



ERA CHRONICLE

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Dear founding families,

What a first year it has been! I could dwell on the challenges we have all faced in the global pandemic that hit halfway through our founding year but what I see, most pervasively, when I look back on the last year is the culture, community and identity that we have created. The 'we' that has brought us to this place isn't just our staff or even our staff and students, it's our families too - the support you have offered us both before and after closure, both in person and online has had an invaluable impact on our success. This summer, as other schools gather virtually for leaving speeches, we will be celebrating our year in the knowledge that we'll all be back in September. When many schools nationally are timetabling around a recruitment crisis, we are excitedly preparing to welcome eight excellent teachers and three brilliant new members of non-teaching staff. These 11 new members of our community were chosen from a field of well over 400, not just because of the reputation of the innovative and dynamic Bohunt Education Trust or because when they met our team and our students they knew they wanted to work with us but also because when they looked at our social media and talked to our PRG at the open morning they could tell that this is a supportive and inclusive place to be.

Our ethos of enjoy, respect, achieve has become a huge part of our identity and I have to thank our amazing students for the energy and compassion with which they have thrown themselves into their schooling this year. I am proud of each and every one of them and will freely admit to shedding a few tears of pride when reading through the reflection reports we have sent home this week. This year our students have shown kindness, determination and curiosity in abundance, characteristics that will see them through other challenges that life may throw at them.

Recruiting our staff team could have been challenging; in an established school you're often searching for the missing piece of a wider puzzle but in a new school each puzzle piece is the beginning of its own jigsaw. What I looked for in each and every appointment was someone whose values aligned with mine, someone who showed me that they would put children at the heart of every decision they made. The team I have around me now makes me proud every day; they know your children, they anticipate their struggles and they champion their successes. As we grow and new team members join us, these values will remain at the core of everything we do. Managing to give so much to their jobs throughout this time of crisis isn't something I asked for or even expected. I was clear when the pandemic hit and school closed that keeping staff safe and well was my priority. Despite their own personal circumstances and fears they have given more of their time, their skill and their dedication than ever before and I hope you will join me in urging them all to take a well earned break this summer.

I wish all of our founding families a restful, safe and positive summer. In September our community will be together again and we will need to redouble our efforts to further develop the culture, community and identity we are all so proud to have created.

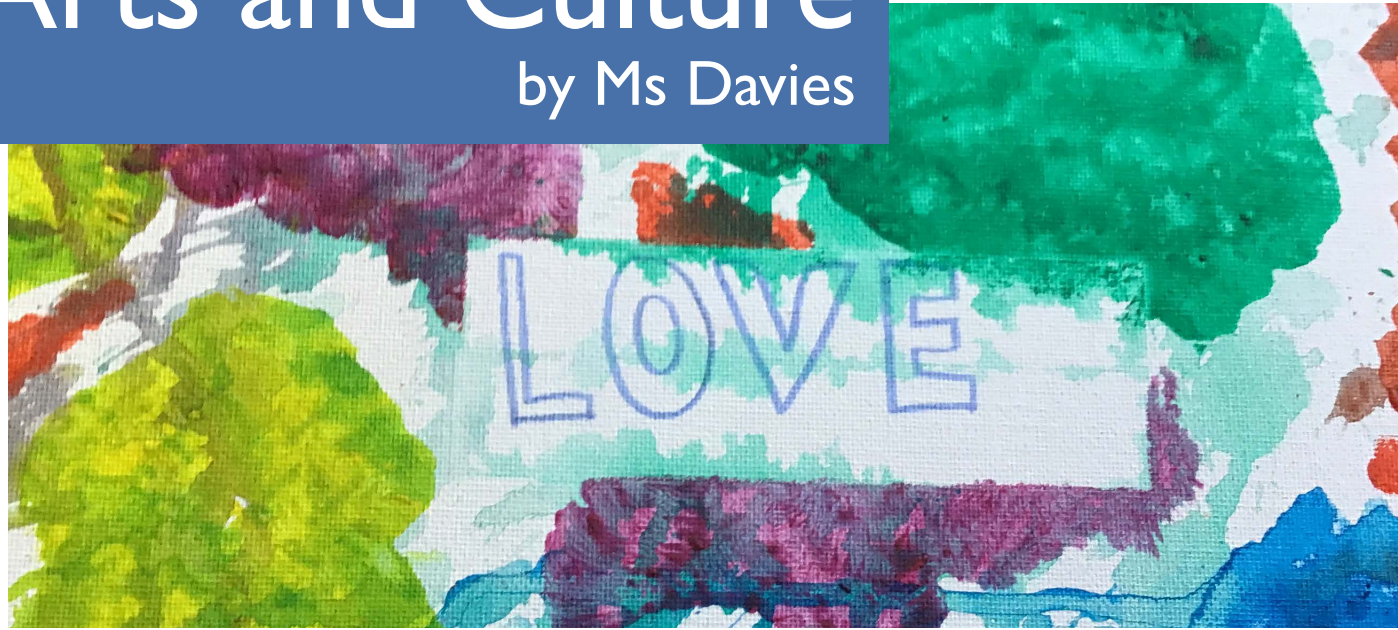
With best wishes,

Ms Ayling



Arts and Culture

by Ms Davies



Our Arts and Culture family is growing. Next academic year we will be a faculty of six members, all specialists in their respective fields and all ecstatic to be joining our wonderful community. Despite the unsettling nature of lockdown, I have - as ever - been so impressed with the quality of work from our founding students and their resilience and determination to be the best they can be. The lockdown has presented us with many challenges and opportunities. Our new Mandarin teacher, **Ms Dawson**, in fact informed me that the word 'crisis' (危机 weiji) in Mandarin is a combination

of the words danger and opportunity. Despite the dangers that this pandemic has brought, there has been an array of opportunities and our students have excelled.

Our 'Gamechanger Days' this term saw our students participate in a variety of activities, enabling them to reflect on the world around them, themselves and the journeys of others, and participate in our first ever Bohunt Horsham Sports Day (albeit virtually!).



In our lessons, we have been encouraging our students to explore their subjects 'beyond the classroom'. Our Drama lessons have explored technical roles in theatre and film; in Art we have immersed ourselves in the world of Art History, sculpture and assemblage art and we have explored a variety of genres and music making softwares in our Music lessons. Our Spanish lessons have taken us across the Atlantic to learn more about South American countries. Students researched different geographical and cultural aspects of their chosen country and produced beautiful and informative presentations, some of which were shared across the year group. **Ella Tyler's** presentation showcased the natural beauty and cuisine of Argentina, leaving us all eager to discover the country for ourselves one day in the future.

In French, our students have been learning all about free time activities and the weather. They really stepped up to the challenge to create their own weather report in French: some used pictures, green screen, TVs and even Zoom as a background, some dressed for the part and others created their own theme tunes. A special shoutout to **Atanas Filchev** not only for his fluent broadcast with excellent pronunciation but also his very entertaining dance to the BBC news theme!



I would like to warmly thank **Ms Henry** who has been teaching our pupils French and Spanish remotely since lockdown. Her experience and dedication has meant that our pupils have continued to improve in their languages which is fantastic to see.

Congratulations to all of our pupils who continually show themselves to be creative, kind and hardworking. We look forward to seeing you in Year 8!





Sports Day 2020 in Keywork School



STEM

by Ms Jenkins



Science

A group of scientists, engineers and science educators worked together to create ten principles that should underpin the Science education of all students. These are 10 key ideas that, once established, enable young people to really understand the world around them so they can make informed decisions about the application of science. I think it could be argued that, at no point, at least in my lifetime, has a secure foundational knowledge and appreciation of science been of more importance. I have truly enjoyed supporting our young people to not only get to grips with seven of these principles but seeing the passionate way in which they take their knowledge and apply it to their world.

During lockdown we've met two of these seven principles. Within our ecology unit I was heartened to hear students talk about the ecosystems they were engaging with during daily walks. Within our energy unit, we touched upon a big topic we'll keep on coming back to, the energy resources that fuel our daily lives. Both of these topics can lend themselves to a sense of helplessness, a sadness for damage done to our planet. However, what has impressed me is not just the enthusiasm and engagement of our students but the way in which they embody our vision of creating game changers. I know that our young people are going into the world respectful, informed and ready to make a positive impact. I can't wait to work with our STEAM Technician **Mr Moorhouse**, our new STEM LSA **Mrs James** and our new Science teacher **Mr Harris** to keep exploring these 10 key ideas and more in Year 8.

Technology

From next year, I'm delighted that we'll be offering students Technology lessons as part of their regular curriculum. An underlying principle for BET Technology is the Engineering Habits of Mind. Google them, they seem to be built with our students in mind! We're also really excited about supporting our young people in developing their independence as they learn to create nutritious meals for different occasions through our Food Technology curriculum. Within their Design Technology lessons we've got an exciting range of topics that really do just skim the surface of the possibilities all Technology lessons will enable. However, I'm excited to know that students will be working with a range of materials to design, make and evaluate products to problem solve and help them make links to other subjects.

Maths

Within Maths we've been continuing to develop our mastery approach enabling deeper thinking around what has been learnt this term. It's been really exciting to see students begin to connect ideas and discuss mathematical concepts. An example will be the exploration of multiplication, evaluating and working through a variety of methods to pull apart the skills. We'll continue making these links deeper next year as our strands continue to cross over, as illustrated beautifully here: https://www.missbsresources.com/files/Maths%20Resources/numeracy_tube_mat.pdf

We've been really proud that **Mrs Jones** has been such an integral part of getting this approach embedded not only in Horsham but with work she's starting as part of a KS3 team that is looking at Maths across all the Trust schools. With **Mr Footer** joining us as our second Maths teacher in September, we know that all students will enjoy making these deeper links and connections.

We also are looking at ways in which we can show these mathematical links in everyday life. There is a wealth of opportunities that open up with the study of Maths, many of which can be seen here <https://www.mathscareers.org.uk/> and will also be explored within our lessons next year.

Computing

Within our computing curriculum this year, we've had two major foci; supporting students in becoming IT literate and introducing computational thinking. The need to become IT literate has never been more important. There are definitely new words and phrases added to our IT language, "You're on mute", "Loom", "Zoom fatigue" all I imagine very familiar to us now. However, it was the start of lockdown, during those early tentative days of online learning, when I saw just how far our students had come. On calls home I heard from many parents about the support their son or daughter was able to give to other children for whom the world of Google Classroom was a mystery. Knowing that our students were not only able to support others, but were actively offering that help to old school friends was yet another example to me of why our cohort is so special.

This term in lockdown, Year 7 used this kindness, their creativity and their leadership skills to create websites. It was a delight to not only see the messages about learning at Bohunt Horsham they were sharing with the upcoming year 7s but also the creative manner in which they were displaying their work. The last few weeks allowed us to go back to coding, this is going to be a key area for development in Year 8. Our new Computing teacher, **Mr Thynne** has already been into school to pick up his Sphero robot and I'm really excited to see how our students put their computational skills into action with this first step into robotics.



Oreo and Gingersnap are enjoying some extended lounging in their 'summer house' but will back in September.





Communications

by Ms Evans



Wow, what a creative year we have had at Bohunt Horsham in the Communications Faculty. I have loved exploring our recent work on poetry. Students have shown a real maturity as we consider the viewpoints of others in some beautiful poems. I am immensely proud of how we have come together as a community to support the Black Lives Matter movement as demonstrated through the poems our students created. Looking back over all the creative writing we have completed this year has given me real joy as students have made excellent progress in their ideas, structures and language skills. We have some superb storytellers in our midst. I would love students to continue writing in their creative journals and use the summer to read a range of interesting books, ready to report back in September!

The Tudors has been a fascinating unit to teach and I was very impressed with how much students engaged with all the tasks I set remotely. In History we have been examining the real lives of black people in Tudor times through the work of Michael Ohajuru and Miranda Kaufmann. Students have been engaging with primary sources from the time such as the Westminster Tournament Roll and the work they have produced has been thoughtful, critical and considerate. I would recommend further reading in this area, especially Miranda Kaufmann's book "Black Tudors: The Untold Story", an excellent book which is very accessible.

Students at Bohunt Horsham have displayed maturity, empathy and critical thinking skills in their PSRE lessons this year. Throughout the topic of 'Friendships and Emotions', students looked at how they can support everyone in the community to feel welcome and included. We looked at the impact that friendship, body image, puberty and emotions can have on young people and how we can respond responsibly to issues that may arise. We also looked at Christianity and the impact it has had on the structure of our society. We focused in particular on the parables of Jesus and how these shape Christian beliefs. Bohunt Horsham students have excelled in their ability to empathise and sympathise, showing tolerance and an open mind throughout the year.

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Have a great summer, stay safe and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in September!



BOHUNT
HORSHAM



Arun House
Hurst Road
Horsham RH12 2DN

01403 627 430
enquiries@bohunthorsham.com

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