

Inspire



Snapshots from Brannel School
Autumn Term 2019

Welcome to Brannel School's Autumn Term Newsletter!

The summer holiday - which really does seem a long time ago now - was a busy one. Our Extended Schools team delivered a host of activities which included cookery classes, drama workshops, coastal hikes and days at the beach. There was even the opportunity to venture out to sea, courtesy of the Roseland Youth Sailing Trust.

The school holiday also saw our Class of 2019 returning to collect their exam results - which were our best ever! Delighted smiles all round were testimony to the hard work and determination of both our students and our staff.

This term our budding Musical Theatre stars pulled out all the stops to deliver a fun and splurge-filled production of Bugsy Malone, accompanied by a live orchestra of staff and students.

Our local community turned out in droves (despite the weather!) to support our annual Fireworks Extravaganza and Christmas Fayre. A seasonal highlight this term was our focus on the true meaning of Christmas with a traditional Carol Service at St Stephen-in-Brannel Parish Church.

In September, we were visited by an international team of education experts from Kunskapsskolan Education (KED). Brannel is a member of the Kunskapsskolan network and we are introducing a new approach to teaching and learning inspired by the ideals and approaches in the KED Program. This is a student-centred, highly personalised approach to education pioneered by Kunskapsskolan in Sweden for over 15 years and now used across the world.

The KED network has already provided opportunities for us to collaborate with other schools globally. Several of our teaching staff have visited Sweden and the USA where they have shared curriculum planning models and trained in the KED philosophy. A group of our Year 10 students have also been selected to represent Brannel at the Youth Empowerment Sustainability Summit in New York State in February. This will enable them to develop a global perspective on climate change and youth empowerment.



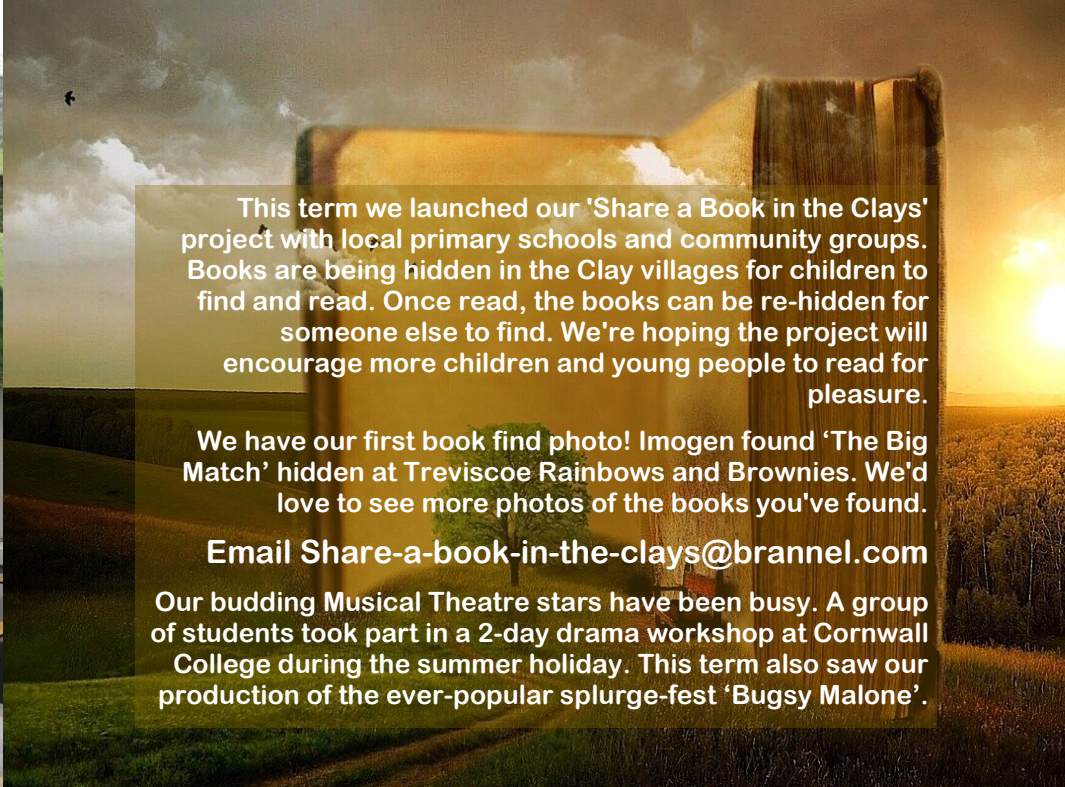
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Create

A hand holding a glass jar filled with a colorful, starry substance, with a trail of stars extending upwards into a dark, starry background.

Creativity is the
way I share my
soul with the
world

- Brene Brown



This term we launched our 'Share a Book in the Clays' project with local primary schools and community groups. Books are being hidden in the Clay villages for children to find and read. Once read, the books can be re-hidden for someone else to find. We're hoping the project will encourage more children and young people to read for pleasure.

We have our first book find photo! Imogen found 'The Big Match' hidden at Treviscoe Rainbows and Brownies. We'd love to see more photos of the books you've found.

Email Share-a-book-in-the-clays@brannel.com

Our budding Musical Theatre stars have been busy. A group of students took part in a 2-day drama workshop at Cornwall College during the summer holiday. This term also saw our production of the ever-popular splurge-fest 'Bugsy Malone'.



**BUGSY
MALONE**





Molly clearly has a talent for writing. Her third piece of creative writing is soon to be published.

Our MFL rocks have been travelling! A French rock has been found at St Nectan's Glen near Tintagel.

Cornwall College's 'Altitude' dance students came in to deliver a dance workshop and performance to our Year 9 students.

Some of our students had the opportunity to attend the North Cornwall Book Festival where they got the chance to hear Sir Michael Morpurgo read from his new book 'Boy Giant'.

Our After-School Craft Clubbers have been busy this term working on their unique fabric bookmarks and t-shirt tote bags. Our Year 7's have been upcycling plastic bottle tops to create fun Christmas decorations.

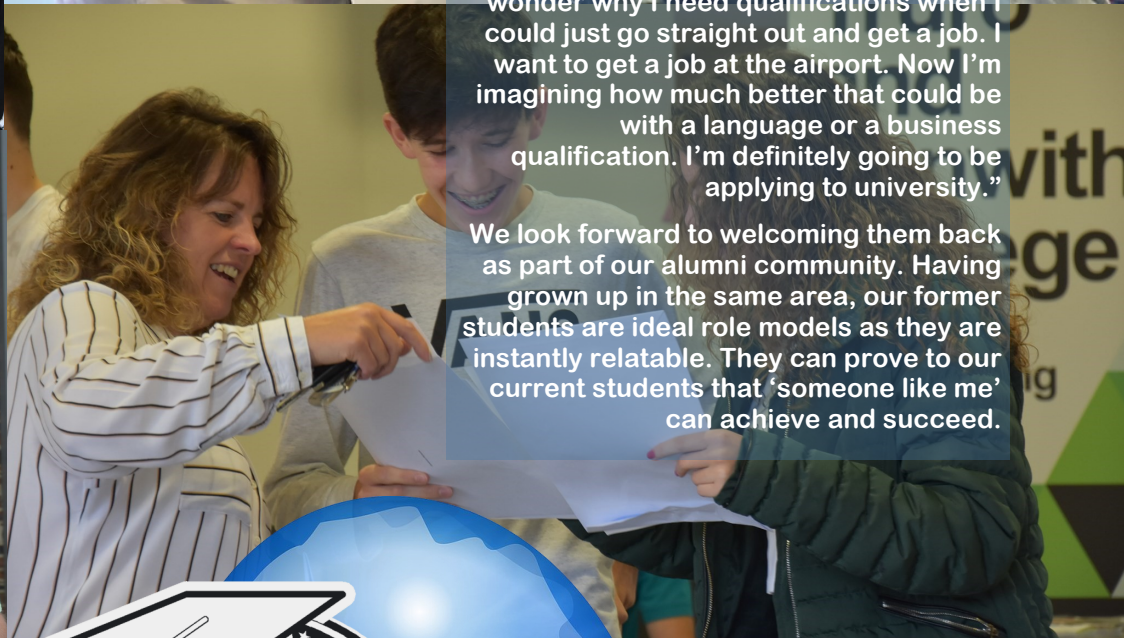
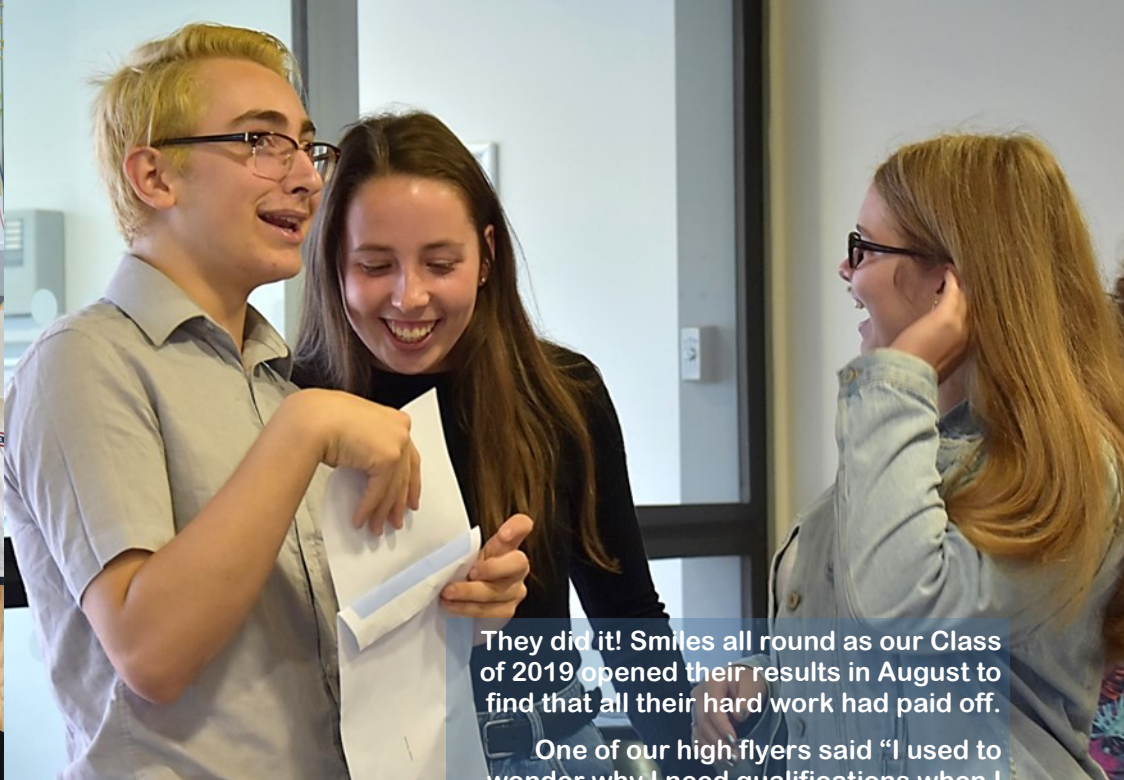
Year 8 students were asked to summarise what they had learnt about Gothic literature. Keziah's eerie-looking cake was a fantastic way of combining her homework with her love of baking.





Challenge

The biggest challenge of
your life is to be yourself in a
World that is trying to make
you like everyone else

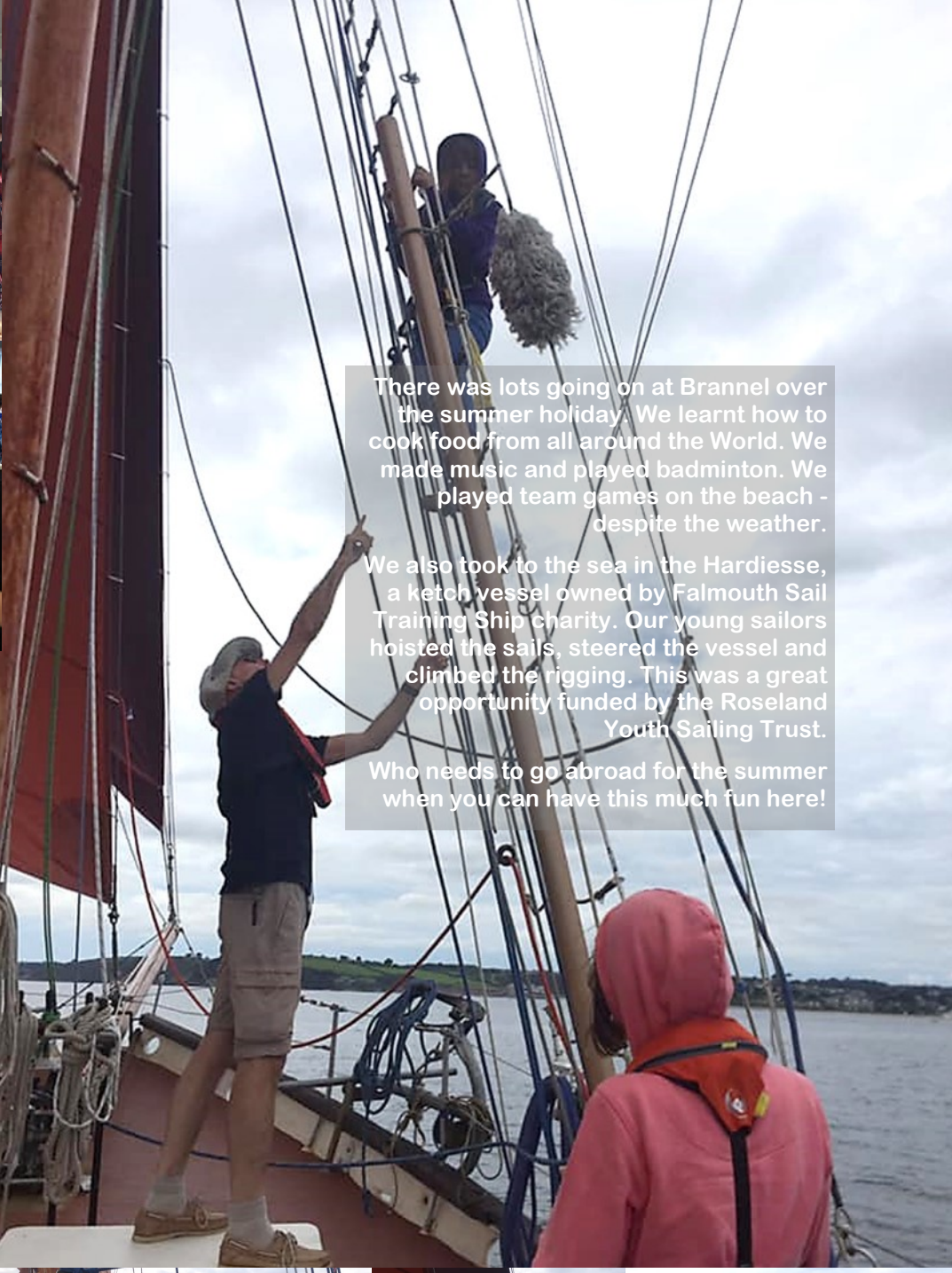


They did it! Smiles all round as our Class of 2019 opened their results in August to find that all their hard work had paid off.

One of our high flyers said "I used to wonder why I need qualifications when I could just go straight out and get a job. I want to get a job at the airport. Now I'm imagining how much better that could be with a language or a business qualification. I'm definitely going to be applying to university."

We look forward to welcoming them back as part of our alumni community. Having grown up in the same area, our former students are ideal role models as they are instantly relatable. They can prove to our current students that 'someone like me' can achieve and succeed.





There was lots going on at Brannel over the summer holiday. We learnt how to cook food from all around the World. We made music and played badminton. We played team games on the beach - despite the weather.

We also took to the sea in the Hardiesse, a ketch vessel owned by Falmouth Sail Training Ship charity. Our young sailors hoisted the sails, steered the vessel and climbed the rigging. This was a great opportunity funded by the Roseland Youth Sailing Trust.

Who needs to go abroad for the summer when you can have this much fun here!





This term, some of our students excelled at their own personal challenges.

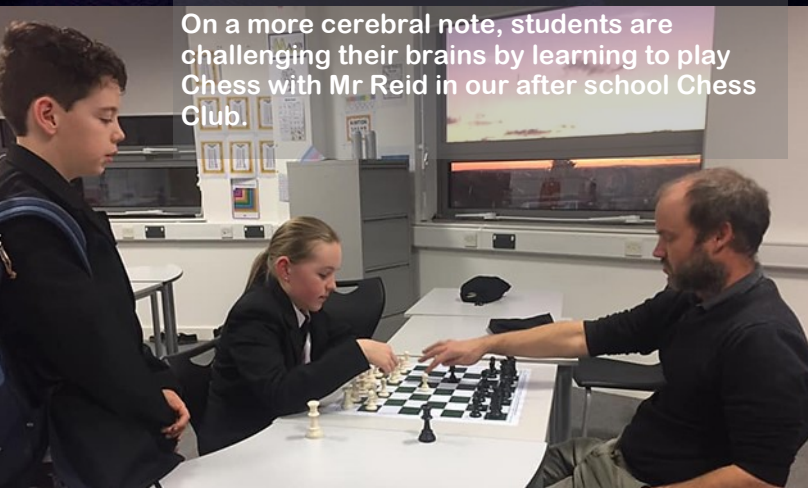
Riley competed in the US Open ISKA World Martial Arts Championships in Orlando, Florida. He achieved 1st in Clash Sparring, 1st in Breaking, 1st in Team Point Sparring and 2nd in Points Sparring. Riley has also been selected to be a part of Team England to compete in the ICO World Martial Arts Championships in October.

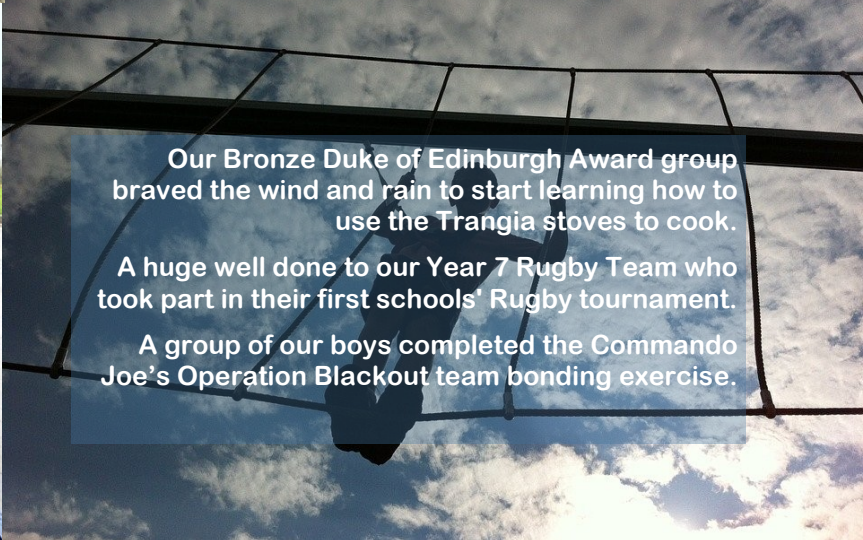
Danny competed at the National Boxing Development Championships in Oxfordshire and won his category. He is now a national champion.

Jack competed in the UK Flowboarding Championships. He won Gold in the Adult Bodyboard Class and competed in the Pro Open Bodyboard category, scooping Bronze. Jack also competed in the European Championships at Bedford. He is now ranked 4th in Europe in the European Flow Tour Pro Bodyboard Division.

Well done Amber, Holly, Elsie, Miss Ryan, Ceinwen and Lily who have all passed their England Netball Into Officiating Award.

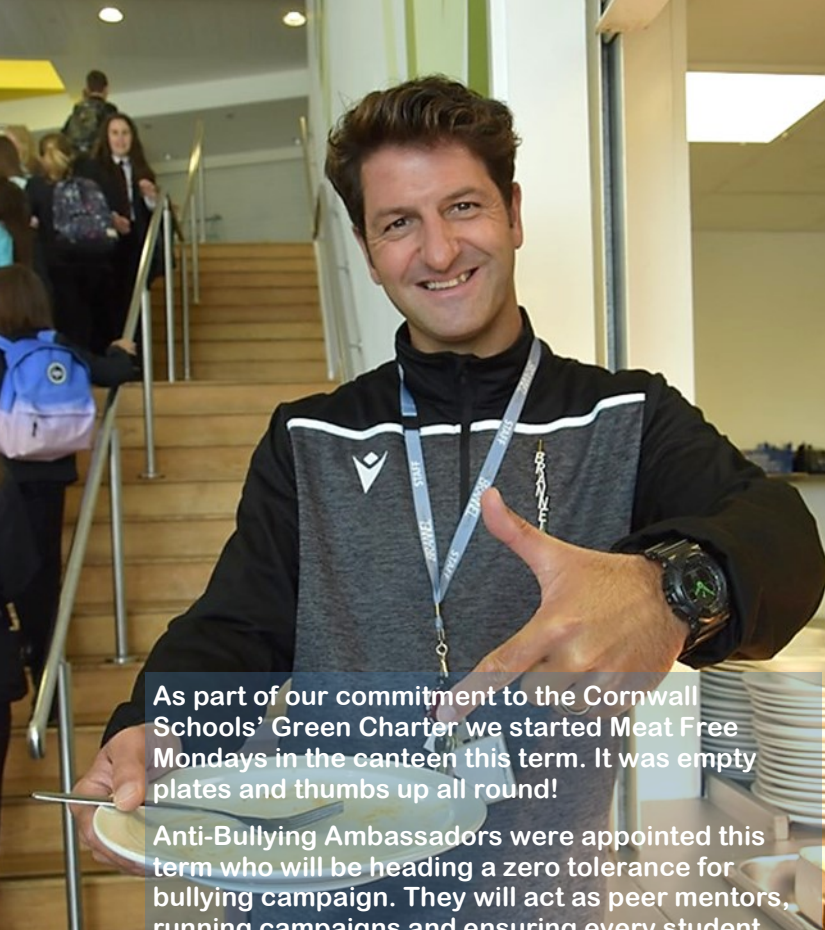
On a more cerebral note, students are challenging their brains by learning to play Chess with Mr Reid in our after school Chess Club.





Communicate





As part of our commitment to the Cornwall Schools' Green Charter we started Meat Free Mondays in the canteen this term. It was empty plates and thumbs up all round!

Anti-Bullying Ambassadors were appointed this term who will be heading a zero tolerance for bullying campaign. They will act as peer mentors, running campaigns and ensuring every student has a voice.

This term we were also pleased to announce the appointments of this year's Head Boy, Head Girl and Deputies.

At Brannel we believe that the emotional wellbeing and mental health of our students is just as important as their physical health. We have a full time School Counsellor who supports individual students. We are using the Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools framework to help us build an emotionally healthy environment. We recently achieved the Bronze School Mental Health Award.

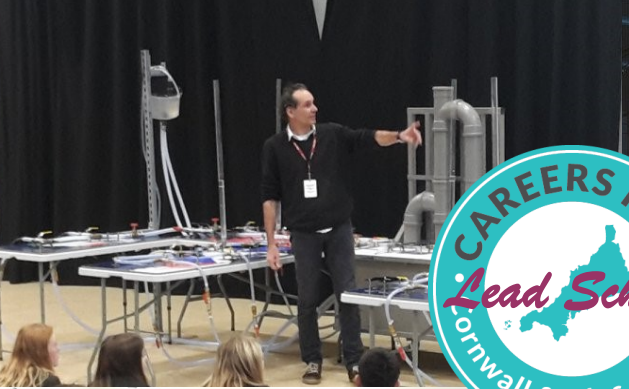


Aspire

A person wearing a black hoodie with a glowing yellow skull mask and a glowing yellow circular light on their chest, standing in front of a city skyline at night. The background is filled with colorful lights and a railing.

Choose a job you love, and
you will never have to work
a day in your life

- Confucius



This term we were asked by the Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Careers Hub to become one of their Lead Schools. We will be developing innovative and impactful careers practice. Imerys is a French multinational company with a local base which specialises in the production and processing of industrial minerals. We are partnering with Imerys to develop a more holistic approach to schools and employers working together. Our careers leads are working with Dr Deeba Ansari (Science and Technology Director, Imerys) and her team.

Our students have the chance to visit a number of universities and colleges. They have also had some inspirational visitors in the lecture theatre this term as part of our Fantastic Futures careers programme.

Dave Parish from Centric spoke about how we can get more green energy into the National Grid with the potential to widen the range of careers.

Mary Jones, a senior Biomedical Scientist, and Simone Girdham, a Microbiologist, from NHS Royal Cornwall Hospital spoke to students about careers within biomedical sciences. They explained to student about the relevance of learning about cells and organisation in their science lessons.

Year 10 took part in a careers day which included preparations for work experience, CV writing and engagements with a variety of employers.

Parsley the dog brought a smile to a lot of faces when he visited our Animal Care group. Students have been learning about how to do a full dog health check as part of their course.



On our annual Takeover Day students have the opportunity to perform the role of a member of school staff.

As part of the selection process students completed a job application and an interview with the member of staff they were applying to be.

Lily-Rose, our Headteacher for the day, enjoyed talking to staff and students and came up with some great ideas for improving the school.

Tegan and Madison helped out Mr Cooper as Deputy Headteachers for the day.

Jeremy and Seb worked with the Premises Team. They did a great job fixing a protective Perspex panel to our new Whale wall graphic in the Science department.

Rachael and Amber learnt about the role of our school finance officers.



Lois, Aaron and Callum found out that being a Head of Year involves a LOT more than sitting around drinking tea!



Connect



Life's most persistent and
urgent question is, What are
you doing for others?

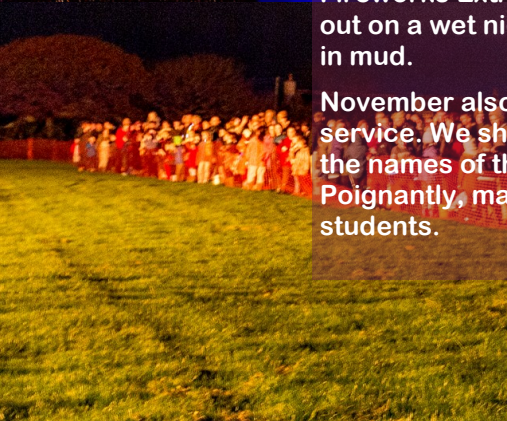
- Martin Luther King Jr



Our half term Halloween Activity Day was mostly attended by witches, skeletons, zombies and werewolves. Many of them also braved the cold and dark to dance the night away at our Halloween Disco. This was organised by students to raise money for their Camps International epic expedition to Peru in 2021.

In November we had lots of support for our annual Fireworks Extravaganza. Almost 2000 people turned out on a wet night that left our playing field ankle-deep in mud.

November also brought our annual Remembrance Day service. We shared with our students and on Facebook the names of those men lost from our local villages. Poignantly, many of the names were very familiar to our students.



THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION





Our Christmas Fayre is always one of the highlights of the year. On the same day we had our Christmas Lunch and raised money for Save the Children by wearing our Christmas jumpers.

Hats off to our lovely Lillian! She raised money for Cornwall Air Ambulance's Heli Appeal by taking part in a sponsored head shave.

Cornwall
Air Ambulance
**NEW
HELI
appeal**
Saving more time
Saving more lives

And finally... "Nadelik Lowen!"

(A very Merry Cornish Christmas!)

After my first term as Headteacher at Brannel School I am already incredibly proud of our wonderful school community and there is no better time of year to appreciate this than the end of Autumn term. Flu bugs, gale force winds and the dark winter nights could not overshadow the amazing Santa Fun Run, the super Year 7 Carol Service, our fabulous Bugsy Malone production, wide ranging charity events and the incredibly popular Christmas Fayre over recent days. It has been a delight to see the talents of so many gifted students shining through and the appreciation shown by their peers.

As the term draws to a close, I am really looking forward to the end of term assembly to celebrate the achievements of the students and staff and congratulate them all.

A very Merry Christmas to all our students, their families, staff, governors and friends of Brannel School. We look forward to seeing you all return safely on Tuesday 7th January. Until then, I hope you all have a fabulous holiday and wish you all the best for the New Year.

Mr Chris Liles, Headteacher

