



# The West Bridgford Post

Issue No. 119

29 March 2019

Parent Newsletter

A comment  
from....

Tim Peacock, Head  
of School



The sun is shining, Spring is here and we are happy to once again welcome our friends from Kerpen in Germany, who are with us for a week.

It's wonderful to see our German Exchange continue to grow in strength after more than 40 years. Our students will return to spend a week with their partners in June.

A fantastic life experience and in some cases the beginning or continuation of a lifelong friendship across national boundaries.

And, unbelievably, does anyone else remember that this time last year it was snowing?



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

3rd, 4th & 5th April -  
Bridgstock

5th April - Easter Holiday

Return Tuesday 23rd April—  
Week 2

23 April—Y12 to Cambridge  
Computing Centre

24 April—Y9 Photographs

25 April—National Dance Finals

## SEEKING OUT AN ALTERNATIVE PATH? WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED!

- C Bowie – Director of Post-16

*West Bridgford School's second High Level / Degree Level Apprenticeship Fair another great success*

For many years now, the roadmap from Sixth Form to university has looked very familiar. On completion of Year 12, students would apply to university via the UCAS portal, providing potential universities with a personal statement amongst all sorts of other information to "sell" themselves as credible potential undergraduates. It is a system that works very well and that we feel we are very good at supporting students through. But what of those students who are not certain what their academic future holds? Those that would like to pursue work prior to potentially applying for a career specific degree? This is where the High Level and Degree Level Apprenticeships come in. Students can apply during Year 13 for these apprenticeships alongside an application to university via UCAS if they wish. Students pursuing a Degree Level Apprenticeship would need excellent A Level grades (up to 3 B grades) and would apply for this through their chosen company rather than through the UCAS, University Applications System. In return, companies offer students employment, relevant work experience and a guaranteed job after they complete their degree. Oh, and the small matter of paying a student's tuition fees for them (typically £27,750 over a 3 year university course)!

Following the success of last year's inaugural High Level and Degree Level Apprenticeships Fair, we were faced with the very pleasant but somewhat daunting position of, "How do we top that?". Last year, we had 24 High Level and Degree Level Apprenticeship providers (including Lloyds' Bank, Price Waterhouse Cooper, Aldi, Rolls Royce and Boots) who were



available to speak with students and their parents about these apprenticeships as well as the application process itself. This year, we sought out student voice about which areas students would be interested in applying for apprenticeships in and were delighted to welcome 22 Apprenticeship providers (including Rolls Royce, Boots, the NHS, Freeths and Severn Trent Water) to The West Bridgford School on Thursday March 21<sup>st</sup> from 6-8pm. We were delighted that the evening was a huge success – as well as West Bridgford School students, many others attended from other Sixth Form Centres in The East Midlands Educational Trust (EMET) and local schools, including both Rushcliffe and Becket. All felt that the evening was enormously beneficial, and many students left considering a new route that they had not previously thought would be relevant for them which they could apply to alongside their other university applications. The school was delighted by the enormous turnout and feel confident that all students and parents gained a tremendous amount from the expertise and advice given.

A very big thank you to Mrs Nolan, Miss Hammond and Mrs Kells for organising and running such a professional event, to the outstanding student helpers who did a marvellous job welcoming the delegates as well as the parents, to the providers and, of course, to all those that were able to attend. The school looks forward to organising an even bigger (*Bonum Iterum!*) and better event next year!



## SOLD OUT

Many apologies to music fans who have not been able to get the hottest tickets on the market—**Bridgstock!** Unprecedented demand saw them sell out in just a few days!

### Fix Track & Road



**£8**  
Per Person

A Safer Cycling Activity Day – with workshops covering simple bike maintenance, track cycling and on road cycling, including large vehicle blind-spots.

Bring a packed lunch!

**Tuesday 9th April**

09.15 – 15.30

Harvey Hadden Sports Village, Bilborough

**For 10 – 14 year olds**

Participants need a bike & helmet. Let us know if you need to borrow either.

Booking essential. Telephone: 0115

8042151 / 0115 8042114

Hosted by

For further information please email  
a.urne.rose@viam.co.uk

Nottinghamshire  
Road Safety Partnership

### WEEK 1 -

w/c 1<sup>st</sup> April

THE WEST BRIDGFORD SCHOOL					MENU 2
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
<p>Vegetarian Pasta Bake</p> <p>Chicken &amp; Potato Bake</p> <p>Spaghetti &amp; Meatballs</p> <p>Vegetarian Curry</p> <p>Chicken &amp; Potato Bake</p> <p>Spaghetti &amp; Meatballs</p> <p>Vegetarian Curry</p>	<p>Vegetarian Pasta Bake</p> <p>Chicken &amp; Potato Bake</p> <p>Spaghetti &amp; Meatballs</p> <p>Vegetarian Curry</p> <p>Chicken &amp; Potato Bake</p> <p>Spaghetti &amp; Meatballs</p> <p>Vegetarian Curry</p>	<p>Vegetarian Pasta Bake</p> <p>Chicken &amp; Potato Bake</p> <p>Spaghetti &amp; Meatballs</p> <p>Vegetarian Curry</p> <p>Chicken &amp; Potato Bake</p> <p>Spaghetti &amp; Meatballs</p> <p>Vegetarian Curry</p>	<p>Vegetarian Pasta Bake</p> <p>Chicken &amp; Potato Bake</p> <p>Spaghetti &amp; Meatballs</p> <p>Vegetarian Curry</p> <p>Chicken &amp; Potato Bake</p> <p>Spaghetti &amp; Meatballs</p> <p>Vegetarian Curry</p>	<p>Vegetarian Pasta Bake</p> <p>Chicken &amp; Potato Bake</p> <p>Spaghetti &amp; Meatballs</p> <p>Vegetarian Curry</p> <p>Chicken &amp; Potato Bake</p> <p>Spaghetti &amp; Meatballs</p> <p>Vegetarian Curry</p>	
<p>KEY FOR ALLERGENS:</p> <p>Gluten Dairy Eggs Nuts Soybeans Fish Shellfish Peanuts Sesame Mustard Lupine Sulphites</p>					

## SENIOR MATH CHALLENGE - PANCAKES, PI AND PIZZA: A STORY OF SKILFUL MEDIOCRITY - By Jack Bates

The entire day was a fun and unique experience from early start to late finish. Having to get up at 5:30 in the morning was no cup of tea – neither was the lack of cups of tea. However, once we arrived in London, the day truly began.

Popping round to the nearest McDonald's for a sneaky treat breakfast, we prepared at the last minute by trying some of the practice questions. Questions that, unfortunately, were from the regional rounds, not the nationals (much to Sam's dismay).

Having topped up on food, bellies full and minds ready, we set off through the labyrinth of London's streets in search of the venue. Following straight behind the other groups of backpacked teenagers, we converged into the building in which we were to sit for the next few hours.

The competition began straight away with the poster contest. The topic: The mind-bending reality that is  $\pi$ .

We did well, but neglected to include any colour – a fact that would impact our overall rise straight to the top. One thing we did do well was our knowledge on the topic; some posters didn't understand what key terms were and a few just outright didn't read the rules, something Mr Britton (our invigilator) was quick to point out.

After a brief break and a welcome to the main part of the competition, the group round commenced! Our highest points came straight at the beginning of the day, before starting a slow decline towards the end of the day – our brains were fried by that point, after all! We scored a total of 54 points out of 60, with the four of us working together as an unstoppable team, placing us in one of the best schools there after only the first of four rounds. [Click Here for full Article](#)



## STUDENTS DO THEMSELVES PROUD IN REGIONAL FINALS OF THE FOREIGN LANGUAGE SPELLING BEE!

On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March, three students from the MFL department travelled to Stamford School in Lincolnshire to compete in the National Foreign Language Spelling Bee competition. Stuti Gupta and Mack Atkinson (both French) and Hannah Gibbons (Spanish) made up the final 45 out of 3400 original entrants of the competition in The East Midlands.

The students were required to translate and spell as many words as possible from English into their specialist language in one minute. We did not qualify for the National Finals, but the standard was extremely high and the students performed admirably alongside many independent schools. Well done to all students who were a credit to their subject teachers, the MFL department and the school as a whole.

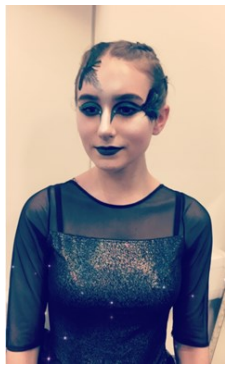




## EPISODES DANCE COMPETITION 2019

At 10am on a bright Saturday morning the Y11 and Y12 Dance girls boarded the bus for Episodes Dance Competition 2019. The competition was only a short bus ride away at the Lakeside Arts Theatre, Nottingham. The girls had already qualified for this county final via video entry, which was a huge success for the students as they came up against tough competition from across Nottinghamshire. The West Bridgford School was the only 'secondary school' at the competition this year which was a fantastic achievement for the girls and a very proud moment as a member of staff!

When we arrived at the venue we didn't have long before our first rehearsal of the day. This was an exciting time to see the lighting we had designed against the dance piece to really complement the overall effect of the piece. The colours of blue and bright white lights added to our idea for the contemporary number entitled 'Flight of the Geese'. The piece included many ideas regarding birds migrating and the flight paths and patterns of various birds, including; flocking, murmurations of starlings and the potential problems which can develop from migrating, such as fatigue. The girls had worked very hard on the dance piece in rehearsals trying to get the unison sections perfectly in time and the piece looked fantastic!



Once rehearsals were over it was time for lunch and we set off for the famous Nando's. And after filling up on chicken, spicy chips and other sides it was time to go back to the venue and go for a short walk around the lake to let the food go down before the girls went into make-up and hair! Isabel Gradwell and Grace Oldknow were busy plaiting four French plaits into each other's hair and it was wonderful to see all the girls pulling together as a team to create our desired effect. We just about managed to get all of the French plaits done with only two girls having to continue while we watched the rest of the dance pieces before it was our turn to perform, this time in costume!

With the dress rehearsals all going smoothly we only had make-up to go before the final show began at 7:30pm. It had been quite a long day of rehearsals so far, but the girls were high in spirits and were having a great time! The performance was fantastic and we received some lovely comments from the audience, staff and other groups about how professional and 'together' the piece was. A great opportunity for the girls who worked so well together as a team and were incredible to watch on stage! A huge congratulations for all the West Bridgford Girls!

## LOUGHBOROUGH LIGHTNING FOR SCHOOLS

Year 8 and 9 girls took part in the Loughborough Lightning 'Skills for Schools' day at Loughborough University on 7th March.

They took part in netball, cricket and rugby hosted by Loughborough Lightning players themselves. It was a chance for the girls to develop their skills and get a chance to be coached by elite sports women, as well as see the facilities Loughborough has to offer.



## YEAR 7 COUNTY NETBALL TOURNAMENT - WEDNESDAY 20TH MARCH

This was the first School County Netball Tournament the girls have played in—and what a first tournament this was, achieving second place!

The girls played so well, winning their section by only conceding four goals in total during their five matches. The team scored a whopping 57 goals in the first round, winning a new award called the Gill Barodale award, in Gill's memory; what a special award to win.



The girls managed to get all the way to the final, unfortunately losing to Rushcliffe School 2-3 in a 10 minute game, showing how close the match was... if only we had a few more minutes to pull it back... Next year!!

Here are a few words from Captain Mae O'Sullivan:

"I am very proud of the team. We all worked very hard and never gave up. We are thrilled to have won the award for the most goals scored. I love the team and I am really excited for the next match".

Photo: Team collecting award with Gill Barodale's family.