

Brockwood Park School

October Newsletter



Inquiry Time



October 3rd. Why is self-expression so important to us?

We had a whole school discussion presented by staff and students. The topic was connected to a trend in the school to express through appearance and the impact of this on the school. We are expressing ourselves constantly, communicating all the time, it is part of life. Why do we attach so much meaning to some forms of expression like clothes, body ornaments, etc? Our dress code is

much meaning to some forms of expression like clothes, body ornaments, etc. Our dress code is 'tidy casual', no extreme clothing is allowed in the school.

October 10th. What is care?

It was presented by students, then we split into small groups for half-hour and came back together to explore further the topic. Care can be a trade, if I care for you, you care for me. Why do we respond to force and not to gentle reminders. Fear is a way of making us do something, is that the only way? Are we just lazy and do not bother about certain aspects of living together because it requires some energy from us?

October 31st. Silence and sitting quietly

This topic came from a conversation between staff and students in the Pavilions about silence and sitting quietly. We split in small groups and asked each person, why do you think that we sit quietly? After that we sat quietly for 10 minutes and continue the discussion. Why is hard to sit quietly? We are used to being constantly occupied with something and when it comes to being quiet we can feel restless. There were many moments of silence during this exploration. The quality of silence can vary.



Do your schools give an understanding of human problems?
J. Krishnamurti

October Events and Happenings

01/10/18: Former refugee and UK border officer Hassan Ibrahim came and joined the Global Issues class, sharing intriguing details about his own, long and complicated journey to the UK as a 8 year old refugee from Kuwait, his time at the UK home office as a border officer and general aspects of the UK immigration system including detailed case studies. One of the highlights of the session was having Hassan explain to the class the many different security details found on the students' and teachers' own passports

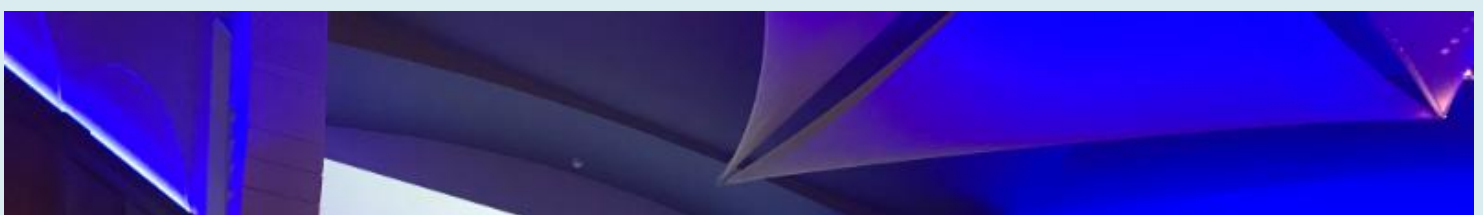
(often only visible with special UV lights). The class ended with an hour long 'court case' role play in which one group represented the defense of the refugee, another represented the UK Secretary of State while Hassan was playing the judge and Dolf the refugee himself. The session brought to light the many complexities around the topic of migration and the difficult balance between law, politics and humanity.

03/10/18: In the Human Ecology groups we welcomed the autumn. Warm and dry weather allowed them to finish harvesting apples, tomatoes and beans, squash and kale. They went mushroom picking in the forest and collected sweet chestnuts from our large chestnut trees. They roasted them on a fire and baked a chocolate-chestnut cake. The herbal medicine group ventured up Winchester Hill to meet some of the local medicinal plants - such as yarrow, plantain, marjoram, hawthorn and elder - in their natural environment. Along with learning to identify medicinal plants they made infusions, They then used their smell and taste to understand the action of those plants in their bodies. The bush-craft group spent one night in self-built natural shelters in the woods by the school. Observing woodland, meadows and ourselves through seasonal change was also part of Human Ecology.



Gwen tries out a Natural Shelter

03/10/18: The A Level Geography class went on a field trip visiting the Royal Geographical Society (RGS) in Central London with teachers Manasi and Thomas.





The RGS had organised a 3 hour event in which participants could learn about "migrants on the margin", migrants that live on the outskirts of cities such as Dhaka (Bangladesh), Hargeisa (Somaliland), Colombo (Sri Lanka) and Harare (Zimbabwe) and in particularly precarious circumstances. Through a lecture, an exhibition of a series of comics related to the topic and a workshop, the class was able to look more closely into the issue of internal migration in developing countries.



In the evening, the class also attended an expert lecture on hazard management, closely connected to the topic of "Hazardous Environments" that we had focused on in class for the first half term.



carving the Woodwork Barn. They choose peel and carve each stick themselves to reveal these beautiful unique specimens.



05/10/18: Biology Class: Students enjoyed the beautiful weather while learning about evolution in our Garden, what better place!



08/10/18: Interesting discussions in AS History about the role of explorers and missionaries in the expansion of the British Empire in the late 1800s.

08/10/18: The Sustainable Fashion class (Nino, Amber, Maggie, Joya, August, Brandon, Sumaiya, Canella) took a trip to the charity shops in Petersfield with a budget of £5 to buy garments that they can upcycle /reinvent/ recycle into new more fashionable garments ! One of the projects being explored this term.





09/10/18: In this week's Tuesday Assembly, we listened to a recording of 'Gabriel's Oboe,' a piece composed by Ennio Morricone for director Roland Joffé's 1986 film. And here, a link to Morricone's beautiful piece for the oboe:

<https://youtu.be/lxby9BzJfEo>

09/10/18: The afternoon was occupied with many groups of students, staff, mature students, and teacher apprentices cooking up a storm for the annual Food Festival. We finished with a dinner that included various dishes from all around the world, from Japanese sushi to a hearty German potato salad, all experienced a taste of the world.





Merlin, Leon, Tina, Marc and chef Emiko in front of rolled sushi they prepared during the afternoon.

10/10/18: To deepen the Core groups understanding of the Humanities topic of Home, we visited the Weald and Downland museum for the day. This is a 'living museum' where the students were able to walk around and experience how homes in England had changed over a 1000 year time period. Many enjoyed the opportunity to explore the houses of the past, as well as taking part in the 'Elizabethan Experience' workshop.



10/10/18: Part of the EAL (English as an Additional Language) course is based on learning through direct experience. In October, the EAL class continued studying the present continuous both in the classroom and outdoors. They did this by finding vocabulary in nature and weaving it into short stories. Then they dove into the simple past tense and looked at the irregular and regular verbs. Repetition is an important of language acquisition and the students filled out pages and pages of exercises. When we needed a break, we turned to The Beatles, Eddie Vedder and Michael Jackson and trained the ear to recognise and understand the lyrics in the songs.

11/10/18: Math class explored basic understanding of numbers (integers and Fractions) through group activities.

12/10/18: The Global Issues class surprised the school with a special presentation at the beginning of the end-of-week School Meeting. Inspired by a recent visit of a friend of the school (see 1st October) who himself was a refugee as a child and later worked as a UK border officer, the class enacted the court case of Jamal, a fictitious asylum seeker from Yemen who came to the UK fleeing war and persecution in his home country to build a new life in England.

The court case showed the delicate balance between a deeply moving and saddening personal story on the one hand, and the rational and uncompromising view of a state trying to defend its borders and uphold the logic of its own immigration system. Jamal's appeal to stay in the UK was eventually denied, just as in thousands of other cases of people who have reached the UK fleeing violence and persecution.





Migrant Jamal (played by teacher Dolf) responding to the questions of the defense



Security was tight thanks to students Timothee and Vincent

12/10/18: 'GEOGRAPHY - noun - [jee-og-ruh-fee]: The study of the physical features of the earth and its atmosphere, and of human activity as it affects and is affected by these, including the distribution of populations and resources and political and economic activities.'

Our recent Geography class took place in our fruit and vegetable Garden where earth's physical and atmospheric features are of particular importance in Brockwood.





13/10/18: Math class explored constructing simple 'magic' squares.

Workshop Week 15th to the 19th

Photos and descriptions in the gallery below

19/10/18: Workshop Week Presentations: All the students shared their workshop week activities with the rest of the school



Principal Antonio models for a group of students presenting their portrait drawing workshop in a short sketch during the presentation.

19/10/18: A team of students and staff played their first match in this year's Hampshire Futsal League at Sparsholt College near Winchester. The team that goes by the name "Sequoias BP" had already participated last year and is now playing its second season.

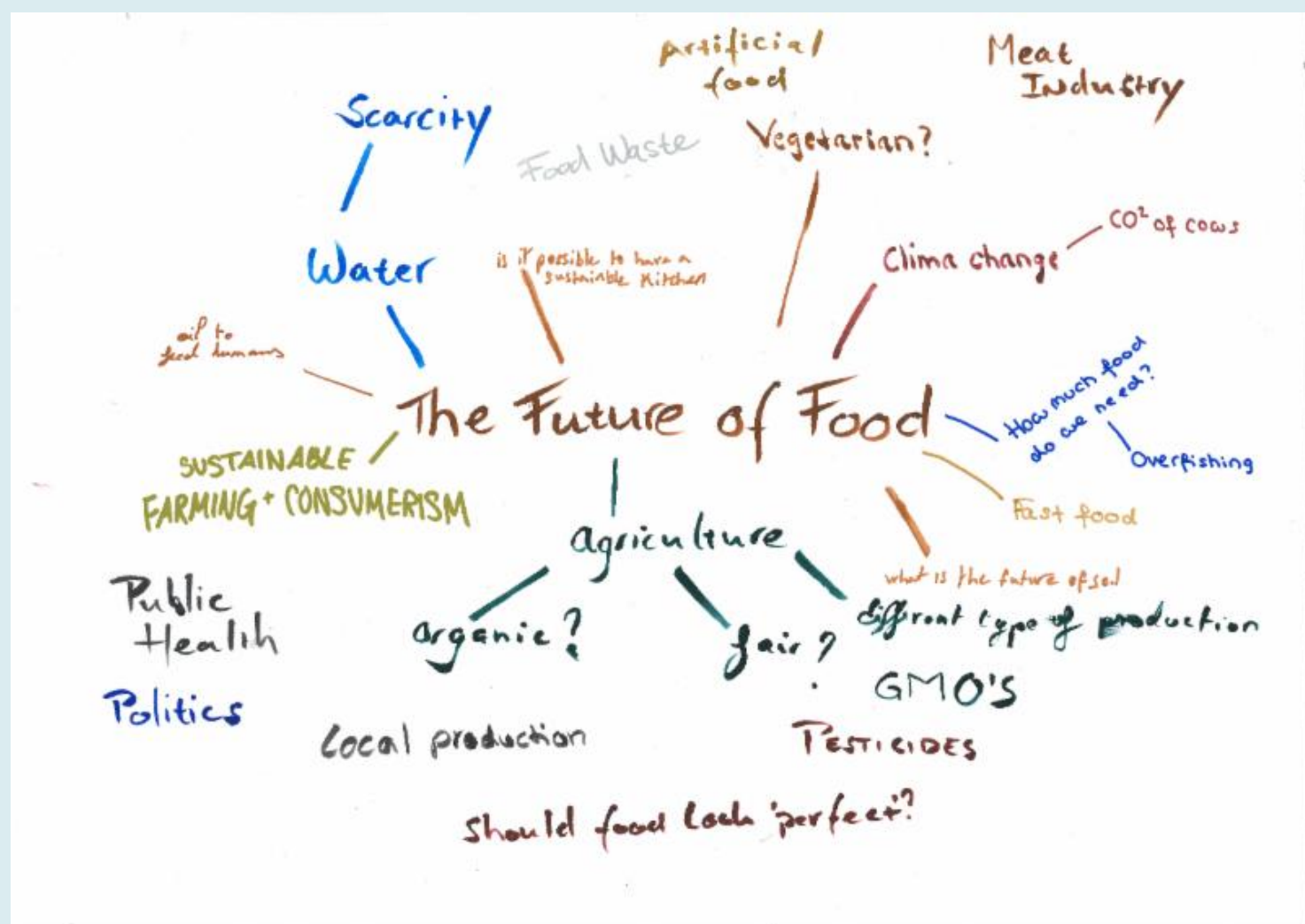
Half Term (20th to 28th)

28/10/18: Students return from half term break.

29/10/18: A-level History students explored difficult questions such as the extent to which Napoleon Bonaparte ruled France in the early 1800s with repressive and immoral methods. All seem to be enjoying the French Revolution topic, with many animated discussions.

29/10/18: The Global Issues class started to look at a new topic - the future of food. At the start of the lesson, with the vision of food, students were asked to identify all the different types of food that they could think of, and then to discuss the challenges of feeding the world's population in the future.

the start, a mind map on the topic of food was drawn to identify all the different angles from which this topic could be looked at.



We then watched a recent BBC documentary called "The Future of Food", followed by a discussion and a brainstorm to add more items to our initial mind map. The class then continued with a small research project in groups where each group had to choose one food item at Brockwood and investigate its origin, costs, use, benefits and many other aspects. One group chose to create a podcast on food sustainability, interviewing staff member and cook Seth and investigating the origins and sustainability of a box of Honduran sweet potatoes they found in the kitchen. At the end of the lesson, the class created a short video to contact Matthew, ex Brockwood staff member and gardener who now works at a vertical farming start up in San Francisco and will help the class find out more about this new method of farming and agriculture.

30/10/18: In today's Morning Assembly, the students, faculty and volunteers of Brockwood took time out and listened to Debussy's Clair de Lune.

There are too many happenings in Brockwood to list but we hope that you enjoyed our snapshot.

A glimpse into the Woodwork Barn

Whatever Floats Your Boat!

In the Woodwork Barn they have been busy practicing the ancient art of Boat building! They are constructing a 'sixteen footer' no less and all built from scratch on site. Watch the video to see the next steps.



[Click to view video](#)

BLOCK4 - Polyphony & Eccentricity

Saturday 24 November 2018 - 19.30 Pre-Concert Talk, 20.15 Concert





Brockwood Park Concert Series Upcoming Event

We invite you to join us for the first in our 2018-19 Brockwood Concert Series. Brockwood Park has long been home to world-class music making, with visiting artists that have included Nicola Benedetti, Yaltah Menuhin, Leonid Gorokhov among many others. Set in the beautiful Hampshire countryside, our concerts are held in an intimate space with a spacious acoustic and a unique atmosphere of familial warmth and focused listening-a setting long cherished by artists and audience alike.

London-based recorder quartet **BLOCK4** presents a dynamic approach to contemporary concert music as well as offering a captivating interpretation of music from the Renaissance and Baroque periods. The ensemble's innovative style won them the first prize of Royal Overseas League Ensemble Competition 2014; the first recorder consort to receive this accolade in the competition's 66-year history. More recently BLOCK4 enjoyed successes as the winner of Donemus Prize at the Open Recorder Days Amsterdam Competition 2015, and at Chesapeake Music's Seventh International Chamber Music Competition in America, in April 2016. BLOCK4's performances have included a variety of concerts at prestigious venues including the Wigmore Hall, the Queen Elizabeth Hall, the Queen's Gallery, the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse, and St. Martin-in-the-fields and at the Styriarte festival in Graz, Austria.

Programme

Attr. Nicholas Payen (c.1512 - 1559) - Virgo Prudentissima Chiel Meijering (b. 1954) - Sitting Ducks

Matthew Olyver (b. 1993) - My Last Breath

Josquin Deprez (1450 - 1521) - De Tous Bien Playne

Prach Boondiskulchok (b. 1985) - World Premiere Work

Michiel Mensingh (b. 1975) - Wicked

Antonio de Cabezón (1510 - 1566) - Tiento del Quinto Tono

Wojtek Blecharz (b.1981) - Airlines

Thomas Simpson (1710-1761) - Recercare 'Bonny Sweet Robin'

Kazimierz Serocki (1922-1981) - Arrangements

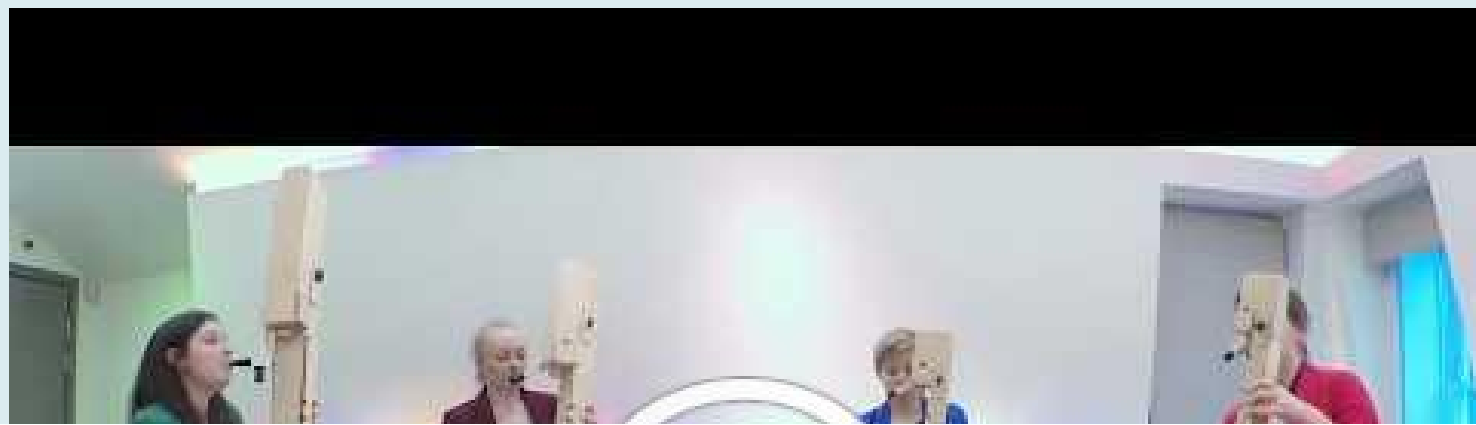
Tarquino Merula (1595 - 1665) - La Lusignuola

Dick Koomans (b. 1957) - The Jogger

Tickets: Entrance Free, Suggested donation of £15. All donations received from our Brockwood Concert Series will be put to the Peter Norris Music Fund. This fund is used to support Brockwood students who are taking private music tuition and to maintain the schools instruments and other musical equipment.

To make a reservation, please contact admin@brockwood.org.uk or tel. 01962 771744

Watch BLOCK4 perform by clicking the link below





School Gallery





The art portfolio students being introduced to materials shortly before the start of their experimental drawing exercise.



Mature student Francesca and students Gemma, Giacomo, Timo, Anais and Rowan having just prepared fresh pasta for the food festival.





The welding sculpture workshop group putting the final touches on their piece of art, which now sits in the sunken garden.



Holly and Annika experimenting with sound in the autumn workshop 'Sound Escapes'





Janhavee, Mahima and Elyse playing the jembe during the African Drumming workshop.





Marc rolling sushi for the food festival.



The African Drumming group preparing for their final presentation.



The welding group ready to begin working on their sculpture piece.



Abhi and Elle forming the shape of their masks from clay and a blind sketch.



Pablo, Ivan and Javi preparing gazpacho for the food festival.



Drama teacher Gerard and student Finn participating in an exercise of attention.



Art portfolio students taking a break in the sunshine with teacher apprentice Carole (left) joining in.



Laura having just pressed her dry-point etching during a printmaking workshop.



Art portfolio students sketching during a performance art exercise.



Students dressing up for the October Halloween dance.



Students practicing in their ballroom dancing workshop.





Rosa and Samira hanging from silks in the aerial yoga workshop.



Vincent and Giacomo playing with movement in the body exploration workshop.





Anais making a piece of jewellery during the Autumn Workshop Week.



Art portfolio students unveiling their plaster cast.



Brandon and Marc attempting to stare into each others face without laughing in the drama workshop during Autumn Workshop Week.



Gwen practicing molding her cup on the wheel. Professional potter

Gwen practicing molding her cup on the wheel. Professional potter, Steve Neville (above) led the workshop during the Autumn Workshop Week.



Clive Dunkley, one of our past teachers, returned for a few days to lead a jewellery making workshop. Student Martha and staff member Olie making earrings.





Staff member Thomas and students Andrei, Tereza and Nino practice the spinal wave during the Autumn Workshop week presentations.



Up on one of the patio rooftops students Annika, Samira and mature student Charline prepare a mass of dough for a German dessert to serve during the Food Festival.





Jaume recording music for the Sound Production workshop. Alumni Kris Gorski returned to offer skills in writing and recording music.



Ainara, Jennifer, Yoel and Abhi took a dive into the sea while having embraced the elements on a chilly fall afternoon.

Nothing Gold Can Stay

Nature's first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf's a flower;
But only so an hour.
Then leaf subsides to leaf

Then fear subsides to fear.
So Eden sank to grief,
So dawn goes down to day.
Nothing gold can stay.

Robert Frost

Visit our website at
brockwood.org.uk

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