

Jan 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 3

#### Bradgate Inclusion Centre

The students in the Bradgate Inclusion Centre had a wonderful time last Thursday baking vegan shortbread. This was a real success as you can see by the picture and the students claimed they were really nice!

In the Centre we try and have a baking session once a week and the students take it in turns to decide what they are going to bake. In the past they have made pizza, brownies and Christmas biscuits.

We are hoping in the future they will cook their own lunches.

#### Ms Lovegrove's Highlight of the Week

I was in school on Tuesday supporting seven Year 8 students.

I suggested we played Charades - "No Miss, that's what drunk old people do." they said.

But we still did it, and the first hour was brilliant until someone (you know who you are young lady!) wrote down 'ANGUS, THONGS AND PERECT SNOGGING'. Performing each word of this book and film was undoubtedly my most embarrassing moment in 18 months at Wreake!!

#### Goodbye and Good Luck

Robbie Neville leaves us after 11 weeks in the PE Department as part of his PGCE Teacher Training. He has had a fantastic placement and we've thoroughly enjoyed having him at Wreake. We wish him the best of luck for his next school and we're sure that he'll do well there too!

*Goodbye and Good Luck from everyone at  
Wreake Valley Academy  
& Bradgate Sixth Form*



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## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 4

#### A Message from the Headteacher

So instead of anything educational or inspirational this week, I thought I would refer to the latest thing that this academic year had to throw at us. **SNOW!**

As if a global pandemic and Lockdown 3 were not enough, this week we also had the fun of dealing with a few inches of the white stuff.

At this point I would like to mention just how hard our site teams have to work in this situation. Once I have looked at the site and decided whether or not it is safe to open, the site team have around an hour to clear paths, grit communal areas and make sure that everything is in place ready for students and staff to arrive.

Our site teams at both schools work hard all year round but when the snow falls they have to go the extra mile. Thanks for the work you have put in throughout this period.

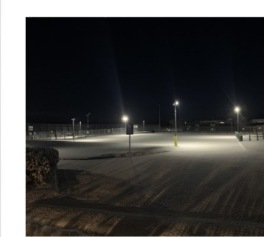
Thanks also go to the staff who made it through the snow to allow us to safely open the school and special thanks to parents and carers; we asked that you supported us by only sending your child to school if it was absolutely necessary on Monday and you did and this really helped!

Thanks all,  
**Tim Marston, Headteacher**



#### In this issue:

- ◇ A Message from Headteacher Mr Marston
- ◇ Bradgate Sixth Form Information
- ◇ Snow Photos
- ◇ Book Club
- ◇ Student work
- ◇ The "Covid Kitchen" Continues!





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## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 4

#### Bradgate Sixth Form

Over the next few weeks, the spotlight will be on Bradgate Sixth Form students as they share their experiences with you. This week I have the absolute pleasure of introducing you to Leah who is in Year 13.

#### Why did you choose Bradgate Sixth Form?

I chose Bradgate Sixth Form as it had a friendly atmosphere where the students were the priority. As it was small, I knew I'd be able to get the one-to-one support if I needed it. I could see that Bradgate would help to also push and challenge me to do better than I had expected.

#### Why would you recommend Bradgate Sixth Form?

It has helped me expand my knowledge in all areas I've been interested in and has helped me realise what I'm passionate about. I came to Bradgate Sixth Form with two different future pathways and I received help from my subject teachers to guide me to decide which way I wanted to go. Everyone is very supportive and always give you their best, honest opinion. It's just a very nice place to be!

#### How would you describe your experience at Bradgate Sixth Form?

My experience at Bradgate has been even better than I expected! As B6 is smaller than most other colleges it means the teachers can get to know you on a personal level meaning they can help you on a one-to-one basis and can give you the best support.

There are many opportunities that I have been given during my time here. I have been able to help out in classes (of younger years) in a subject of my choice. This meant that I could pass on my knowledge and mentor others. I also had the opportunity of work experience (which unfortunately we were unable to do due to the current situation) but we got a lot support when choosing what we wanted to do.

Bradgate Sixth Form is a place where trying your hardest will pay off. Teachers are very supportive and friendly.

#### Which course/university are you hoping to study at?

I'm hoping to study a Master of Chemistry degree at the University of Sheffield or University of Lincoln

Katie Johnson, Head of Bradgate Sixth Form



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## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 4

#### The "Covid Kitchen" Gallery Continued...

The Year 10's have been working hard on their practical work, we have some excellent examples of high skill dishes here such as naan and mayonnaise. Massive pat on the back for working so hard!



Imogen Appleton  
made kebabs,  
homemade naan  
and  
mayonnaise.  
Excellent work!

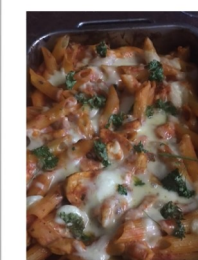


Diya Bharania  
10Fo



Phoebe Heighton  
made some  
fabulously  
presented  
kebabs, and a  
chocolate  
soufflé!

Kieran Taylor worked incredibly hard on his mayonnaise, and his main is a yummy Chicken Arrabiata



Jamie Dixey made his own naan, kebabs and  
mayonnaise! Fantastic presentation





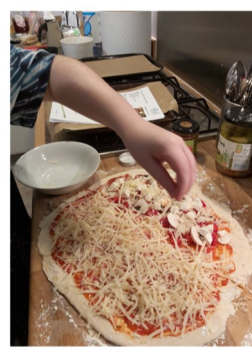
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Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 4

### The "Covid Kitchen" Gallery Continued...



Angus Pirie –Scott 8CC  
showing off key skills  
required for pizza  
making.



Keira Wassell 7SWA



Charlie Collins  
7LPR—has made  
some beautifully  
presented fruit  
scones! He has also  
very impressively  
made his own  
raspberry jam and  
cream!



Finn Turlington-Smith 7LPR – made some  
fantastic muffins with blueberry and rasp-  
berries! He practised his reduction skills with  
a coulis on the side( middle)! Excellent work!



Emily  
Fernandez  
Reedy—  
7SMM  
making some  
apple  
muffins.



Olivia Harrison 7SWA rolling around for some  
fabulous wheels



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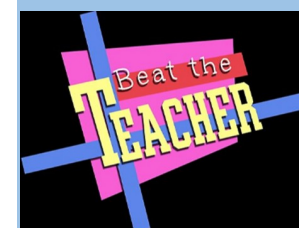
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## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 4



### Beat the Teacher

Can you beat members of the Wreake Academy staff at  
Countdown? Here's your chance!

Every day, starting on Monday 1st February, two members of staff will pit their  
Maths wits against the countdown clock to see if they can reach a target number in  
30 seconds.

Are you able to beat them? Of course you can!

Check SMHW each day and find the link to the video.

You will also need the student collection sheet to record how well you do and  
collect points along the way. This will be available on Monday via SMHW.









There are 24 members of staff in total taking on the challenge, with a possible 72  
points to collect.

Whoever collects the most points will win a prize.

Get oiling your mental Maths brain and we will see you on Monday!

Below is a sneak preview of some of the staff contestants!

Carl Atherton, Heads of Maths

			
Mr Hunt	Mrs Rochester	Mr Marston	Mrs Stirk
Points =	Points =	Points =	Points =
Win/Lose/Draw	Win/Lose/Draw	Win/Lose/Draw	Win/Lose/Draw
			
Mr Robinson	Miss Holyman	Mrs Sibley	Mr Atherton
Points =	Points =	Points =	Points =
Win/Lose/Draw	Win/Lose/Draw	Win/Lose/Draw	Win/Lose/Draw



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### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 4

#### A Level Psychology Students

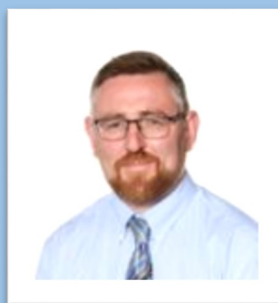
We have been able to gain access to a digital resource that will aid your work during lockdown. This includes a digital copy of the textbook for the year one content. This is accessible via a computer or tablet. This will allow you to read around the topics we are studying, engage with extended reading, documentaries etc. and apply your knowledge to a range of exam questions.

To access this digital textbook please use the following link and then enter the following username and password:

<https://illuminate.digital/aqapsych2edy1/>

Student Username: SWREAKE7  
Student Password: GREEN7

#### Careers



### ARMY CAREERS INFORMATION

Army Careers Centre - Leicester  
JANUARY 2021

#### UPCOMING EVENTS



#### APPRENTICESHIPS WEEK VIRTUAL TALK 12<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY

What does it mean to do an apprenticeship in the Army? How do you apply? How will it help your career? Join us for a live, interactive webinar at 11:30AM on 12<sup>th</sup> February. Suitable for careers leaders and students. [Register here.](#)



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### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 4

#### The "Covid Kitchen Gallery" Continued...



Bethany Bown 7LPR — these pizza wheels have bacon AND extra cheese. How yummy does that sound!!



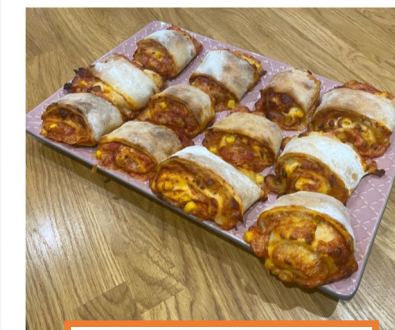
Isabelle Walcak 8MRE



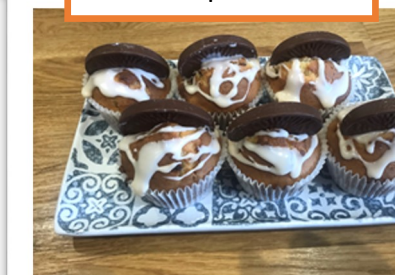
Daisy Evans 8BL



Thomas Webb 8CC



Micsha Esposito 8BL



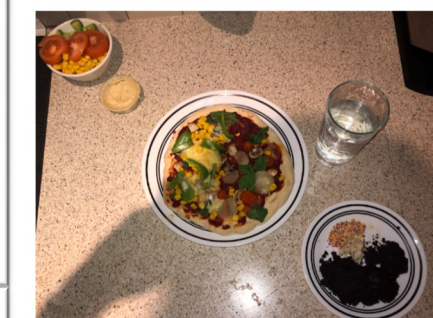
Daisy Evans 8BL



Joe Beechly 7KHO, has made some fantastic scones



Talia Clarke 8CC



Guatami Joshi 8BL



Mia Kouchepour Yr9 made some delicious apple scones!

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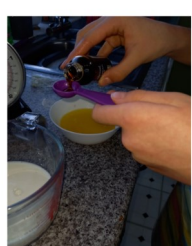


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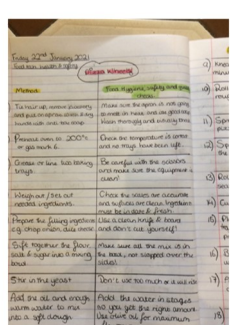
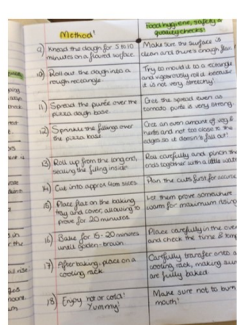
#### The "Covid Kitchen"

The "Covid Kitchen" has been an absolute smash! We have had loads of amazing bakes and recipes sent in from the students. Take a look at this weeks efforts and why not have a go yourself!

Rosie Betts and Molly Betts. They have both been non-stop busy with their creations! The skills and precision shown by both is fantastic. Well done to both!



Rebecca Ryves work for FP&N is excellent. She has highlighted different health and safety hazards that can take place when making Pizza Wheels. Really top notch work! Fantastic work Rebecca.



#### Ingredients:

- 50g bread-crumbs
- 1x5ml spoon mixed herbs

- 1x15ml spoon parmesan
- 2 chicken breasts or 200g thighs (or myco-protein pieces)

- 1x15ml spoon plain flour
- 1 egg



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### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 4



#### Personal Development

On a Friday afternoon students complete Personal Development (PD) work which is delivered by their tutor. This is the main method of delivering Personal, Social, Health and Economic education (PSHE). PD comprises of units such as Healthy Me, Relationships, Character Development, Citizenship and Careers. The current topic that your son/daughter is studying is outlined below and they would really benefit from discussing the topic/issue further with you at home.

Thank you for your support.

#### This week in PD we have been studying...

**Year 7** - Human Rights and Children's Rights

**Year 8** - University vs apprenticeships – Looking at the pros and cons of university and apprenticeships.

**Year 9** - Changing and growing - Reflecting on the changes that the body and brain has undergone since starting puberty, considering the changes yet to come and how to manage these, knowing where to access support if I am worried about an aspect of change in my life

**Year 10** - Organisation - Understanding the importance of being organised, being able to help organise others and events, being able to organise yourself and your time

**Year 11** - Under pressure - Understanding the influences that inform decision making with regard to sexual relationships, knowing some strategies to help manage sexual pressure, understanding what consent is in relation to sexual relationships

Please discuss the topics/issues with your child.

**Daniel Robinson, Head of Personal Development**



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### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 4



#### English

Students in Miss Pole's 10P English class were asked to write a short analysis of the way Dickens presents the Cratchit family in stave 3 of 'A Christmas Carol' last week: these are some examples of excellent work.

#### How does Dickens present the Cratchits? By Georgia Plummer

Dickens presents the Cratchits as an unfortunate family. They have a disabled son and very low income which means they can't afford the correct treatment or help they need for him. The Cratchits have very few material items, they have to borrow each other's clothes but with the old clothes that they do have they try their best to make themselves look presentable. On the other hand, even though they as a family have very little money they have the one thing that keeps them thriving...happiness. The love that they have for each other and the way they care for each other keeps them going, they always have a smile on their faces even when things are tough. Dickens presents them as people who can have very little but still project nothing but joy into the atmosphere.

Dickens presents the family's poverty through descriptions of their clothes, 'Then up rose Mrs. Cratchit, Cratchit's wife, dressed out but poorly in a twice-turned gown, but brave in ribbons, which are cheap' Mrs. Cratchit is wearing old clothes for Christmas but rejoiced in them a little by adding in some ribbon, this shows that she has still tried her best to make an effort for Christmas and even though it is a little one it is still noticeable. The family's plight is further presented through the descriptions of their Christmas dinner, 'Oh, a wonderful pudding! Bob Cratchit said, and calmly too, that he regarded it as the greatest success achieved by Mrs. Cratchit since their marriage' implies that the family doesn't get much and this little amount of pudding meant a lot to the family, and they would have savoured this until the very last piece.

The Cratchits are a family who are very appreciative of the little they have and view it still as a great blessing to have anything at all, 'Everybody had something to say about it but nobody said or thought it was at all a small pudding for a large family. It would have been flat heresy to do so.' The family knew that the pudding was small especially for the large family that they had but they didn't once mention it being a small pudding because the family is grateful for every little thing that they get even if it is only a small amount. Dickens presents the Cratchits in this way because of the way he was brought up and the poor family he lived in, his dad was taken to prison and after that he was left to fend for himself, he worked in a blacking factory earning little amounts just enough to put a little bit of food in his mouth, this is the same way the Cratchits are presented and this is the reason why, to reflect his family past and to open the eyes of readers like Scrooge in the hope that people will be encouraged to support and care for the vulnerable in Victorian society.



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#### Wreake Valley 50th Anniversary!!!

This September will mark the 50th Anniversary of Wreake Valley opening its doors for the very first time!!

Whilst we are all in lockdown and have plenty of time at home what could be more worthy of your time than going into your attics and cupboards to retrieve that old shoe box of your Wreake photos!

We would love to hear from any of our former pupils or staff with old stories, articles, anecdotes, or photographs that you would be happy to share. We hope to put together some displays around the school to show our current and future pupils how the school has changed over those 50 years and have plans for students to create a time capsule.

If you do have any items or memories you are happy to share please email: [tmurnin@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:tmurnin@wreake.bepschools.org) and help us to celebrate this milestone.



MODERNIST FACADE: The new Wreake Valley Upper School on its opening day in September 1971; right, the circular staircase in the school's library

### New county school looked extra-terrestrial





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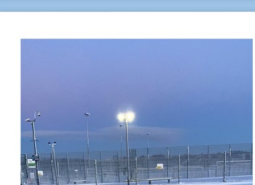
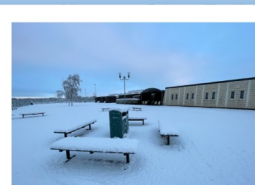


### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 4

#### Snow Fun

"Living in a rural area does have its benefits, plenty of snow when it arrives! This weekend we had lots so as well as making snow angels and sledging our family made a variety of snow "things" in our back garden. We braved the very cold conditions to build a portly snowman with an accompanying snow cat, also a family of snow Golems. Our reward for cold hands and wet clothes was hot chocolates with marshmallows, yum".

**Alison Rochester , Teacher of Social Sciences**



Mrs Corral and Mrs Green, from our Inclusion Team, braved the weather on Monday morning to make our way into school on foot!



Big shout out to Mr Errington who walked from Birstall on Monday to make sure he could get into school for the students.

Mr Naujeer and Mrs Johnson outside awaiting the students arrival.



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### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 4

#### English Continued....



##### How does Dickens present the Cratchit Family in stave 3? By Mollie Smith

Dickens presents the Cratchit family as being filled with love regardless of how poor they are. Their ideals and mentality is the antithesis of Scrooge's which is why it is necessary for him to see the way they interact with each other and Christmas. The Cratchits do not have a lot of money, and yet they are happy and content, this is what significantly separates Scrooge from Bob and his family.

Dickens uses the Cratchit family to show what Christmas can do for people, he shows that Christmas can bring out the best in people, it can give them hope and love regardless of how poor they may be. Dickens uses Mrs Cratchit's attempt to dress up to show that she cares about how she looks and wants to make an effort, "dressed out but poorly in a twice-turned gown, but brave in ribbons, which are cheap and make a goodly show for sixpence;" 'Twice-turned' highlights that the family cannot afford new clothes and mend the clothes they have, this dress represents Mrs Cratchit's desire to impress her husband and to make Christmas special for her children. 'Ribbons, which are cheap', Mrs Cratchit has tried to make an effort but does not have the money to do so, the ribbons symbolise hope, a hope for a better future and a better life.

Dickens presents the Cratchit family as being grateful, despite a small Christmas pudding, they are still overjoyed and appreciative, "Everybody had something to say about it, but nobody said or thought it was at all a small pudding for a large family." The pudding may symbolise the wage Scrooge pays Bob, even though it is a small amount of money, and doesn't make their life any easier, they still appreciate it. Their reaction to such a small meal and pudding and money highlights that the family does not need grand things or large amount of wealth to be happy, they simply need each other. Dickens uses the family to show that having a family and being loved is a far greater gift than having money. Family, love and hope is far stronger.

The Cratchit family is presented as hopeful and excited, this highlights the spirit of Christmas and what it can do to a person. "screaming that outside the baker's they had smelt the goose, and known it for their own; and basking in luxurious thoughts of sage-and-onion" this line highlights the joy of Christmas and how infectious the excitement of it is. "Their own", shows that the idea of having something that belongs to them is important to the Cratchit's, the simple pleasure of owning something is exciting to the children. 'Luxurious' highlights how they view something as simple as a goose, something that to most people would be simple, fills the family with joy.

Dickens presents the Cratchit family as poor however, he also presents them as a close knit, appreciative family who despite not being able to afford much, find joy in life's simple pleasure like ribbons and family. He presents them as grateful and kind people, the polar opposite to Scrooge's opinion on life and Christmas.





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#### Creative & Visual Arts

My name is Lara Batchelor and I will be working within the drama department at Wreake Valley until July. As I am a Wreake Valley ex-student, I am so excited to be coming back to teach drama at the place that it all began for me.

I joined Wreake Valley in Year 10 after attending Roundhill for Key Stage 3 and chose GCSE drama as one of my options (little did I know that this would be the career path that I would take). I took part in every school production that Wreake had to offer and I was given amazing opportunities to play leading roles. From this, my passion for drama grew immensely and by the end of Year 10, I knew that I wanted to be a drama teacher. I stayed at Wreake for sixth form where I took Performing Arts as an A-Level.

After completing my A-Levels, I went on to do a drama degree at De Montfort University, in which I received a first class degree. With my university, I had the once in a lifetime opportunity to teach drama to children in the slums of Ahmedabad, India. This was an incredibly humbling experience, and it gave me excellent experience in teaching EAL students, and it was also extremely eye-opening. During my time as university, I also set up my own singing tuition business named Pitch Perfect Singing Lessons which I am still running today.

I am so excited to begin teaching at Wreake Valley online, and I am even more excited to get back into the theatre when we can!

#### Wreake's West End Star!

Jodie Knight completed her GCSE and A levels here at Wreake and after achieving a fantastic set of A levels results she secured a place studying musical theatre at the 'Midlands Academy of Dance and Drama'. Jodie is now starring as 'Fatimah' in the UK tour of West End hit show 'Everybody's talking about Jamie'.

Jodie is coming to help us with something really exciting at Wreake... see page 9

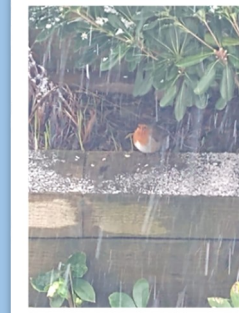


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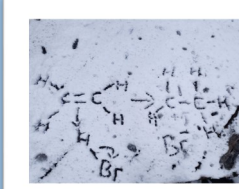
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A robin sheltering from the snow in Mr Foster's garden .

#### Career Choice

**Ornithologist** – a person who studies or is an expert on birds



Dr Jones using the recent weather to teach reaction mechanisms to A-level Chemistry students.



#### Science Department

##### Science and Engineering club launch

Our Science and Engineering Staff are launching a Science and Engineering Club where will be setting weekly challenges for students to get involved in during the lockdown. All the activities can be done with household materials to encourage as many students to take part as possible.

##### Big Garden Birdwatch (29<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> January)

Join the members of the Science Department and thousands of people across the UK in the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch this weekend.

All you have to do is spend 1 hour in your own garden or looking out your window and count the number and species of bird that you can see. You can then submit your results on the RSPB's website in order for them to use the data to monitor bird populations. For over 40 years, the RSPB have used information from the public to understand the challenges faced by our wildlife.

All the resources you need to get started can be found on the RSPB's website:

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/> and on your Show My Homework Calendar.

Please send your bird photos to Dr Jones [cjones@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:cjones@wreake.bepschools.org)  
The best ones may make into next week's newsletter!

In the meantime, why not take the *What bird are you?* Quiz.

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/which-garden-bird-are-you/> and then let us know which bird you are by [clicking here](#) .

Your science teachers are a mainly blackbirds with a cheerful robin and a sociable blue tit joining the flock – I will let you guess who you think they are!

##### For next week's engineering challenge, you will need:

1 x packet of spaghetti

1 x packet of jelly sweets

**Dr Carla Jones, Head of Chemistry**



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#### Holocaust Memorial day

On Wednesday 27th January Wreake Valley Academy marked Holocaust Memorial Day. This is to remember:

- the six million Jewish people who were systematically persecuted and murdered by the Nazis and their collaborators during the Holocaust
- the Nazis' other victims, including Roma and Sinti people, disabled people, gay people, political opponents and many others who faced persecution and death at the hands of the Nazis
- the millions of men, women and children, who have been murdered in the genocides which followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur

Each day this week students in Years 9 - 13 were given the opportunity to learn about one of the genocides mentioned above. Please talk to your son/daughter about what they learnt. All of the information is attached on Show My Homework if you would like to go back over the information.

#### Student comments

"It was really interesting knowing more about the Genocide in Rwanda since some people in my family witnessed it. My mum is from Burundi, which is very close to Rwanda. She was only around 10 years old when she witnessed it. Many people in my family passed away too. It's great that we are getting to know more of social issues around the world." Sarah Tene, Year 10

"My family are going to light a candle and have a virtual dinner with my relatives to remember the Holocaust." Callam Clarke, Year 9



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#### Wreake Valley Monologue Slam

Usually, at this time of year Mr Clamp and I would be at our happiest, working with 80+ students across the year groups contributing to the annual school production. Whether the students are on stage, backstage, playing in the orchestra or in the lighting box, it really is one of the best events of the school year for many. Productions that stay in the hearts of students for many years to come and it is always a great opportunity to show our local community what wonderfully talented students we have here at Wreake. With this in mind I feel it is so important for our students to take part in a performance of some kind this year and this had led me to create the 'Wreake Monologue Slam'!!

Now, more than ever, it is important that we keep the arts alive during such a difficult time. So, at Wreake we are going to do just that, and I invite all students in years 7, 8 & 9 to enter. This is an optional event for Key Stage 3 students to take part in and will hopefully be an enjoyable event.

#### What is a monologue Slam?

A monologue is a long script performed by one person. A monologue Slam is a friendly competition where a performer submits a recording of a monologue performance to me and the top 3 are selected to perform live (when it is safe to do so) at a later date.

We will have 3 categories, one for each year group. The monologue needs to come from an existing play/musical and I will help you find the right monologue for you.

#### Who will be judging the monologues?

I am delighted to announce that we have an amazing guest judge for the competition, West End star, Jodie Knight will be joining myself and Mr Marston in selecting the top 3 for each year group. Jodie is an ex Wreake Valley student who went on to study at MADD (Midlands Academy of Dance and Drama) before landing the role of 'Fatimah' in the West End touring cast of 'Everybody's talking about Jamie'.





Jan 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 4

#### What do I need to do to enter?

Firstly, you need to Register your Interest, you can do this by clicking the link and completing the simple form. I will then contact you with the details and arrange to meet over Teams to discuss your monologue ideas and answer any questions you might have. The deadline to register is 12 noon on Friday 5th February.

#### Quick questions:

Will anyone see my monologue except the judges?

No, I would only share your performance if you gave permission for that to happen.

#### How many times can I record my monologue?

As many times as you like, when you get the deadline date send me the version you are happiest with.

#### Will I get feedback on my performance?

Of course, Jodie and I will offer everyone feedback on their performance. Even if you do not make the top 3, feedback is so important to help you become a stronger performer.

#### Is it ok if I change my mind after I Register?

I really want as many of you to take part in this as possible, it is designed to be a fun activity, showcasing the talented students at Wreake. Even if you feel are a little bit interested by this, sign up, get more info and then make the decision. I will be there to support and guide you through it all.

I am super excited to be running this event and really hope you are too! If you have taken part in the productions before I am sure you are missing it as well. This is a great way to let your creative side out and brush up those performance skills. If you have watched one of the Wreake Valley productions and always wanted to take part, this is a great stepping stone into drama at Wreake Valley. It also a great way to receive feedback from a professional from the performing arts industry.

Simply fill in your details to [Register your Interest](#) and look forward to this exciting opportunity. If you do have any questions, then please email me [CConnolley@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:CConnolley@wreake.bepschools.org) and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Thank you and I look forward to hearing from you

**Mrs Connolley, Head of Creative Arts and Technology**



Tel: 0116

Jan 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 4

#### Get involved

If you are looking for different projects to get involved in here's a few ideas.

#### Geography Bake Off

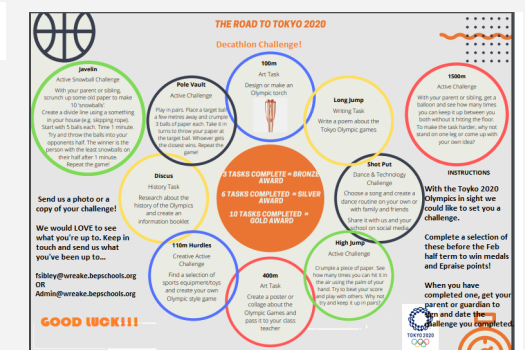
Look what Millie Holmes in Year 13 made at the weekend! - A carbon cycle cake- featuring a cow, fossil fuels/factories and a tree (what we are learning at the moment!) Send your Geography Bakes to [lmvatt@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:lmvatt@wreake.bepschools.org)

#### PE Decathlon Challenge

Take part in the PE Decathlon Challenge and then send us in some of your photos to ...

[fsibley@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:fsibley@wreake.bepschools.org)

We can't wait to see what you've been up to!



#### Community Exhibition - <https://www.overgrowncity.co.uk/>

Take part in a project from the overgrown city which involves designing and painting your own window. Check out the website.



#### Big Garden Birdwatch This Weekend

Please send your bird photos to Dr Jones [cjones@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:cjones@wreake.bepschools.org)

The best ones may make into next week's newsletter.

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/>



Tel: 0116 2641080

[www.wvacademy.org](http://www.wvacademy.org)

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Jan 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 4

#### Library

If you are missing the snow we have some wintry themed books in the library which you can reserve for delivery.

Our book of the week is *The White Darkness* by Geraldine McCaughan. Sym is taken on a mystery tour by her eccentric uncle to the Antarctic. But the dangers she faces come not only from the harsh environment.

Brothers Nicky and Kenny are lost on the moors in a sudden storm. The bond between the brothers as they struggle to find their way back home is tested to the limit in this short novel.

You may have seen Lyra's journey to the North in the BBC adaptation of *His Dark Materials* last year. Here she meets witch-clans and an ice-bear who fight. Northern Lights in the first book in a great fantasy series.

This is a unique visual re-telling of Ernest Shackleton's landmark expedition crossing the Antarctic from one pole to the other and was published to celebrate its 100th anniversary. The illustrations and diagrams are detailed down to the character of each dog that accompanied the explorers voyage. It's a worthy winner of the Greenaway award for illustrated books and a wonderful biography.

**Nita Patel, Librarian**

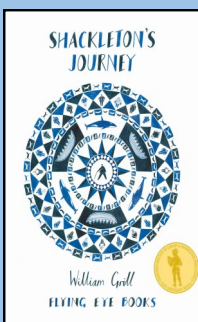
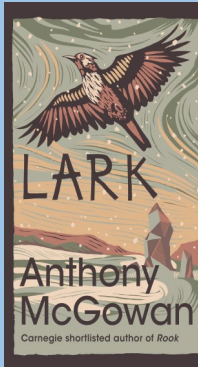
# ColorVeil

is free for use in any environment!

For students who need different coloured backgrounds for documents and online reading; this is a useful app that allow you to set the colour of the screen. it is free to download, click the link to give it a try!

<https://www.aurelitec.com/colorveil/windows/download/>

GERALDINE MCCAUGHAN



Jan 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 4

#### Book Club

##### Calling for more Year 9s to join our Year 9 Book Club!

For the last four months, Mrs Patel and I have been running a lunchtime book club for Year 9s. At the beginning of term Mrs Patel introduced the idea of reading a verse novel. You may all be thinking what is a verse novel? A verse novel is a type of narrative poetry in which a novel-length narrative is told through the medium of poetry rather than prose. They are told through a poem. I wasn't sure to begin with but I got hooked to a verse novel called 'Toffee' by Sarah Crossan. I am a very slow reader but this book was so quick to read as there isn't a lot words on each page. Everyone in the group really enjoyed reading this style of text. There are a range of verse novels in the library: 'Blood Moon', 'Toffee', 'Run Rebel', 'Clap When You Land', 'Poet X', 'The Weight of Water', 'Gloves Off' and 'Wrecked'. Some members of the club are like me, they read very slowly and some who will read a novel in a day!

Students receive a bingo book sheet to tick off the different texts they read over the academic year. Choices include: book published in the year you were born; book by a BAME author; book set in a different country; an award winner book; book recommended by a friend and the second book in a series. EPraise points are given for each book read and extra for rows completed. Some of the books we enjoyed last term were: 'Heartstopper', 'All The Things We Never Said', 'Run Rebel', 'The Borrowers' and '1984'.

Our current project is listening to the opening of a book called 'Being Miss Nobody' by Tamsin Winter. I worked with Ms Winter in one of my previous schools and she has now gone on to be a successful writer. Please watch the link of her reading the first chapter of this book:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0xUGK1Lyvvc>

As we are working remotely, we have now set our reading group on SMHW and happily share what we are reading each week. If you are interested in joining, please get in contact with myself or Mrs Patel:

[spowell@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:spowell@wreake.bepschools.org) or [library@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:library@wreake.bepschools.org)

Remember you can request books on Reading Cloud and we will deliver them. If you are tempted by any of these titles reserve them using this link:

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**Selina Powell, Teacher of English**

