

WOW

Belong School Gloucestershire Spring recap

From the Headteacher

We have had an incredible year so far. We have introduced new work-related learning opportunities such as blacksmithing, carpentry and beauty therapy. In addition, we have been preparing our year 11's for their GCSEs.

Our February mock examinations for our year 11 were really encouraging with our students engaging brilliantly with some challenging exam papers. Most students demonstrated that they are on track to achieve their target grades in the summer, with special mention going to Matt, who achieved a grade 7 in his English exam.

We are really proud to be able to equip our students with learning and experiences which will directly impact their potential to go on to post 16 education in an area where they can thrive.

For regular updates on what is happening at our school, please see our website www.belonglearning.co.uk, and our Facebook page and twitter feed (@belong_glos).



This has been a really busy time for us at Belong School Gloucestershire, with our students engaging in lots of exciting activities to help them learn, grow and thrive. We have shared lots of attendance information with students and parents to ensure that all are aware of the benefits that improved attendance gives students, such as better chances of fulfilling their full potential and gaining appropriate qualifications to meet their post 16 ambitions. We would like to say a massive well done to Harry H, Brandon D and Donte D who all have 100% attendance.



We continue to work hard in ensuring all our students get the best possible education tailored to their interests and strengths, as well as providing opportunities to experience new activities and develop new interests. For one of our drop-down days, pupils engaged in a whole school day at Tamworth Snow Dome, hitting the slopes and taking part in a skiing lesson. Kayne and Baily took to this naturally and are aiming to develop their skiing skills in the future.

Our pastoral work is also about teaching our students how to keep themselves safe. BEAT officers came to introduce themselves and start building relationships with the students, which involved a great game of football in our sportshall. In the coming weeks, the officers will be returning to deliver sessions around knife crime, anti social behaviour, domestic abuse and other important topics. The dangers of knife crime is a topic explored by the Knife Angel Exhibition at Gloucestershire Cathedral. Students visited the 27-foot-high sculpture, made from over 100,000 seized blades, which is on display as part of the National Anti-Violence Tour.



Work Related Learning

As part of our Work Related Learning program, we have been working together with Renishaw PLC, an engineering company who design and produce products for transport, medical, electronic and motorsport industries using the latest technology, including 3D printing. Students will have the chance to visit and take a tour of the factory and see some of the technical equipment they design, make and use every day. Students will also have the chance to take part in an engineering workshop where they will make their own torch to take away.



Also on the calendar for students is the Production Futures Event, taking place on Weds 8th March, an event where students can learn about careers in areas such as Music, TV, Film and Broadcasting, Theatre and E-Sports. Students will get the chance to speak to employers and professionals from the media production industry and find out more about careers

Art

We kicked off this term with a visit to the Tate Modern Museum in London. Our students loved the trip and seeing the art work. We then walked through London seeing the sights, even finding time for a genuine Chinese meal in Chinatown. Three more students have passed their Bronze Level Arts Award after developing lots of new skills including photography, stencil making and mono-printing.



At Belong School Gloucestershire, lunch is a really important part of the day. It's a chance for us to relax, to build social skills, to practise healthy eating - all things that reinforce some of our key Character Education themes. Key to this is our lunch menu, which is expertly crafted by our school's new Chef, Maria.



Maria is a very experienced chef with a passion for Mediterranean cooking and since starting in January has lost no time in introducing some delicious and exciting options, all with plenty of fresh fruit and vegetables.



Lunch

Science

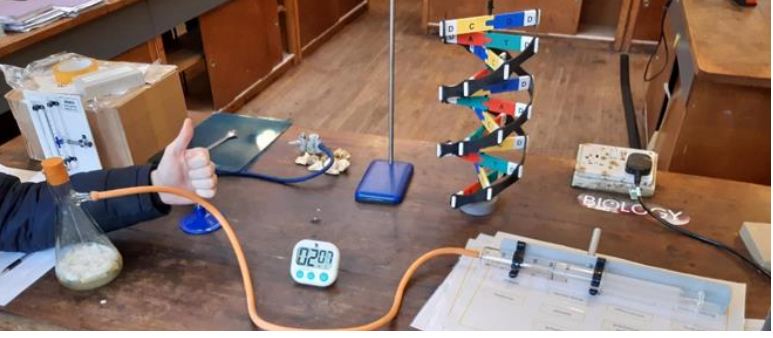
Over the last few months we have been packing in the learning in Science classes. We have looked at Biology, Chemistry and Physics modules and we've been putting our learning in context with lots of practical tasks.



The mock exam results of the year 11 students have been very gratifying with both Kalem and Matthew achieving their target grades. Tommy passed both of his exam papers and continues to display a fantastic work ethic, including staying after school for extra lessons.

Year 10 continue to enjoy an organic learning approach and Donte has thoroughly enjoyed his curiosity led lessons.

Kian and Brandon have shown an interest in learning about the solar system, so we set up a mock solar system on the field to show the relative sizes and distance between some of the objects in our solar system.



We have also all enjoyed culturing our own bacteria colonies and then testing antibiotics on them to see which ones are effective. All in all, another busy but successful term for Science at Belong School Gloucester.

In core PE lessons students have been covering a range of different topics from Football, Basketball and Cricket to Health Related Fitness and Gymnastics, using our own facilities as well as the Gym at Straiford Park Leisure Centre.



PE



A number of our students have been working towards an ASDAN qualification with our resident boxing champion and coach, Adam Harper. During these sessions they build fitness, coordination and discipline, as well as looking at social and community issues.



In BTEC Sport our Year 11 students have been studying practical performance in sport with students analysing chosen sports and then their own performance within these sports.

Finally, our year 11 students recently sat their GCSE PE mock exam which produced some great results.

