

Inspire

A photograph of three children running through shallow ocean waves. The child on the left is a girl with dark hair and yellow sunglasses, wearing a white t-shirt with 'ATLANTA GEORGIA' and grey shorts. The child in the middle is a girl with long blonde hair wearing a black bucket hat, a blue t-shirt with a graphic, and denim shorts. The child on the right is a girl with long brown hair wearing a grey t-shirt with a rose graphic and blue shorts. All three are smiling and splashing water. In the background, other people are visible in the water, and a rocky coastline is in the distance. Several colorful diagonal lines (green, blue, yellow, orange, purple) are overlaid on the top left of the image.

Snapshots from Brannel School

Issue 05 / Summer Term 2021

Welcome to Brannel School's Summer Term Newsletter

As the term draws to a close and we pause to reflect on the year I hope every member of our community takes time to congratulate themselves for all that has been achieved.

COVID has posed innumerable obstacles for children, families, schools and all of society. We have all experienced loss and a plethora of other emotions throughout the year. I would like to thank each and every member of our community for all their contributions and truly feel that this year we have proved together that 'Anything is Possible'. This newsletter captures a wide range of activities

and gives a small taster of Brannel Life. I believe you will see, as I do, our values of Excellence, Community and Creativity shining out of every page. I hope in the autumn we will be able to open our gates more widely again and be able to share more of these moments face to face. I wish everyone a happy and healthy summer break. Rest, relax, rejuvenate! Enjoy your time away from school and I look forward to hearing everyone's stories in the new academic year.

Mr Chris Liles, Headteacher

*"In the summer, the days were long,
stretching into each other. Out of school, everything was on pause
and yet happening at the same time, this collection
of weeks when anything was possible."*

Sarah Dessen, author



www.brannel.com





Excellence

Pursuit of Academic Excellence

Harry Potter Book Night

Magic was in the air for our annual Harry Potter Book Night in June. Staff and students were encouraged to dress up and take part in a carousel of Harry Potter-themed activities that included: Pin the Sock on Dobby, bunting crafts and creating Mandrakes from modelling clay.



Food and Nutrition

Year 10 Grill Masters

Catering students in Year 10 expanded their skills during the summer term in a range of skills, including barbecuing. Students prepared and marinated chicken skewers before cooking in the oven and finishing them on the BBQ.

College Dance Workshop

Cornwall College's Altitude Dance visited the Theatre this term to offer an insight into studying dance at college.

Students who are considering studying dance and performing arts were able to ask about the courses on offer and had the chance to participate in a dance workshop with current students.



English

The Tempest Continued...

Year 7 students have been studying Shakespeare's *The Tempest* and were set a creative challenge to imagine what the island would be like after the story ends. What happens to those left behind?

Island models and stories were created to bring their stories to life.

"Gonzalo snuck magical books and a staff in the boat..."
- Ruby, Year 7

"10 months after the almighty, intelligent wizard, and the beautiful sympathetic maiden left the island, the three stranded betrayers still lay alone..."
- Sophie, Year 7

"She swings her sword with the speed of light sending a shock wave that destroys the bones to dust."
- Harry, Year 7





PE

Sports Day 2021

Congratulations to Halviggan House for its sports day success in July!

The day saw students battle it out in team sports and athletics events on the final day of Challenge Week.

Well done to all students who participated, it was great to see so many involved.



Geography

River Study Trip

Year 8 and Year 10 students have been completing fieldwork as part of their Geography lessons. Year 8 took part in a river study, which for some, was their first school trip since starting at Brannel due to the lockdown.



Student Ambassadors

Head Girl and Head Boy

We were very pleased with the number of ambassador applications received from Year 10 students this term and the new team for 2021/22 has been selected.

Congratulations to new Head Girl, Elsie, and Head Boy, Riley. One of their first tasks was to assist with prize-giving in the Year 10 awards assembly.

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."

-John Quincy Adams



Subject Awards

Year 7 Awards

Year 7 students were presented with certificates during their first awards assembly at Brannel School. Students were recognised for their efforts during Challenge Week as well as attainment, progress and endeavour awards in their subjects.



Subject Awards

Year 7 Awards



Geography Awards



Subject Awards

Year 7 Awards



History
Awards



MFL Awards

ICT Awards



Subject Awards

Year 7 Awards



Subject Awards

Year 7 Awards



PE

Sports Award

Congratulations to Mawgan in Year 10, who was awarded the Carolyn Dyer Sports Award.

Mawgan is only the second recipient of this award, which was created in 2019 to recognise dedication to sport. Mawgan is a strong member of several school sports teams and has shown perseverance and team spirit throughout his time at Brannel.

*“Excellence is never an accident;
it is the result of high intention, sincere effort,
intelligent direction, skillful execution and
the vision to see obstacles as opportunities.”*
Anonymous



Creativity

Creative Problem Solving

Literacy

Harry Potter in a Shoebox

What is your favourite scene from the Harry Potter books?

Students were challenged to recreate their favourite scene in a shoebox using their imagination and craft skills. Mrs Hocking was very impressed with the amount of details and time that was clearly taken to make the competition entries, with prizes being awarded to Ava, Lexi and Lucy.



Brannel Challenge

Problem Solving on the Beach

Year 8 students completed team building and problem solving activities on Polkerris Beach during a break from their sailing lessons.

These sessions have been possible thanks to the support of funding from the Roseland Youth Sailing Trust.

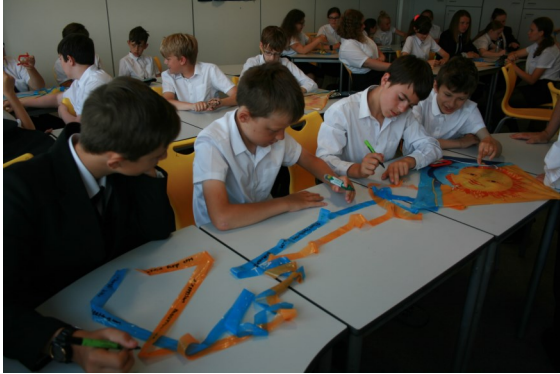


Literacy

Let's go Fly a Kite!

Year 7 Geographers turned their hand to kite-making as part of a lesson about the weather. Students learnt how to assemble a kite and wrote weather key words on their kite tails.

The kites were tested out and used to help decide wind direction and wind speed.



Careers

Careers in Maths

This term, students had the chance to find out about career opportunities with a strong maths focus.

The online session was called 'Which Career? - How maths is used in different roles' and was run by the Advanced Mathematics Support Programme (AMSP), a government-funded initiative aiming to encourage more students to study maths beyond GCSE.

Our more-able mathematicians in Years 8, 9 and 10 were invited to attend the session where they were presented with various careers that utilise mathematics. Careers included from game design, sport science and medicine. They were shown different scenarios where maths plays a key role and had the opportunity to work their way through some real-life problems!





Community
Serving Others



Eco Schools

Million Mile Beach Clean

Members of our Eco Committee and School Council took part in Surfers Against Sewage's Million Mile Beach Clean and found a surprising amount of rubbish and items that had been washed up on Porth Beach.

The Million Mile Clean is a new SAS campaign which connects our beach cleaning action throughout the year. We are planning more cleans in the year ahead.



Science

Big Butterfly Count

Students in Year 7, 8 and 9 have taken part in the 'Big Butterfly Count' during Science lessons. Anya in Year 8 was even lucky enough to have a Meadow Brown land on her.

The Big Butterfly Count is a nationwide citizen science survey aimed at helping to assess the health of our environment. Butterflies are a vital part of the ecosystem as both pollinators and components of the food chain. So tracking numbers of butterflies is crucial in the fight to conserve our natural world.

Community Larder Collection

Students from 9K teamed up with students in the ARB to collect donations for the Community Larder.

Community larders are open to everyone and help to reduce food waste by taking surplus food and allowing people a chance to use it. This helps to reduce our impact on the environment and helps save money.



*"If you're not making someone else's life better,
then you're wasting your time."*

— Will Smith

PE

Year 7 are put Through their Paces

Year 7 PE groups had the chance to take part in some bootcamp fitness and teamwork challenges with local fitness company, Sweat Cornwall.

Trying new activities can keep the brain and body healthy by varying the types of exercise. It also helps to introduce students to different forms of training.





Brannel Challenge

Challenge Week 2021

At Brannel, we were definitely not going to miss out on Challenge Week for a second year. Our students got moving with low-risk outdoor activities in their year group bubbles. They were out and about learning how much fun you could actually have for free in Cornwall.

Not only does being outside pose a lower risk of spreading the virus than indoor activities, but our students also found out for themselves that being outside offers an emotional boost and can help you feel less tense, stressed, angry or depressed. But the best thing was being able to get back to some degree of normality.

“We were determined to go ahead with our Challenge Week. After the 18 months our students have had, to be able to go out and do some fun and adventurous activities together as a school was just the medicine we all needed.” said Mr Goodwin, Deputy Head.

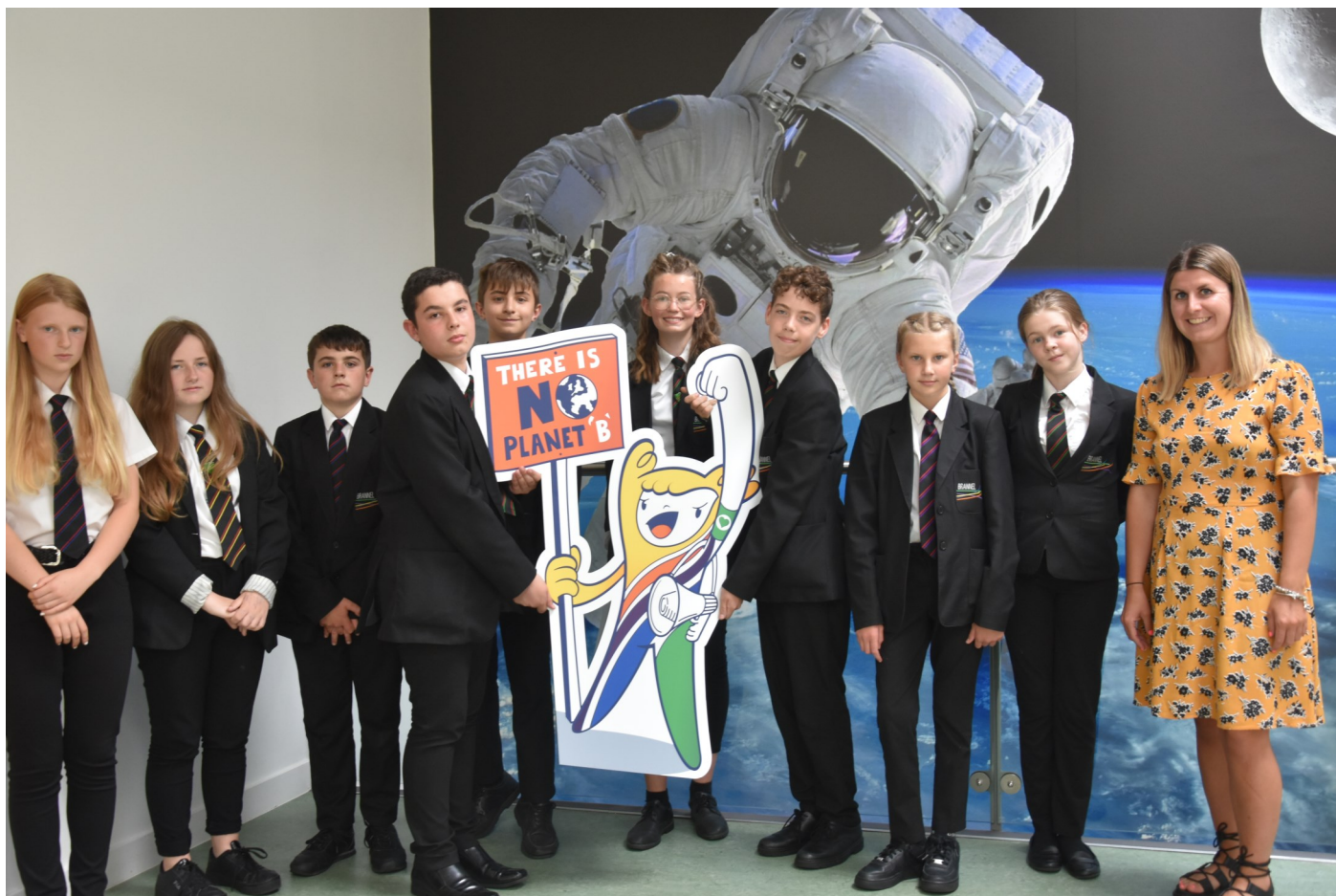




Year 7 Camp

Challenge Week 2021

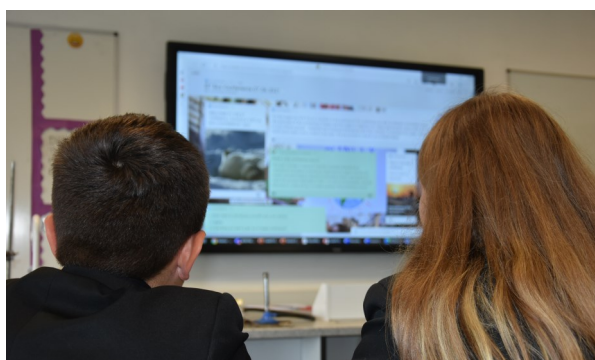




Eco Committee

Brannel Hosts Cornwall Eco Schools Conference

In June, Brannel School and CELT hosted a virtual Eco Conference to coincide with the G7 Summit. Cornwall's Schools' Eco-Conference, an event spearheaded by Brannel School, focused on providing an opportunity for school councils and student eco-committees to unite and take actions – small and big – to build a future that is greener, cleaner and fairer.



30 schools attended from across Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. Schools from other parts of the UK and Sweden also attended the virtual event, which was timed to coincide with the G7 summit. The conference brought together current and future changemakers from across the world to discuss the global climate crisis and climate justice priorities.



With the ethos 'think global, act local', the aim was to motivate young people and provide them with the tools to become changemakers. Guest speakers and panelists – including student mentors from Exeter University, Hugo Tagholm from Surfers Against Sewage, Dr Kelly Haynes of the Environment Agency and Emily Stevenson from Beach Guardians (to name just a few!) – were invited to inspire the student delegates with their changemaker stories.

*The climate crisis has already been solved.
We already have the facts and solutions.
All we have to do is wake up and change.
- Greta Thunberg*

Volunteering

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Year 9 and 10 DoE students successfully completed their expeditions during Challenge Week!

There were lots of tired feet by the end but there was a strong sense of teamwork and camaraderie felt by all who took part.

As part of their expedition, each team had to plan and organise their walking route in line with the Countryside Code. Students camped overnight and cooked their own evening meal.



Music

The Show Must Go On!

The school choir has been busy rehearsing this term for the annual JulyFest performance. Despite Covid restrictions for singing and JulyFest becoming a virtual event, the Year 7 choir managed to learn four songs from musicals for the performance.



Year 11 Leavers

Staff vs Students

Our annual Year 11 vs Staff football match took place just before half term. There was a healthy level of competition and sportsmanship shown by all.

The final score of 7-2 to the staff team didn't reflect the valiant effort from Year 11 (but did keep staff reputations intact for another year!).



Alumni News

Engineering Career for Oliver

We are pleased to share news from one of our alumni members, Oliver Spencer, who left Brannel in 2015.

Since leaving Brannel, Oliver went on to study Maths and Physics at Truro College before accepting a place at Exeter University.

This summer, Oliver graduated with a first class Masters degree in Physics and has secured a graduate role with MBDA.



Sport Success

Hannah becomes County Champ

Year 10 student, Hannah, is this year's county champion in shotput and hammer follow successes at the Cornwall Schools Championships and South West Athletics competitions.

Hannah is a member of Newquay and Par Athletics Club and competes in the U17 age group.

School Development

Canteen Extension

The extension to our school canteen will be ready to welcome new students in September. The Streetspace design team worked closely with us to create spacious dining facilities in a temperature-moderated, glazed extension.

The extension will help to accommodate a growing student population as we prepare to welcome our largest cohort of Year 7. It's one of several developments planned to improve the school site over the next few years.

The new space will provide students with a stylish area for dining as well as a flexible space for community events and functions.



School Development

Eco Patch

Construction of our new Eco Patch building is finally complete - after a year of lockdowns and material shortages! The classroom has been furnished and work to complete the landscaping is underway, ready to be used from September.

We had two new arrivals to the Eco Patch this term. Our Year 10 Animal Care BTEC classes have been busy helping Pinky and Perky settle in to their new home. Since the hot weather we have also been making sure they are protected from the sun with factor 50 sun cream! They love human company and really enjoy a good scratch.



“Hav Lowen”

Have a Safe and Happy Summer!

