Welcome

Welcome to the Summer 2019 edition of our Community Newsletter.

The purpose of this newsletter is to keep you informed about activities at the school and the work we undertake within our organisation.

Over the last academic year the school has had much to celebrate, and we have much to look forward to in the new academic year from September. The Poppy Proms in the Park was an overwhelmingly success in November 2018 and a testimony to all our young people at Bradstow School can achieve and contribute to the local community. The Investors in People outcomes (Gold Investors in People Award) were a tribute to the Staff Development Team here at Bradstow School, and the Open Recruitment Day in March was a great success with many potential employees attending and finding out about the school and the work we do. This Summer we enjoyed our Bradstock Music Festival and Autism Fair on Saturday 6th July. And in the forthcoming Autumn Term the Shakespeare in Schools Festival will offer many opportunities for our young people to achieve and shine at The Theatre Royal in Broadstairs.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you would like to visit us or talk to us about our school community? Alternatively you could visit our website.

Regards
Sarah Dunn
Headteacher
Improvements

1. Allotment project

Bradstow school are investing in reinstalling our allotment project here situated behind the new homes. The photos on this page are of the allotment in its current state—before the transformation. This area will be a quiet and peaceful area in which the children and young people will be growing many vegetables for use in their own cooking. Throughout the summer a number of weeds will be cut back and new beds put in place for the area to be made ready for starting our vegetable patch fresh for the new academic year.

Previously the young people grew a number of vegetable there including onions, beans, tomatoes, garlic, courgettes and cabbages. We are sure that the young people who use this area will really enjoy seeing their produce grow and being able to use them within their own cooking, sharing these dishes with their friends here in the Bradstow community.
**Improvements**

2. **New Front Field Swing**

A new swing was recently installed in our front field and you can see one of our young people enjoying this in the photo below. A similar swing will be installed behind our Oak home during the summer.

3. **Sensory / Library Project**

Our very exciting plans are well under way for our new library and literacy area. We are moving the library to encompass a library, an immersion room and a literacy area. The vision of this is to have a literacy and sensory suite where the magic of stories can come alive for our young people. We will have a multi sensory screen and projector where sounds and visuals come together to offer a stimulating experience for our sensory stories.
Improvements

3. Sensory / Library Project (continued)

There will be an area where young people can get dressed up and take part in a story with the use of a range of sensory resources and props delivered by our very own storyteller. A quiet work area will allow for preparation work and an area where books can simply be read and enjoyed. Our library will be fully functioning and offer a range of fiction and non-fiction materials that can be scanned in and out with each young person having their own library card. This will also offer an opportunity for work experience where young people can work with staff and run the library themselves. We are aiming for a September launch and so excited to be able to offer such a deep and meaningful literacy experience!
News & Events

4. Bradstock

We celebrated our annual Bradstock Festival on Saturday 6th July. We had a day out for family and friends incorporating free workshops, different stalls, speakers, buffet and refreshments and fantastic live music by bands and our amazing young people singing and playing instruments. The day started with different people speaking on a range of subjects from both a professional, personal and parent perspective. These very informative and ranged from parenting a young person with autism to different sources of support. The band then started and everyone had a picnic lunch together while listening to the music. Each class ran a stall each with loads of fun and exciting activities. There was face painting, photo booth, bracelet making and many more for everyone to enjoy. All our young people enjoyed their festival bags and bubbles!

Then we had amazing performances from individuals and groups of our young people singing and playing instruments. There were lots of cheers and a few tears of pride watching the confidence that our young people had to stand up in front of everyone so beautifully!
News & Events
5. Autism Education Trust (AET) Course : Making Sense Of Autism

Are you interested in some free training?

Bradstow School have joined the Autism Education Trust (AET) to provide training to a variety of audiences. The AET is a not for profit organisation that has been sponsored by the Department of Education and Ambitious About Autism to raise the general awareness of autism within the education setting. Through this training we offer a package of programmes to meet different needs depending on levels of experience and understanding the cohort have.

Our ‘Making Sense of Autism’ programme is short (90mins) and gives a basic understanding of how autism presents in people, how this presents differently for each person with autism and it also looks at the four areas of need. The training materials are interesting and full of case studies, videos and useful exercises to allow people to begin to see what autism means from the perspective of the child.

We would be delighted to offer this free to you, our neighbours and friends. This training which is CPD recognised will be delivered at Bradstow School in our training suite which will give you some valuable insight into the work we do at the school with some of the most vulnerable children across the country. If you would like to attend please contact Wendy Fright on 01843 862123 to book a space.
Up & Coming

6. Fishing Trip & BBQ : 19 Sept 2019

On 19th September a number of our young people will be going on a fishing trip and having a BBQ. Hopefully they will have a great time, like last year.

7. Christmas Show : 7 Dec 2019

Our Christmas show will be on Sat 7 December 2019. This is always a very enjoyable occasion, where our young people can display their skills and this is always well supported by parents and carers.

This is what happened last year:

Our Christmas show was another successful event that saw all young people taking part in a performance in one way or another. Our theme... Lego. Actually, it was quite a good theme as it enabled the young people and staff to use their imaginations to create was to ensure they were in keeping with the theme.

Minions, Elves and Pirates to name but a few performances and there were even a few solo performances from some of the young people as is normal now. Again we were crammed to the rafters with standing room only and every one performed admirably which made the whole event such a wonderful build-up to Christmas.

We also had our market stalls selling homemade fayre both edible and decorative for people to buy for Christmas.
In just a short time, under the bright lights of a professional theatre, we take to the stage to tell one of Shakespeare’s most captivating stories; King Lear. After weeks of rehearsals, all of our hard work will culminate in a thrilling retelling of this classic tale.

Shakespeare Schools Foundation (SSF) is a cultural education charity that uses the unique power of Shakespeare to transform lives. We are delighted to be part of their flagship project, the Shakespeare Schools Festival, for the fourth time on Wednesday 13th November 2019.

Our children and young people will be going on a thrilling journey over the next few months, from rehearsing in school, to working with SSF theatre professionals in a performance skills workshop. After months of preparation, we will be onstage performing a 30-minute abridged Shakespeare play in a professional theatre, alongside other local schools. It will be an exhilarating night of theatre that celebrates the community, the casts and the power of Shakespeare’s words.

Each autumn nearly 30,000 young people from primary, secondary and special schools across the country unite as part of the world’s largest youth drama festival, raising aspirations and unlocking the potential of students from all backgrounds.

Join us in celebrating our community as we tread the boards alongside other local schools in the world’s largest youth drama festival. Tickets will be available from the box office at the Theatre Royal, Margate, from 9th September: 01843 292795