

Feb 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6

#### Stars of the Half Term

Year 7 - Jessica French - PE - excellent effort

Year 8 - Fallon Backhouse - PE - excellent effort

Year 9 - Sam Chapman - PE - excellent effort

Year 10 - Caitlin Sharman - PE - excellent effort

Year 11 - James Tebbatt - PE - excellent effort

All Stars of the Week and Stars of the Half Term will be published on our website

<https://www.wreake.bepschools.org/our-academy/news/wreake-valley-star-students/>

A big **thank you** to the parents of Year 11 Health and Social Care students who took part in recorded role plays for the student's coursework. It is very much appreciated!

Mrs Rochester



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Feb 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6



#### In this issue:

A Message from  
Headteacher  
Mr Marston

Bradgate Sixth  
Form  
Information

PE Nature Photo  
Competition

Student work

The "Covid  
Kitchen"



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#### A Message from the Headteacher

##### Why Wreake Valley Academy?

In the last week over 20 potential applicants have applied for teaching roles across, Wreake Valley Academy, The Roundhill Academy and Bradgate Sixth Form. The teaching vacancies have come about as a result of a significant number of additional students applying to come to the Secondary Schools from September.

When we met virtually to talk to them about what the school has to offer, the applicants wanted to know what it was that I felt made Wreake Valley Academy a school that they should consider for their first role in teaching.

I condensed it down to a few key points...

- The school community is special, it is not fixated by one particular aspect of education but absolutely passionate about a well rounded experience for all of our young people.
- The students deserve the very best opportunities, (to be clear all students deserve this) however Wreake feels like a school that is on the verge of doing something great. We need confident, idealistic and expert staff to take our young people on what should be an exciting ride.
- We keep things simple. Students need to arrive to school on time and ready to learn. The school provide specialist staff and disruption free learning. If staff love their subject then they can revel in it at Wreake and at Bradgate Sixth Form.

We are really excited to be having new staff join our team from September and will keep you posted about our new recruits once the appointments have been made.

Next week is Half term, I really hope that all students, staff, parents & carers can have a rest and enjoy a great week, stay safe and reenergise for the next half term.

**Tim Marston**  
Headteacher



Feb 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6

#### Office 365

Thanks to all pupils and parents for supporting the transition to remote learning. We don't always get it right first time and have really valued your support and feedback as we try and find a new normal way of working remotely.

All pupils have been set a number of short tasks this week to prepare for the move from our old Google/Gmail login to the new Office 365 account, we tend to refer to this as the students' BEP email address.

This has gone well and we have now successfully moved all students' logins over to Office 365. From half term pupils will login to their email, MS Teams, Show My Homework & Epraise using their new @wreake.bepschools.org accounts. Check the daily tasks on Show My Homework for more details.

All parents and pupils can login to Epraise and Show My Homework to see a schedule of all lessons and feedback on engagement. You can see the full timetable and contact all teachers using Epraise.

If you need support with Show My Homework please email [SMHW@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:SMHW@wreake.bepschools.org)

If you require support with Epraise or Office 365 please email [admin@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:admin@wreake.bepschools.org)



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Feb 2021

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#### Stars of the Half Term

Ellie Hayton - Year 9 - Drama

For writing a dramatic and emotional monologue that gives real insight into the characters emotions. I can't wait to see this performed!! Well done Ellie!

Emily Barrow - Year 9 - Drama

For writing an outstanding monologue that is powerful, emotional and gives great insight to her character - really looking forward to seeing this performed. Well done Emily

Evie Kelly and Giorgio Di S'Andrea - Year 8—Personal Development

For leading the tutor group quiz in the last PD lesson and writing some challenging and interesting questions!!

Callam Clarke - Year 9— Humanities

Full engagement in Holocaust Memorial Day and good work in Humanities all term

Lewis Daniels—Year 8— Humanities

Quality work all term and professionally presented in Humanities

Year 8 - Joaquin Grant - Maths - For attending all live lessons, contributing every time and producing some amazing

Year 8- Luca Simpkin - Maths = Excellent all-round positive contributions in all of his lessons.

Year 8 – Poppy Jones – Maths – Hugely impressive performance for all tasks and live lessons.



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## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6

Joseph Gargun 8BL is showing off his fantastic skills with his restaurant worthy 3 course meal.



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



Keiran Taylor Yr 10



Freya Green Yr 10



Archie Dodd 7SER—Chicken nuggets



Evie Baker—Love heart shaped scones in time for valentines day.



Mischa Esposito 8BL Oreo Dora cakes



Yvard Tene—7KHO Chicken nuggets, chips and salad. Excellent real life example of

Feb 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6



Katie Johnson,  
Head of Bradgate  
Sixth Form



### Bradgate Sixth Form

This week the spotlight continues on B6 students and I am very proud to introduce you to Rachel in Year 12:

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

There is a positive environment, great for learning and you always receive support and the proper guidance for what you want to do in the future. There is always someone you can turn to when you have questions or concerns. Generally, there is a great, inviting atmosphere and you always feel welcome.

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

Good, very supportive. I love the teaching and look forward to my lessons, we're given a good amount of time in study periods to complete outstanding work and revise, you are pushed to do the best that you can and it is a positive work environment that allows for personal growth.

#### What support and guidance are you given?

There is lots of support and guidance, that is specialised to whatever you decide to go into, lots of research and effort goes into helping you get onto the courses and into the jobs and careers that you want.

#### What opportunities have you had at Bradgate Sixth Form?

There are lots of opportunities on offer at B6, such as The Elephant Group which gives the top 3rd students opportunities to have seminars and open days, which can aid your CV and open up doors for you. Beyond that B6 holds career events which can help you network and find out more about specialised jobs and courses.

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

I am hoping to study to become a veterinary nurse either at university or by through a degree apprenticeship.

#### Any other comments/advice you would like to give to potential students as to why they should choose here?

Throw yourself into it, take every opportunity available to you!





Feb 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



Katie Johnson,  
Head of Bradgate  
Sixth Form



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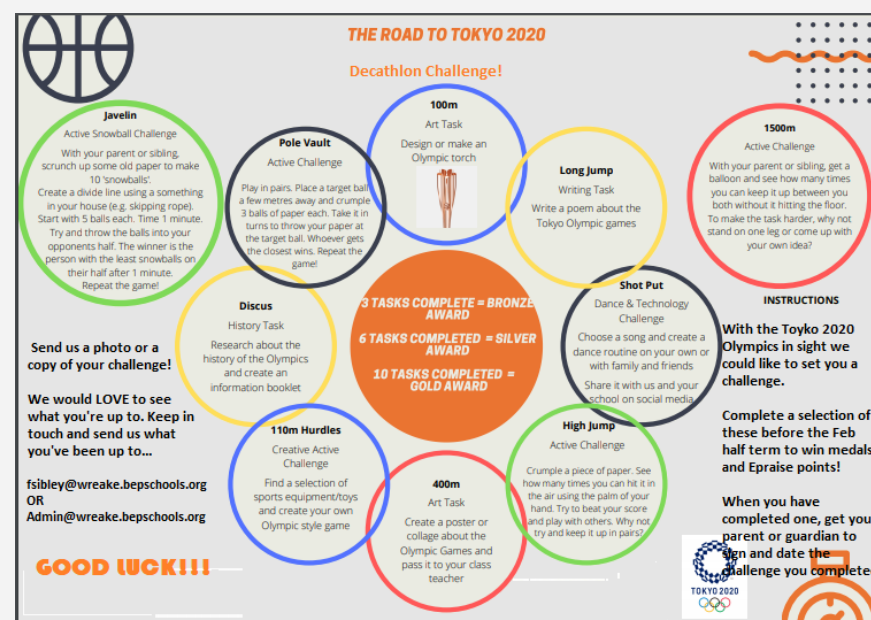
#### Bradgate Sixth Form— B6 Growth Programme

This week we ran our launch event for Year 11 students who have now enrolled onto the B6 Growth Programme. It was fantastic to welcome so many students into Bradgate Sixth Form and to share the fantastic opportunities available to them such as The Elephant Group, Elephant Access, The Medics Bulletin and Pathways Programme. Students now have access to an extensive range of resources to 'strengthen the foundations' for their GCSE English, Maths and Science as well as the B6 Challenges of 2021.

On Monday 22nd February we will be running our first 'Talking Heads' which is a brilliant opportunity for students to find out about the subjects they have chosen to study at Bradgate Sixth Form from subject specialists. I know the Sixth Form team are really looking forward to talking with students and answering any questions they may have.

Bradgate Sixth Form has extended the deadline for post 16 applications to Monday 22nd February 2021. Places are filling up very quickly! Please email [admin@bradgatesixthform.com](mailto:admin@bradgatesixthform.com) for further information or to apply.

#### PE Challenge



Feb 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



Miss Lad  
Food and Nutrition  
Teacher

### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6

#### The "Covid Kitchen Gallery"



Molly Betts 8BL made some delicious macaroni cheese and garlic bread and the parmesan chicken nuggets!



Jessica French 7SMM—hard at work with her nuggets



Isla Mae Heighton 7SER—chicken nugget's



Phoebe Heighton  
Yr 10



Luke Harris yr9

Rosie Lycett 7KHO—chicken nugget meal it looks better than Nandos!



Feb 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6



Miss Lad  
Food and Nutrition  
Teacher

Next week's  
practical is:

Naan Bread

### The "Covid Kitchen"

Next week we are making—Naan!

Try and look for a recipe you can make to go with the Naan—such as a curry or naan pizza

#### Ingredients:

- 60ml semi-skimmed milk
- 200g strong flour
- 1x5ml spoon baking powder
- ½ sachet instant yeast
- 1x5ml oil 1x15ml spoon low fat plain yogurt



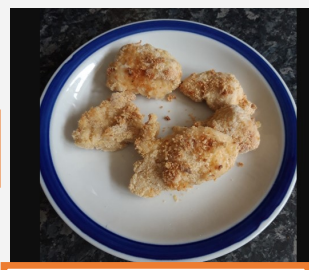
Joaquin Grant's cheesecake  
and multi-coloured cake!  
Spectacular effort!



Freya Cave 8mre



Zoe Morbey YR9



Rebecca Ryves—Chicken nuggets

Feb 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6



Mrs Wade  
English

### Year 12 English

Our Year 12 English Literature students have been reading widely during this lockdown. Some students are choosing to use the time to read texts that they can use for their coursework, whilst some are enjoying reading for pleasure. Three of our students have kindly written short pieces to share what they have been reading.

#### The Picture of Dorian Gray

##### By a Year 12 student

I recently read *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde. This novel focuses on the character of Dorian Gray, who has his portrait painted by the artist Basil Hallward and after - realising that it will one day remind him of the beauty he has lost - voices his desire for the painting to bear the burden of age and infamy, whilst he remains young forever. Dorian Gray's wish, in fact, comes true and he falls into a life of sin and corruption, with no regard for conventional standards of morality or the consequences of his own actions. However, whilst he remains young and beautiful, his portrait grows increasingly hideous - a visual representation of his corrupted soul.

Wilde cleverly crafts the character of Dorian Gray, whose obsession with youth and vanity leads to his eventual downfall and I believe that this thought-provoking novel is a stark warning that there are inevitable consequences to every single behaviour. To add to this, I think that this novel is extremely relevant in contemporary society, in which we are a nation obsessed with aesthetic, and I believe that it illustrates the deceiving nature of a person's appearance and how we shouldn't be so quick to associate beauty with moral goodness.

#### The Picture Of Dorian Gray

##### By Katie Canham

An artist, Basil Hallward, meets the central character, Dorian Gray. Dorian is an impossibly beautiful young gentleman, who captures Basil's artistic imagination. Dorian sits for several portraits and Basil often depicts him as a magnificent, mythological figure. Lord Henry Wotton, who is arguably the antagonist of the novel, enjoys scandalising his friends by celebrating youth, and the selfish pursuit of pleasure. Lord Henry asks Basil to introduce him to Dorian. However, Basil is reluctant to do so, as he fears Henry will have a damaging influence on the impressionable young, Dorian.





Feb 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



Mrs Wade  
English

### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6

#### Year 12 English continued ....

Basil's fears are well founded; Lord Henry manages to upset Dorian with a speech about the transient nature of beauty. Worried that his beauty (his most impressive trait) is fading as each day progresses, Dorian is influenced to curse his portrait. In a fit of distress, he pledges his soul; if only the painting could bear the burden of age and infamy and allow him to stay forever young. As readers will know, this curse becomes true. Over time, Lord Henry's influence grows stronger on Dorian. He resolves to amend his life but cannot muster the courage to confess his crimes and the painting now reveals his supposed desire to repent for what it is - hypocrisy. Dorian picks up a knife and destroys the painting. His servants enter to find the portrait unharmed, and see their master - an old man, horribly wrinkled with a knife plunged into his heart.

However violent Oscar Wilde's novel may be, I truly believe it is such a great read! Not only does Wilde leave behind an important message - whatever malicious intent an individual may have, it is inevitable that it will catch back up with you - but this book also transports your mind back to the 19th century, due to its fantastic imagery and description.

#### The Final Empire: Book One

By Jessica Wright

For a thousand years the ash fell and no flowers bloomed. For a thousand years the Skaa slaved in misery and lived in fear. For a thousand years the Lord Ruler, the "Sliver of Infinity," reigned with absolute power and ultimate terror, divinely invincible. Then, when hope was so long lost that not even its memory remained, a terribly scarred, heart-broken half-Skaa rediscovered it in the depths of the Lord Ruler's most hellish prison. Kelsier "snapped" and found in himself the powers of a Mistborn.

To put it simply, if you haven't read the 'Final Empire' yet, read it. Whether you are new to the world of fantasy or are well versed in the fantasy world, this book series is one of the finest and most easily accessible fantasy series out there. The author, Brandon Sanderson, has created a new magical system that has a scientific and biological reasoning to it that makes it feel as though such things could be possible. The author has cleverly spent his time creating Allomancy and the myths and religions in this series. For a novice reader, whilst the story is complex, the language and writing are simple and direct therefore anyone can pick up these books and enjoy reading them.



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### Career Choice

**Analytical chemist –**  
a person who  
analyses chemical  
compounds.

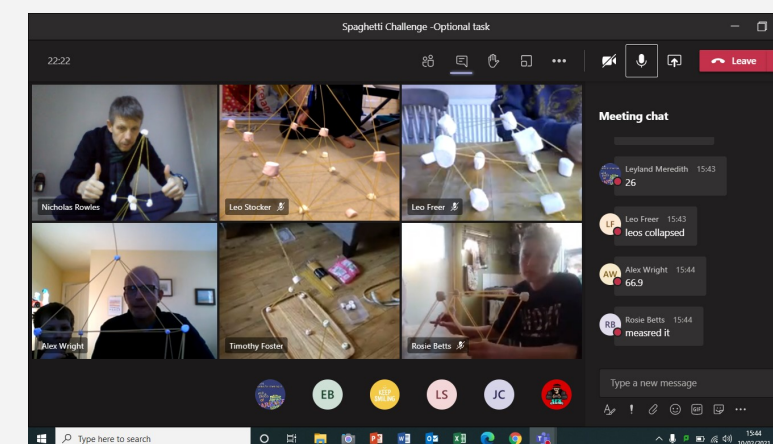
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#### Science Challenge—Spaghetti Tower Challenge

I would like to thank all of the students who took part in the Science and Engineering Spaghetti Challenge. It was brilliant to have so many students (and staff) take part. It was wonderful to see families taking part together for example Leo Stocker and his Mum were an excellent team and built a very impressive structure, while the Freer brothers (Luca and Leo) were definitely competing against each other.

Out Champion tower builder was Lily Maynard Smith with an impressive tower that was 73 cm tall! The nearest competition was our own Mr Wright with 67.8 cm.

We will be looking to hold another event after half term and it will be great to see everyone there.



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Feb 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Career Choice

**Analytical chemist** – a person who analyses chemical compounds.

### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6

#### Science and Engineering Club

##### Make your own indicator

An indicator is an incredibly useful chemical. When an indicator is added to another substance, it will change colour depending on whether it is an acid or alkali. This can be important for industrial chemists who want to do reactions at a certain pH or gardeners as different types of plant prefer different conditions to grow in.

It is an analytical chemist's job to analyse substances.

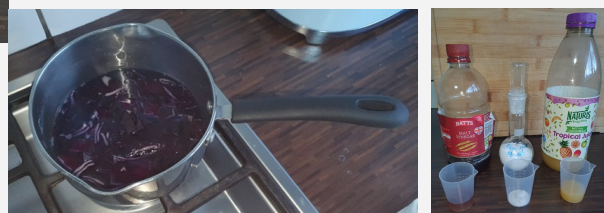
##### This week's challenge

Can you make your own indicator to analyse household substances?

##### Method



Chop a 2 cm slice of red cabbage  
Place the chopped cabbage in a pan and cover with water  
Simmer for 10 minutes  
Leave to cool for 30 minutes  
Place a small amount of each substance you want to test in a small glass or plastic container  
Pour a small amount of your indicator into each substance and watch the colour change.



##### No red cabbage –no problem

You can make an indicator from other substances including red onion, beetroot, aubergine, blueberries, cherries and even tomatoes.

##### We want to see your pictures

Send me a photo of your experiment and it may feature in the next newsletter.

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



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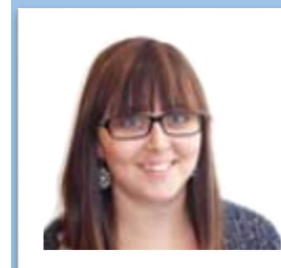
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## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6

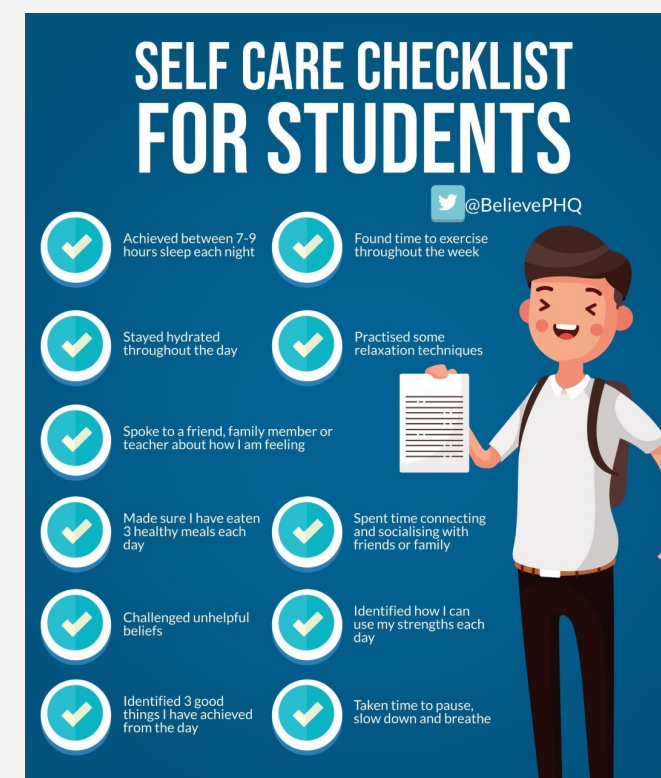


Mrs Wade  
English

#### Year 12 English continued ....

Sanderson is not afraid of feminism! He is very respectful to his female characters as he makes them strong, intelligent and independent; rather than having them flirt their way through the book like we see all too often, instead, they use their wit and power to defeat their enemies. Vin, the female protagonist, is stronger than all of the male characters and fights her way to safety with skill and determination. Finally, these books have something for everyone as there is romance and action, religion and magic all combined in one series.

To conclude, do yourself a favour and read this book series. Escape this world where instead of magical powers and kingdoms to save, you have endless piles of homework and deadlines to keep up with. Join the city of Luthadel and follow Vin on her journey of Allomancy (magic), discovery, vengeance, love and trust. You shall not be disappointed.



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Feb 2021

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Ms Lovegrove  
Head of English

### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6

#### I'd rather be in school because ... this week's entries

**I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because...** I know that I can't have any overdue work. **By Yvard Tene (Year 7)**

**I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because...** seeing a real-life person that isn't a family member is way too rare. **By Elodie Dakin (Year 7)**

**I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because...** because I'm terrified that my cats are formulating an evil plan to kidnap me and ransom me for Dreamies finest. (cat treats)  
**By Angus Pirie-Scott (Year 8)**

**I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because...** staying at home is floccinaucinihilipulification. **By Toby Garner (Year 11)**

**I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because...** it is the best learning tool! You don't get to see the wonderful teachers and the canteen staff too. **By Rosie Betts (Year 9)**

**I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because...** it makes my home seem less like a prison and more like a blessing. Also the screaming matches are fun.  
**By Caitlin Gant (Year 9)**

**I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because...** I can see all my mates, and school is sometimes fun. **By Fallon Blackhouse (Year 8)**

**I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because...** I'm just writing this for a chance at a giftcard, slightly hoping no one else submits anything. Thank you.  
**By Callum Lawrence (Year 12) Bad luck Callum!**

**I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because...** I love it when I have to wake early in the morning and wear a tie/blazer, I love it. **By Joaquin Grant (Year 8)**

**I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because...** I miss seeing the staff, my friends and learning in that environment. But, I love spending time with my cat.  
**By Olivia Hill (Year 7)**



Feb 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form

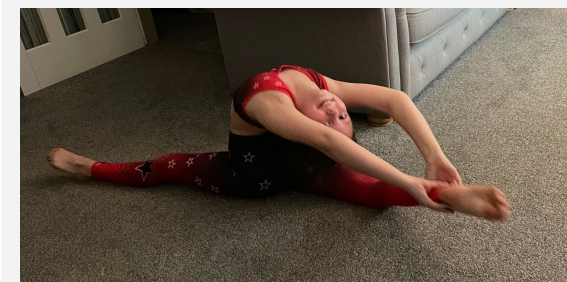


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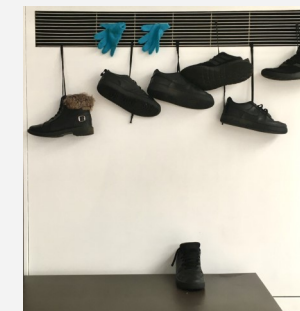
#### Other News

Grace Mumford, Year 7, Mrs Martin tutor group, working hard in her dance classes.

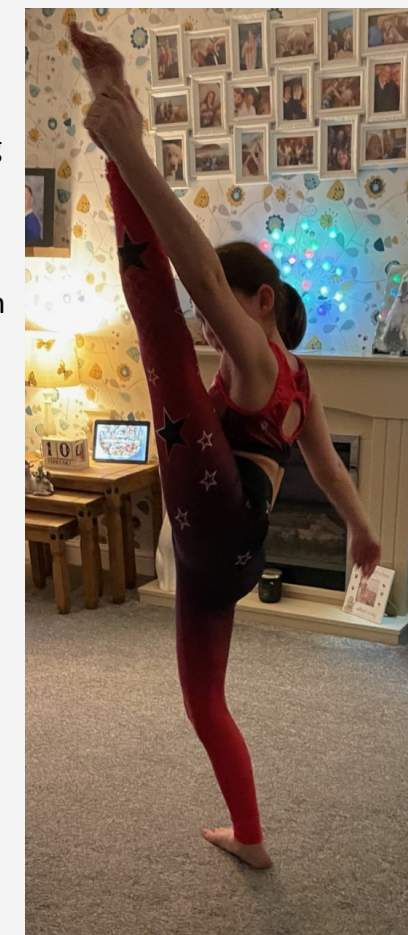
Taken a workshop tonight with the amazing Morgana Byworth who was a member of the "Dane Bates collective" on the TV show the greatest dancer tonight. Grace dances with Goscome Dance school, in Syston.



Snow damage! When some of the Year 7 students in school on Tuesday got rather wet playing in the snow there was only one solution...



Thoughtful students Jacob Sibson and Leo Skinner suggested making a knot in the shoelaces and suspending the shoes from the heater. It worked!





Jan 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6



#### Math's Debate - Jaffa Cake - A biscuit or a Cake?

Over the past 6 months a war has raged in 9P Maths lessons about the official definition of a Jaffa Cake. We have strong beliefs on both sides of the discussion, and often arguments ensue about what the true definition is. Over the past two weeks, Keira Rakhrao and Mia Kouchehpour have taken it upon themselves to stand up for what they believe is true and make Powerpoints to present to the rest of the class through our live lessons, in the hope of persuading the rest of the class that their opinion of a Jaffa Cake is indeed the correct one.

Keira went first, with her 13 slide presentation with the tagline #Jaffacakeisabiscuit. Points that she made very convincingly included; where you might find Jaffa Cakes in a supermarket (in the biscuit aisle), where you might store them after opening them (in a biscuit tin) and the results of a survey of British people where 52% chose biscuit.

##### Point 3:

It is a biscuit because you don't stick a candle on it and start sing happy birthday to someone



Mia had the right to reply, and her presentation was just as outstanding. Mia made 6 key points about why a Jaffa cake is indeed a cake starting with the name! Other elements included the inclusion of eggs in cakes and not biscuits and the behaviour of cakes and biscuits when left out.

However the key fact in Mia's presentation is that in 1991 McVities, the maker of Jaffa Cakes, declared in a VAT tribunal that it was indeed a cake.

In the subsequent class vote this was clearly the deciding fact as Cake won over Biscuit by a score of 17 to 8 (kudos to the 5 students who disagreed with both definitions).

Next up in Mathematical debate club will be whether a Square is a Rectangle or not!

**The very first reason why a Jaffa cake is a cake is simple ... it is called a Jaffa Cake not a Jaffa biscuit!**



Feb 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6



Ms Lovegrove  
Head of English

#### I'd rather be in school because... continued

**I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because...** I love it when I have to wake early in the morning and wear a tie/blazer, I love it.

**By Joaquin Grant (Year 8)**

**I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because...** I miss the thrill of pre-stage nerves, waiting for the curtain on our final show to rise.

**By Careen Blair (Year 9)**

**I'd rather be at home than in school because...** oops, I've worded it wrong...oh well.

**By Joaquin Grant (Year 8)**

**I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because...** I will be able to further my education, see my friends and come one step closer to world domination.

**By James Tebbutt (Year 11)**

**I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because...** in order to have a happy mindset you need to socialize.

**By Olivia Stone (Year 9)**

**I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because...** parents are working so they cannot help but teachers are always free so they can help,  
PARENTS = BAD, TEACHERS = RAD

**By Leo Stocker (Year 7)**

**I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because...** I miss the focused environment when at school, it's easier to focus without a bedroom window to wistfully stare from.

**By Tyler Wicks (Year 11)**

**I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because...** school keeps me focused. I feel more supported with my work.

**By Jaime Kirton (Year 10)**

**I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because...** human interaction is part of our nature and without it, our physical and mental health begins to decline.

**By Sarah Tene (Year 10)**





Feb 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



Mrs Middleton  
Senior Teaching  
Assistant

### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6

#### Staff Adventures

Today has been digging day, something I have been putting off for weeks. This winter job is exhausting but very necessary if I want this seasons crops to grow well. I have six beds to clear of weeds and dig over, this one will be the space for onions, leeks, spring onions and garlic, my garlic is already in the ground, unfortunately the birds seem to like the new bright green leaves that are emerging up through the soil and pecking the tops off, however I'm hoping I will still get a good crop of garlic bulbs to use throughout the year.

**Mrs Middleton—Senior Teaching Assistant**



Mr Lockhart has been keeping himself busy during lockdown and taking part in a virtual race in January where you had to Canicross the height of Everest (29032 ft) & run 32570 feet. A Canicross is a run with your dog, you can also Canihike (walk with your dog in harness) or Bikejor (cycle with your dog attached to the bike). The target was to get up to the equivalent of Mount Everest by running in your local area and clocking up the distance. In total Mr Lockhart ran 170 miles!! He ran most it with his Doberman Ronin, though some of his shorter runs were with his other dogs.

**Mr Lockhart—Head of Year 11**



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## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6

#### Competition for Staff & Students

##### Design a Face mask

Design a book themed face mask, either on paper, or if you can, sew a mask from suitable fabric. There is a simple pattern here [No-sew-mask-pattern.jpg](http://No-sew-mask-pattern.jpg) (555x775) ([creativetien.com](http://creativetien.com)) or you can find many more online. Search for "Face mask templates" and create designs related to your favourite books. Either email photos to [library@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:library@wreake.bepschools.org) or submit them on the SMHW flexible task by **Wednesday 24th February**. Miss Moreland is looking forward to judging them and we have some book tokens for top entries from all year groups.

**Reading Zone** has a 'create a picture book' competition open to all students aged 11-18 years. This can be done individually or as a group. Our school has had great success with this competition in previous years with students books being shortlisted, and runner-ups and I'm sure we have many talented students currently. Send your book to the library and we will post it to Reading Zone for you, as well as a chance at winning a school prize.

Full details here :- [3657.pdf](http://3657.pdf) ([readingzone.com](http://readingzone.com))

##### World Book Day Tokens

The book tokens for World Book Day are digital this year and can be used to buy one of the specially published books or used to pay towards another book. Stores such as Asda and Sainsbury may need the tokens printed using this link :-

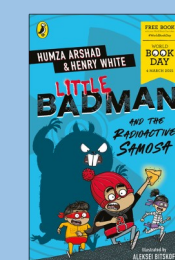
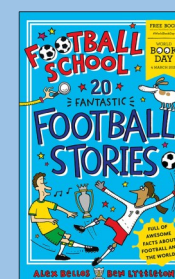
[booktoken\\_SecondaryUK.pdf](http://booktoken_SecondaryUK.pdf) ([worldbookday.com](http://worldbookday.com))

##### Shelfie—Selfie

Could you match the staff to their book shelves?

Staff members have sent us their Shelfies and we will be posting these on SMHW during the first week of March. We'd also like you to vote for your favourite Shelfie and will be awarding book tokens for most popular as voted by the school community. Look out for more details after half-term.

WORLD  
BOOK  
DAY  
4 MARCH 2021



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## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6



#### Wreake Book Club: Exciting Updates

##### UPDATE: Calling all KS3 Students

There is definitely something to tempt you in there. **After half-term**, we are opening up the Book Club to all students in Year 7, 8 and 9 and bringing together all year groups to establish one group on SMHW where we can all share our books and reading. You will find links to booklists, extracts, author websites, quizzes, competitions and more. We will meet once a fortnight on Teams for a catch-up and are currently considering a short story to read as a group. We award generous EPraise points for every book you read and for attending the book club sessions, and look forward to hearing about your reading choices.

If you're unsure about whether you want to join, come along to our first Teams session after half-term and see what you think. You can attend as many sessions as you like.

If you would like more information or would like to join us, email [nrajput@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:nrajput@wreake.bepschools.org), [spowell@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:spowell@wreake.bepschools.org), or [library@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:library@wreake.bepschools.org)



Miss Rajput  
Teacher of  
English



Mrs Patel  
Librarian



Mrs Powells  
Teacher of  
English



Oscar Aikens-Smith (Year 11)  
Has been honing his chess skills, this morning he has beaten the computer! Even Mr Pares hasn't managed that!

#### World Book Bake for March

For World Book Day we would like to give you the chance to enter a baking competition. You will have until the 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020 to plan and prepare the bake. **There will be a first, second and third winner.** You could win some fabulous cooking books so you can carry with the cooking at home!

Feb 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6

#### PE Photo Competition

It is great to hear that so many students are getting out into the fresh air and keeping physically active. This week we challenged the students and staff to take photos of nature and show all the amazing things that they see when outside. This could be simple landscape photos, photos of animals/birds or any of nature's beauty.

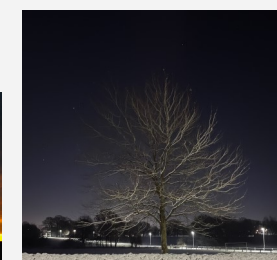
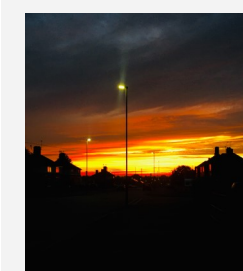
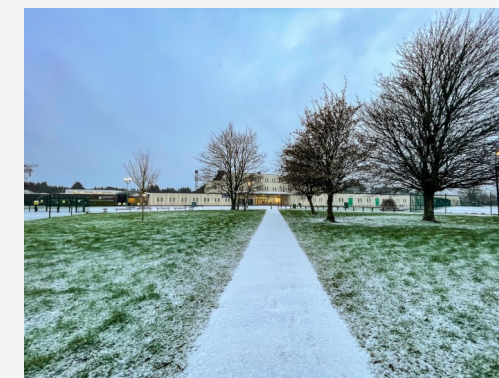
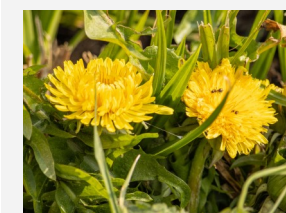
Students can submit their photos via SMHW to their PE teacher or email [mgrace@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:mgrace@wreake.bepschools.org) the best photos will then feature in the student newsletter and there will be prizes for the top 3 photos.

Get outside be creative, have fun and keep active. Here are some of the fantastic entries for this week.

#### PE Department



Miss Kaur—Teacher of English—photographs from a sunny walk



By Mr McDowell-IT Technician





Feb 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



Here are a few of the photos student and staff have submitted to the challenge! Well done everyone some super images this week. Please keep sending them in!

### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6

#### PE Nature Photo Challenge



Caitlin Sharman



Ronnie Bailey



Summer-Leigh Dexter



Gautami Joshi



All by Sarah Tene



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## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6

#### Wreake Book Club: Exciting Updates

Book clubbers from Year 7 and 9 have been reading a range of fiction books and have made many recommendations.

##### Year 7:

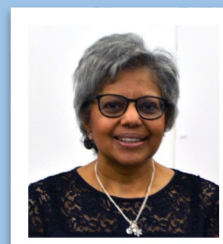
Elodie enjoyed the humour in **The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole: Aged 13 and 3/4**, particularly when Adrian was not able to see the most obvious things happening in his life. Bethany has been reading the **Land of Roar** series and recommends them to anyone who likes a good adventure. Shivali has travelled to India and France in her choices - **Tamarind and the Star of Ishta** and **Rooftoppers** and is continuing with the theme of travel in her current book: **The Girl of Ink and Stars**—Isabella is the daughter of a cartographer. Mrs Patel has finished **Eight Pieces of Silva** - a mystery story which covers many more themes than a simple case of a missing sister. Miss Rajput has continued enjoying verse novels and finished **Run Rebel** and is now trying out listening to audio-books, beginning with the auto-biography of Curtis Jackson (50 Cent) and is finding it more engaging than other audio-books as it is narrated by 50 Cent himself. Joe is reading **Blood Wolf** from the **Changling** series and Makenziemay has read **Stay a Little Longer** and **We are all Made of Molecules**.

##### Year 9:

Summer-Leigh and Callam have both enjoyed the **Heartstopper** graphic novels, William has tried two verse novels—**Poet X** and **Clap When You Land**, and Ansh is currently reading **Gulliver's Travels**.



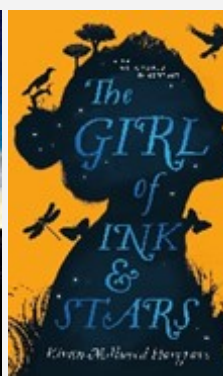
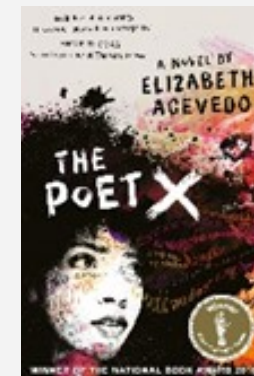
Miss Rajput  
Teacher of  
English



Mrs Patel  
Librarian



Mrs Powell  
Teacher of  
English



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## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6

#### Creative Arts & Technology Deliveries

Miss Moreland, Mrs Connolley and I went out delivering Art packs, MIDI Keyboards and revision guides this week to unsuspecting Year 10 students. We wanted to make sure that all of our students can access the GCSE coursework during lockdown. Miss Moreland, channeled her inner Jezz Bezos, on logistics and delivery, Mrs Connolley took to the wheel as my personal chauffeur and I (the pretty one and therefore the natural superficial face of the operation) made some deliveries. I was really impressed with the packs for Art and I know that Miss Moreland has worked really hard to put together some quality resources for GCSE students.

Despite a notable sense of disappointment that I wasn't the Amazon or Just Eat driver, it was lovely to briefly catch up with some students and parents. A sign of the times but a real highlight of the week and a nice opportunity to escape the computer screen and speak to some ACTUAL people.



#### Mr Clamp—Teacher of Music

Students have been looking at the work of Van Gogh and how he produced his drawings.

They were asked to create a self-portrait, and this example displays successfully some of his techniques and style.

#### Matt Reid – Teacher of Art



Drawing by Keira Wassell



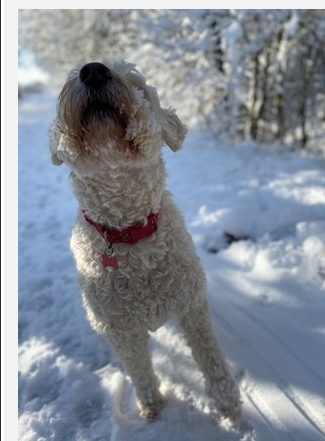
Feb 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6

#### PE Nature Photo Challenge



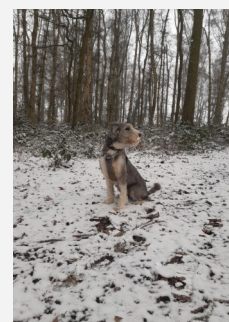
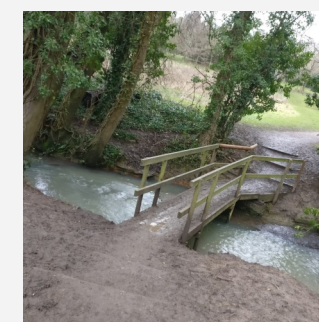
By Isabel Murch



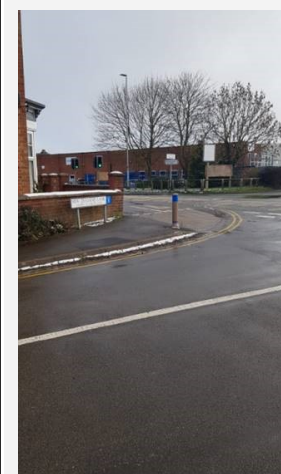
By Rosie Betts



Miss Patel-Librarian



Mr Grace



Erin Bradshaw



Holly Maddams





Feb 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



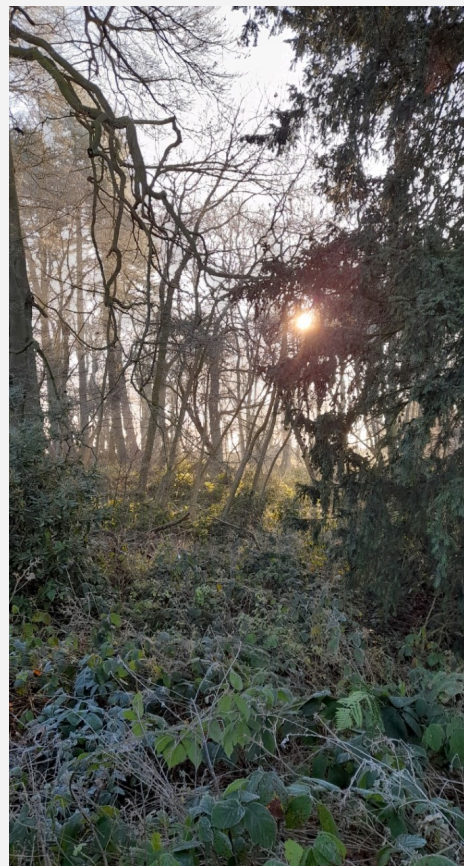
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By Miss Stevens



By Maddie Farmer



By Mrs Rochester's Son Lewis



Feb 2021

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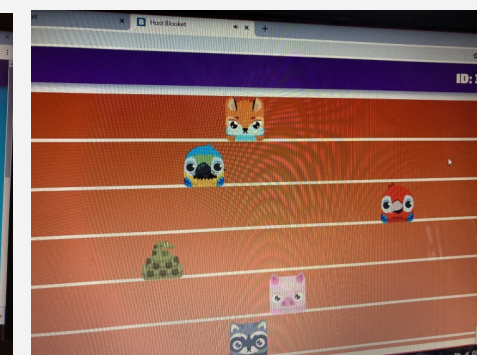
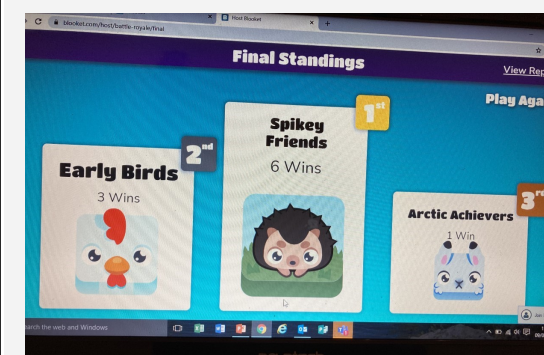
#### Around the school

**The Bradgate Centre:** Student's worked really well together on Wednesday 3rd Feb preparing pizza dough and toppings to make their own pizzas for lunch. They had an amazing time and enjoyed eating them. All the students took an active role even in the washing up and clearing their work areas. We were very proud of them.



**In French:** All year groups have taken part in Live games individually and as teams. These games have been reinforcing the vocabulary and structures from their online learning.

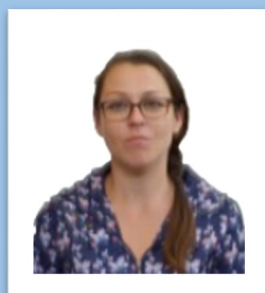
Mrs Ward's tutor group even ended up playing against her when she infiltrated the lesson!





Feb 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



Natasha Kirkpatrick  
Reception Staff

### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6

#### Careers—Miss Kirkpatrick's story

Any dreams of becoming a lawyer were squashed during a particularly humiliating encounter with my careers' adviser back in 1997 – "that profession is NOT for the likes of you, young lady".

Back to the drawing board. I knew I wanted a career that allowed me to help people, so I went to college and undertook a pre-nursing course; I then found my first job in a nursing home before moving to Leicester.

I began working in the Children's Hospital on the children's cancer ward, which had its own operating theatre where the children underwent treatment. I was subsequently encouraged to train as an Operating Department Practitioner and qualified in 2006; I spent the next 10 years working at the Leicester Royal Infirmary in trauma orthopaedic theatres as an anaesthetic and scrub practitioner.

When I became a single parent, committing to the shifts in the hospital became impossible. I began working at Wreake and saw this as an opportunity to study law simultaneously. I had instructed a barrister myself to represent me in the family courts during a distressing time of my life. I watched them stand up and fearlessly fight for my son and me and at that point I decided to become a barrister.

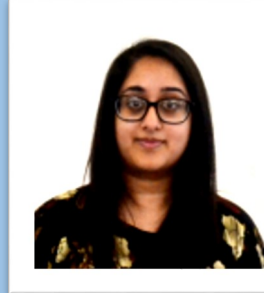
Six years later, I am about to complete my law degree with the Open University and have been accepted into Nottingham Law School to undertake my Barristers Training Course, combined with my Masters. I have just applied for Pupillage, which can only be described as the most torturous experience of my life – the pressure was immense but will be worth it in the end.

The moral of the story - have faith in yourself and your capabilities, if you want something enough you will achieve it.



Feb 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



Miss Rajput  
English

### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6

#### Taking care of your Mental Health

**Ways to take care of your mental health: a creative approach to finding ways to relax**

**Rosie Durrance (11NRa):** During this time, we should focus on our mental health as we are all stuck inside, and we are without our regular activities which usually give us a positive outlook. So, I suggest turning to arts and craft as it can provide us with a creative outlook. For example, I recently did a Paint by Numbers and it gave me something to do after the school day was over. I felt like it gave me a sense of contentment. The best thing about Paint by Numbers is that it doesn't matter how good you are at painting as there are different designs to suit everyone's needs. Finally, it is important to remember that it is best to stay as positive as we can, especially during this difficult time. So, why don't you give arts and crafts a go?

**Miss Rajput:** Like Rosie, I've also been finding solace in returning to old hobbies – one being drawing and painting. During lockdown 1, I also completed a Paints by Numbers that now hangs proudly in my house. When painting, I found that I was able to completely switch off from the world and take some time away from a screen to relax (if I wasn't on my laptop, I'd usually be on my phone). It was definitely satisfying to see it come together – I almost forgot that I wasn't actually Picasso! If you would like to have a go but don't fancy spending on a kit, you can download a free printable version from the internet.



Rosie's completed painting  
of the Mad Hatter



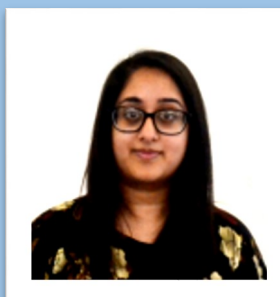
Miss Rajput's  
completed  
painting and a  
few of the  
'many steps in  
between'.





Feb 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



Miss Rajput  
Teacher of  
English

### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6

#### Year 8 English

Year 8 have been busy learning how to use rhetoric to persuade, motivate and inspire others. Inspired by Michelle Obama's letter to self, 8Q1 used their knowledge of rhetoric and had a go at writing to their younger selves. Have a read of some of their letters below:

##### Mischa Esposito:

Dear Mimi,

You see yourself sitting on a picnic blanket near your nana and grandad's caravan eating a yogurt next to your little sister having a fun time in the sun. You're now in year eight, almost year nine. You should be proud of how much you have worked for and gone through in your very complicated life.

In year five, I started loving football and did the girls-only tournament and got second place, and the same in year six but got third place. Also, in year six, I started getting better at playing football in my P.E. lessons with my year six teacher, Mr. Clarke. After a while, I started an under 14 only girls football team and at the start, I was shy but I am getting more confident and settling into the team. We had an amazing start to the season! The first game I played we won 8-0 - it was the best time of my life and many games later, we are at the top of our league and won all the matches and only drew one.

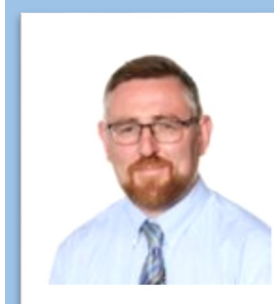
Other things I want you to know is about dancing. I have done it since I was two all the way up till now. Dancing is really fun. At the end of the year, near to Christmas, we do a show. It is something we just do for fun and at the end of the show we get a medal. The last medal I got was a rainbow and that one was my favourite. On the other hand, I loved all of them - they were very fun memories to make. Although it is one of my talents and passions, my biggest passion is cooking. I love it so much and my dream is to open my own shop selling treats and drinks and I have the perfect place for it to be. I want to place it where the old gingerbread shop was in the precinct - it is perfect.

In the end, life is a gift and an adventure but always remember you are brave, strong and kind and you can do anything you put yourself up for.



Feb 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



Mr Parkinson  
Aspirations and  
Careers  
Coordinator

### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6

#### Aspirations & Careers

##### MY CAREER PATHWAY



Name: Mr Whitbread

Job role at Wreake Valley academy:  
PE Teacher and Head of Years 8 and 9

##### EXPERIENCE

Head of Year - Wreake Valley Academy  
PE Teacher - Wreake Valley Academy  
TA - New Parks Primary  
Building Site Labourer - Leicestershire  
Life Guard - South Charnwood Swimming Pool

##### QUALIFICATIONS

PGCE PE - Loughborough University  
BSc. Sport Science - Coventry University  
HND Sport Science - Loughborough College  
ND Sport Science - Loughborough College

GCSEs:  
English  
English Language  
Maths  
Science  
Geography  
French  
DT  
Business Studies

##### MY DREAM JOB:

Bushcraft/ Primitive Technology/  
Countryfile presenter or Head Gardener  
at the Lost Gardens of Heligan

##### VOLUNTEERING AND INTERESTS

- Coaching my sons' football teams (volunteer)
- Bushcraft
- Mud, sticks and fire
- Playing rugby for Belgrave
- Kayaking
- Fishing (mainly sea and kayak)
- Cycling
- Wood turning
- Gardening

Quote:

"Limit your catch, don't catch your limit"

Various



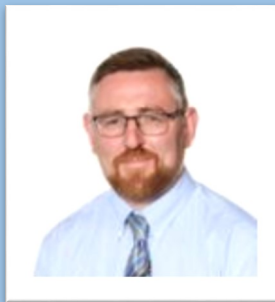


Feb 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6



Mr Parkinson  
Aspirations and  
Careers  
Coordinator

### Aspirations & Careers

MY CAREER PATHWAY	
<p>Name: Amanda Bosworth</p> <p>Job role at Wreake Valley academy: French Teacher</p>	<p>MY DREAM JOB</p> <p>To manage a château in France.</p>
<p><b>EXPERIENCE</b></p> <p>French Teacher: <del>Big Wood</del> School: Nottingham</p> <p>English Teacher: Paris, France</p> <p>English Teacher: Bordeaux France</p> <p>TEFL teacher: London</p> <p><del>Animatrice</del>: Childrens entertainment leader on music and drama holiday camps in Pyrenees</p> <p>Au Pair: Looking after French children</p> <p>Waitress: Hilton Hotel</p> <p>Bar worker: Age 16 worked in bar in South of France.</p>	<p><b>VOLUNTEERING AND INTERESTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Travel</li><li>• Ice skating</li><li>• Sailing</li><li>• Outdoor activities</li><li>• Reading</li><li>• Cooking</li><li>• Volunteering at local primary</li></ul>
<p><b>QUALIFICATIONS</b></p> <p><del>PGCE</del>: Modern <del>Languages</del>: Nottingham</p> <p>MA: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Studies: Nottingham</p> <p>BA: French and English Literature: University of Sunderland</p> <p>Spanish: studied at night school (2004) GCSE + AS level</p> <p>A' Levels</p> <p>French, English and Sociology</p> <p>GCSE:</p> <p><del>Maths</del>: English, Science, French, German, Humanities, Geography, Music</p>	<p>Quote: <i>I don't have a quote but my approach to life is to make the most of opportunities and enjoy making shared memories with your loved ones.</i></p>



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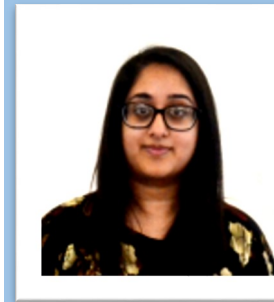
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## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6



Miss Rajput  
Teacher of  
English

### Year 8 English

Joseph Gargun:

Dear younger Joe,

You should have convinced your Mum to get a second dog when Kif was with us. Then she would have had more time to think about it. Sadly, we have no dogs now and haven't for two years.

You should start saving up to get a dog because they are nice and I don't have one now.

Make a deal with Mum - if you're are not on your PlayStation, you will spend time with a dog.

Would you want to know how it feels to be living without a dog?

Also, keep your bedroom with the walls on the right and the wardrobes on the left, before you get a double bed.

From Joe

**Note from Joe: I want to tell these things to my younger self so that I can get a dog when I am older and have things how I like it.**



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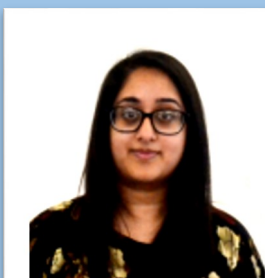
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## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



Miss Rajput  
Teacher of  
English

### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6

#### Year 8 English

**Benjamin Massey:**

To Younger Ben,

This is coming from the future version of yourself. Enjoy primary school whilst it lasts. You may not be liking it for multiple reasons, but it's so much better than secondary school. You get to do so many fun things and don't have to worry about working as hard as you will have to when you grow up.

Also, don't take what you have got for granted. For example, friends and family because having the right friends is a key thing to what you want to be. Having supportive and motivating friends will help you all the while to achieve your goals that you want to reach.

Keep on doing things which you enjoy because, if you do, it will pay off. Work your hardest in the things you enjoy and work on things you must, for example school. But, football is something you need to continue working on. Don't stop practicing and you will make it leaps and bounds and stand out from the rest.

Nobody should stop you from achieving. If they do, then just rub them off. If your friends bring you down, because I promise you now some will, drop them off and find new friends because you won't regret it.

Keep on doing what you are doing and you will achieve. Keep on working and keep on improving.

From,  
Future Ben



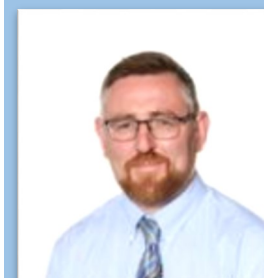
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## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



Mr Parkinson  
Aspirations and  
Careers  
Coordinator

### Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 6

#### Careers

As an academy we promote the importance of Careers Education to help our students make informed decision into what courses to apply for, what skills they need to develop and how to make themselves employable in a Career sector of their choice. Part of this has been sharing the Career profiles of members of staff in classrooms and around the school. The Profiles have enabled students to get to know their teachers better and have helped to start positive conversations regarding Careers.

So, as we don't have the opportunity to have these conversations in school at the moment I thought it a good idea to share with you a couple of teachers Career profiles in the Newsletter every week. It might be just the conversation starter you need, to discuss Career opportunities with you son or daughter.

**Mr Geoff Parkinson**  
**Aspirations and Careers Coordinator**

If you would like help to decide on your next steps after GCSE's, A-levels or would like advice on what career pathways might suit you then all you need to do is scan the QR code and complete a simple form. I will then organise an online meeting with you.



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