

Welcome to our October Half-Term Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of our first half-term, it is lovely to reflect on what has been a busy and exciting start to the school year across Primary, KS3 and KS4.

From creative projects, cooking and music-making to exciting trips and enrichment adventures, our pupils have been exploring new experiences, discovering passions through after-school clubs and developing their creative skills through BTEC. A highlight has been exploring the rich history and influence of Black music at the V&A, bringing learning to life beyond the classroom.

Celebrating Our Pupils

We are incredibly proud of our pupils' enthusiasm, growing confidence and willingness to try new things. Thank you to our dedicated staff and to you, our parents and carers, for your continued support.

We hope you enjoy celebrating our pupils' achievements in this newsletter and wish all our families a happy, restful half-term break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting term!

Warmest wishes,

The School Leadership Team

BRENT RIVER COLLEGE

- Belief
- Respect
- Integrity
- Vision
- Excellence
- Responsibility
- Courage



Catering Cooking
Up a Storm!

Our KS3 Catering students have made a fantastic start to the year.

Biscuits & Cookies



Students have been busy baking a delicious range of biscuits and cookies, experimenting with different flavours, ingredients and designs.

A Week of Chicken Dishes



Students were also challenged to create their own chicken dishes using a selection of ingredients rather than following a set recipe.

It has been wonderful to see students taking ownership of their cooking and proudly celebrating their creations!

Boxing Mentoring Partnership

We are delighted to announce a new partnership with the **Sweet Science Foundation**, providing weekly boxing mentoring sessions for our students.

Working alongside experienced mentors, students are encouraged to challenge themselves, develop resilience and improve their physical and emotional wellbeing.

The programme aims to:





- ✓ Improve **behaviour** and **attendance**.
- ✓ Develop emotional **awareness** and **self-control**.
- ✓ Build physical **fitness** and mental **resilience**.
- ✓ Encourage **teamwork** and **discipline**.

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Trips & Enrichment Adventures

At Brent River College, learning goes **beyond the classroom!** Our students have enjoyed a fantastic range of trips and enrichment experiences designed to build **confidence**, develop **new skills** and create lasting **memories**.



Highlights include an exciting residential trip to the **Rock UK Frontier Centre**, where students challenged themselves through climbing, high ropes and team-building activities, alongside a thrilling visit to Thorpe Park.

Students have also taken part in a **six-week Health & Fitness programme** at Wembley Stadium, music and recording studio **experiences**, and college **visits**.

After-School Clubs
Discover Your Passion!

Our after-school clubs at Poplar Grove offer students a fantastic opportunity to **socialise**, develop new skills and explore their interests in a **safe and supportive environment**.



From **football, basketball and badminton and cooking**, there is something for everyone to enjoy.



Our digital **recording studio** provides the opportunity to explore music production using Logic Pro, developing creativity and technical skills.

We look forward to seeing even more students getting involved!

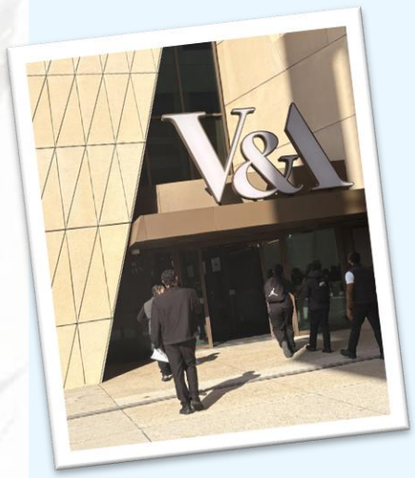
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Exploring Black Music at the V&A!

Year 11 visited **V&A East** for Black History Month, exploring the history of Black music and the influence of **British Black artists** on music today.



Students discovered **costumes**, **instruments** and other artefacts, bringing **musical history** to life and sparking curiosity about different genres.



It was wonderful to see **students engaging** with the exhibition, asking questions and broadening their understanding of music and its **cultural significance**.

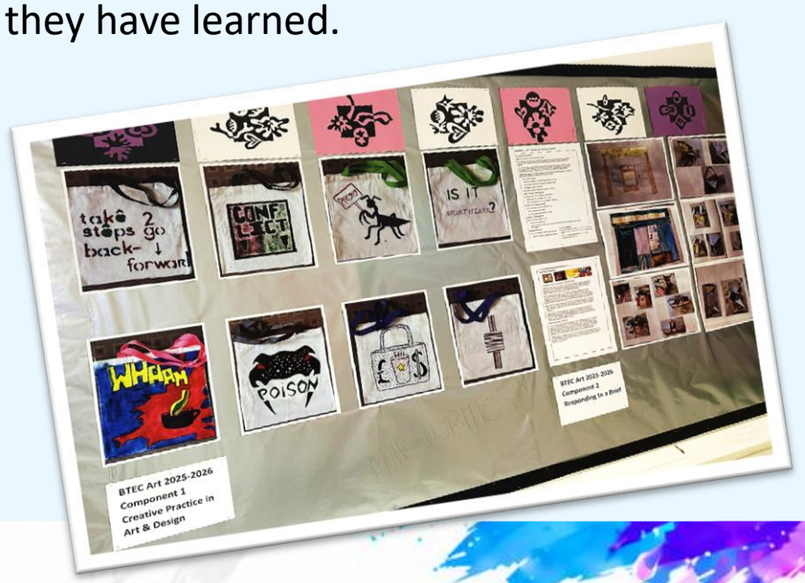
Well done Year 11!

Creativity & Skills through BTEC

Our Year 11 students have returned with a **positive attitude** and are getting stuck into their GCSE and BTEC courses.

In **Art**, they explore different artists and creative techniques. **Sport** looks at exercise, nutrition and the body, while **Media** examines how visual and audio genres shape the world around us.

Combining **practical projects** with coursework gives students different ways to develop their skills and demonstrate what they have learned.



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Looking After Our Mental Health

Our Primary pupils are learning that talking about feelings and caring for our **wellbeing** are important parts of school life.

Through **activities** and **conversations**, children practise recognising emotions, asking for help and supporting others.

Kindness, **empathy** and **positive relationships** help everyone feel safe, valued and ready to learn.



Discovering Djembe Drums!

Primary pupils have been discovering the joy of **making music together** through djembe drumming.

Exploring rhythms and listening to one another helps children develop **concentration**, **confidence** and **teamwork**.

It has been wonderful to see pupils encouraging each other, trying something new and **expressing themselves** through music!



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