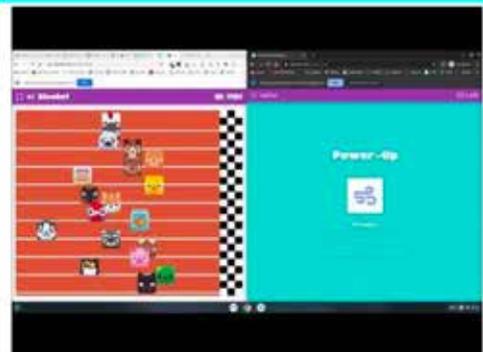


Ismael's group want to do a bake off to raise money, they are also recording a podcast and releasing posters to help



Zunaira's group have created a [blooket](#) game to help raise awareness

Zainab's group are also interestingly going for a bake off, planning to donate any left over foods from the event



New student ambassadors



Now school is open and students are back in school after lock down, we are delighted to introduce our New Year 7 Student Ambassadors.

They are all very excited and want to continue to give enthusiasm to the role as our previous ambassadors.

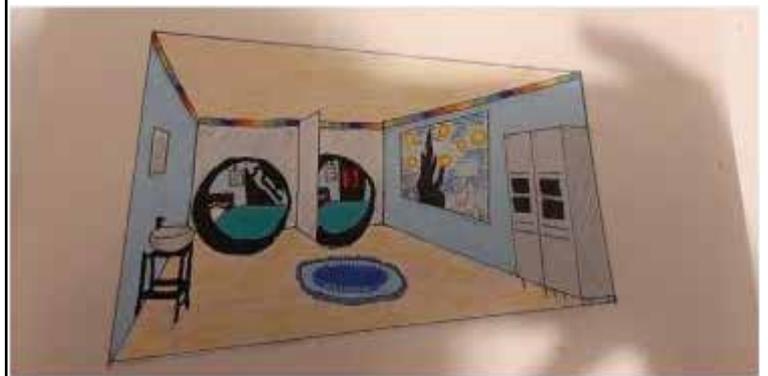
They are really looking forward to sharing ideas of how they think they can help and support their fellow year 7 students during what continues to be a challenging year with unique issues to overcome.

Please join me in congratulating Noah Maynard, Iqra Qadeer, Aleena Nujjuma, Kenzie Taylor and Rosie Braniff.

Year 9 student runner up in national competition

One of our Year 9 students, Bethan Elliott, has been named runner up in a national design competition.

Her design of a hospital ward took second place in the Design The Future Workplace competition, organised by The Cambridge Independent, COEL, Bidwells, Allia Future Business Centre and Cambridge Science Centre.



KS3 poetry competition

One of our Year 8 students, Hala Elabd, has won a poetry competition for Key Stage 3 students with her poem about the impact COVID-19 and lockdown has had on students and their families but also how we can move on once the pandemic is over.

The competition was part of the School Games Cultural Triathlon and you can read Hala's award winning poem.

Our Society in 2021

Trapped, isolated
Polarised and separated.
The sadness surrounds us
But with no one to trust, we could not discuss
how to bring happiness back to the world.
The outside became unsafe,
And now, we're all stuck in a cave.
But students still needed their A's,
So everyone had worries and strains.
It killed our lives and hurt our minds.
It divided our families and broken our friends' bonds
yet the cases still ascend.
But we keep moving forward
For those who suffered.

Masks tried to silence us but
we spoke up for the violence we could not endure
For our rights, for our freedom
and for the harsh treatment.
For our climate, for our people and the cultures in danger.
We let out our anger and now, we are stronger.
Because Covid gave us the time and the chance,
So we'll hold our stance until we can advance.

Sixth Form



Senior Prefect Team spread Christmas cheer with food bank collection

The Senior Prefect Team organised the second food collection for Bedford Foodbank.

After the success of the first collection that took place in October, which saw involvement from all years in the school resulted in us providing 840 meals, we felt that we had another opportunity to unite the school once more to help the Foodbank.

As it was approaching the Christmas season, it was a perfect time to help those who were in need of support in our local community, especially considering the impact the pandemic has had on many families within our area.

As a prefect team we delivered boxes to each form group in the school alongside a list of suggested food items.

The response from form groups was very encouraging; lots of students and teachers alike were eager to get involved in the collection which was great to see, and is a testament to the commitment and dedication of Biddenham students to help our surrounding communities.

Over the next few weeks, boxes quickly started filling up with a variety of different items, including seasonal items such as selection boxes and Christmas pudding which we hope would have been beneficial in spreading the festive spirit to many homes during this difficult time.

At the end of term, we began to collect the boxes from each form group.

We were pleasantly surprised at the volume of donations we had received from across each year.

Year 7 and Year 8 went above and beyond however, with all tutor groups providing a full box, and there were also some beautifully decorated and wrapped boxes which was lovely to see as it showed the level of involvement and enthusiasm students had in these years for the collection.

The event was a success, the enthusiasm and dedication shown by students was beyond our expectations and we are very proud of what we were able to achieve as a school.

We have yet to find out the number of meals we've helped provide this time, however we are very confident that we surpassed the 840 meals that we provided last time.

We'd like to thank everyone who participated by donating!

Anna-Ellen Kennedy

Biology sixth formers given advice by researcher

On Wednesday 4th of February, the year 12 Biology class were able to talk to cancer researcher Shaun DeCordova, who works at the Institute of Cancer Research as a Higher Scientific Officer.

He talked to us about his career pathway and answered all queries about his area of work.

As a child, Shaun was always interested in science. He enjoyed reading science fiction books and found biology fascinating.

His scientific curiosity began with the concept of reproduction, as he had a younger brother and wanted to know how that could happen.

He also credits lots of his motivation to the fact that he had good science teachers throughout his school education that encouraged him to concentrate on his work, allowing him to achieve good grades.

He received A-level qualifications in Biology, Chemistry and Geology and during this time, Shaun found gaining work experience quite difficult because he didn't have any links into the scientific field.

He applied to work at a Homerton hospital in east London in the radiology department. Here, he operated x-ray machines for 2 weeks whilst sitting his GCSEs. If you are aiming to have a career within science, it is highly recommended that you look for experience and links to the scientific community.

Once he left secondary school, he went to the University of Aberdeen and earned a Bachelor of Science in Molecular Biology. After completing his degree, he returned to London in order to work, but eventually decided that further education would be most beneficial for his future. He studied at the Imperial University of London and received a Masters in Molecular Medicine.

This qualification allowed him to make contacts within the world of molecular biology and he managed to obtain a graduate research assistant job.

The majority of Shaun's work at the institute of cancer research is clinically based research on pharmacodynamic (PD) biomarkers. PD biomarkers are molecular indicators of the drug effects on the target in an organism.

They can be used to examine the link between drug regimen, target effect, and biological tumor response. Shaun uses biological assays to measure specific biomarkers within the human tissue.



Continued on next page

A biological assay is a testing procedure for estimating the concentration of a pharmaceutically active substance in a formulated product or bulk material, for example the ELISA test.

Most of his work involves isolating specific cells in surrogate tissues (ie, hair follicles, blood), and analysing them to quantitate the amount of protein biomarkers in the cell.

When a new drug is developed they test it on surrogate tissues, usually their own skin cells, to examine the outcome.

This is called an ex vivo experiment, which is an experimentation done on tissue from an organism in an external environment with minimal alteration of natural conditions. This improves the feasibility of the drug.

The Institute of Cancer Research is a multidisciplinary research institute, and it is one of the best. It provides people with the chance to explore lots of different spectrums of science, due to the consistent communication between the departments.

It is linked with The Royal Marsden Hospital, meaning that the scientists can easily work in tandem with the hospital.

Within the institute, Shaun works in a clinical PD biomarker group with 5 other people.

Their boss is an oncologist, which is a doctor who treats cancer and provides medical care for people diagnosed with cancer. The whole cancer research institute works as a team, sharing information and communicating across departments.

Shaun explained that his favourite parts of his job included being in the lab and developing new assays. This is because, although the work can be challenging, it is satisfying when you achieve your scientific goal.

However, every job has its difficulties, and for Shaun that would be looking at different biomarkers.

This is because some biomarkers are quite prominent, whereas others are more difficult to quantitate because there are low numbers of them. Getting assays to actually work can also be very challenging.

Shaun had three last pieces of advice on how to achieve the most within the field of science.

Firstly, it is important to look for experience in the lab early on, both before and after university.

Secondly, he would encourage everyone to exploit any links to the scientific community that you have.

Lastly, you should look at how different degrees are built before deciding on them because Biology is a huge field so it is important to find out what parts of it you enjoy most.

If you get the opportunity to talk to someone who works in your field of interest, definitely take advantage of their knowledge because the advice a qualified adult can give can be extremely helpful when making a decision about your career path.

Dominik's ready to go off-roading in self-built buggy



Dominik Goluch, in Year 13, has been very busy during lockdown planning, designing and ultimately building this fantastic off-road buggy for his Extended Project Qualification project.

He said he would like to become an engineer one day but it would appear that this particular ambition has already been realised.

Well done, Dominik!

A former Biddenham Head Boy will be spending a year working at the Bank of England.

Gonçalo Brett, a student at Biddenham from 2014 to 2019 and Head Boy in his final year, will be spending a year working at the Bank of England.

He is currently in his second year reading Business and Economics at Lancaster University.

He is also a Trustee of the Useful & Kind Unlimited Charity which he became involved with whilst still a student at Biddenham.

Most recently he has just shared some brilliant news with us. As part of his undergraduate course, his year in industry will be spent at the Bank of England.

He said: "I have been selected to work full-time for the bank of England for 13 months from August 2021-September 2022 (I will then con-



tinue my degree), of which I am thrilled about because the work I will do will contribute to making our economy a fairer one and one with less inequality, through statistics and analysis of UK household expenditure and lending figures.

"This will help those in power implement fiscal and monetary policies which benefit everyone who relies on the great British pound for everyday life from you to me to those bound by a minimum wage, instead of working for a profit-orientated firm which has the interest of its shareholders at heart."

This is wonderful news, that one of our own will work at the Bank of England during his degree course and that this experience will open many doors for him.

We always knew that Gonçalo would go on to great things and always with an intrinsic sense of humility and social justice.

This is Gonçalo to the core and we are proud to say he was one of our own.

Well done Gonçalo!

Medical physics lecture inspires science students

As a student interested in and doing all three sciences at A Level, I always thought of a career that combines a lot of aspects in all of them - Medical Physics!

Medical Physics in a nutshell is the application of physics concepts, theories, and methods to medicine or healthcare.

It is generally split into two major subgroups, specifically radiation therapy and radiology.



I didn't really understand what medical physics was until that great lecture by Matthew Gwilliam.

He basically explained the basics of this career and went into some of his experiences.

It looks like a great career, requiring precision and accuracy in various situations like radiation therapy (locating tumour cells precisely and firing the radiation to damage and kill these cells.)

Any mistake in this location could affect an organ and cause its malfunction and lead to death.

A gigantic problem like cancer requires expert medical physicists to deal with it through this radiation therapy. Radiation therapy kills cancer cells or slows their growth by damaging their DNA.

Cancer cells whose DNA is damaged beyond repair stop dividing or die. When the damaged cells die, they are broken down and removed by the body.

For those interested in engineering, it has some aspects of it.

"The most useful thing about the talk for me was that it helped me understand that there are many different directions you can take post-university with a physics or engineering degree that I hadn't previously considered," said Sam Ellis.

Matt Brown said, "Before the lecture I never knew there was a career path where physics and biology are intertwined but after the great delivery of information, my span of choices have escalated by a mile."

Medical physicists work with doctors to support patients more efficiently. While the doctors can focus on identifying the disease in the human body, the medical physicist can help them deliver the operation more effectively.

For example, trained physicists use particle accelerators to help treat cancerous tumors that were initially found by doctors using X rays.

They work as a group not only to save a person's life but also their families."

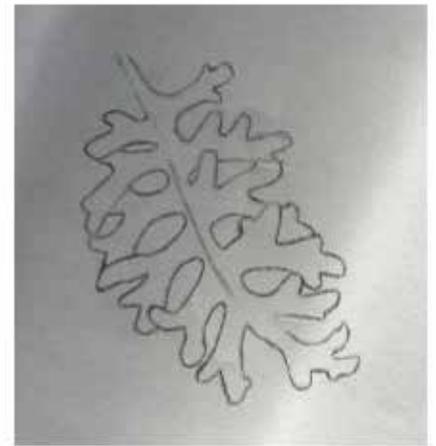
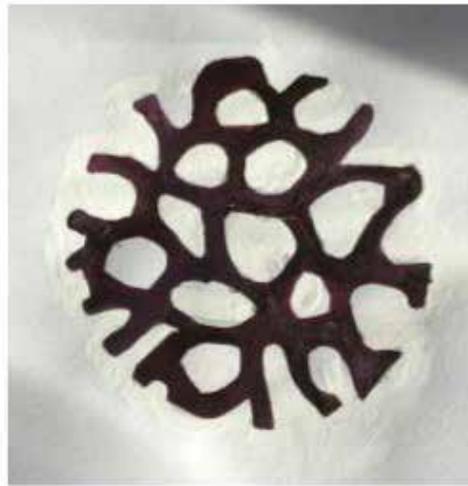
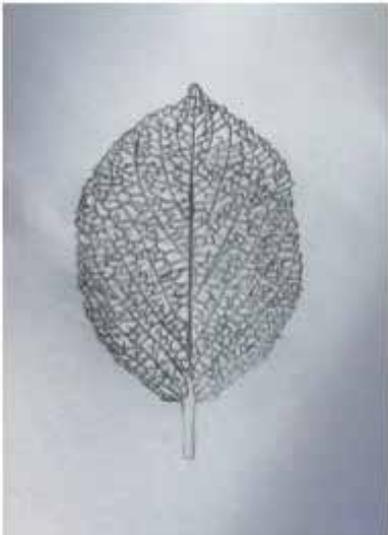
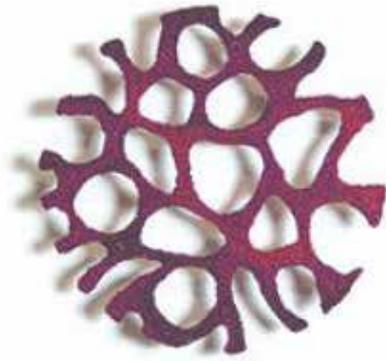
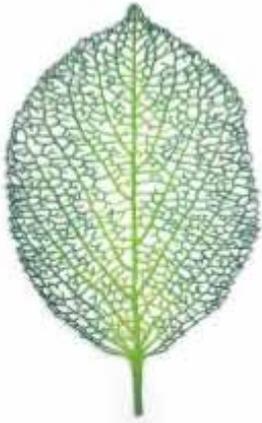
It was a great insight; I want to thank Dr McGrath and hope there are many other talks about different careers yet to come.

Ahmed Elabd

Art and Textiles

Below are some examples of the treat work students have been doing at home during lockdown and through remote learning.





Textiles Challenge

T = T-shirt

E = Elastic

'X' made out of berry pins

T = Thread



I = Iron

L = Lace

E = Eye of a needle

S = Sewing machine

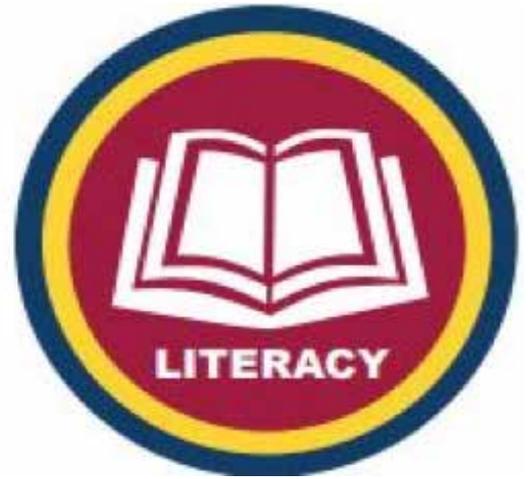


Literacy

At Biddenham we recognise that improving literacy can have a real impact on students' self-esteem, motivation, behaviour and attainment.

We understand that it is an essential skill to enable students to read and write as experts in every subject across the curriculum.

During the lockdown period we have prioritised raising standards of literacy across the school. We have put numerous measures in place in order to promote literacy and a love of reading and writing. Some of these are listed below:



Creative Writing Club

On Friday afternoons during lockdown, Miss Roberts and a group of Year 7 students started a Creative Writing club as a chance to connect with different students and let their imaginations run wild.

Each week, they were given three random objects (based on a theme) which were then used to string a story together, sparking off their creativity before they continued with their own writing projects with Miss Roberts's support. It was always a really lovely way to end the week!

Here are a few extracts from their writing projects:

Chapter One: The Archway

My eyes open to the hazy sky above. A sharp pain burns my cheek and I bring my finger up to touch it; deep red liquid oozes out and coats my finger. I look at myself in its reflection and see gashes of flesh across my face.

Suddenly, my head whips up in response to the screams of people being eaten alive by... what is that?

Black flying objects zoomed across the dome and then darted at the people in cages ripping off skin with every pass.

- Noah Maynard

It was midnight and it was dark, cold and foggy. I could feel the cold breeze brush against my face as I was running, quicker and quicker every second- and so was he.

Eventually I entered the deep, dark and dangerous woods, stepping on twigs and jumping over logs and branches...

- Umaiza Rana

Physical Education

The year 2021 started like no other for everyone around the country and, of course, school PE.

With remote learning, being in front of a chromebook and reduction of exercise due to lockdown the new normal, it was essential that PE at Biddenham continued, which it did.

It continued in a variety of forms, from an activity workbook where students could select a task to complete and a county-wide 45 Second Challenge between all schools in Bedfordshire (giving students the opportunity to compete from home), to an unplugged day with activities designed to get students outdoors and active.

From this we have had hundreds of students getting involved and producing such fantastic work.

Multiple 45 second competition entries have been received (winners to be announced soon); lots of walks around the local area have occurred - exploring what Bedford has to offer (amazingly, one student even used a drone to get photo evidence); students have been out running (some even daily); poems have been written about sport for a national competition; and students have shown creative sides by making their own activity sessions.

Every single thing mentioned here (and more besides) is amazing and you should all be proud of what you have achieved.

In addition to the tasks and challenges, we also took inspiration from Joe Wicks and delivered our very own Live PE lessons weekly to all year groups from 7 to 13.

In these sessions students have taken part in staff led circuit sessions but have also had lessons around Connect 4, Snakes and Ladders, Harry Potter, Tik Tok challenges, yoga and the Wheel of Fortune to name just a few.

All have seen excellent engagement from the students involved, embracing anything that was on offer and we are so proud of each and everyone who took part.

We, of course, much prefer to be in school delivering PE in person, but we will always remember these fun lessons for your smiling faces, interesting conversations (and pets being shown), hard work and creativity in these challenging times and we as a department would like to thank you for your effort and contributions making the most of online learning.

On top of online lessons, some of our students have also had the prestigious opportunity to be involved in a national project by the Youth Sport Trust and FA in producing a video around 'Looking to the Future - Girls Reflections on the Positive Role of Football'.

It involved the girls giving their honest reflections on the effects of lockdown and what they have missed about football and school sport.

This is a huge achievement and we as a school are so proud of you Eve, Zahra, Khady and Tilly in what you have produced, and you should be too.

Children's Mental Health Week

Between 1-7th February we celebrated children's mental health week following the theme 'express yourself' where we acknowledged the importance of expressing our feelings and self image. During that week we had an 'unplugged day', where creative tasks were set didn't involve too much screen time.

There were some fantastic creative ways to measure angles, make volcanoes, bake and make posters on the respiratory system and origami creations.

Please do look at the wellbeing section of our website for wellbeing ideas and mental health support.

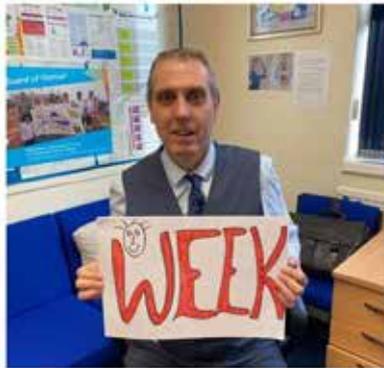
Year 7



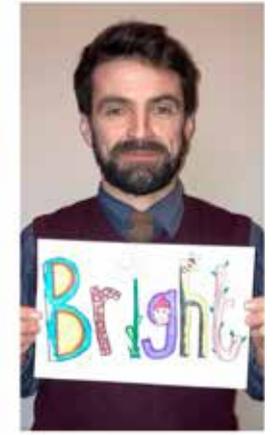
Year 8



Year 9



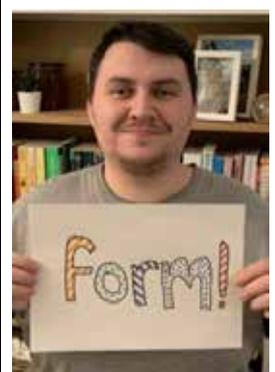
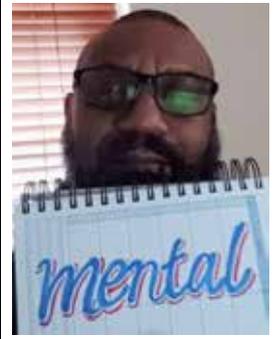
Year 10



Year 11



Sixth Form



A message from Mr Foster

When I took over from Mrs Latchman in March 2020, I knew that covering her maternity leave was going to be challenging. I have to say that I never expected that just two weeks later, we would face the first national school lockdown in living memory.

Suffice to say the last year has been eventful with enough drama to keep us going for a lifetime. Our young people have faced the hard times with courage and resilience and have been truly remarkable.

Their perseverance despite the difficulties they have faced will serve them well for the future and despite the pessimism in the national press, this isn't a lost generation but a generation that will go on to do great things because of their experiences.

However this is also true of our teaching assistants. They are the unsung heroes of home learning. They have supported our young people with regular phone calls (daily during the first lockdown), in online lessons, providing various interventions and during the Autumn term, in the classroom placing themselves at risk to work closely with students needing their help.

They have done this whilst managing their own anxieties and looking after their own families all without complaint.

They have also provided in school support for our key workers and SEND students throughout the last 10 weeks and the first lock down and have helped the young people in our care thrive. The care and dedication to students that our Teaching Assistants have demonstrated, typifies what Biddenham is about.

On behalf of myself, I'd like to thank the team for their dedication and you all for your personal support. Mrs Latchman is now back from maternity leave and can be contacted at SENDCO@mybiddenham.com.

I look forward to continuing to support her, you and our students to the best of my ability in the future.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/biddenham

Twitter: [@BiddenhamIntSch](https://twitter.com/BiddenhamIntSch)

Website: www.biddenham.beds.sch.uk

