



Jan - April 23

## VOC

It has been a busy time in the vocational area, ensuring all learners are on track to gain the qualifications they have been entered for. We have had some great work produced both within City and Guilds guidelines and also as project work. Adem produced a fantastic frame which we are hoping to be placed in reception to be used for the Student of the Month Award. Overall Vocation is going really well and we are excited to see the learners gain their qualifications showing them that hard work really does pay off.

## Science

Current year 11 pupils are getting themselves prepared for the GCSE exams in May, while others have completed the required components for the Entry Level Award. At the start of year 10, most boys were not interested in science because of negative previous experiences, or high gaps in their knowledge which impacted their confidence. This year we have seen a massive turnaround where pupils have been engaged in a wide range of experiments, along with a higher level of descriptive writing to support scientific studies. The application of understanding that science is simply the explanation of life and the events that occur around us has made a huge difference to their engagement in lessons and cross curricular application across subjects such as PE, bricklaying, and motor mechanics to name just a few!

## Maths

Students have been working hard towards their City and Guilds functional skills entry level, level 1 and level 2 exams. We are expecting some well-deserved results. The GCSE exams start on May 19th, please take this time to complete some revision over the Easter break!

# SPRING TERM NEWSLETTER

## Basketball Team

The basketball team at Beckmead has played 3 games. The most recent match came with a drastically different and slightly improved side with the addition of Owen Costello-Birks, Jamie Dunnett, Levi Livingstone and Tishawn Thompson. Harvey Jackson produced a stellar defensive performance as an addition to the team. The match was action packed with a lot of changes in possession. Harris Academy South Norwood was the most evenly matched opposition talent wise. 23-1 was the end score but it did not really reflect how close the teams were through the game. In the summer term we will look to build on the progress of the team and increase the students participation in organised games.

## Food Tech

This term students have been working towards their final assessments where they must make their own dish. Some boys chose to make steak and chips and it was delicious! This is for their BTEC Home Cooking Skills qualification. Well done to all of you.

## English

This term we have had a focus on non-fiction reading in preparation for functional skills level 1 and 2 reading assessments using a range of straightforward and complex texts on a range of topics and of varying lengths that instruct, describe, explain and persuade. We have been practising the skills around: compare and contrast, language features, structural features, purpose / audience / tone, bias, fact / opinion / statistics. Well done to all those who took their assessments, results should be in soon! Students have also been practising discussion skills and looking at non-verbal cues. Several students have completed their entry level reading and writing assessments.

## Art

Year 10's have been creating artwork using stencilling. Some have made T-shirts with their names in graffiti style, also abstract expressionism art on canvases. Year 11's have been finishing final pieces for their Art GCSE in preparation for their 10 hour exam. This year the topic is "Lock". Students have interpreted this in many ways; a 3d plaster cast of a raised fist, slavery, alcatraz and butterflies symbolising freedom, a larger-than-life viewpoint of the game of chess, the stillness and feelings of being trapped during lockdown, looking through the keyhole of an illuminated wooden box and an African tribal mask / Cyberpunk mash up!

Year 12's are completing their Art award with some students experimenting with fabric transfer paint and tote bags. Keep going boys not long to go!

