



## BASSINGBOURN VILLAGE COLLEGE

### Weekly Mailing 22.04.22

Welcome back to our Summer Term, after I hope a relaxing Easter break. While it has only been a short week here in College we have had an action packed week with lots of exciting projects taking place.

Over the holidays, it was wonderful that our much anticipated trip to Pompeii took place. I will leave you to read the report from one of our students later on in this mailing, but I hear everyone had a wonderful time and even enjoyed snow at the top of Mount Vesuvius! I want to thank the staff that worked incredibly hard to make this trip happen, the first residential trip in our Trust post pandemic. I hope this is the first of many trips that we will see back in our school calendar moving forward.

On Wednesday, our school dog Ben joined us for his first day. While he is still settling in, I think it is very fair to say that the whole school has fallen in love with him! We hope over the coming term Ben makes a difference to the wellbeing of not only our students but staff too. Thomas from Year 8 has written a lovely piece for you all to read on Ben and his first day with us.

As part of our anti-bullying initiative we had a fantastic theatre company join us for two days. I was lucky enough to be able to watch the first show they performed and I was delighted how engaged our students were. The conversations that followed were really meaningful and provided some excellent ideas for our Bassingbourn Village College anti-bullying charter in the workshops after.

Finally, it was a pleasure to welcome an artist in residence this week to work on an exciting whole school project. I have already seen some wonderful pieces being developed and I am very excited to see the final results and to display these proudly in our main hall.

## School Dog @ BVC

This is our mentor dog, Ben. Ben is a Japanese Spitz and he is very fluffy, kind and when he is in your presence it makes you feel happy. Ben has already met some students and members of staff and everyone loves him. Mrs Wells (his owner) is teaching everyone how to act around him so he feels safe around you, and you feel safe around him. He can give you a handshake with his paw, if it's not too overwhelming for him. I'm sure there will be lots of opportunities for everyone to meet him.

On Ben's first day he came in with Mrs Wells and stayed in his dog bed waiting to be needed. A little while later, I went on a little walk around school with Ben and Mrs Wells. I got to teach him how to cross the road safely. When he got inside after the walk he had a little cough. He was in Room 46 for the rest of the day with one or two more walks with Mrs Wells. I got to see him at break and lunch to give him a stroke, I even showed him my maths work once I'd done it.

By Thomas YR8



## Pompeii @ BVC

After two years of delays, we finally made it to Italy and it was certainly worth the wait! During the four day trip we visited the ancient cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum where we got to immerse ourselves in Roman culture and experience first-hand what day-to-day Roman life was like: we saw ancient houses, bars and even sat in the theatre. Although it looked as if we wouldn't be able to, because of the snowy roads, we made it to the summit of Mount Vesuvius where we were greeted with lots of snow, which we are told is a rare sight! The evenings were spent in the coastal town of Sorrento famed for its scenic views and picturesque streets where many enjoyed a scoop of ice cream and on our last night an authentic Italian pizza. Our final stop was Naples Archaeological museum, which showcases a breathtaking collection of artefacts found in Pompeii and Herculaneum where we saw mosaics, a gladiator display and other Roman artefacts. Despite the weather, I think it's safe to say we all had an amazing time and show immense gratitude to those who made the trip a possibility.

By Theo. Year 10



## Theatre @ BVC

On Tuesday and Wednesday we were so lucky to be joined by TIC Box Production to deliver its powerful production "Boy" to our Year 7s & Year 9s. This interactive theatre was part of a whole day experience as part of our new anti bullying initiative. As well as students watching "Boy" and exploring and

discussing its themes, groups of students also took part in workshops to develop ideas for a Bassingbourn Village College anti-bullying charter. Ideas developed over the course of these two days will be shared with the whole school to agree together our new charter.



## Art @ BVC

Our students this week have been joined by an artist in residence, Ricki Outis. Joining us for a short time in our art department, Ricki will be developing a whole school silk screen art project. Over the course of the coming weeks, Ricki will be working with our students to develop some beautiful school banners depicting life at Bassingbourn Village College to be displayed in our main hall.

We cannot wait to share with you our students' progress and of course the final pieces!





### Communications sent home this week:

- Message from Long Road
- Living with Covid - a letter from the County Council
- Year 9 parents' evening

Wishing you all a relaxing weekend.

Ms V Poulter

Principal