

Bright Times

Issue 6: Term 6 2009

This issue is coming soon on our website
www.oasisacademybrightstowe.org



Some of our year 11 students enjoying a trip on the London eye, as part of their post examination reward trip organised by Mrs De Sousa Wyles.

Take time to smell the roses!

Well not roses in this case but a colourful selection of Begonias and Busy-Lizzies

It was a cold, showery April morning when six year 7 students put on their raincoats, rolled up their sleeves and set about transforming the courtyard garden by the Art rooms.

They carefully planted the flowers in the large tubs, having to work quickly to avoid being drenched by the heavy showers and guess what? The moment they had finished, the sun came out! Typical but it was probably more fun in the rain anyway.

Do go and take a look at the flowers as they spread and grow throughout the Summer. It's a pleasant spot to sit and chill out at break or lunchtime.

Well done to Sam Jenkins, Mickey Ballard, Macauley Moseley, Georgia Ball, Will Phillips and Chantelle Keeler. Many thanks to Ash Bearman from SCAF for her help.

In this issue we have a big focus on our year 11 students who are leaving us for pastures new. We wish them every success for the future.

Academy Students Complete Adult Qualification

You may have noticed some smartly dressed year 11 students around the Academy in recent weeks and wondered if you sixth form had started yet! A group of Year 11 students from Oasis Academy Brightstowe have completed a nationally recognised adult qualification in Leadership and Management.

The initiative was sponsored by national insurance company Liverpool Victoria, who have partnered with Oasis Academy Brightstowe to help support their ICT, Mathematics and Business specialism.

Participating students will achieve an 'Introductory Certificate in Team Leadership' from the Chartered Institute of Management (CMI), a prestigious addition to their CV's. Following the success of this pilot, more year 11 students will be given the chance to take part in this course in September. Please speak to Miss Ganner if you would like to take part.



Some of our Year 11 students completing their CMI Introductory Certificate in Team Leadership.

Julie Holden, Learning and Development Partner at Liverpool Victoria, said: "We are very pleased to be working with Oasis Academy Brightstowe and helping StudyFlex (the company that accredits the course for the CMI) to bring this adult qualification into schools across the UK. We believe in supporting young people in society and guarantee to offer any student who completes this course an interview with us if they apply for a job at Liverpool Victoria within six months of finishing their full time education."

Oasis academy :brightstowe Bully Counsellors

Bethany Nichols, Scott Healy and Charlie Thompson year 7 explain how they became Bully Counsellors.

First we had to apply and write why we wanted to become a bully counsellor and why we think we would be good. Next we had to wait to hear if we were selected for the interview. The interview was the scariest bit we had to answer ten questions and to wait to see if we got through to the restorative justice training.

The students that were selected all went to Kings Weston house for training with some police officers. We learned what to say to people when they are bullied and do a presentation about it. We also found out what N.V.C means it means non verbal communications. We had to do some role plays which were really good and fun. We now know it is hard to talk to other people about their problems but we have learned some good questions to ask. We had lunch provided. We had chips and other things. We were given a pack with a script to help us.

Since we have done are training we have had some meetings and we also helped with the year 5 and 6 as Heroes when they came to do some work with Humanutopia.

Humanutopia Training.

Hello. My name is Tomas (no, it is not Thomas) and I joined Oasis Academy Brightstowe four weeks ago. I made one or two really good friends, but some people were not talking to me because I was new,

Then, last week, people from Human Utopia, in the form of Steve, Carlo and Tom came to our Academy. I joined in with the training, but I was a little bit sceptical about it, at first. On the training day at 9 o'clock we were all strangers, but by the afternoon we were like the best mates, ever! We heard each other's stories, know what our dreams are and what we are really like.

For the following two days, we were working with year 5 and 6 pupils from primary schools in the area. They were just amazing! When the day ended, I felt really tired, but also proud of what we have done together, as a team. Now we treat each other with more respect. I feel much better when I go to school.

By Tomas Kmonicek Year 10



Carlo posing with some of our feeder Primary school students!

Artistic Oasis Academy Brightstowe Students

Our artistic students in year 9 recently entered the "Bristol in Bloom" art competition and swept the board with the honours, getting first second and third place overall.

Well done to Ashley Baines (1st place), Toni Parker (2nd place) and Kerry Ballard (third place) who all received their prizes from Mrs Winterman during assembly.



Meet our Bully Counsellors

Year 6 ICT course success

In June over 150 year 6 students from our feeder primary schools spent the day in the ICT suites completing a digital animation course with Miss Whitham and Mr Machin. Ex students Matthew Ackerman and John Goulding were on hand to assist the students who quickly learned how to create their own characters then animate them.

All the students successfully completed the course, some doing animations which were of GCSE standard!

At the end of the day, proud parents came along to see Mrs Winterman present certificates to the successful students. Some of the impressive animations were shown on the projector during the presentations.

DRAMA VISIT FROM OASIS ACADEMY LORD'S HILL



Mrs Ashcroft and our year 10 drama students together with staff and students from Oasis Lord's Hill Academy.

On the 8th July, we had a visit from the Drama department at one of the Oasis Academies in Southampton. First the pupils and teachers from Lord's Hill came in to our Drama studio and we met them all. We then all did some warm up drama activities where we had to walk around with different emotions. This was really good as it gave us a chance to see what the other school's students were like at drama and it also was a good way to start us off. We then got into some groups and devised some frozen pictures. They looked really effective and the drama teacher could see how we worked together in a group and stayed in character. We then devised a piece of drama to music where we had to change emotion and action from happy to angry. We all showed what we had done. They all went well and they looked really powerful.

After lunch, some of the other pupils from Lord's Hill showed a piece of GCSE drama which they had been doing over a long period of time. It was a play called Granny and the Wolf. Some of the people in that play were grade A students. One of the good points was when they did some dancing at the beginning. One of the boys dressed up as the granny and put on a funny voice. They all looked confident and the play went really well.

After they had performed for us, they did another performance for Year 7. Here's what the year 7 pupils thought of it:

'It was exciting and funny.' Jaxson Marsh

'It was good when Little Red put on a high girly voice then suddenly changed to a boy's voice.' Chloe Nowalski

'It showed a lot of courage for them to come all the way to another school and do that in front of people they don't know.' Charlotte Harrington

'The dance was interesting, it was funny and amusing.' Mohima Hussain

By Abbie Vowles (Year 10)

GCSE DRAMA TRIP TO BRISTOL OLD VIC

On the evening of 25th June, GCSE Drama students went to the Bristol Old Vic theatre to watch performances of two plays called 'Chatroom' and 'Citizenship'. The plays were performed by students from Filton College as part of their Drama assessment. We were watching in the basement of the Old Vic which is a small performance area so we were sitting very close to the performers.

The first play, 'Chatroom' was about a girl who wanted to commit suicide. She talked online in a chatroom with four girls but didn't see their face at all. They were telling her she should just kill herself a girl because she wasn't wanted. A character called Laura who was into religion said she can't tell her what to do, just give advice. Her dream was to perform a dance called the cowboy dance in front of a lot of people in Maccy D's on a chair with loud music. She decided in the end not to waste her life. Our favourite bit was when she actually did the crazy cowboy dance.

The second play 'Citizenship' was about a boy how couldn't decide if he was gay or not. He asked people like his teacher to help him find out who he really was but no one could help. He was afraid of what his mates were going to say, and he was hiding his real personality. There were some good moments including the boy trying to speak to his teacher. She was really stressed and the actress was really good. Also when the girl was trying to pierce the boy's ears, that was really effective. The whole play went really well.

It was good to see these plays because it showed how people's lives are different and some people don't really know their identity and they find it hard finding it.

By Abbie Vowles and Shannon Johnson (Year 10)



On 12th June students in year 7 brought in castles they made during the holidays. They made these castle out of lego, cake, wood and anything else they could get their hands on. I made a motte and bailey castle out of chocolate cake. It had many layers of chocolate and chocolate fingers. The cake was eaten the next day otherwise it would go hard! 7G all enjoyed the chocolate cake and I planned to take the rest home for my family to enjoy. On my way home I tripped and the cake went all over my face and school clothes. I was devastated!

By Daniel Kelly Year 7



Summer, summer, summer woo. What time is it.....? Actually I don't think I'll do that. Anyway summer is nearly upon us young people of Brightstowe, when we can take off our blazers and run down the street virtually naked, but enough of my plans, there are things to talk about and Tom's Balls is back (y'know the sports bit).

There's been a lot of riots in Iran about the elected president Ahmedinejad (say Ak-ma-din-a-jad) and about people who don't want him as president who aren't happy bunnies. Some people think that his opponent got more votes, it makes it seem that he cheated. But the most important news is that Michael Jackson died. Everyone was sad but the worst affected was Bubbles, his pet chimp that was sent to a zoo after he became too big and violent to look after (ahhh poor Bubbles, he did not go to the funeral). His dad didn't get any money out of the will because he wasn't liked, which is just terrible, but he was at the funeral. It's hard to believe that while the cameras are on his house he will never moon-walk out the drive, it brings a tear to my eye, it really does. And while we are on the subject of Mr. Jackson can we all agree that once someone is dead that we don't call them by the name the media called them. So can we stop calling him "Jacko", yes The Sun I'm talking about you.

But the biggest news in the world now is that your beloved crazy kid has broken his arm (that's me). Well I'm sick of random old ladies asking me what I did to my arm as if it wasn't obvious. I told one person that I had swine flu in my arm that the cast was to keep the disease from spreading and she believed me, hahaha.

Tom's Balls

There was tennis, Murray didn't win, Federer didn't cry. Ok and now there's cricket and we are losing I think, but I don't know. Ah and right now is the Tour De France (yes that's in France!) and Lance Armstrong is there, good for him. That's about the only sport stuff that comes to mind apart from a footballer (I can't remember who) has got swine flu and is not allowed in the country.

So remember kids, run while on holiday, run with as little clothing as possible.

By Tom Burgess Year 10



Mr Tolman, Mrs Kerslake and some of our incredibly glamorous year 11 girls at their Prom.

Some of the fantastic work from our Year 11 Design Technology students!



Opening Minds Trip

On 29th June year 7 were lucky enough to have a visit to Goblin Coombe centre we had many different demonstrations such as fire making and shelters. The visit lasted all day with only one break.

The instructors showed us many things how to make a fire easily and to structure and build our own shelters, the shelters were made out of wood and earth and many different sorts of leaves all different colours.

When making the fire there was one person that done it straight away with the tools supplied, that was Alex Harris. We played many games, being blind folded one person in your team had to get the coloured cup when they had done it the next person repeated this until the whole team had done it.

Another game we all had a chance to play involved lifting the bomb liquid out of the area. We only had two ropes and sticks and the stuff that you have in the woods to help us. You got "bombed" if you stepped in the box (and you got a 5 minute penalty). By the end day we were very tired but we had the lot of fun doing it the stuff we like.

By Macauley Moseley Year 7



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