

theBCS Annual



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Wells Dressing 2023

By: Boudica Stocks-Greaves

Wells dressing is a lovely tradition in Buxton and many other rural places in England. People from Buxton and pupils from years 7, 8 and 9 of Buxton Community School create these designs. There is a theme for each year group and all the children from these years take part trying to do the best design to get chosen for the wells dressing. Six students get chosen from each year to create the winning design. They are then created by pressing vibrant petals into the clay slabs and watching it all come together petal by petal. It truly is such an amazing experience to help create these designs and when they go up, it's such a reward! This year's themes were; year seven – Disney 100-year anniversary, year eight - Tutankhamun and year nine – The NHS. They were all executed beautifully. My favourite bits were seeing our A4 designs scaled up and then seeing them in town when you're with friends or family is a real thrill. Seeing all the people who walk through the church as they are created and seeing their smiles was beautiful. It was great being part of such a wonderful community project.



The Counselling Service

The School offers a school time counselling service to all students. It is provided by our counsellor, Debra. It gives you a chance to talk or open up about what bothers you with someone who is not connected with family, friends or school.

She won't tell you what to do, but will help you make your own decisions. Sometimes it is good to be able to talk to someone, you may feel anxious and down but not know why. Even if you're not sure whether counselling can help, come and try anyway!

Whatever you discuss with Debra is confidential, unless she believes that you or someone else is being or is at risk of being harmed.

Y7s also have the advantage of Wellbeing Champions being assigned to their form, if you are Y7 you can request help from them with anything from locker keys to getting lost. They wear Yellow and Blue ties.

To book an appointment or change an appointment, email Debra at:

ehelp@buxton.derbyshire.sch.uk

(this can only be used during term time)

Or go and see her in B6

School Council

The members of the of the school council are:

7BKR:

Jessica Gledhill

7BTS:

Daisy Mace

7GRD:

Dylan Jones

7HDY:

Benji Gray

7SCS:

Harriet Palmer

7WTH:

Elophie Thompson

8ALN:

Will Dixon

8FWL:

Keira Jackson

8HWD:

Wilf Hornsey-Saunders

8HWR:

Finn Jones

8JON:

Ceylin G

8NRS:

Rosie Toon

9AUS:

Oliver Cook

9BTH:

Josh Green

9CHE:

Billy Booth

9HTR:

Dexter Tebbutt

9JNS:

Tom Mycock

9KCH:

Jonny Loo-Morrey

9SMK:

Louie Goossons

10EDG:

Heidi Barton

10GRR:

Minette Warrilow-Ward

10LKT:

Ruben Haskins

10MRY:

Joe Nadin

10NCL:

Rebecca Cudahy

10RDY:

Jed Burton

10WOD:

Matthew Rolfe

KS3 School Council

By: Finlay Jones

As you may know Student Council candidates have been elected by forms across the school and have met multiple times towards the end of this year to discuss many issues raised by you. Some of these issues raised at KS3 Council are Phones at social times, Food and Break and Lunch Time, Shorts to be allowed in uniform, use of Temple Fields for treat days and the return of the activity day. If any of these issues or any of your own are something you would like to see happen, make sure you let your candidate know!

KS4 School Council

By: Luke Adkins

The KS4 Student council meetings are very interesting to sit in on, it feels as though we have created a likeminded group of students who are ready to communicate their emotions and needs to the school, one student in particular (Jed Burton of 10RDY) gave a rousing speech about the 'delusional anarchists' removing the fruit pots from the dining halls. Jed is clearly referring to the climatic action groups attempts to reduce the amount of single use plastics being used in day-to-day school life. Other students have raised the issue of not being allowed to wear shorts in the school during the summer. This has been taken to the school governors and they are deliberating on whether to or not to make shorts an acceptable part of the student dress code. Other uniform concerns were raised by Jonny from 9KCH his idea was that if the temperature is too high then students should be allowed to wear their own clothes in school for comfort reasons. More issues raised by our Y10 students was that PD should be changed as it feels like reading shouldn't be as much of a priority. Some proposed uses of PD was the idea of more career building and real world problem solving.

I will continue to do a termly write up of the KS4 Student council next year.

BCS Pride Day 2023

By: Haydn Smith

Friday, 23rd June saw the return of a proper Pride Day in school for the second time since COVID saw us all confined to celebrating in separate parts of the school.

We were encouraged to dress in colourful colours and bring in pride flags to express ourselves and/or show support of the LGBTQ+ Community. Uniform rules were also relaxed with nail painting taking place outside The Hub in the Lower Atrium during Lunch. Mr Gort and Mr Smith were sighted sporting colourful nails and Mr Edge had his eyebrows and moustache sparkled up by Year 9.

This show of support is more widely needed this year more than ever with the reappearance of LGBTQ+ Rights in politics, especially in America where Trans rights have been seen to come under constant attack by lawmakers.

New Mills School has been attacked by national newspapers twice for their attempts to further inclusion of LGBTQ+ people into their school society, with them having to cancel their "Drag 'n' Rainbows" themed pride day due to immense backlash from parents and national newspapers as they merely suggested kids to wear drag **if they wished**. With Right-Wing groups suggesting that "Safeguarding has gone out the window."

The Government is expected to release new safeguarding advice to schools this summer surrounding LGBTQ+ in education.

The Embark Academy

By: Finlay Jones

Recently our school has become part of an academy called Embark, this was followed up with numerous visits from the Trust Leader (Matthew Crawford) and the Finance & Operation Lead (Paul Scaife). One of these visits was to talk to pupils from this school and I was lucky enough to get invited. Over the course of the session, we found out that we are part of an academy along with 18-19 different schools across Derbyshire, these range all the way from nurseries to high schools. Our new academy also has excellent ties to local businesses who often come into to schools to offer career workshops but also to Chatsworth House, we were told the Duke of Devonshire is actively involved with Embark and has given many schools free trips to the house to do workshops with the Head Gardener and Chef. The academy team want to work on improving and upgrading our school site too so they're working closely with the site team to make that happen. We may not see many changes at the start but joining Embark seems to be the best way forward for our school.



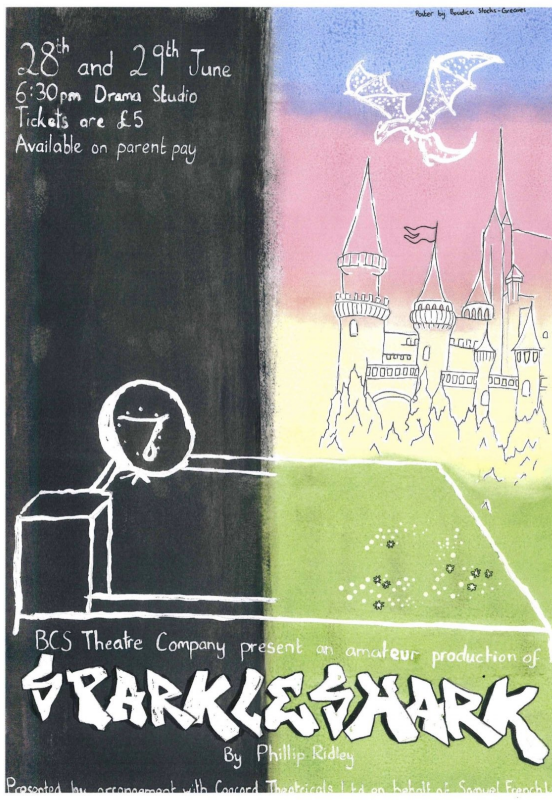
This is what our teachers got up to on our last INSET Day, they attended the conference of the Embark Federation in Derby and they learnt about Academy Status and what that means for our school.

School Play

By: Finlay Jones

On the 28th and the 29th of June BCS Theatre Company put on the production of SPARKLESHARK. This was a play about relationships, social acceptance within school and the day-to-day life and struggles of high school. They worked hard on the play with rehearsals starting way back in March, Ms. Cushnie worked tirelessly to make sure everything for the show was needed and everything ran smoothly. Along with the incredible acting the Tech team could not go without mentioning too - Naomi and Charlie spent hours gathering, sourcing and making props, sets and costumes. The Drama Department also received a grant which allowed them to buy six new LEDs (which I many of you have seen during lessons – Ms. Cushnie is very pleased with them!) and a brand-new lighting board which Finn and Ms. Cushnie spent weeks patching, programming and recording in the sequence for the show. The star of the company though is

the acting, which the members spent months rehearsing and refining to a T! So much work was put into the play and it was all worth it for the two nights of production when everything came together perfectly and worked like clockwork. We had a brilliant turnout of audience members who enjoyed the show very much. All this couldn't have been done without the help of Miss Thomas, Mrs Reddy, Isabella, all the members of the BCS Theatre Company and of course Ms. Cushnie!



Nature Spotlight

By: Max Sherwood

Osprey

History:

The Osprey is one of the largest and rarest birds of prey in the country but it has a very troubled history. In fact, at one point there was only one breeding pair left in the country, but how did it get this bad? Well, they were already rare before this and so humans being humans killed and collected them for taxidermy and stole their eggs. At the famous site at Loch Garten where the final nest sat in an almost dead tree, there were several attempts to kill the birds. But now Ospreys are getting more common, but it isn't quite the success story we had with the red kite. It is suspected lots are still being killed illegally today and the numbers are very sparse but it's better than it was, and you can see them in several places in the UK especially Scotland and a few spots in England such as Willington Wetlands (South Derbyshire) and Rutland Water (Rutland County).

Facts:

Wingspan: 145-170cm

Weight: 1.2-2kg

UK breeding: 240+ pairs

Speed: 80mph

NEXT ISSUE: Pine Marten



An Interview With...

By: Luke Adkins

Q&A With Mrs Jones and Mrs Garner

What jobs did you have before you became teachers?

"Mrs Garner had a few small jobs before she went to university and then she went straight into education. Mrs Jones also had a few small jobs and then went straight into teaching in north Yorkshire as soon as she left university."

What did you want to be when you were growing up?

"Mrs Garner wanted to be a journalist. Mrs Jones has always wanted to be a teacher."

If you couldn't be in your current job, then what would you be?

"Mrs Garner would like to open a cosy bookstore that served tasty cakes and tea and coffee. Mrs Jones would like to be a paramedic."

When did you join the staff here?

"Mrs Garner joined in June 2015, Mrs Jones joined in 2017."

Where did you go to university?

"Mrs Garner went to university at Sheffield university and Mrs Jones went to Keele".

What did you do at university?

"Mrs Garner did English language and linguistics at university and Mrs Jones did her degree in Biology and Geography and then did a 2-year PGCE to be able to teach chemistry."

What are your official roles in the Senior Leadership Team?

"Mrs Jones is the Head Teacher and Mrs Garner is the Deputy Head Teacher."

Who will be filling the role as SENCo?

"Mrs Ready is now the SENCo, and Mrs Garner is supporting her in her new role."

Why is this change happening?

"Mr Yates has a new role in Developing how well secondary schools in the academy work. This means that we had to step into our new roles."

What will those jobs entail?

"For Mrs Jones, it is similar to her old job, but it feels a bit more like there is more that she is to blame for if something goes wrong. For Mrs Garner it feels like helping and supporting Mrs Jones and Mrs Ready are my priorities."

Will this be a permanent change?

"We are still unsure but expect us to stay on for the next year or so".

What do you think was the biggest challenge in entering the new jobs?

"Mrs Garner found that managing the sheer amount of information that you have to hold in your head was certainly a challenge. Mrs Jones feels that the transition was quite hard as there was a stage where they had to be doing our new jobs and finishing things on our old jobs which was quite stressful".

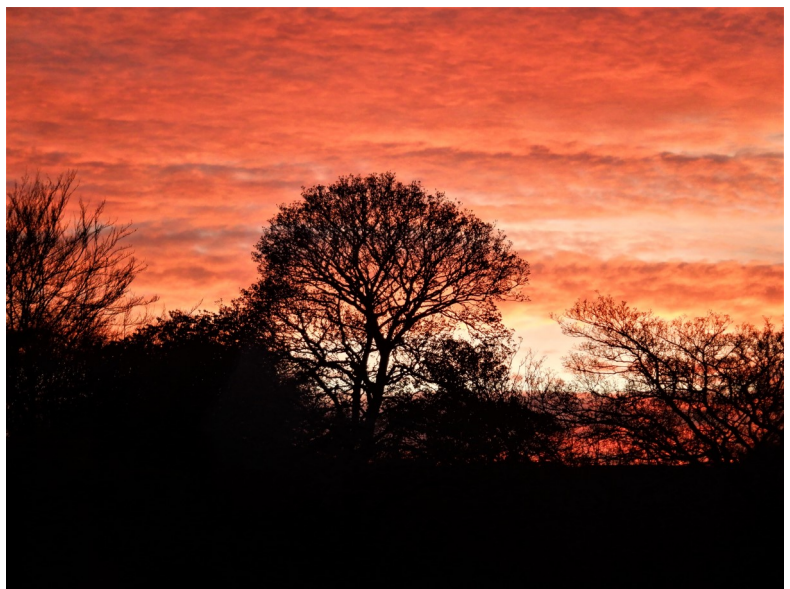
Are there any significant changes that we can expect to happen in day-to-day school life next year?

"We want to further push our BCS values, and we just want to keep it simple and easy to understand".

What do you think was the most pivotal/important thing that you have done in these new jobs?

"We had an inset day at the beginning where we established our plan for the future and explained how joining the academy will affect us as a school."

Photos



Blue Bird vs Rainbow Laces

By: Haydn Smith

This term in tech, the ultimate showdown has taken off in social media. Elon Musk and Twitter vs Mark Zuckerberg and Instagram Threads.

What's Threads you ask? It is a new social media platform from Meta (formally Facebook) which is linked to Instagram. It is a direct competitor (and some say copy) to Twitter.

You need an Instagram account to set it up and it lets you choose what to import from Instagram, like your profile picture, bio, who you follow if they are also on Threads.

The app looks and feels like Twitter but with a noticeable Instagram flare.

You can send posts of up to 500 characters (more than Twitter's 250) and include images, gifs and videos just like Twitter.

At the moment, there is no way to direct message other users.

Unlike Twitter, there is no web version. Which may be a deal breaker for some, but in today's mobile market, it won't be a problem for most.

Most controversially, it has not launched in the EU, with concerns being raised about how much data the app collects and the fact it may not comply with the EU's strict privacy laws. But if you already have a Instagram, Facebook, Oculus or Meta account it's probably no different, which may raise further questions about how much big companies know about you.

Apple WWDC23

By: Luke Adkins

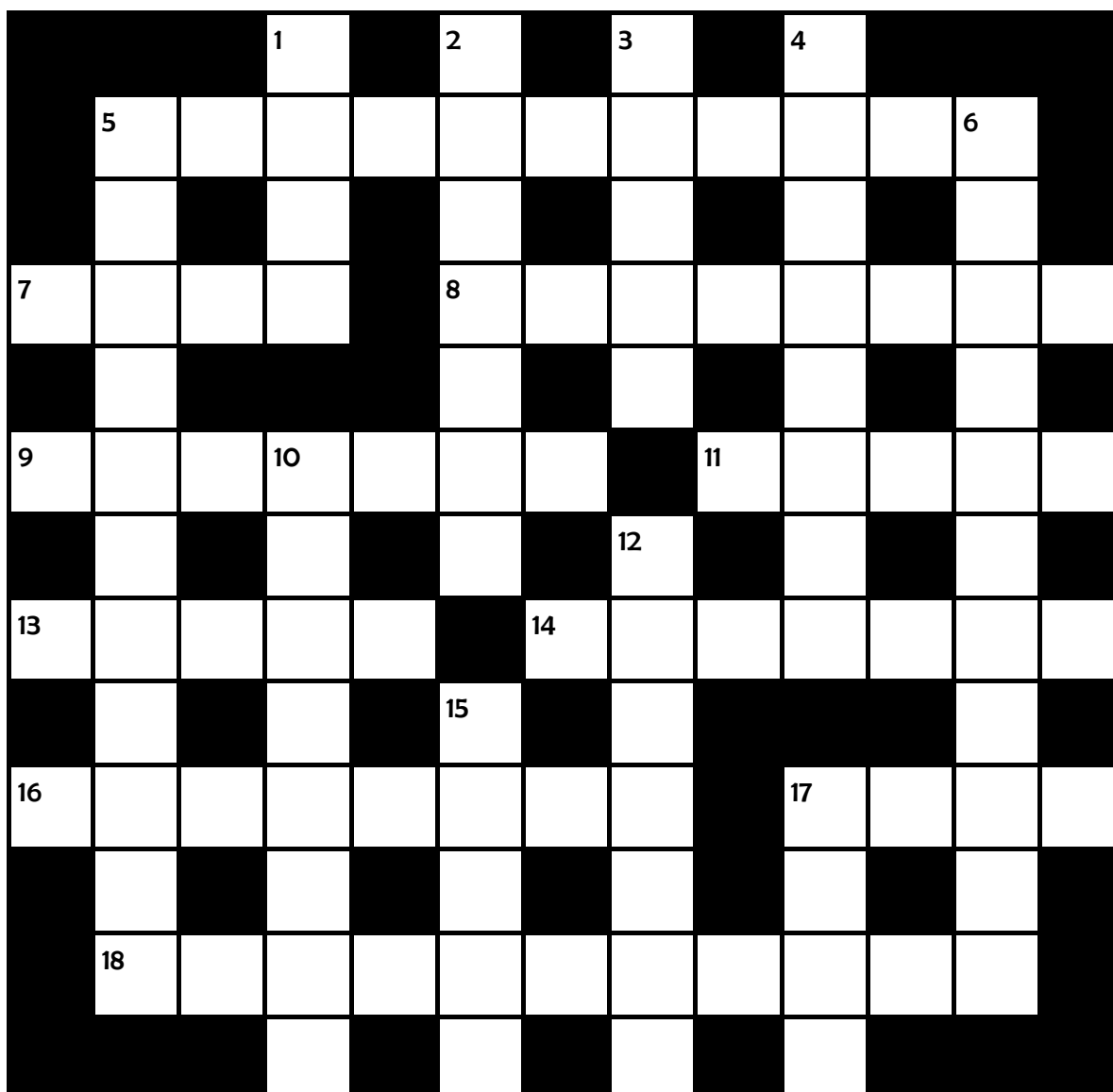
Apple's WWDC23 could just be the most pivotal Apple event yet. Standing up there by the 2007 iPhone Launch, 2010 iPad Launch, 2011 Siri's public availability and the 2014 Apple Watch debut. If you have lived under a rock for the last few months, then I am proud to announce the long, long awaited Apple Vision Pro. It is set to be one of the most advanced VR headsets that is publicly available. It is also one of the most expensive VR headsets publicly available. Some would question if you were getting value with this, I would argue that with a \$3,500 price tag that value doesn't matter for because if you are paying \$3,500 for a professional VR headset then you will get value and Apple has never attempted to scam anyone. It has been reported that Apple is charging a 140% markup on the product. This indicates to me that as it is a first gen product, companies usually try to minimise their profit margins as to introduce as many first comers as they can. I think that Apple is charging such an absurd markup because they know that they are leaps ahead of the competition ad they can charge whatever they want as nothing can compare to this. some would argue that Apple must pay their employees back as they have been working on this for a speculated 5 years. This is true but you can just use this to argue the previous point that it is so far ahead because there have been people working on this for many years and it is leaps ahead of the competition. There was not much else at WWDC23, 15" MacBook Air which I personally don't see the point in. Updates to all their softwares with iPadOS17 bringing the much-awaited health app. Because who even needs a calculator anymore. If Vision Pro Doesn't have a calculator after 5 YEARS of development I will personally fly over to Cupertino and copy and paste the Windows XP calculator to be the wallpaper of each headset.

Exited as ever for the future, Luke singing out.

Note from the editor: Possible highly bias Apple content, Vision Pro not yet available in the UK

Puzzles

Crossword



ACROSS

- 5 Founder of the Mongol empire, d. 1227 (7,4)
- 7 A good deal (4)
- 8 Comprehend (8)
- 9 US lexicographer – Jacobean playwright (7)
- 11 Decorate (5)
- 13 Furious (5)
- 14 29 February (4,3)
- 16 American aubergine (8)
- 17 Spruce up (4)
- 18 Ordinary soldiers (4,3,4)

DOWN

- 1 Begrudge (4)
- 2 Something huge (7)
- 3 Seize wrongfully (5)
- 4 Disinfectant used by farmers (5,3)
- 5 One of two nameless, but important, roles in Hamlet, Act V, scene 1 (11)
- 6 Refuse to give up (5,3,3)
- 10 Jumping (with a rope?) (8)
- 12 Groups or sets of seven (7)
- 15 Commonplace (5)
- 17 Tease – nincompoop (4)

Sudoku

6	1					9		
					4	3		
3	5				1		2	
4	9	6		8				7
7				9		8	1	4
	6		7				8	5
		5	6					
		3					6	9

Minesweeper

Find all the mine in the grid. Numbers in the certain squares indicate how many mines there are in the neighbouring squares, including diagonally touching squares. Mines cannot be placed in squares with numbers.

2		3			0		1		2	2		1	1	2	
			1	1							2				1
1															1
				3		6		3	1	2		3			1
	1		1	2							0				
1					4	4		1			0		0		1
		3				2			0					1	
3		3		2		1							0		
			1					1		0					
				0							1				1
	4	2		2			2		2	3			1		
		2					1	1					1		2

Answers in next issue

Our Team

The team that have created this edition are as follows:

Haydn Smith - Editor and Digital Design/Formatter

Luke Adkins - Deputy Editor, Interviewer/Writer

Finlay Jones - Writer/Interviewer

Max Sherwood - Writer

theBCSPress team are always looking for new people to join, we are looking for anybody who would want to write about any issues or events that could be happening in the school or for young people in general.

You could join us as a regular writer, adding content to all of our editions, or you could join us on a freelance basis. Writing in just one or a few of our editions.

If you would just like to submit an article without coming to our meetings follow the link below or scan the QR Code:

<https://forms.office.com/r/x8cgREBpC8>



If you would like to come along to our meetings we meet:

In D29 at 12:50 on a Wednesday Lunchtime

HELP ADD TO OUR NEWSPAPER

If you want to help with our newspaper
come to our meetings:

Every Wednesday at 12:40 in D29