



Edition 31

Spring 1

February 2026

Welcome Back Bella!

Welcome to Broadstones Spring 1 newsletter.

This edition includes details of the particularly notable accomplishment of one of our past pupils, who's gone full circle in terms of her chosen career path - read about Bella and what she's accomplished in a relatively short space of time since her education began to flourish in the care of Broadstones School.

You can also catch-up with the latest term's highlights: revelation of the new school ambassador, the preparations for participation in Stockport Town Hall's Youth Climate Debate; college open-day visits; and details of the lovely end of year whole school Chester Zoo trip.

And of course, we include the usual curriculum area updates of pupils and staff achievements.

In January Broadstones welcomed back a former pupil - Bella. But not to educate - to welcome her on board as a new member of staff!

John is proud to take up the story from here:

"It felt like Broadstones had reached an important milestone this month.

When we started planning a realistic salon training environment for the school back in early 2018, Sue and I hoped and dreamed that the Training Salon would eventually be an opportunity for a returning pupil to establish their own business.

This has now happened!

Bella enrolled at Broadstones School in September 2018 having become completely disengaged with mainstream education.

Bella will admit things were not plain sailing to begin with and that she could be challenging at times! Bella recognises this but

states that she was finally listened to and given the opportunity to express herself in a safe and secure environment.

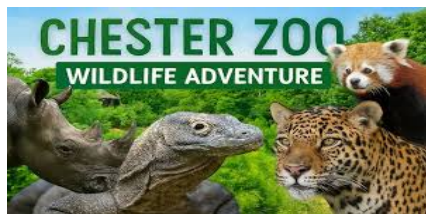
From Broadstones she progressed to an apprenticeship with Evolve Academy and worked in a salon, achieving her NVQ Level 3 qualification in Hair and Beauty, whilst renting a chair in a local salon to begin her career.

In 2021, at the age of 21, she approached Sue and I for a meeting whereby she presented us with a business plan on how she intended to run her own business: Bella would be basing herself at our salon (Salon Academy) to work with her own extensive client base after school hours, combined with working in the school as a support worker.

We became very excited as Bella is very clear about her own experiences and challenges, and her awareness that she is a fantastic role model for our current and future pupils.

This is the next significant step in Bella's career development and we are very proud to have her on board."

A Day to Remember At Chester Zoo



Our first whole school trip to Chester Zoo was an unforgettable experience for both pupils and staff.

From the moment of arrival, the excitement was palpable as pupils explored the zoo with curiosity, enthusiasm and a real sense of wonder.

The trip brought classroom learning to life. Pupils were able to observe animals from around the world close-up, deepening their understanding of behaviours and habitats, life cycles and conservation. Seeing these concepts in a real-world setting helped reinforce learning in a meaningful and memorable way.

Beyond the academic benefits, the day supported pupils' personal and social development. They displayed excellent behaviour, teamwork, and independence while navigating the zoo, following instructions, and supporting one another. It was a pleasure to see their confidence grow as they asked thoughtful questions and shared their knowledge with their peers.

But, most importantly, the trip was fun! The smiles, excitement and animated conversations on the journey home reflected just how much they enjoyed it. Chester Zoo provided an inspiring environment that sparked curiosity and enthusiasm for learning.

Overall the trip was a fantastic success and a wonderful finish to the school year. We look forward to building on this experience with many more exciting opportunities ahead.

We thank Claudia and her team for organising this lovely day out.

Just a few of the images taken on the day:



Nelly the elephant on parade



Jeff and Jenny in the gentle giants of the jungle



Pingu the Penguin preening, paddling and playing

College Visits

Year 11 pupils attended The Manchester College Recruitment Fair on 21st January, where they met tutors and coaches that would potentially introduce them to courses specially designed to prepare them for real-world experiences.

The college offers a range of different courses including internships, and especially welcomes pupils with EHCPs.

Behaviour was excellent as always, and pupils came away with even more options to consider that will get them on the path to success.

Jackie also took pupils to visit The Growth Company - another provider dedicated to helping young people who need that bit of extra support. And there is another visit organised to Pure College coming up very soon!

Youth Climate Debate With Ale

Kayden, Y11 and Mohin, Y10 have been selected to represent Broadstones School at the Youth Climate Debate in March at Stockport Town Hall.

Kayden, who represented us last year, was so successful that we were invited to participate once again. They have been making preparations by researching, consolidating and practising delivering their key ideas.

For full details of the event, see our next newsletter.

Stockport County Award Programme (Amy from Sport)



Since the beginning of January, we have been proud to welcome Stockport County Football Club into our sports sessions to deliver their inspiring County Award Programme.

Over the last six weeks, our young people have taken part in a structured programme designed to build key life skills both on and off the pitch.

The County Award Programme has focused on developing confidence, growth, communication, resilience, as well as positive relationships with others.

Throughout the programme, our young people have also been working collaboratively on a community football improvements project, designed and organised by Stockport County Football Club.

This has encouraged participants to think carefully about how football can be improved within their local community, with inclusion, access, and positive experiences for others being at the heart of the project.

Next week marks the final week of the programme, ending with an exciting and memorable visit to Edgely Park, the home of Stockport County FC, showcasing their ideas, confidence, and personal development gained throughout the programme.

We are incredibly proud of how our young people have engaged with the County Award Programme and the progress they have made over the last six weeks.

A huge thank you to Stockport County Football Club for their continued support, commitment, and belief in empowering young people, teaching them that football is not just a great sport - it can inspire positively, strengthen communities, and create lasting opportunities for growth.



Official logo on the programme



Some of our pupils taking part in the theory and planning phase of the programme



Practising their physical skills



New School Ambassador



As mentioned in our previous newsletter, the hunt for our new School Ambassador was on.

This time round pupils initiated and organised the whole diplomatic process of electing a new ambassador themselves.

Three candidates put themselves forward and pupils voted accordingly; the candidates were: Kayden, Lilly-Mai and Millie.

And despite very marginal differences in the scores, Millie was duly elected and now is successfully submerged in the role.

She knows her role is to act as the 'voice' of students to decision-makers, helping to shape policies, services and the overall experience for young people at Broadstones.

Millie has so far raised a couple of issues with SMT (senior management team), which have been swiftly addressed.

Millie will have regular meetings with school leaders throughout the year, has been officially welcomed to the role, and has received her official ambassador hoody and badge, enabling her to stand out as a stark reminder to pupils, that she is always available

to listen, address, and seek to improve the educational experience of our pupils.

Obviously we warmly welcome Millie to this important and privileged position, but feel it prudent to thank Kayden and Lilly-Mai for their interest and know either of them would have also made meritorious ambassadors.

Art with Rebecca



A lovely piece of art representing staff and pupils - a wonderful collaborative effort

The above beautiful piece of art, depicting almost every member of our school community, was a joint collaboration of our budding artists, and overlooked by Rebecca.

Using a wide range of techniques, textures and tones, this vibrant and visionary canvas, is a lovely composition celebrating and encapsulating our school family.

Well done everyone involved - it takes pride of place on display for all to smile at and admire.

Congratulation Clare (Salon Academy)



Congratulations to Clare for achieving her level 4 qualification in teaching.

Clare has been working towards this for the last year while still working in the salon (and looking after her own family!)

Clare admitted that at times it was challenging but she is glad it's now completed.

Well done Clare.

This also highlights the fact that staff professional development is taken very seriously at Broadstones; as plenty of academic research has proven - the best way to raise standards in education is to ensure staff are up-to-date themselves with the latest pedagogical practices.

Staff regularly updating and refreshing their knowledge by undertaking training and refresher courses is standard practice - but this particular qualification has enabled Clare to make significant progress in her understanding of how the wider education process works as well as fine-tuning her everyday practice.

Sexual Health Visit

PSHE groups were visited by an outside agency, experts in giving sexual health advice to teenagers.

Pupils were educated in how to keep themselves and others safe; what to do and where to go if they need advice; as well as some of the common misconceptions regarding symptoms, contraception, transmission methods, etc.

Pupils were made aware of the hub and its location in Stockport where they can contact directly for help. Pupils can also contact Jakie, our pastoral leader for advice at any time.



Parents and Carers Social Day Event

On Thursday 29th January Broadstones held their annual event that allows parents and carers to meet up with staff and senior management, get to know each other, and discuss experiences that they may have in common or share. And all in a relaxed atmosphere.

The turnout was very good, the food was lovely, and it was a lovely opportunity to relay any

concerns and ask questions

The event this year was held at the beautiful venue of Houldsworth Golf Club, the venue of our previous awards and leavers ceremony.

MOSAIC (drugs and alcohol) advisors were also in attendance and were able to give important information and advice.

Our next event will be school based, when parents and carers will be invited into school to meet up with their child's teachers to be given a more indepth update on their progress, achievements and next steps.

The date is yet to be confirmed but it is anticipated to be held around April. Further details to follow.

Literacy Across the Curriculum linked to PSHE

Pupils have been learning about racism this half term as part of our initiative of linking PSHE with reading opportunities. This was designed to encourage reading across curriculum areas as well as providing material for debates and discussions.

Pupils really enjoy these 20 minute inserts into PSHE lessons - and next half term will look at 'classism' in society.

Welcome Amanda

And last, but by no means least, we welcome on board our new university social work student, Amanda, who shall be working with us until the end of the academic year.

Amanda is currently training to become a social worker and as part of that process will spend time in school to help her develop a deeper understanding of children and their needs, and importantly how they can be met in an educational setting.

Broadstones has successfully accommodated a number of students in the past, and Amanda will be the latest future social worker to help improve the lives of children.

Her placement here will also benefit us by providing additional support to struggling pupils; offering interventions; and enhancing safeguard efforts by connecting us with additional external resources designed to improve the lives of young people.

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