

# News, Events and Updates at Brompton Academy

---

## Brompton Academy Business Studies Students Achieve Outstanding Results

Setting the standards high for our current Sixth Form cohort, three of last year's Year 13 students returned this term to receive awards for outstanding achievements in Business Studies and Finance.

Thomas received an award for achieving a Distinction Star in BTEC Extended Certificate in Business Studies.

Connor and Namatama received awards from the London Institute of Banking and Finance – both achieving an A in the Diploma in Financial Studies - this came with a £500 bursary towards a Level 4 course with the same organisation.

These students represent what we aim for within our ever-growing UKAT Sixth Form. They received their certificates and were congratulated by the department, our current Sixth Form and the Executive Principal. All three are now successfully engaged with their desired courses and careers.



## Year 7 Students Swim for Kent Scouts

Two of our Year 7 students, Silas and Seb, set themselves a goal to swim one hundred miles to raise funds for a Kent Scout expedition to Antarctica.

Even though they are too young to go on the expedition themselves, they wanted to help their fellow Scouts undertake research, promote the scouting links to Antarctica and have a tall ship experience of a lifetime.

The Kent Scouts ReQuest 2021 expedition commemorates the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Sir Ernest Shackleton's last expedition to Antarctic on which two scouts were members of the crew.

Silas and Seb started their challenge in June this year and completed the one hundred miles swim on the 28th October and have currently raised £220.25.



See how they completed the challenge here: <https://m.facebook.com/silasandsebs100mileswimmingchallenge>  
This is the link if you would like to add to the total raised so far: <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/SiandSeb100miles>

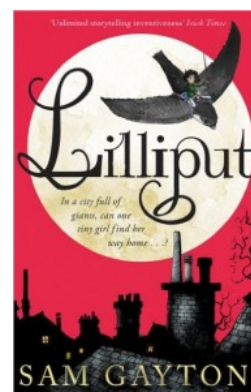
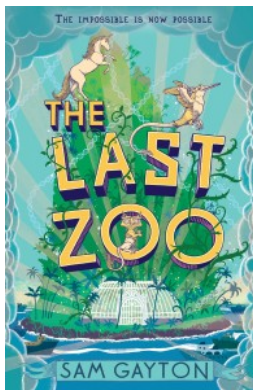
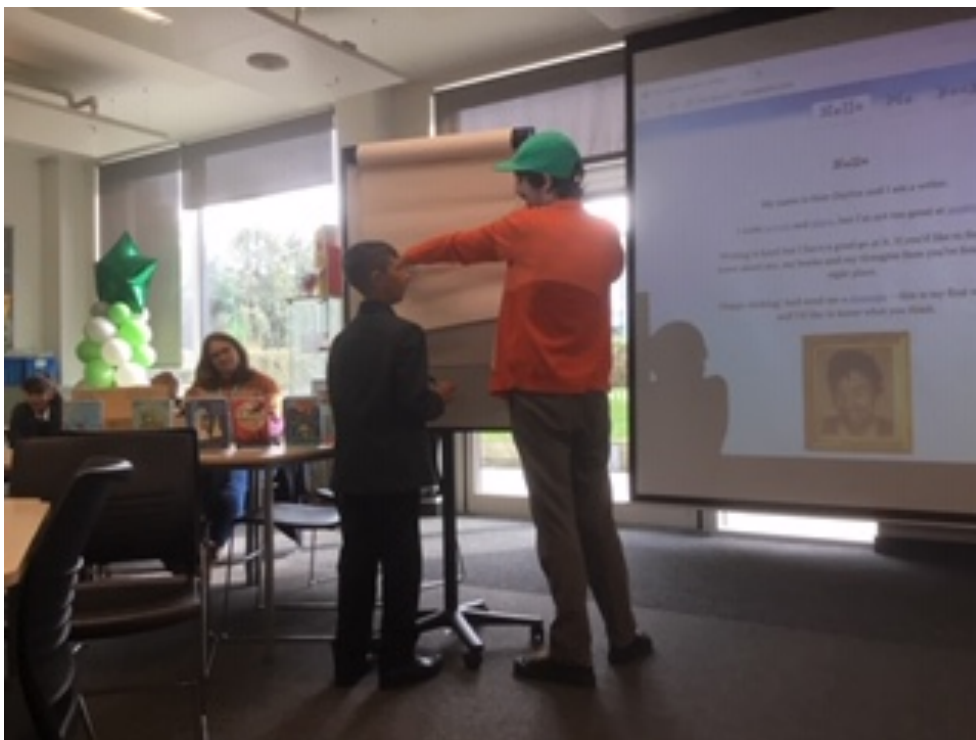
# A Busy Term in the Brompton Academy Library

## Visit from Author Sam Gayton

The fabulous Sam Gayton, author of *The Last Zoo* and many more books came along to meet some of our Year 7 students and talk about his creative process.

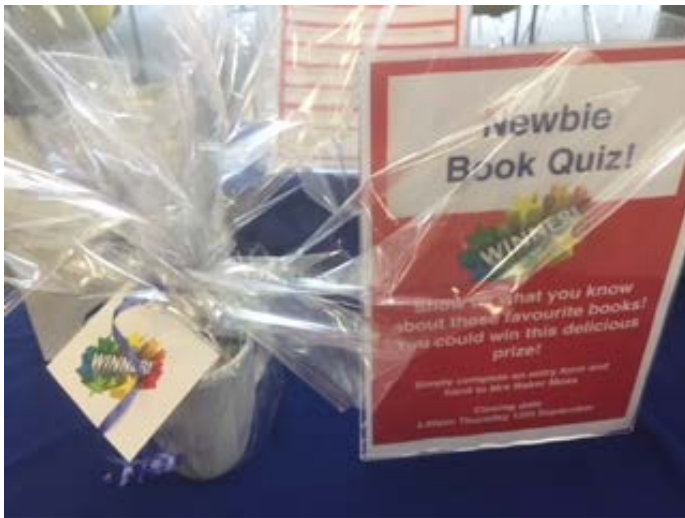
Sam talked through his strategies for creating stories and characters, and we used the 'What if' technique to generate ideas and Dali's Cadavre Exquis to develop amazing characters. One of our students volunteered to help draw a character that was crowd-sourced from the students. It turned out to be excellent.

Needless to say, every one of Sam's books in our library has been booked out.



### Newbie Book Quiz

Our Year 7 students competed in a Newbie Book Quiz to get them in the swing of visiting the Library. Serious questions about children's and young adult books certainly demonstrated we have some keen readers in school.



One of our winners looks very happy with her goody bag of fun things to read and eat!

### University of Kent Mentors for our UKAT Sixth Form



Sixth Form Academic Mentors from the University of Kent provide support, encouragement and constructive criticism to our A level students twice weekly in the Library.

This valuable insight helps to boost their grades.

## Origami Harry Potter Hedgehogs in the Library!

Students and staff enjoyed a very chatty hour making adorable hedgehogs from library books that were too tatty to lend any more.



It was a great opportunity to get to know our new students, and catch up with some older ones!

Students produced some excellent creations to show off!

Just waiting to add the hedgehog scarves in Hogwarts House colours. Better get knitting.



## Going Bananas!

Year 7 and 8 students have been 'going bananas' after school with Bananagrams!

This compelling competitive game has us all wracking our brains then grabbing the dictionary for inspiration to prove to each other that our spellings are correct.

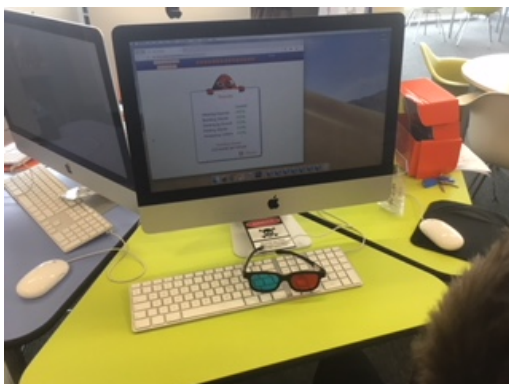
Outrageously competitive, but sneakily educational.

Check out our Top Bananas!



## Dyslexia Gold!

We are testing an exciting new programme, Dyslexia Gold in the library.



Bespoke assessments and practise programmes aim to boost reading fluency and speed and three-dimensional specs help refine eye tracking. The high quality technology builds phonological awareness.

Our rigorous testing means we can see if it is helpful to some of our students.

## A Very Active Term for Brompton Academy Football Teams

This term Brompton Academy took part in The Medway Secondary Schools Football League, entering Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 teams in the boys' categories. Our girls' team have also been training hard ahead of their cup games this year.

Training is held every Friday, with over eighty students attending each week. The highlights this season have been the Year 10 winning 4-1 over Victory Academy, and the Year 7 team gaining their first win of the season.

Year 8 students also made improvements this year, gaining their first win against Robert Napier School 9-2. School football fixtures will now take a winter break and return in Term 4, but training will continue every Friday. In addition, girls have their own extra training session on Tuesdays.



## Sixth Form Footballers compete in Inaugural English Schools Cup Competition

This season Brompton Academy, in partnership with Soccer Elite, will be taking on teams from Kent, Essex and Sussex as part of a brand-new national competition.

The squad is made up of twenty-eight students who have been training hard ahead of their fixtures this season. The team will also be taking part in The Kent Schools Academies League in addition to this new competition.

We'll update on their progress throughout this year on our social media outlets.

# Get Involved in Music at Brompton Academy

## **Instrumental Lessons Available**

As an Artsmark Centre, we are always working to celebrate and nurture new Arts talents at the Academy.

As such, we are currently offering discounted lessons in guitar, drums, bass, voice, trumpet, clarinet and other instruments.

All tuition is conducted on a one-to-one or groups basis with a rolling timetable. There are a limited number of places and instruments available, and therefore it is offered on a first come first served basis.

Please can you get in contact with [chloecoupe@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk](mailto:chloecoupe@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk) for further information regarding tutor availability, prices, timetable etc.



## **Year 10 Music Concert**

As part of the BTEC Music course, students are required to plan, promote and perform in their own music concert.

Over forty Year 10 music students have been working very hard on creating their own concert, including setting up instruments, creating lighting and sound designs and promoting their concert with posters. The students performed to Phase One students, and delivered a range of songs from various genres, artists, and decades.

A big 'thank you' to Mr Pounds for assisting with the concert and allowing the students to have the experience of performing in a professional setting.

Watch out for an up-coming Year 10 concert in March for friends and family to attend!



## New Music Clubs for 2019

### BA Band - Tuesday 3:15 - 4:15pm

The BA Band have been working on creating their own 'four chord song'. Students discussed and created their own versions of songs which had not been produced before.

With students from Year 7 all the way up to Year 10 taking part, the song selection has been varied, merging The Beatles, Train and Adele.

We are always looking for new students to join us, from Phase One and Two, so come along, learn how to play an instrument or sing, and be part of a band!



### Ukulele Choir - Monday 3:15 - 4:15pm

A free six-week course running from Monday 4th November to Monday 9th December. Each lesson will focus on new aspects of playing the ukulele and singing. Students will be taught how to read chord diagrams, tablature, how to play basic chord shapes, how to warm up the vocals, how to sing with support and how to sing basic harmony.

Students should be available for the full six-week programme.

To sign up, please contact, or go into the Community Office.



## Sport Science Students Test Performances

Brompton Academy were fortunate enough to gain a day of professional Sports Science testing this term delivered by Project MVP.



The day consisted of students taking part in a range of elite tests including vertical jump and sprint speed using laser gates.

Students will get the opportunity to compare their results next term and will be able to compare with national averages.

The Academy was one of only a handful of schools invited to be part of the project with Project MVP. Students thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the tests and learning about how this affects sporting performance.



# UKAT Sixth Form Students Visit The Royal Opera House

UKAT Year 13 Performing Arts students attended a matinee performance of 'Manon' by The Royal Ballet. The event was a chance to see the premiere of the ballet presented at The Royal Opera House in London, and students were fortunate to watch the performance from some of the best seats in the house!



During the visit students were able to explore the different areas within the Opera House and were able to see costumes, props and scenery from famous productions such as 'Swan Lake' and 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland'.

Students also spent time on the famous terrace on the fifth floor and got to eat their lunch looking at the incredible skyline of London.

One student commented, 'the performance itself had such meaning and really reminded me why I loved performing arts and dance in the first place. I admired everything about the piece, the set, the storyline, the characters and even the extension in their legs!'



## Brand New Performing Arts Clubs Launched

Brompton Academy Theatre Company and Brompton Academy Dance Company have launched successfully this term. Students in Phase One and Phase Two have the opportunity to develop their practical and composition skills with specialist staff and also to perform at regular events.

These clubs are already oversubscribed so the next opportunity for students to join will be in January 2020 when each company will start work on a new project. Information about these opportunities will be shared via Personal Tutors and the Tutor Bulletin.

## Year 11 GCSE Dance Exams

Year 11 Dance students demonstrated their skills and talents by participating in a series of practical exams that will contribute significantly to their final grade. It was clear that the students worked very hard.



Over a series of days students performed solo and trio pieces and the way in which they conducted themselves was professional and mature. We look forward to seeing the results of their efforts in choreography as the classes move into the next and final phase of practical assessments.

Good Luck Year 11!

## A Level Dance Success

Year 13 A level Dance students have started the process of preparing for their final practical exams this term, and their positive attitude and organised approach has been noted by their teachers.

The practical examinations are a challenging part of this qualification and require students to present a wide range of pieces to a visiting examiner in Spring 2020.



Students have already completed their quartet piece and if you attended the Summer Showcase in July 2019 you will have seen the stunning content of this piece which is inspired by Akram Khan's 'Giselle'.

This term Year 10 GCSE Dance students participated in a creative workshop led by Year 13 and they produced some fantastic work. The session was professionally and enthusiastically planned by Year 13. It was wonderful to see the students collaborate with each other in such a positive way.

## Why Not Join the Brompton Academy Girls Football Team?

Girls football has been a massive hit this term, with girls from Years 7-10 attending training sessions every week. The Year 7 and 8 team played their first Kent Cup game against Valley Park, and despite a 0-6 loss, the resilience and determination displayed by the girls was exceptional. For many students this was their first ever game of competitive football and the score did not reflect the effort they put in. With fixtures coming up in the English Schools cup and friendlies against other schools, the girls are continuing to work hard in training.

Excellent leadership has also been demonstrated by our older and more experienced players to support the younger students. Girls' football club is open to all abilities, come along and give it a go!

## Update on Netball Fixtures

Netball fixtures have begun, and with teams from all year groups playing in competitive leagues, it is a big year for netball. Students have played some nail-biting games with the Under 16's just losing 6-7 in the last minute to Hundred of Hoo. The Year 8's also played hard against CG with a score of 0-2. A special 'shout out' goes to the new Year 7 students who played their first game of netball for the Academy. With numbers continuing to increase at training, each squad is preparing for their upcoming matches.

Netball club is open to all abilities, why don't you come along and give it a go!



## Lots of Interest in the DofE programme

As usual it's been a busy Term 1 for the DofE team promoting the programme to students and parents. We have had a fantastic response so far and we still have places available.

The parent/carer information evenings were a great success. These were held on consecutive dates at the beginning of the term at both BA and CG. Registration is still open via the ParentPay system for new participants with the closing date of 1st November 2019.

We were really excited to showcase our new DofE banner recently, we think you will agree it looks fantastic and is a great tool for promoting the DofE programme.



We welcomed some new staff to the UKAT team bringing our total to sixteen staff and four ambassadors. We very much look forward to working with them in the future.

Dates have now been confirmed for next year and these can be found on our website. <https://www.bromptonacademy.org.uk/duke-of-edinburgh-award>.

For further information about this fantastic award please contact the DofE team via email at [dofeba@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk](mailto:dofeba@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk). Or speak to either Mrs Culham or Mr Webster on 01634 852341.

# Community News

## Year 7 Information Evening

All Year 7 parents, carers and students were invited to attend the Year 7 Information Evening that was delivered by senior members of Academy staff. The information session which has been designed to equip parents and carers with useful information and pointers on how best to support their child at the Academy covered the following topics:

- Attendance
- Special Educational Needs (SEN)
- Behaviour and Safeguarding
- Personal Tutoring
- Adult and Family Learning
- Residential Trips
- Electives

Approximately one hundred and fifty families attended the information evening and 100% said that they would recommend the evening to other parents and carers and felt that they had a better understanding of the Academy's Attendance, Assessments, SEN and Behaviour and Safeguarding policies.

## Understanding and Supporting Your Child Session for Parents and Carers

We understand that sometimes being a parent or carer can be both rewarding and challenging.

The Academy invited parents, carers and grandparents to attend a free Understanding and Supporting Your Child workshop, which covered a variety of topics such as 'understanding different behaviours in young people and why they occur' and 'modelling positive behaviour and communication as a parent/carer'. Parents, carers and grandparents had the opportunity to discuss their own situations and understand that they are not alone in what they are experiencing.

The workshop that was delivered by the Parent Detective, provided inspiring and supportive top tips and strategies enabling parents and carers to bring out the best in their children.





## Young Carers

The Young Carers group meet up once a term and attend various trips/events over the course of the year. This group allows young people to make new friends and take a little time out from their busy life.

If you are a young carer, or your child is a young carer, and would like to know more about this group please contact Mrs Culham or email [juliaculham@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk](mailto:juliaculham@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk)

Please also find a link to Carers First who can support young carers and their families.

<https://www.carersfirst.org.uk/medway>

