



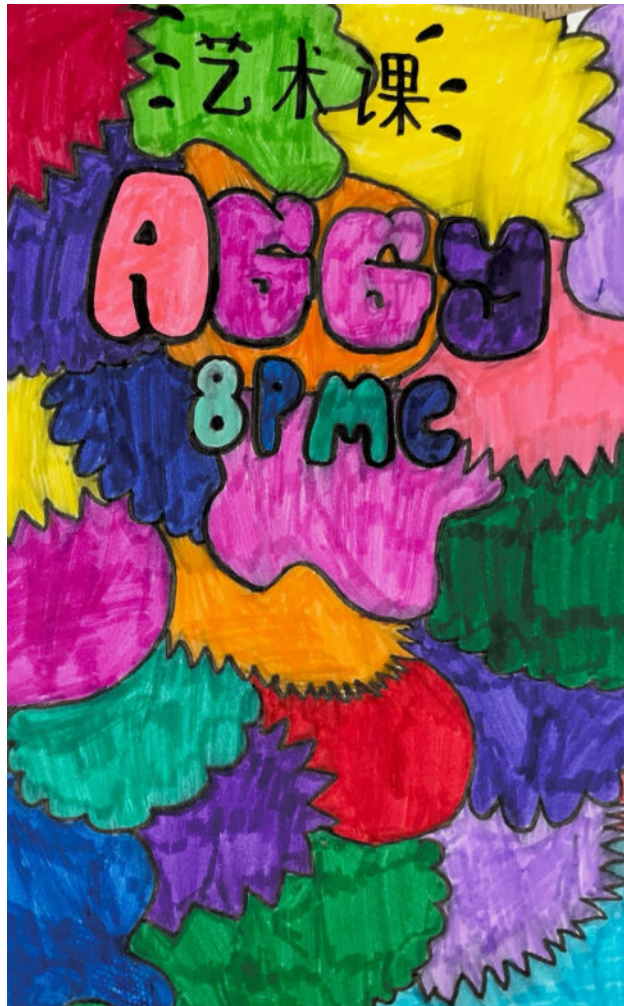
Year 8 Newsletter December 2025

Welcome to the Year 8 Newsletter

As we come to the end of a remarkable first term, we applaud our Year 8 students for their continued engagement in school life. Transitioning into the role of seasoned students, they have seamlessly embraced the responsibility of being no longer the youngest in the school, already emerging as fantastic role models for our Year 7 students. In looking ahead to the future, Year 8 students can anticipate an exciting journey exploring options for the next academic year. Stay tuned for information on opportunities and information that will guide our Year 8s towards shaping their educational paths. Please read on to find an update from various Bohunt departments as well as notices and information pertinent to Year 8.

Art

This term, Year 8 students have explored the theme of messages in art, developing their own visual voices through stencils inspired by the work of Banksy. They also produced eye-popping graffiti tags, designing their names in bold, dynamic lettering. Through this theme, students were introduced to Picasso's *Guernica*. Picasso's work will now serve as the starting point for our sculpture project next term, where students will delve into portraiture and transform their understanding of expressive communication into three-dimensional form.



Computer Science

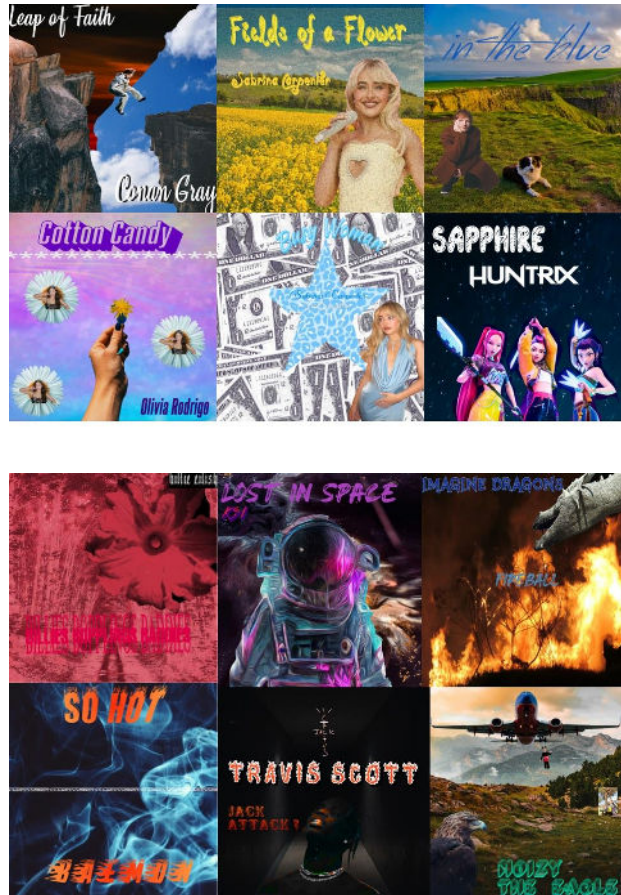
Photoshop & Digital Graphics:

Students have been developing their knowledge and understanding of image manipulation through using a variety of tools in Adobe Photoshop. Students created their own album cover's following a client brief.

Python Quiz:

Students are currently learning text-based programming with Python where they are creating a quiz on a topic of their choice. The lessons form a journey that starts with introduction of inputs, outputs and selections and gradually moves on through using more complex programming techniques such as iteration. Emphasis is placed on tackling common misconceptions and elucidating the mechanics of program execution.





Dance

In PE students continue to study their Dance curriculum exploring Capoeira the brazilian martial art and its influence in contemporary dance.

Drama

Students in Year 8 have now concluded their study of how to present status when debating a news topic of their choice, with students choosing topics such as whether private school parents should pay increased fees or whether women should be paid the same as males in sports. Students have worked to present this in the style of presenters and guests in a news studio and on location doing soundbite filmed interviews, which keen editors put together to present additional views on their chosen topic. A great opportunity for students to produce some superb on screen performances.

Now students move on to choosing monologues or duologues that they will perform in the new year, another superb challenge to test a new skill set.

We look forward to starting Year 8 and 9 **Bohunt Theatre Makers** in the New Year with Mrs Boyd-Wallis. Should your child wish to participate in this club, please ask them to speak with their Drama teacher who will happily update them and welcome them to attend.

DT and Food

Students have been studying different topics based on the rotation. This includes food, cardboard chairs, a mini-golf game and design challenges and have just started the second rotation.

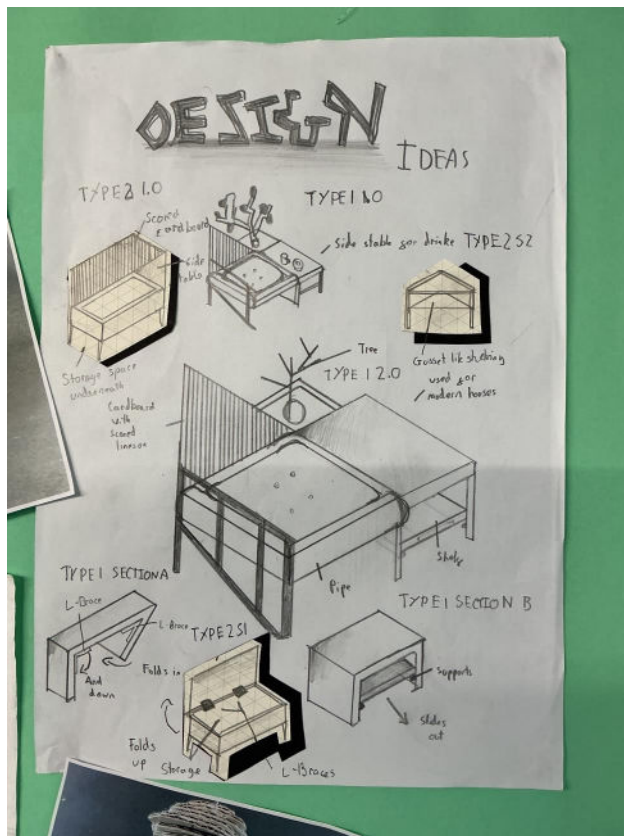
In Food, students will revisit knife skills and the eatwell plate. They will be learning more about the science behind food, and how this affects the body. The dishes made have a specific focus linked to the nutrition the body needs in order to develop an understanding of why a balanced diet is so important.

In the workshop students will learn recap safety, and will be working with man made boards and smart materials to develop their material knowledge further. They will be designing and making a mini-golf desk game with a user-centre focus.

In the cardboard chair project students will be learning about the 6 R's of sustainability and the impact manufacture of products and consumers have on the environment. Students will learn about ergonomics, anthropometrics, and forces as they design their chairs and will be modelled using card but also using computer-aided design programs.

In the design challenges students will be studying how to improve the quality of their communication of ideas as they work on a design challenge focusing on a theme. They will be working in groups to create a solution to a real world problem.





English

Year 8 have focused on the theme of Conflict this term, beginning their study with a short story and moving on to Conflict poetry. Year 8 have produced some excellent analysis of an unseen poem for their BET assessments, alongside some high level creation of their own Conflict poetry for the trust wide poetry competition; two of the best entries have been selected and put forward for the competition! Year 9 have been working on Canonical texts this term, studying William Golding's 'Lord of the Flies'. Students have been focusing on improving their analytical skills in preparation for their GCSE texts, as well as refining their creative writing skills to ensure success in the upcoming BET assessment. Keep up the good work, everyone!



French CLIL

This term, Year 8 French CLIL students have been learning Y9 GCSE level work about free-time and hobbies as well as My lifestyle and Health. Coming up after the Christmas holidays, we will look at the topic of media including likes and dislikes with technology, reading, TV and films.

In other CLIL subjects where students learn in both French and English, students have been learning about French graffiti artists and Picasso in Art, Christianity in RS, Monologues and duologues in Drama and hockey in French in PE.

The Year 8 tutor group have been brilliant this half term so well done to them all!

French

This term, Year 8 French have covered Unit 1 'Good question' and have been describing what people do and also developing how to ask and answer questions whilst focussing on the topic of technology. We then moved onto Unit 2 looking at the topic of my town and hobbies.

We had our first BET assessments and students were tested on reading and writing skills on everything they had learned so far.

Coming up next half term, we will continue with Unit 3 looking at holidays and celebrations.

The Year 8 cohort have been brilliant this half term so well done to them all!

Geography

This term, Year 8 students have been immersed in the fascinating world of ecosystems, exploring the unique features of cold environments and tropical rainforests. We conducted small-scale fieldwork around the school site to investigate biodiversity in our local area. We are now midway through our development unit, examining global differences in wealth and development. Using tools like Dollar Street, students have been investigating how people live around the world and what influences their quality of life.

Next term, we will begin an exciting new topic on natural hazards, exploring the causes and impacts of events such as earthquakes, volcanoes, and tsunamis.

It's been an exciting term of exploration, with plenty more to come!

History

In Year 8, they have started the year by learning about the Industrial Revolution, Slave Trade and British Empire. The students have covered many complex and sensitive topics with maturity. We are finishing our Empire unit by exploring how the Empire should be remembered and how it still impacts society today.

They have done this by learning about the Benin Bronzes and working out how they came to Britain. They have then debated whether we should return artefacts to their original countries. As we approach the Christmas break, we have started our units on the World Wars.

Library

KS3 book club have been fortunate to have an author visit with Mollie Ray, an illustrator launching her first graphic novel 'Giant'. Students had fun creating their own amazing illustrations as inspiration for their own stories.

KS4 book clubs have been discussing GCSE novels in a fun and creative way, finding some time to have fun with 'bookish' word games and recommending some great reads to each other.

Our team of wonderful Reading Ambassadors have been running events like seasonal quizzes, competitions and already planning for World Book Day to promote a love of reading across the school.

Y7 have all taken part in our 'bookbuzz' reading initiative where each student gets to choose a book we buy for them to treasure, keep, read & review. A lovely early Christmas gift!

Students across Bohunt have been busy writing book reviews on our new Accessit library system. It is a great way to help other students find the perfect book for them. Keep reading and reviewing!



Mandarin

During the winter term, Year 8 students have been revisiting the basics of Chinese, consolidating topics such as Myself, My Family and Hobbies to prepare for the BET Assessment. A big well done to all of them for completing the BET assessments—they now have a clearer understanding of their progress and the next steps in their learning. For the rest of the term, students explored Chinese food culture in more depth and have learnt how to order in a restaurant. Please do encourage them to show off their Mandarin skills next time you order from a Chinese takeaway!

Mandarin Clil

We have started our GCSE content since September and everyone is doing really well. In CLIL art, our Year 8 CLIL students, only using Chinese paint, have captured the lively motion of swimming shrimp with remarkable detail and creativity. In addition, they painted a cat and autumnal red leaves, before concluding with a Christmas tree rendered in traditional Chinese style. In CLIL drama, we developed the vocal and physical skills alongside learning a Chinese play, we are looking forwards to acting next year!

Maths

This term Year 8 have been working with decimals, first learning how to calculate with them but later looking at their application through financial maths. They have been learning about utility bills, wages, budgeting and profit. Having sat their assessments, students are now looking at Accuracy (Rounding and Estimating) and the impact this can have on calculations.

Shortly after Christmas, students will be moving on to Averages and Spread, and a chance to look at the use (and misuse!) of data in the media and around them.

Students have all been enrolled on Sparx Maths for their homework and revision and have been superb at completing their weekly homework. Additional XP boost and target practice is available each week to further support their learning.

Activity Starter
Round these figures to the:

a) Nearest 10 - 47,490 ✓
b) Nearest 100 - 47,500 ✓
c) Nearest 1000 - 48,000 ✓

Q1. The number line above may help you solve the first 10 questions of this section. Round the following numbers to the nearest 1000.

1. 2000 ≈ 2000 ✓ 6. 2000 ≈ 1978 ✓
2. 3200 ≈ 3200 ✓ 7. 3000 ≈ 3021 ✓
3. 3000 ≈ 3100 ✓ 8. 3000 ≈ 2800 ✓
4. 4000 ≈ 3633 ✓ 9. 4000 ≈ 3601 ✓
5. 2000 ≈ 2596 ✓ 10. 1000 ≈ 4109 ✓

Round to the nearest 100:

1. 1140 ≈ 1100 ✓ 4. 943100 ✓
2. 280 ≈ 300 ✓ 5. 246 ≈ 200 ✓
3. 180 ≈ 200 ✓ 6. 180 ≈ 200 ✓

	lower bound	upper bound	error interval
2000	1500	2500	$1500 \leq x < 2500$
7000	6500	7500	$6500 \leq x < 7500$
31,000	30,500	31,500	$30,500 \leq x < 31,500$
48,000	47,500	48,500	$47,500 \leq x < 48,500$
10,000			
48,000			
275,000			
100,000			

Error Intervals Thursday 10th November

Q1. A number, x , is rounded to 1 decimal places. The result is 11.5.
Using inequalities, write down the error interval for x .
 $11.45 \leq x < 11.55$

Q2.

x	Level of Accuracy to the nearest integer	Error Interval
25	25	$24.5 \leq x < 25.5$
7.8	8	$6.5 \leq x < 7.5$
12.23	12	$11.25 \leq x < 12.25$
360	360	$359.5 \leq x < 360.5$

Music

Year 8 have either been working on a film music project, composing the music for a clip from Kung Fu Panda. They have learnt key terminology associated with film music, composition and learnt how to use Logic Pro software to program and edit their music. The other half of the year group have been developing ensemble performance skills learning to play a four chord song in 'bands' considering how each part layers together in time to create the final performance.

Outdoor Ed

Year 8- 206 students have signed up for camp, which is fantastic. We are looking forward to taking students away in June for their 3 days of fun! If you missed the deadline and still want to attend, email outdoors@bohunt.hants.sch.uk.

PE

It's been an amazing first term for our Year 8 students in PE! Everyone has taken part in inter-house competitions like Cross Country and Capture the Flag, representing their tutor groups, a great way to start the year!

It's also been fantastic to see so many of them joining co-curricular clubs this term. Lots of students have already played for the school in Football, Basketball, Netball, Hockey, Rugby, and Cross Country, showing real energy, commitment, and skill. For up-to date information on co-curricular training and matches, check out our Bohunt Sport website [here](#).

As we move into the colder Spring term, please make sure students come to PE lessons prepared. We recommend they wear extra warm black layers under their PE kit and bring a water bottle to every lesson. You can check the 'Winter PE Kit' letter sent home for more details.

We're also excited that we had our first football matches on the new 3G pitch this term! After Christmas, PE lessons will start taking place on the pitch too. Remember, all students need studded boots for safe use of the 3G pitch and field. They don't have to be brand new, second-hand boots are fine.

It's been a brilliant start to PE this year, and we can't wait to see even more of them getting involved and achieving great things next term!

RS

This term, Year 8 students have been engaging with important social and ethical issues, developing both their understanding of the world around them and their empathy for others.

Citizenship: Prejudice & Discrimination

We began by exploring prejudice and discrimination, focusing on the protection offered by *The Equality Act 2010*. Students examined how the law supports fairness and equality before looking in more depth at the experiences of marginalised groups, including disabled people, LGBT communities, Gypsy, Roma and Traveller groups, issues of race, and sexism. Through discussion and case studies, students reflected on the importance of dignity, respect, and standing up for others.

Christianity: Teachings, Miracles & Agape

Building on their Year 7 knowledge, students then revisited Christianity with a deeper focus on Jesus' teachings and the accounts of his miracles, considering why these stories are significant for believers. This led into studying the Christian concept of *agape*—selfless love—and exploring

how Christians put “love your neighbour as yourself” into action in daily life and within their wider communities.

It has been a reflective and meaningful term, and we are proud of the maturity and engagement Year 8 students have shown. Conversations at home can further support their understanding and encourage thoughtful discussion.

Science

Continuing with the theme of ‘thinking like a scientist’, our Year 8 students began the year with a mini project focused on developing investigative skills. They then progressed to the study of photosynthesis and respiration, before moving on to chemical reactions — a topic that provides a wealth of engaging practical opportunities.

In November, students completed a Cross Trust Assessment, which they approached with huge maturity. Feedback will be delivered in class, and lesson time will be dedicated to reviewing the exams and making improvements. The next assessment point is scheduled for the end of March, during the two weeks prior to the Easter break. In preparation, reteach and revision activities will form part of lessons in the preceding week, and homework will be set to support independent learning.

If you would like to support your child with revision, or gain a more detailed view of our curriculum journey, please visit the [Bohunt Science website](#).





Spanish

This term, Year 8 Spanish have finished Unit 1 'No time like the present' and are moving onto Unit 2 'The future is in your hands.' We have talked about things that we do, technology and also revised how to do the present tense in Spanish.

We had our first BET assessments and students were tested on reading and writing skills on everything they had learned so far.

Coming up after the Christmas holidays, we will continue with Unit 2 and focus on describing where people go and future plans in the context of town.

The Year 8 cohort have been brilliant this half term so well done to them all!

iPad

iPad Scheme – New Information Website

We are pleased to launch a new website for parents and students with key information about our iPad scheme.

On this site, you will find guidance on:

- insurance options
- parental controls for student devices
- the school's learning platforms
- and more

The site can be accessed [here](#) or via the **Families** tab on the school website.

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

