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## News, Events and Updates at Brompton Academy

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### Super Successful Virtual Open Events at Brompton Academy

Brompton Academy's Virtual Open Events were launched this year to enable prospective parents, carers, and students the opportunity to explore our amazing Academy by accessing our new and exciting 360 tour! The events took place on Thursday 8th and Saturday 10th October 2020, and parents and carers were invited to register for the events, which saw over 1,100 families accessing the event in one evening alone (Thursday). The live Principal's presentation took place both on our website and via Facebook, with an impressive 700 views in less than one hour!

The new University of Kent Academies Trust Events website is live, and please feel free to enjoy our Virtual Open Event 2020.

Please click the link to access the Virtual Open Event 2020: <https://www.ukatevents.org.uk/brompton-academy/>.



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### Year 7 Virtual Information Event

During Term 1, the Academy normally invites new Year 7 parents, carers and students to attend an information evening, which sees the assembly hall packed with approximately 350 people! This year Mr Hardman, Head of Year 7 has created a virtual event, which has been specifically designed to equip parents, carers and students with useful information and pointers on how best to support their child's learning whilst they are at Brompton Academy.

All new Year 7 parents and carers have been emailed the link to the Virtual Information Event. Please do let us know if you have not received this email by contacting us via the following email: [MaryMurison@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk](mailto:MaryMurison@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk).

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## Leadership and Challenge - A New and Exciting Addition to the Year 7 Curriculum

This year we launched the pioneering Leadership and Challenge curriculum for our Year 7 classes, and as part of the programme of study, students are developing skills for confident and effective public speaking. The creative minds of Year 7 have selected a range of subjects to speak on including traditional world cuisine, animal ownership; stereotypes of the youth of today; and societal inequality. Students were introduced to a fantastic platform for idea sharing and recording called Flipgrid. Flipgrid is an educational tool which allows students to use video to report their ideas, presentations, and class contributions, and safely explore speaking rather than writing.



All the students have explored their own voice, developed opinions and have learnt about the importance of finding accurate evidence to support their point of view. We are excited to hear the final speeches in Term 2, and look forward to supporting students in the courageous task of speaking in public.

Kyan (pictured) spoke with conviction, about influential black innovators and inventors, scientists and academics.

## Dance Nomination Award for the Performing Arts Department

We are excited to announce that the Brompton Academy Performing Arts department have been nominated for a national award from our advisory body, One Dance UK. This award is for an exceptional dance teacher or dance department within a secondary school who inspires and motivates their students, putting them at the heart of their work. They will be making a positive impact on students and the wider school. Congratulations to the PA Team!



## UKAT Sixth Form - Skills for Success Programme

All of the UKAT Year 12 and 13 students began our new 'Skills for Success' Sixth Form study skills programme this term. The six week programme is supported by their teachers and a range of virtual resources provided by the University.

The Skills for Success programme focuses on helping students to develop the skills and knowledge needed to meet the challenges of sixth form learning. This programme covers aspects such as motivation, organisation, time management, reflection and independent learning. The programme aims to help students understand their own goals and aspirations, and how their sixth form studies can help to achieve them.

## Amazing Success for BA in the Secondary School Games Results 2019-2020

Brompton Academy has achieved the most successful results to date at the Secondary School Games (SSG), where both boys and girls teams dedication to training and competing has excelled. The PE department strive to offer students as many opportunities as possible which includes 12-15 clubs running each week, together with invite only sessions and a varied curriculum supporting the SSG calendar.

This years success has seen the Academy receive medals in every competition, qualifying for a staggering six Kent Finals and one National Competition! We are extremely proud of our students who have shown such dedication and team spirit in their chosen sport.

 <b>SSG SPORTING SUCCESSES</b>	<b>KENT BADMINTON FINALS</b> 4th Place - U13 Girls	<b>WEST KENT TRAMPOLINING FINALS</b> 2nd Place - Year 7/8 Girls 1st Place - Year 9/10 Girls  Individual placings: 2nd Place - Chloe H 2nd Place - James M  Qualified to Kent Finals
<b>MEDWAY CROSS COUNTRY</b> 1st Place - Year 7 Individual Five qualified to Kent Finals	<b>MEDWAY ROWING</b> 2nd Place - Girls 2nd Place - Boys	<b>KENT TRAMPOLINING FINALS</b> 4th Place - Year 7/8 Girls 1st Place - Year 9/10 Girls
<b>MEDWAY HANDBALL</b> 1st Place - U13 Girls 2nd Place - U13 Boys 4th Place - U13 Girls 3rd Place - U15 Boys <b>KENT HANDBALL FINALS</b> 2nd Place - U13 Boys 3rd Place - U13 Boys	<b>WEST KENT QUALIFIERS</b> 1st Place - Year 7 Girls 1st Place - Year 8 Girls 2nd Place - Year 9 Girls 1st Place - Year 10 Girls 2nd Place - Year 11 Girls 3rd Place - Sixth Form Girls 2nd Place - Year 7 Boys 2nd Place - Year 8 Boys 3rd Place - Year 9 Boys 5th Place - Year 10 Boys 4th Place - Year 11 Boys 3rd Place - Sixth Form Boys	<b>Congratulations to all students who participated in the SSG 19/20.</b>
<b>KENT TABLE TENNIS</b> 2nd Place - Girls Overall Silver Medal and Individual Kent Invites	<b>WEST KENT ROWING FINALS</b> 1st Place - Year 7 Girls 1st Place - Year 8 Girls Qualifiers Kent Finals	
<b>MEDWAY FUTSAL</b> 2nd Place - Year 7/8 Girls 4th Place - Year 9/10 Girls 3rd Place - Year 7/8 Boys 3rd Place - Year 9/10 Boys	<b>KENT ROWING FINALS</b> 1st Place - Year 7 Girls 1st Place - Year 8 Girls  National Finals - awaiting competition dates	

## Duke of Edinburgh's Award Recruitment Event

We are delighted that so many of our students have still completed their Award under difficult circumstances, and will receive their Certificates of Achievement along with the final Bronze Award. We are lucky to have completed our expedition in March 2020 before lockdown and many of our Bronze students are now signing up for Silver. Information about the Silver and Gold programmes will be rolled out over the next couple of weeks.

We have had some new members of staff joining us recently. A big yellow to Mrs Webb and Mrs Nasillo who are now going to be Done Verifiers for the Trust, and Mr Whittaker has also agreed to run the UKAT DofE kit store. Welcome to the DofE Team and we are really looking forward to working with you in the future.



More good news: we would like to congratulate our new Ambassadors, Josh, Lewis and Abigail, they will be starting their Ambassador training soon, and we would like to wish them all the very best of luck.

Finally, in March 2020 both academies within the Trust had their three year DofE Review. Edward Gaskin the auditor was really impressed with the bespoke programme at UKAT that is on offer to all students. We had some fantastic feedback. Edward commented "There are very few schools that can demonstrate such a positive and encapsulating Award programme, thanks to the leadership." We would like to thank all staff and volunteers in

the UKAT DofE Team, for their commitment, passion and enthusiasm to promote and deliver the Award to everyone, regardless of ability, gender, background or location.

If you would like to find out more about this amazing Award, please visit the Academy website. You can also follow us on the Academy's social media platforms to keep up to date on all things DofE.

For more information about the DofE click the following link: <https://www.chathamgrammar.org.uk/dofe>. Registration for the Bronze and Silver Awards closes on the 1st November 2020.

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## Fair Banding Test

We have had an overwhelming number of registrations for the annual Fair Banding test, which is an admissions requirement for all new Year 7 students wishing to attend Brompton Academy. The Fair Banding test which determines which banding group a student will be in placed in, has been run over several sessions to adhere to social distancing since the summer. The Academy has had over 800 children either having sat or registered for the test so far.

The last Fair Banding test date is Saturday 7th November 2020. Registration for this final test date closes on Friday 4th November 2020. Parents and carers are able to register their child for the test by clicking the following link:

<https://www.bromptonacademy.org.uk/welcome>

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## A Fabulous Start to Term 1 for Performing Arts

Over the course of lockdown, the Performing Arts (PA) department were extremely impressed with the commitment and enthusiasm from all students, and are grateful for all the amazing work that was produced through this uncertain time!

We would like to give a special warm welcome to our new Year 7 students. Their journey and experience of secondary school has been somewhat different, but they have persevered and have been fantastic in all PA lessons so far this term. As a team, we are just as excited as they are to get into the studios, and start using all the skills we have been looking at each week. Hopefully it won't be too long, and they will get to showcase some of their amazing talent!



Year 8 and 9 students are back in the swing of things already, working extremely hard in all their lessons, despite the restriction of no practical lessons. The team have thoroughly enjoyed looking at all the wonderful work that has been produced during the term, including the amazing horror-themed set designs and wacky costume designs.

### ***Anastacia - 9z Dance***

Our exam classes have been working hard over the course of Term 1. BTEC Year 10 and 11 are busy preparing for up-coming components and socially distanced performances! The PA team would also like to wish the Year 11 GCSE Dance students the best of luck for their exam. They have all been working extremely hard through lockdown and summer in preparation for their first GCSE of the year!

The UKAT Sixth Form PA students have also returned with a spring in their step, they have taken part in a range of challenging workshops and activities which required them to apply their skills and techniques for mini performances and showcases.

Their first few weeks of the term were spent preparing an audition piece of their choice to showcase a specific talent. Leading up to audition day, students took part in workshops and rehearsals in which they all demonstrated a high level of dedication and outstanding professionalism. When audition day arrived, the judges were treated to some fabulous performances from all, and it was clear the students had worked extremely hard.

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## Associates of Brompton Academy

Although the Brompton Academy Associates aren't able to hold any events just yet, they have still been supporting our students wherever they can.

During Term 1, the BA Associates granted our UKAT libraries with annual subscriptions to Cocoa Boy and Cocoa Girl. These magazines include engaging articles on History, Geography, style, health and fun!

Two previous projects the Associates have worked on in the last academic year include:

A grant of £100 for printed t-shirts for the F1 club. Students designed two F1 cars and gave a presentation on their designs. Students made their own t-shirts which they wore at the national finals.

A grant of £250 to assist Performing Arts students attend the world famous dance company Matthew Bourne's New Adventures. New Adventures were due to perform in Canterbury in March but sadly due to COVID-19 the performance was cancelled. The Associates are keen to provide this grant again to the Performing Arts department when restrictions are lifted, and trips are back up and running again.

Finally, in a new film created by the University of Kent - former UKAT parent and Brompton Academy Associate Mary Stevenson talks of her progression into Higher Education using the Access to Higher Education Diploma pathway offered at Brompton Academy.

Mary tells us how she studied Psychology in her first year, followed by creative writing and Sociology in her second year - all whilst completing her Maths GCSE as an adult learner.

"Before I started the Access course, I didn't think I'd ever go on to do a degree or a masters".

Mary has since completed a degree in Social Sciences with the University of Kent, and tells us how it 'broadens your horizons' to complete a degree.

The Brompton Academy Associates meet once a term (currently via Zoom) and their next meeting is due to take place on Wednesday 11th November at 6pm. No matter how limited your time, we appreciate any help, and we are always looking for motivated and friendly parents/carers to join the Associates of Brompton Academy. If you are interested please email [joprice@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk](mailto:joprice@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk) for more information.

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## New Catering Company, Caterlink Introduce A New Tasty Menu

We are pleased to introduce the Academy's new catering company, Caterlink. Ann Colquitt, our new Catering Manager has introduced a new an exciting menu for students and staff, offering a variety of dishes, including Delhi tikka chicken



masala, mughalai vegetable korma with white rice, falafels served in khobez bread, black bean veggie street noddles and seasoned rice and prawn crackers, and not forgetting the traditional roast!

Students can also take advantage of the grab and go menu: tandoori chicken flat bread, beef, peppers and coriander fajita wrap, margherita and pepperoni spicy sausage pizzas.

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## Work Experience With A Difference

During lockdown, James in Year 11 applied to Speakers4Schools and was lucky enough to gain a virtual work experience placement at Industrial Light & Magic. This company was founded by George Lucas and was created when Lucas began production of Star Wars, such an amazing opportunity for James. Even though this was so different to the normal work experience placements, James thoroughly enjoyed working from home on various projects and virtually meeting and working with his team. What an amazing experience, well done James!



## Fitember for the PE Department

The PE Department have kickstarted the new academic year with a term of Fitember! The aim is for students to improve their fitness whilst completing a broad variety of fun and engaging activities. After a thorough warm up, students have had the opportunity to take part in a variety of different sessions, including: yoga; shadowboxing; legs and abs; speed agility, and quickness and HIIT workouts. All of which are followed by a cool down and stretches.



Students have taken on the challenge and have shown determination and motivation, whilst they enjoyed the remainder of the amazing weather. The sessions allow each student to work at their own intensity as well as challenge themselves. The department are really proud of how hard students have worked, and each lesson a player of the day is awarded. Congratulations to those students who have been selected so far and entered into our end of term prize draw!



# Black History Month Activities for Students

Students have been invited to participate in activities to celebrate Black History Month 2020.

## Rap Lyric Competition

A student competition celebrating diversity at Brompton Academy. Write new rap lyrics either as a solo, duo or group with a focus on Black History. The prize is a £25 JD Sports e-voucher. Students should email their lyrics to:  
[bacompetitions@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk](mailto:bacompetitions@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk).



Competition terms and conditions are available on our website by clicking the following link:  
<https://www.bromptonacademy.org.uk/competitions>.

## 10-day Music Challenge



Year 7, 8 and 9 students have taken part in a 10-day Black History Month Music Challenge. Students listened to music during their lessons and for their homework they were asked to listen to songs that put artists such as Stevie Wonder, Aretha Franklin, Whitney Houston and Stormzy on the music map. Students have discussed the historical and social impact of these songs and artists, as well as listening out for the music features.

Students should email their entries to their Music teacher using their UKAT email addresses by Monday 2nd November 2020. The prize is a £10 high street gift voucher for one lucky winner in each year group.

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## Access to Higher Education Diploma and GCSE

We are pleased to announce that the Access to Higher Education Diploma, together with the GCSE Maths and English courses commenced in September 2020 as planned. Due to current COVID-19 restrictions, the courses are currently taking place at the University of Kent Medway campus, where they are able to deliver the sessions socially distanced.

The Access programme allows adults to study a range of subjects, including Psychology, Creative Writing, Sociology, Politics with Law and English Literature. The subjects run from September to June of each academic year. Virtual taster sessions are available to adult learners, which give a flavour of the subjects that the University of Kent offers on the Access programme. To sign up for the taster activities please click the following link:

<https://www.kent.ac.uk/courses/access/brompton-academy/study#taster-sessions>

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