



Newsletter

Issue Number 385

Friday 1st March 2024

Extra-curricular and Enrichment Activities

We know how important the day to day experience that our children have in their classrooms is for their learning and progress. All of our schools understand and promote high-quality teaching and learning in every class, and this is at the heart of our success. However, it is not the only thing that makes a difference. There are many other things that we do in school that supports pupils' progress such as targeted intervention sessions, excellent pastoral care, support for pupils' mental health and wellbeing, strategic use of homework – all make a contribution to success.

Another area that can play a pivotal role in pupils' holistic development is extra-curricular and enrichment activity. In our Trust schools, we are proud to offer a diverse array of activities that cater to every pupil's interests and talents, ranging from music and drama to sports, arts, and study support.

A 2019 report from the government's Social Mobility Commission confirmed the importance of extra-curricular activity, but also highlighted the disparity in take up for different groups of pupils. Research has consistently shown that engagement in extra-curricular activities is linked to improved academic outcomes, higher self-esteem, and enhanced social skills. These activities provide a platform for students to explore their passions, develop new skills, and form lasting friendships. They are not just hobbies; they are opportunities for real-world learning and personal growth.

Our trust schools are committed to ensuring that every pupil has access to these enriching experiences. We offer a wide range of activities, including:

Music and Drama: Unleash creativity and boost confidence through performances and productions.

Sports: Foster teamwork and physical health with various sports teams and events.

Arts: Encourage self-expression and develop fine motor skills.

Games and hobbies: Build confidence and develop friendships.

Study Support: Provide academic assistance and mentorship to help pupils thrive.

We understand that there may be barriers preventing some pupils from participating in these activities. Whether it's financial constraints, transportation issues, or any other challenge, we are here to support. We can assist in finding solutions to ensure that every child can take part in the activities they love.

Participation in these activities has been shown to lead to higher grades, increased likelihood of accessing further and higher education, and reduced absenteeism. A thematic review by the Girls Education Challenge (2018) found that extra-curricular activities are associated with a range of positive outcomes for pupils, such as higher grades and test scores, decreased school dropout, and greater educational attainment. They are instrumental in shaping well-rounded individuals who are prepared for the challenges of the future.

Your support as parents is invaluable. Encouragement from home can make all the difference in a child's willingness to participate and excel in extra-curricular activities. We thank you for your continued support and for being active participants in your child's educational journey. We are dedicated to providing a nurturing environment where every pupil can discover and develop their interests. Together, we can ensure that our children are not only academically successful but also happy, confident, and ready to take on the world.



Dr. Paul Heery
Chief Executive Officer



The White Hills Park Trust
Better Together

Careers within the White Hills Park Trust

Are you looking for a workplace that values collaboration, teamwork, and a supportive environment? Then look no further. In the White Hills Park Trust, we pride ourselves on the fact one of the best things about working here is the people. Whether it's our supportive central team, our passionate and dedicated school families, or our amazing diverse pupils, we provide a friendly workplace that promotes collaboration and teamwork, united in our mission to provide the very best for our young people.

We currently have open vacancies in various roles across our schools. Please see our online application portal at whptrust.org/vacancies for more information on the benefits of working with us, to read more about the roles below and begin an application, or to sign up for job alerts.

Head Teacher

at The Lanes Primary School, Beeston
Closing Date: Monday 11th March 2024.

Drama Teacher

at Bramcote College, Bramcote
Closing Date: Monday 11th March 2024.

Curriculum Leader - Computer Science

at Bramcote College, Bramcote
Closing Date: Monday 11th March 2024.

SEN Class Teacher

at Foxwood Academy, Bramcote
Closing Date: Monday 11th March 2024.

School Operations Manager

at Alderman White School, Bramcote
Closing Date: Friday 15th March 2024.

Exam Invigilator

at The White Hills Park Trust, Bramcote
Closing Date: Thursday 28th March 2024.



Century Learning Winter Cup Competition (For Year 7 and 8 Students)



On Monday 26th February we officially launched the **Century Learning Spring Challenge**, a competition that will run for 4 weeks and involve the Year 7 and 8 students at Bramcote College. The competition is designed to promote the use of Century Learning, our self-guided independent study app.

We have seen a really positive response from Year 7 and 8 with lots of the students completing the recommended 30+ minutes of Century Learning each week.

During the competition window, we will identify the top 10 performers in each year group each week. These students will receive a certificate and sticker. The top performer of the month will receive a special prize.

It is not too late to participate, just log into Century Learning and complete the learning nuggets in English, Maths, Science and Computer Science.

Accessing Century

At home, simply search for Century Learning or <https://app.century.tech/login/> or link on the link **CENTURY** from the Bramcote College Home page.

Ms Banger

the spring challenge
26th February
– 24th March

Compete with other schools and colleges to win a trophy! Can your school or college complete the most nuggets to win the trophy?

CENTURY STARS

Year 7 and 8
Century Learning
Spring Challenge Competition
Log into Century and complete
the most unique nuggets each week
For a chance to win a prize and
certificate.

Superstar

Maths Challenge Success

The Maths team at BC would like to congratulate the 99 students from years 9, 10 and 11 who took part in the UKMT intermediate challenge where our students achieved 9 gold, 14 silver and 26 bronze certificates. In particular we would like to congratulate the 8 students who qualified for the follow on Pink and Grey Mathematical Kangaroo competitions which will take place in school next month.

Well Done Everyone.

Mr Devlin



Chocolate wanted!

Our famous Easter Egg Tombola returns for students soon giving anyone and everyone a chance to win a delicious chocolatey prize.

This is always popular but our PTA need donations to make this a success - if you could spare an easter egg or other treat then please leave any donations at reception for the attention of the PTA who will gladly add them to the tombola!



BC Library News



During this term some students in Year 7 and 8 have been shadowing the Brilliant Book Awards, run by Inspire, Education Library Services. They have been meeting on Thursday afternoons after school to write reviews and complete activities on the books which they have read in their spare time.

<https://bba.inspireculture.org.uk/>

This week on Monday 26th February twelve students attended an author event, at the Becket School, to meet one of the authors: **Sufiya Ahmed**, *Rosie Raja: Churchill's Spy*.

<https://www.bloomsbury.com/uk/author/sufiya-ahmed/>

"I thought it was cool going to Becket School to meet an author because nearly nobody can say they did that. Sufiya Ahmed is also a lovely person."

Charlotte Smart

"When we went to visit Sufiya Ahmed we got to get her books and get them signed, which was cool. She taught us about history including WW2 and the suffragettes. We also heard about Noor Inayat Khan a spy!"

Erin Taylor



Donated Books

Thank you to everyone who has donated books since the last newsletter, the students look forward to reading them. We have received so many we are running out of space! Please contact Mrs Brechin if you have any other titles you wish to donate.