

News, Events and Updates at Brompton Academy

A Royal Visit on the Horizon for the DofE

Just when you think DofE at UKAT can't get much better, 'IT DOES!'.

After a record-breaking year for registrations and probably our best year for expedition training, we have received an invitation for some of our students and staff to represent the University of Kent Academies Trust at an event at Cobham Hall School, which will be visited by His Royal Highness The Earl of Wessex.



This event is a great opportunity to promote and celebrate the success of the DofE at Brompton Academy. The format of the event will involve participants showcasing how DofE is run at Brompton Academy, with either a stand or demonstration about their expeditions or physical activities. As well as showing what our students are doing in their programmes, the event will also illustrate the breadth of activities on offer as part of the DofE across Kent and Medway.

On the same day His Royal Highness, The Earl of Wessex, will be hosting a fundraising dinner in the evening at Hever Castle, and we are very excited that one of our UKAT Sixth Form students, Isobel, has been asked to sing a couple of songs at the event. Event planners advised Isobel that she "came highly recommended" after her performance at the DofE Awards Ceremony last year held at Rochester Cathedral. Isobel will also get the chance to meet His Royal Highness at a drinks reception before the dinner.

Another one of our students Cian, has been shortlisted to attend the same event to talk about his DofE journey and the challenges he faced and overcame. Cian was nominated after his emotional speech to parents and carers at the information evening held at the Academy in September 2019. We wish them both the very best of luck.

We are so proud of all of our students and this amazing opportunity that they have been given. More information will be in our next newsletter.

So much more is happening behind the scenes such as, Silver students starting their training, staff meetings, professional training and team building activities. We are also planning for last year's winners to collect their awards at a ceremony held in May, and of course more expeditions starting in March.

For more information and dates for the diary please go to our website www.bromptonacademy.org.uk or you can email the DofE team at dofeba@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk.

Performing Arts Winter Festival 2019

A cast of over one hundred and forty Brompton Academy students took to the stage at the end of Term 2 to present the Performing Arts Winter Festival. A wide range of Dance and Drama pieces were performed by students from Year 7 to Year 13. The work celebrated their effort and dedication to lessons and extracurricular opportunities. The Performing Arts Faculty are incredibly proud of the cast and are already looking forward to the next event in Term 6.



Brompton Academy Handball Teams Compete in Kent Finals

Handball has been outstanding this term. From external competitions to the interform events, all that have been involved have exceeded expectations.



At the Secondary School Games our Year 7 and 8 boys team gained 2nd place, which is a great result as it put them through to the Kent Finals in which were placed 3rd. This is the highest place we have ever finished at a handball event.

At the interform event we had a number of students attend from different houses. Magdalene were our overall winners in a final game that was very enjoyable to watch. Overall, handball has been excellent this term and everyone involved should be very proud of their efforts.

News from the BA Associates

At their termly meeting, the BA Associates had lots of exciting news to discuss.

During the meeting we approved two grants requested by departments within the Academy to help enrich students' experiences. Firstly, we approved a grant of £250 to assist Performing Arts students attend the world famous dance company Matthew Bourne's New Adventures, who are performing in Canterbury in March. The second grant awarded was to the F1 club; we approved £100 to go towards printed t-shirts designed by students to wear when they take part in competitions.

We look forward to our next meeting in March where we will discuss plans for the Easter Transitions Event, and review any further grant requests from departments.

Lots of Activity in the Brompton Academy Library

Term 3 in the Library has been a fantastic start to 2020 with lots of classes, events and competitions.



University of Kent Ambassadors

Year 7 and 8 students have been working with our wonderful team of Ambassadors from the University of Kent. Students have been using table-top games to develop their debating and oracy skills, as well as reading groups who are refining their analytical skills - all steps on the pathway to great GCSE results!

BBC Radio 500 Word Writing Competition

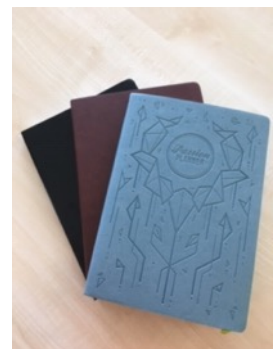
Some of our younger students have been meeting to take part in story writing workshops to create their entries for this hugely popular writing competition. Students used story cubes, story cards and story mountains to create entertaining, intriguing and often funny stories to enter.

The deadline is 27th February, so one last workshop upon our return!



Planning Ahead

Year 11 and Sixth Form students are at crucial points in their school careers. Planning ahead helps them make the best use of their study time, leisure time and taking care of themselves too. The San Francisco based Passion Planner Company have kindly donated fabulous planners for our students to help them find their passion to plan their work and work their plan!



Happy Valentine's Day

We did not want to focus on romantic love in the library this Valentine's Day, so instead we held a competition where students told us what they loved about themselves! It was fascinating to learn about so many students, and for them to focus on recognising their own great talents and attributes.



Business Studies and the Library

Sixth Form students from the BA Business department often study in the Library. Recently we had the opportunity to visit KMTV at the University of Kent to watch the live recording of Chris & Co the business show. Students were extremely interested in seeing the live production process. They gained lots of ideas for future career paths.



LGBT Book Collection and Film Screening

Our LGBT Group are going from strength to strength. Our fabulous Brompton Academy Associates helped us with boosting our collection of LGBT fiction which have been snapped up by students. We also hosted a screening of Geography Club in the Library which highlighted what a vibrant and diverse academy we are!



Brompton Academy Hosts Medway Fashion Week

Brompton Academy is hosting and celebrating Medway Fashion Week.

Fashion designer Eddy Eduaje will be showcasing his work and has invited the local community to come along to the event which is taking place on Saturday 22nd February 2020.

Full details of the event can be found through this link.
www.eddybond.com/medway-fashion-week



Brompton Academy Performing Arts

UKAT Sixth Form Performing Arts – Unit 2 Assessment Performance

This term UKAT Sixth Form Performing Arts students had the opportunity to showcase their hard work and talent in performances of 'Bouncers', 'Shakers' and 'Teachers' by John Godber.

Leading up to the performance, students took part in workshops and rehearsals in which they demonstrated a high level of dedication and professionalism. When the final performance arrived, it was time for the students to enjoy the rewards of their hard work and they delivered an outstanding performance for the audience. In fact, the standard was so high that one audience member compared their performance to that expected at university level; what incredible feedback to receive!

The performance was engaging and fully captured the humorous exaggerated style of theatre that the playwright is known for. The Performing Arts Faculty is extremely proud of what the students have achieved and would like to congratulate all students involved. We can't wait to see what they do next!



BA Theatre Company

After a successful performance of 'The Grinch' at the Winter Showcase, the BA Theatre Company reformed this term giving students exciting opportunities to continue developing their acting skills.

Students in the company have been working on developing their own characters and devising monologues and duologues; this has led to them being able to take part in audition style workshops and gain experience of what auditioning might be like.

The enthusiasm and creativity demonstrated by the students has excited the Performing Arts department; there are certainly future stars amongst us! The BA Theatre Company will continue in Term 5, and we are looking forward to seeing our student's future creative ventures.

Super Busy Term for PE Students at Brompton Academy



Term 3 sees our netball team continuing to train hard in preparation for their upcoming fixtures.

With the addition of a new netball coach the team is receiving specialist support

and guidance. This has provided students with a chance to further their knowledge and build upon previous netball skills, going from strength to strength.

The Year 7 and Year 8 teams produced some amazing results this term winning against Strood Academy 5-1 (Year 7) and 17-1 (Year 8).

Netball club is open to all students and no experience is needed.

If you want to try a new sport, come and give netball a go every Tuesday after school.



Table tennis has been a huge success this term with increased numbers of students coming along to training sessions looking to develop their skills.

Having brand new specialist equipment, such as our table tennis robot, as well as qualified coaches, the players continue to grow and develop.

With so many students passionate about table tennis, the department are going to put forward a number of students for the Junior Umpire Award next term.

Table Tennis club is open to all abilities every Monday after school and is a great sport to make new friends. Anyone wanting to take part in additional table tennis outside of school can come along to Strive Table Tennis club every Tuesday at the Howard Table Tennis Centre – launching on 3rd March 2020.

Term 3 saw the start of our rugby club which is open for all Phase One students.

Brompton Academy rugby students have been getting stuck into training hard for their upcoming Secondary School Games competition. Despite some tough conditions, the dedication and commitment shown by students has been great. Although most of the students attending the club have never played rugby before, the potential, enthusiasm and talent amongst the group is incredible.

Rugby club is always looking for new members, please come along on Tuesdays after school.

Winner of Brompton Academy Bike Competition

Congratulations to Reece in Year 8 for being our lucky winner of the BA Bike Competition.

All students who had 100% attendance in Terms 1 and 2 automatically had their names entered into the draw. In total we had five hundred and ninety-nine students entered. Megan from Year 7 picked out a number - and Reece was our lucky winner. We want to say a massive well done to all the students who continuously achieve 100% attendance, and we cannot wait to repeat the competition in Term 5.



TBW
THE BIKE WAREHOUSE

**CONGRATULATIONS
REECE YR8 ON
WINNING THE BIKE
COMPETITION!**

Reece Yr8 with our Principal Mrs Robertson

 **Brompton**
Academy

Brompton Academy Elective Students Make the Best Yummy Cupcakes

The Phase One Electives Programme successfully commenced during Term 2. Electives are delivered for four weeks during Terms 2-5 for Phase One students to participate in.

The Phase Two DofE Cooking Elective commences in Terms 4 and 5. It is aimed at supporting students undertaking the DofE Bronze Award.



Our Creative Cookie and Cupcake Decorating Electives are always a firm favourite.

The Skiing for Beginners and Mini Medics Electives both continue to be hugely popular, informative and practical.

Here are a couple of comments from the students who took part during Term 2:

'I have enjoyed doing the Skiing elective, it was a fun and exciting experience, it was fun to learn something new with friends. Thank you for the opportunity to do it.' **Alfie**

'Mini Medics was amazing to do. I learnt a lot about how to help people and take care of them in a bad situation. I hope more people will join - it was a blast!' **Alyssa**

We have nearly forty students signed up to participate in the Cookery Elective which will run across Terms 4 and 5.

Term 3 saw the return of our very popular Yoga and Spectacular Science Electives.

Planning is already underway for Term 4, and some of the electives available will be Horse Riding for Beginners, Archery and Jewellery Making.

Community Events held at Brompton Academy

Mental Resilience and Well-Being Lecture

Dr Rain Hawkriver, Specialist Psychotherapist and Justine Wood, Well-being and Safeguarding Officer at Brompton Academy, delivered a lecture on 'Mental Resilience and Well-being,' on Wednesday 5th February 2020 for parents and carers. The free two-hour session invited parents and carers to ask questions, either for personal advice or for general interest.

The lecture was a huge success and was offered to coincide with Children's Mental Health Week (3rd to 9th February 2020).

Effective Boundaries and Consequences Workshop for Parents and Carers

This was the second of our free two-hour workshops where parents and carers get the opportunity to attend a session with an experienced Parent Support Coach and Workshop Facilitator.

The Effective Boundaries and Consequences Workshop will be taking place on Tuesday 10th March 2020, from 1.00pm to 2.00pm at Brompton Academy, and will cover the following topics:

- Communicating our expectations to our children
- Understanding boundaries - what makes a good and realistic boundary
- Why boundaries are sometimes difficult to uphold
- Using positive parenting to encourage cooperation
- Practicing consistency and why it is important
- Knowing when to use effective consequences

To book your place on this free workshop, please call Mary Murison on 01634 583548 or email marymurison@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk.

ASD Session with a Focus on PSD

Simon Richter, Vice Principal will deliver a session on ASD with particular focus on the Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA) strand of the spectrum. This free information session has been specifically designed for parents and carers and will be taking place on Thursday 26th March 2020, from 6.00pm to 8.00pm at Brompton Academy.

To book your place on this workshop, please call Mary Murison on 01634 583548 or email marymurison@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk.

Fantastic Results in the Secondary School Games

Handball



The handball tournament was amazing with three teams getting placed in the top three.

Our Under 13 boys came 2nd overall, and the Under 15 boys came 3rd. Both teams showed exceptional skills in tactics and focus during their games.

Our Under 13 girls came 1st overall and our Under 15 girls came 4th just missing out on 3rd. Both teams put in 100% effort and have shown outstanding sportsmanship in the competition.

Very well done to everyone involved in the tournament.

You should all be extremely proud of your efforts.

Cross Country



Great results at cross country this year with a special shout out to Danielle who achieved 1st overall in her race.

Brompton Academy Year 7 girls came 5th, Years 8 and 9 came 4th and Years 10 and 11 came 6th. This meant that overall our girls came 5th which is a good result. Well done.

Year 7 boys came 6th, Years 8 and 9 came 6th and Years 10 and 11 came 3rd. At the end of the competition BA boys came 3rd which is amazing.

Rowing



Fantastic results in rowing this year with ten teams coming in the top three places.

Years 7, 8 and 10 girls all came 1st overall. Years 9 and 11 girls both came 2nd overall and Sixth Form girls came 3rd.

The final results saw BA girls achieve 1st place out of all the schools involved.

BA Year 7 and 8 boys both came 2nd overall. Years 9 and Sixth Form came 3rd overall, Year 11 came 4th and Year 10 came 5th. Overall BA boys came 2nd which is a fabulous result.

These results demonstrate how hard all of the students involved have practised their skills.

We also have five teams invited to the West Kent competition so best of luck to all participants.

Badminton

The badminton tournament was a great event, with all of our teams doing really well against opposing teams with some great players.

BA Year 7 girls came 2nd, our Year 8 and 9 girls came 2nd and Year 10 and 11 girls came 4th. These are excellent results from our teams who should all be very proud of their results against eleven local schools.

BA Year 7 boys were placed 7th, Years 8 and 9 came 7th and Year 10 and 11 achieved 4th place.

A brilliant effort against some tough opponents.



Young Carers' Awareness Day 30th January 2020

To raise awareness about Young Carers' Awareness Day, Mrs Culham visited every year group, and also promoted the event with a pop-up stand in the Refectory. Brompton Academy work closely with Carers First who support young people by providing information and advice. Young carers have access to lunch clubs, 1-1 sessions, trips out, youth clubs, fun activities and a text service.

Being a young carer can have a big impact on the things that are important to growing up:

- It can affect a young person's health, social life and self-confidence.
- Many young carers struggle to juggle their education and caring which can cause pressure and stress.

In a national survey:

- 39% said that nobody in their school was aware of their caring role.
- 26% have been bullied at school because of their caring role.
- 1 in 20 miss school because of their caring role.

What might a young carer do?

- Practical tasks, such as cooking, housework and shopping.
- Physical care, such as helping someone out of bed.
- Emotional support, such as talking to someone who is distressed.
- Personal care, such as helping someone dress.
- Managing the family budget and collecting prescriptions.
- Helping to give medicine.
- Helping someone communicate.
- Looking after brothers and sisters.

The Academy also have a young carers group who meet once a term and we organise trips out.

If you would like more information about this group or Carers First please contact Mrs Culham on 01634 852341 or email juliaculham@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk.



Reminder about Physical Education at Brompton Academy

Please may we remind parents/carers about some aspects of Physical Education at Brompton Academy where we actively promote students to be as physically active as possible.

As such, we require all students to come fully prepared for their PE lesson with their full kit.

PE Uniform

Full kit includes:

- Black PE t-shirt with embroidered Academy logo
- Black tracksuit pants with embroidered Academy logo
- Black leggings (**New**) -further details below
- Black shorts - plain
- Black sweatshirt with embroidered Academy logo
- Trainers

We have decided to introduce new sports leggings which incorporate the BA logo to actively engage students and help them feel more comfortable in their PE lessons. These can be purchased at Uniformbase, instead of the BA tracksuit pants **or** shorts. These are specific sports leggings; students are not to wear any other style leggings without the BA logo. Strictly no *fashion style jogging bottoms or own leggings.*

The PE uniform can be purchased direct from the Uniformbase shop in Chatham. Alternatively, you may wish to order online at: www.uniformbase.co.uk/shop/-/search/q/brompton

PE Clubs

Students have the opportunity to attend a range of after-school clubs which are displayed on notices around the PE department. Please can you encourage your child to attend our extra-curricular activities.

Students unable to take part in PE

Injured students will always be required to change out of their uniform, unless they are in a medical cast which prevents this. These students will be involved in supporting roles such as coaching, timing, and analysis and evaluation of performance.

Forgotten kit or incorrect kit

Students who do not have PE kit in school or the wrong kit will be lent some from the spare PE clothing. However, they should always aim to have their own kit in school every day. If students do not have the correct kit or have to borrow, they will receive a learning catch up.

Absence from PE

Students are expected to take part in every PE lesson. A student's PE teacher will need a written note from a parent/carer if there are health-related reasons that prevents a child from taking part in physical exercise.

Valuables

Students should hand in all valuables to their teacher at the start of the lesson. If any valuables not handed in at the start of the lesson then go missing, the PE department is not responsible for these items. The changing rooms are locked before the lesson begins and re-opened at the end of the lesson.

Missing PE kit

Students have been told how to unpack and pack bags containing their uniform. If a student leaves their PE kit in the changing rooms, please be advised that other classes will enter throughout the day and items could be picked up by other students. At the end of the school day the changing rooms are cleared and any kit found is collected and stored in the spare kit room. The PE kit is solely the responsibility of students, and we would like to advise that students must take care of their belongings. It would be very useful if students have their names inside their uniform to make it easier to locate.

We would be very grateful for your assistance in reminding your child to bring their correct PE kit to every PE lesson.

If you have any concerns regarding these issues, please do not hesitate to contact your child's PE teacher or Mr Denness, Head of the PE department.
at robertdenness@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk
