



Day 2

Summer School

NEWSLETTER

Back To Brownhills: Summer School

Dear families, friends and our wider community,

Our second day of Summer School has been a huge success and we have seen some phenomenal work from the children. They have been pushed far beyond anything they expected and risen to the challenge. The energy and effort shown by all children are a sure sign of the incredible things we can expect to see in September and beyond.

We are looking forward to the rest of our time together and have some exciting plans for tomorrow and the rest of the week. The children have worked so hard and should be proud of themselves and their achievements so far.



Creative Writing & Commutative Law

The morning began with another excellent combination of English and Maths, giving the students opportunities to be imaginative, work independently and challenge themselves with some difficult ideas. Building on yesterday's learning, they approached both sessions with enthusiasm and showed a real willingness to think carefully and develop their work. In English, the students continued their exploration of Percy Jackson & The Lightning Thief. After reading the opening chapter, they considered how Rick Riordan brings the world of Greek mythology into a recognisable modern setting. They then used this technique as inspiration for their own creative writing.

Their challenge was to write in the first person and create a scene filled with suspense and danger. Ordinary locations were suddenly interrupted by mythical creatures, mysterious events and unexpected threats. The students thought carefully about description, atmosphere and the reactions of their narrators, producing some wonderfully imaginative ideas. There was fabulous creativity throughout the session, and many of the openings immediately made the reader want to discover what would happen next.

In Maths, the students explored the commutative law and investigated a range of number patterns and mathematical rules. They had to study the information carefully, identify the rule being followed and apply their understanding to solve increasingly challenging problems.

A key focus of the session was independent thinking. Rather than being given every step, the students were encouraged to test possibilities, recognise connections and explain how they had reached their answers. Some of the problems required real perseverance, but the students rose superbly to the challenge.

It was another impressive morning of creativity, concentration and problem-solving. The students are continuing to show excellent attitudes towards their learning and should be very proud of the work they have produced.



A Word From Our Staff...

“It has been wonderful to see students engaging in every activity and successfully rising to the challenge. Continue being determined, curious and resilient! You will have a fantastic educational career at Brownhills. - Mrs K Matthews”



Team Summer School Find Their Voice

Students were introduced to Brownhills' thriving musical culture through an energetic singing session which challenged them to listen carefully, perform confidently and work together as an ensemble.

The session began with an exploration of important musical vocabulary. Students considered how dynamics, pitch, tempo, melody and texture can change the way a song sounds and influence the emotions communicated to an audience. They then completed a vocal warm-up designed to activate and develop the different parts of their voices.

Before beginning their repertoire, the group discussed what makes an excellent ensemble. They recognised the importance of listening to one another, following direction, maintaining concentration and contributing to a balanced overall sound. These ideas were then put into practice as the students began learning three contrasting songs.

In only forty minutes, the group learned Price Tag by Jessie J, Counting Stars by OneRepublic and Only You by The Flying Pickets. This was an impressive achievement, and the quality of the final sound demonstrated how quickly the students were able to respond to musical guidance and perform as one group.

Several students also volunteered to sing solo parts. Performing alone in front of others requires courage, and these students demonstrated tremendous bravery and resilience. Their willingness to step forward was celebrated by the whole group and helped to make the session particularly memorable.

Brownhills is proud of its fantastic music culture and holds Music Mark recognition for Ambition and Quality. The enthusiasm, confidence and musicianship shown during this session demonstrated exactly why music is such an important part of life at the academy. Our newest students have already begun their journey towards musical excellence, and we look forward to hearing their talents develop further.



A Word From Our Students...

“I have really enjoyed it again today because there's been loads of different activities and today has been new and exciting from yesterday. I loved the puzzle we had to solve in History. We had to figure out a code to get through a door. We were learning about the Romans and our local area. I am looking forward to coming here in September!”



Joshua

Discovery In Humanities

An afternoon of discovery! In Geography, students took part in an emotional mapping activity, exploring different areas of the academy and reflecting on how each space made them feel. They then analysed their findings and presented them using choropleth maps, using colour to represent different emotions and attitudes towards various locations, developing the students' sense of belonging and confidence when moving around the site.

Meanwhile, in History, students journeyed back to the time of the Roman Empire, learning about Roman life, culture and conquest. They put their historical knowledge and problem-solving skills to the test by completing a series of challenges to uncover the code to the lost treasure, Tabula Thesauri Perditi. Working together, they successfully deciphered clues and demonstrated excellent teamwork, critical thinking and problem-solving to reveal the lost treasure's location.

It was fantastic to see our students showing such curiosity, creativity and enthusiasm as they developed new skills and confidence ahead of September.



A Word From A Parent...

“What a fantastic first day of Summer School! My daughter has really enjoyed her day...the best bit was being able to solve the 'Four Fours' Maths challenge & netball. Jessica has said that she has started to learn her way round the school too, so that alleviates any worries in September. As ever, the Brownhills team are doing a fantastic job!

Natalie

Looking Ahead

We are looking forward to another fantastic day tomorrow when we will celebrate our community of Brownhills. We will be sharing our day with families as we celebrate our learning and achievements this week. We look forward to challenging the children in different ways and looking for talents that they may not have discovered yet.

With very best wishes,

Mr A Cox
Head of Year 7

