

## Useful Dates

**End of term 4: Friday 8th April 2022**

**Start Term 5: Monday 25th April 2022**

Bank Holiday Monday: Monday 2nd May 2022

Jubilee Challenge: Friday 6th & 7th May 2022

**End of term 5: Friday 27th May 2022**

Platinum Jubilee Holiday: Monday 6th June

**Start of term 6: Tuesday 7th June 2022**

Year 11 Work Experience Week: WC Monday 13th June 2022

Year 7 & Year 9 Parents Evening: Tuesday 14th June 2022 (TBC)

Non-student day: Friday 24th June 2022.

Numeracy Day: 6th July 2022

Curriculum Challenge week: Week Commencing Monday 18th July

**End of term 6: Friday 22nd July 2022**

## The BGCFL Leadership Team

This term we have extended our Leadership Team and Mrs Eglinton joins us Assistant Head, but we thought it might be useful just to remind you who is in the team if you need to contact us.

Mrs Jordan Head	Miss Holt Deputy Head	Mrs Eglinton Assistant Head	Mrs Rogers Business Manager	Mrs Krac Behaviour Lead	Mrs Marchand Smith Key Stage 3 Lead	Mr Stephenson Key Stage 4 Lead
sjordan@bgcfl.org.uk	sholt@	heglinton@	drogers@	mkrac@	smarchandsmith@	jstephenson@

Just pop @bgcfl.org.uk after names and it should get to us or you can always e mail in on the website – Contact us section

## Your Safeguarding Team



Brook Green Centre for Learning is committed to ensuring the welfare and safety of all our students. We believe that our students have a right to learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment which includes the right to protection from all types of abuse; where staff are vigilant for signs of any student in distress and are confident about applying our safeguarding processes to avert and alleviate any such problems. Our Safeguarding and Child protection policy is on our website.

**DESIGNATED LEAD: SARA JORDAN**

**Deputy Designated Leads:**  
Maria Krac and Allison Newcombe

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April 2022

# Brook Times

TERMLY NEWSLETTER FROM BROOK  
GREEN CENTRE FOR LEARNING

## World Book Day

For World Book day on Thursday 3rd March we celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Students and staff celebrated to mark the 70th anniversary of the accession of Queen Elizabeth II on 6 February 1952. In 2022, Her Majesty the Queen will become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee after 70 years of service.

All lessons were based on the history of Elizabeth II, these lessons included currency from the 1950's, the making of delicious short bread biscuits, Commonwealth Games, creating a collage of the Queen, crown designs, bunting for the special event and the story being told by our specialist English teacher 'When Horrid Henry meets the Queen.' Our year 11's spent the day at the Box and other areas that the Queen once visited. Our year 9 students created the poem to the right for Queen Elizabeth II on World Book Day.



Dear queen

How are you, you are so brave  
You are so kind, and always wave  
You are kind to your family  
And well known internationally

The greatest queen in the world  
Guards protect you with their swords  
You have so many powers  
People shower you with flowers

Do you often wear a crown?  
When you wear it do you frown?  
Does your palace make you happy?  
Are the people often clapping?

We know you are very posh  
You have lots of dosh  
You sit on the throne  
Do you feel alone?  
The crown is a symbol of royalty  
The nation gives you their loyalty  
We trust the world in your hands  
You rule all the lands

You are beautiful and brave  
You have lots of money in your safe  
You have a big and kind heart  
Most of all you play your part

You don't look a day old  
You must have a lot of gold  
Your life is so much fun  
Your kids must love you as a mum

You are a corgi lover  
Like our queen there is no other  
Your family loves you the best  
And you have the prettiest dress

You are loyal, old and wise  
You are the prettiest person in the skin  
You are a wonderful queen  
The best there's ever been

A big hello from all of us at Brook Green.

We have finally made it to Easter and as always, we would like to thank you for your continuing support especially over the last few weeks where we saw our highest COVID numbers since the pandemic started. Many of you have had to change working patterns and get help from friends and family to get your child to and from school often at very short notice.

You will know that the Living with COVID plan means that guidance has changed – here are some of the main points:

‘From 1 April, updated guidance will advise people with symptoms of a respiratory infection, including COVID-19, and a high temperature or who feel unwell, to try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature.’

Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, where they can. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend.’

From 1 April, anyone with a positive COVID-19 test result will be advised to try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. However, testing available to the general public and education settings will no longer be free. As always, we are here if you have any concerns or need support or advice in relation to this. If there are any changes to guidance we will keep you up to date. For children and young people aged 18years and under the advice will be to isolate for 3 days.

We are looking forward to opening up the school and getting back to ‘normal’ and there are some tips on how you can help us inside. Although if you look at the News section on the website you can see we really are getting out and about!

Enjoy a wonderful Easter break and we are looking forward to catching up in the summer sunshine.

Sara Jordan and Team BGCFL



## Careers Week 7th –12th

As part of Careers Week this year, staff arranged a variety of visits, speakers, online webinars and in lesson activities to explore a wide range of careers: From careers in engineering through to interview skills and mock interviews.

### Tamar Bridge

On Monday of Careers week students interested in possible careers in Engineering attended a visit to the Tamar Bridge Visitor Centre, where they met with different members of staff who explained their jobs and talked a bit about how the Bridge works.

### MVV Environmental Devonport

On Tuesday students interested in Environment based careers attended a visit to the Incinerator at Devonport. It was fascinating to see the massive cranes moving tonnes of rubbish all being controlled by Computers.

### Speakers for Schools

On Wednesday students interested in careers in hospitality watched a webinar hosted by Speakers for Schools, where they listened to the CEO of IHG talk about her job.

### Cats Protection

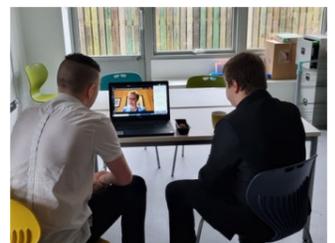
On Thursday students interested in working with pets and animals attended a talk from Kirsten from Cats Protection.

### LiveWire

On Friday students from year visited LiveWire in Saltash, where they set up for a band ready for a live gig later that day.

### You're Hired

Throughout careers week, year 10 and year 11 students wrote letters of application to one of four selected STEAM related and recently advertised posts in Plymouth. From these letters 10 students were then invited to attend a Mock interview on STEAM day. Thank you to our School Governors and Plymouth Rotary for supporting us with this and forming our interview panel.



## STEAM day

This year for our whole school celebrations of all things STEAM (Science Technology Engineering Art and Math) and as part of National Science week, student from all year groups joined in with a wide range of activities look at and discussing if things are fair. Below is a brief. Thank you to everyone that supported us, including The Woodland Trust, Paignton Zoo and Rania Amin Osman who came in to school to talk to students about the many aspects of being a Muslim woman. Students are encouraged to think about diversity and accepting difference.

Year 8 students were treated to a day at Paignton zoo. They were lucky with the weather as it was a beautiful sunny day, perfect for walking around the animal enclosures. They were visiting not just to have a great day but also to look at the way animals live in the zoo, looking particularly at the question: are zoos ethical? At the start of the visit we were met by a zookeeper who took us to the crocodile swamp and he gave us a talk about the man-eating crocodiles, the vicious turtles and other dangerous creatures. He showed us and let us touch turtle shell and the skull of a crocodile. We then wandered around the zoo at a leisurely pace, looking out for endangered species and the animals living conditions.

Student comments:

"It is good that the zoo looks after the animals as some have nowhere else to live."

"The animals looked happy."

"Lots of the cages are big and the animals can run around."

We all agreed that Paignton zoo is a very good zoo which looks after its animals well. It is a big shame that so many animals are endangered because of problems man has caused but the zoo is making sure that many species survive.

Looking after and developing our local area is important as we ask is it fair that others do not look after public spaces. To explore this further group of students from various year groups went out in to our local school area with 'The Woodland Trust' to plant trees and helped to develop our school sensory & Zen Garden.

In school students explored other topical matters, with year 11 having time to discuss the current situation in Ukraine; year 10 and year 11 science groups completed science experiments: and students discussing the fairness of wages. There were some very interesting discussions and opinion.



## Easter Biscuits

Preparation time: less than 30 mins

Cooking time : 10 to 30 mins

Serves: Makes 24 x 6cm biscuits

### Ingredients :

100g unsalted butter, softened  
75g caster sugar, plus extra for sprinkling  
1 egg, separated  
1 lemon, finely grated zest only  
200g plain flour, plus extra for dusting  
50g currants  
1-2 tbsp milk

### Method:

1. Preheat the oven 200C/180C Fan/Gas 6. Line three baking trays with baking paper.
2. Put the butter and sugar in a bowl and beat until well combined and fluffy. Add the egg yolk and lemon zest. Sift in the flour and mix well. Stir in the currants and enough milk to make a fairly soft dough.
3. Knead the dough on a floured work surface and, using a rolling pin, roll out the dough until 5mm/1/4in thick. Using a 6cm/2 1/2in fluted cutter, cut out 24 rounds. Transfer to the baking trays using a palette knife and bake for 8 minutes.
4. Lightly beat the egg white using a fork
5. Remove the biscuits from the oven and brush the tops with the beaten egg white. Sprinkle over caster sugar and return to the oven for 5 minutes, or until pale golden brown and cooked though. Leave to cool on the trays for a few minutes, then carefully lift onto a wire rack to cool completely.



## Collection for Ukraine

A massive Thank you to everyone who donated items to be sent over to Ukraine. The items such as nappies, toiletries, warm clothing and small cuddly toys were taken to Hope for the Homeless -The Garage Café where they were take to Ukraine on Friday 18th March. As you can see , once again for a small school, thanks to your generosity we were able to fill a car with your kindness. We will let you know if we do another collection any time soon.



## Come on you Greens

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of March Mr Chandler, Mr Glanville, Mr Carstairs and Miss Dean took 6 students to watch Plymouth Argyle vs AFC Wimbledon, winning 2-0!!!!!!

COME ON YOU GREENS!!!

We were given free tickets by Plymouth Argyle as a thank you for for working hard with the Argyle coaches that come into school every Wednesday with the MENCAP Charity. Everyone had a great night and got to stay up late on a school night, which was a great bonus.



## Patriots all the way

A group of 15 Brook Green students accompanied by Memembers of staff attended the Plymouth City Patriots Clinic at Plymouth Pavilions on Sunday 27/02/2022.

The students and staff had an amazing day from start to finish, they firstly trained with Plymouth City Patriots community coaches, displaying skill and team work. Followed by a meet and greet with the Players with a question and answer session.

The afternoon's action tipped off in Plymouth Pavilions as London sought revenge for Friday's loss at the hands of the Patriots. Friday's game was settled by one score, and it was another close affair as the Lions picked up a much-needed Championship win.

Plymouth started the game well and held the Lions to only 16 points in the first quarter, as a tense first half ended with a slender Plymouth lead. In the fourth and final period the Patriots were the side who seized the initiative and held a seven-point lead with just over three minutes remaining. Then up stepped Lions sniper Lorenzo Cugini who drained a three pointer with eight seconds on the clock to secure a huge win in a thrilling encounter.

All students were a credit to the school and themselves, their manners and appreciation were impeccable throughout the day. Brook Green have scheduled in another whole day with Plymouth City Patriots on Sunday 24/04/2022.



## Zen Garden

At Brook Green, thanks to the generous funding from DofE and our local councilor Dave Downie, through Community Grants, we have had the opportunity to create a Zen Garden.

As part of DofE, year 9 and 10 have been researching and designing the new space.

We plan on creating a Zen Garden that all the whole school can use, incorporating a picnic bench, willow fencing, wildflower planters, as well as homes for wildlife. The students have been hands-on volunteering by helping with manual jobs to prepare the original space. They have also been making bird feeders and cane toppers to go into the garden. We are all very excited to see how the space takes shape over the upcoming months.



## Let's be ready for the summer

Moving into summer even with increased ventilation students won't be needing coats / snoods / scarves / additional jumpers and sweatshirts anymore.

Blazers, white shirts and ties will be making a welcome comeback for **everyone** as the sun shines except on the following days:

**YEAR 10:** Tuesday - Year 10 to wear their DoE polo shirts unless they have had a message about wearing something different for a specific activity

**YEARS 7, 8 AND 9:** Wednesday - Years 7, 8 and 9 have Learning in the Natural Environment – so comfy clothes that are ok to get a bit dirty please. Jeans will get too hot and uncomfortable

**YEAR 9:** Friday is pre DofE for Year 9 and their smart DofE polo shirts have arrived so they need to wear those instead of their white school shirt.

PE tops in House colours are available from the uniform shop and with House activities starting again we need to see who is in each house so we can cheer them on. Please check that your child has theirs ready to go. Students may also wish to bring in a named sunhat and sun-cream.

Having your own pencil case is really important for lessons so if you are popping out to the shops over the Easter can you check if pencil cases are stocked up with the essentials – pen / pencil / ruler / rubber etc.

Thank you for supporting us with this.