

Batchwood Newsletter



January-February 2024

Headteacher's Letter

Can you believe we have reached the halfway point of the academic school year? These last 6 weeks have been really busy preparing for KS3 and KS4 PTC followed up by Learning Review calls. We have had the Year 9 Options evening, as well as Careers days, Apprentice days, and Cultural Capital trips to the Science Museum and the Victoria and Albert Museum. We have had 2 Extended Learning Days where we have explored World Religion and International Womens Day.

That is a lot of extra learning that has taken place alongside our already challenging lessons. Well done to students for keeping up with this pace, and of course, a huge thank you to staff for organising all the activities and events. 4 new additions have joined the school recently in the name of: Emily, Henrietta, Athene and Cornflake - our new Chickens. They are settling in well at Batchwood and beginning to lay rather nicely! They get on well with each other and seem to have sorted out their 'pecking' order.

In a few weeks of receiving this newsletter, teachers will be writing your child's report which will be sent to you week beginning March 25th (last day of term). This will be followed up with year 7-8 PTC on Tuesday April 23rd and Years 9-11 PTC on Thursday April 25th

Always moving forward.

Jonathan Kemp

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Focus on Attendance

Road to 95% attendance

EVERY day
counts
attendance matters

Better attendance = better
educational outcomes and more
meaningful employment
opportunities

1 day a week absence = 2 weeks
per term

Please be aware that it is a parent or guardian's legal requirement to ensure their child attends school. Failure to do so can result in a penalty or legal action.

For more information, please contact Sally Smiles, Attendance Lead on 01727 868021 or email ssmiles@batchwood.herts.sch.uk



House competition

This half terms team building House Competition was hosted by the English department and took the form of a Spelling Bee. Groups of four from each house competed against each other to show their spelling skills. All students were given a list of words beforehand to prepare for the big event. Well done to Attenborough for winning!



Also this term, Batchwood got some Chickens! All students in each house were able to put a name forward, to be chosen by Mr Kemp. We would like to introduce you to...



Henrietta



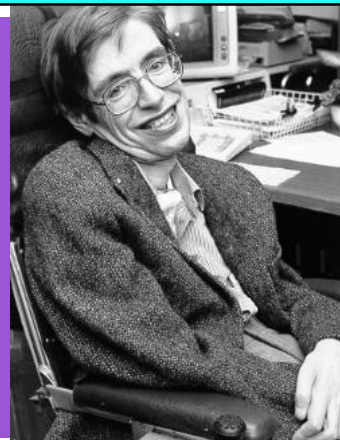
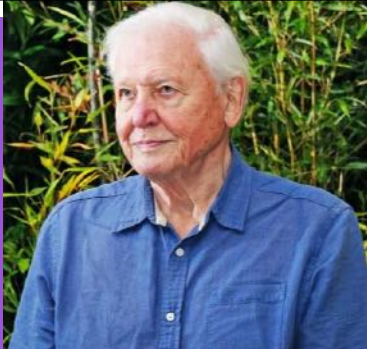
Athena



Emily



Cornflake



What has been happening in DT at Batchwood?

Yr7 have been making amazing progress on their textiles project. The Junker Jane plushies are coming along nicely! Can't wait to update you all with the final outcomes.

A few more original pizza cutters finished by Yr9 - these are two fun designs by Aidan P and Teigan C.

Nurture 2 and some of the Yr8's have been learning a lot of new processes and techniques in the Textiles Pizza project. In the photos you can see how great the Batik session went.

Most of Yr9 are working hard on learning and using flexi plywood. Can't wait to show you their final outcomes in next month's newsletter.



Trips and Workshops

BBC Earth Experience

On Friday 23rd January 8A visited the BBC Earth Exhibition in Earls Court, London.

It was a fantastic experience that enhanced the students learning around the Biology topics of Ecology and Variation. The exhibition comprised a large area with many different large screens showing a scene from nature at all different angles and views, all narrated by Sir David Attenborough. We were transported through the seven continents and shown animal and plant species particular to that region of the world and how they survive. We all had a great day.



Apprenticeship workshops:

As part of Apprenticeship week, the students were offered to take part in three workshops across the week. We had talks from; John O'Connor on grounds maintenance, Sports Future Training and even the Army!



Sporting Achievements



Well done to the girls' netball team for taking part in their first match as part of team Batchwood! They will be taking part in many more matches in the future... check back to hear more!



Key stage 4 boys were thrilled winning their first tournament for Batchwood. After a semi-final penalty shoot out and two Anthony cuddy saves we had Josh C take the last pen which he buried in the top corner! The final goal scorers were Alfie with 2 and Frank with 1 which saw us 3-1 winners vs Falconer.

KS3 boys' had a football game and came out on top 7-5 winners. We had 4 goal scorers and played some exceptional football. All the boys represented the school tremendously showing a great deal of passion.

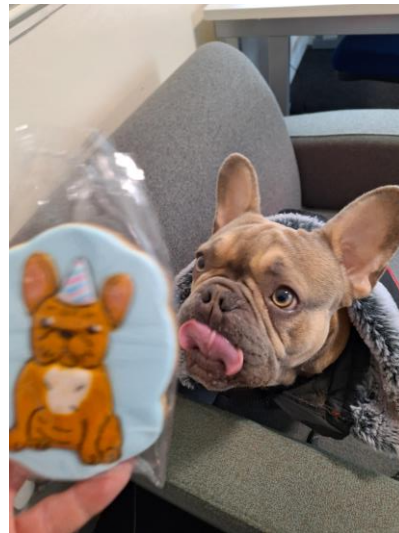
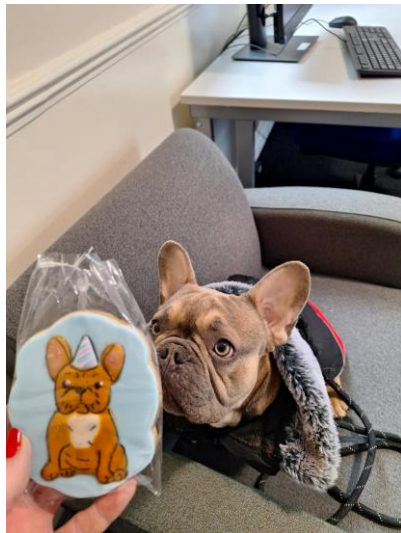
Work Experience

In January, the year 11 cohort took part in work experience. This work experience programme had the largest attendance to date, which is huge strides forward for our Batchwood students.

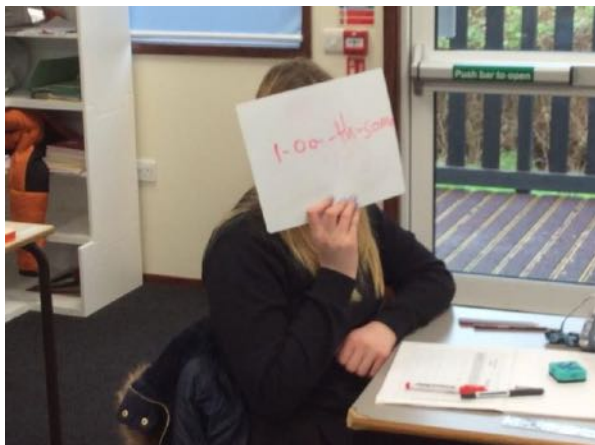
- Mak C, has been offered future work.
- Skye MM, has been offered future work.
- Lexi O, was way to busy to talk to Nikki because she was working extremely hard in the kitchen.
- Anthony C, was seen by Adam K (Adam's old job at the Harvester) and Anthony served him. Harvester have said how amazing AC was during his time and AC said he really enjoyed it.
- Brian Bunney (John O'Connor - Ground Maintenance) who had Alex T and Danny T, on work experience has said they were extremely hard working and could not praise them enough for everything they did.
- Cordelia N, really enjoyed working with horses and completed a full placement.
- Some other students have established different ideas for a career and are thinking about different routes of employment.



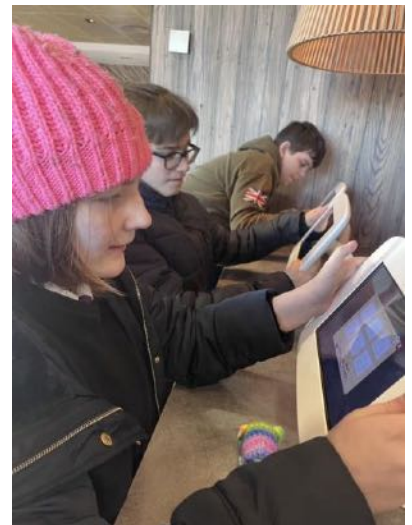
Batchwood In Pictures



Ollie in 7A brought in some biscuits to celebrate his birthday, they were Pablo approved!



Left: Nurture 2 working on their word of the week words using TST to develop their spellings.
Right: Nurture 2 on their trip to McDonalds for winning the uniform award for the term!



**Find out
about the
'Autism in
Schools'
(AIS) project**



**Hear what
our guest
speakers
can offer
you!**

Scan the QR code
to sign up!



to register

HPCI AIS Parent Carer Webinar

Wednesday 13th March 2024 - 10.00am-12.30pm

Important Diary Dates



January 2024

4 th -	Term starts (all year groups)
9 th -	Year 7/8 Parent/Teacher evening
11 th -	Year 9 Options Evening & 9/10/11 Parent/Teacher Evening
15 th -	World Religion Extended Learning Day
22 nd -	Year 11 Work Experience Week



February 2024

5 th -	National Apprenticeships Week
12 th -	English House Competition
19 th -	Half Term
26 th -	Return to school (all year groups)



March 2024

4 th -	Careers Week
	Nurture Trip to RAF museum
8 th -	International Women's Day
12 th -	Anti-Bullying ambassadors training trip
19 th -	Evening trip to Romeo and Juliet at The Globe Theatre (Lit group)
22 nd -	Reports out to parents/carers
22 nd -	House Kinball Competition
27 th -	Talent Show
28 th -	End of term (half day)



April 2024

15 th -	Term starts (all years)
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For our latest news and updates go to:

www.batchwood.herts.sch.uk