



Headteacher's Newsletter



Back To Brownhills: Summer Term Begins

Dear families, friends and our wider community,

The Summer Term has begun brilliantly at Brownhills Ormiston Academy. At the beginning of last term, I asked the students in school to 'step up' and recognise their potential. They listened and they have, once again, gone over and above to make progress and be the best of the best. They are exceptional.

This week, I have been speaking to students about making it count. Doing the little things right, having the highest standards for themselves and others, and being relentless in their pursuit of excellence. I know they will rise to the challenge, as they have every day so far this year.



First Day Back

Our first day back was business as usual at Brownhills, with students jumping straight in to lessons. We ask our students to be curious, academic, ambitious and resilient and all of that was very much on display in lessons on Tuesday.

Throughout the morning, I held student induction assemblies and I spoke to students about how to take the next step and what it means to be part of our great school. I told the students about the approaches our fantastic teachers will be taking in lessons. On Monday, we had an inset day, so the staff and I spent the day refining our practice, getting ready to provide the very best for our young people and I wanted our students to know what to expect.

Visiting lessons on Tuesday was a privilege, seeing staff checking for understanding and the students responding to it so positively, actively engaged with mini-whiteboards, paired discussion, 'heads down-hands up' and lots of questioning.

Proud Table Returns

We were delighted to bring back the Proud Table this week with lots of students visiting to share their successes from over Easter. As always, we were met with lots of students with a range of different talents on display.

At Brownhills, we recognise that success comes in many forms and we want our students to share their talents and interests with us from inside and outside the classroom. Parents and carers, please encourage your children to bring their work, certificates, artwork, medals, performances and stories with us every Wednesday break!



Brownhills Big Sing 2026

On Wednesday, we had a joyous day with Year 5 students from six of our partner primary schools: Watling Street, Millfield, Brownhills West, St. James, Holy Trinity and Castlefort. Over the last couple of months, they have been rehearsing with Mr Pierce to prepare for a massed choir concert in the Francis Hodgkinson Theatre. Across the day, we had over 150 children in school, singing and working together and they were brilliant!

They started the day with a sports lesson outside with Miss Chapman with a big warm-up and some Endball matches. They were competitive and great sportspeople, working together in their teams and supporting each other beautifully.

They went into rehearsals, preparing eleven songs ready for the concert in the evening which included some very complex and varied repertoire. The concert included *Stargazing* by Myles Smith, *A Million Dreams* from *The Greatest Showman*, a beautiful choral piece in Hebrew called *Ashlosha D'Varim* and a fantastic rendition of *Africa* by Toto with a rainstorm soundscape at the beginning!

As a bit of a voice rest and a chance for something different, the students also participated in reading workshops. They swapped books with children from other schools, were given time to read someone else's book for five minutes and then talked about what they'd read with them. The students loved it, and hopefully they have found something to add to their reading lists!

The concert in the evening was brilliant and really well attended by families, friends and teachers of the students from all six schools. Thank you so much to Mrs Probert, Mrs Stacey, Mr McNamee, Mrs MacInnes, Mrs Rea-Gardner and Mr Hawkins for allowing your amazing staff and students to work with us and well done to everyone involved.

Duke Of Edinburgh - Training Day

Before Easter, 30 Year 9 and 10 students went on a training day for the Duke of Edinburgh expedition on Cannock Chase. The training day included learning how to use 6-figure grid references with maps, navigate with compasses and put up tents.

Mrs Moore has informed me that the students worked incredibly hard all day as they prepare for their final expedition in June. I would like to thank Mrs Moore, Mr James and Miss Yates for accompanying the groups and taking the time to support the students work towards this fantastic qualification and in particular to Mrs Moore, for her work leading this qualification.

As part of this qualification, students have to complete volunteering, a physical activity and some form of skill development, such as learning an instrument for up to six months. I am delighted that so many of our students are committing this much time to their personal development and giving back to the community. It is something we are incredibly proud of and I look forward to seeing many more students completing this award future.

Looking Ahead

The next thirteen weeks are a clear opportunity for everyone to continue to achieve excellence in a range of different ways. On the sports field, in the rehearsal room, with creative designs or any other skill you possess. Most importantly, we can all achieve excellence in the classroom. We have a great team of staff, great students, great families and we are part of a great town that we are so proud of. Well done for an excellent start to the term.

With very best wishes,

Mr R T Doodson
Headteacher

