

head'sherald

SIR THOMAS BOTELER CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL, GRAMMAR SCHOOL ROAD, WARRINGTON, WA4 1JL | 01925 636414 | INFO@BOTELER.ORG.UK

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Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are well. The sun is currently shining as I type, however, I am not convinced it will last. The weather has been really terrible of late and whilst we are always positive, the sunshine has definitely lifted the mood. Long may it continue. Please ensure when we do have the inclement weather that your child comes to school dressed appropriately as it is not pleasant sitting all day in soggy clothes. We do help dry things as much as possible in these circumstances, but a coat and or umbrella definitely helps.

Just a reminder please that any non-uniform item will be confiscated. If a young person decides to wear anything under their blazer that is not a school jumper then that will be confiscated, even if it is a coat, because it is **under** the blazer. If a coat is worn over the blazer, then there is no problem. It just needs to be taken off when in the school building. I appreciate that some young people wear multiple non-uniform layers because they walk to school and I understand why, but they just need to be removed when they are on site.

The Year 11 students are very focused at present on their GCSE examinations and we do keep them in school as long as possible and support them with revision, as we feel this the best approach and helps secure them the best outcomes. It also means that staff are on hand to answer questions and to help and support the young people as best we can both academically and holistically. The majority of students have approximately 20 exams to sit over 6 weeks and we absolutely need to look after our young people during this time. The Year 11 cohort have done so well and I am very proud of them. Mr Koltan will be in touch with all the finer details as the timetabling of the revisions sessions is quite complex and we need to ensure all parties understand it.

This edition of the Head's Herald really is a celebration of success. We love sharing our 'good news' with you and the students never cease to amaze me. The High Expectations, High Aspirations and High Standards that they demonstrate through many different mediums is exemplary and as I say it constantly reminds me of why I love my job as Headteacher.

Thank you as always for your kindness and support as you all are such an important part of our Boteler Family. I never underestimate the relationship I have with you, and I am very grateful for our communications.

Have a lovely weekend.



Beverley Scott-Herron
Headteacher

ISPs (Independent Study Packs)

As you will know from previous communication we place great importance on students being prepared for learning. This includes having their ISP which contains their subject specific knowledge organisers and their timetable.

The timetable ensures that all students can be punctual to all lessons. If a timetable is lost then students should see their Head of Year for a new one. The timetable should always be in the front pocket of the ISP so unless the ISP is misplaced timetables should never be lost.

Behind the timetables are the KOs (Knowledge Organisers). You will be familiar with these but I wanted to take the opportunity to remind Parents/Carers that this document plays an important role in identifying the key knowledge in each subject that students need to know. Furthermore, they serve to support students in adopting support methods to respond to more challenging questions. We call this approach metacognition which is a priority for our students' learning this year.

If you require any further information on the above then please do not hesitate to contact me on ckinsey@boteler.org.uk

Mr C. Kinsey
Deputy Headteacher

Year 11 Exam Revision Timetable

As you will be aware, the GCSE exams begin on **Friday 3rd May** and last for **six weeks**. Mr Koltan is meeting with the Year 11 students in assembly on Monday to talk them through what will be happening in terms of lessons and exams over the coming weeks. Form Tutors will further reinforcing this information during registration.

Mr Koltan has written to parents/carers separately with full details of how our Exam/Revision timetable works with a copy of the timetable and also key dates for Year 11 such as the Year 11 Leavers service on Monday 20th June.

We will be including the week ahead from our Exam/Revision Timetable so you can see which exams are taking place and relevant revision sessions.

The next two weeks:

WEEK 2		Period One	Period Two	Period Three	Period Four	Period Five	Subjects Complete
Date	Fri 3 May	Option C	H Band – Maths C Band - English BTEC Travel and Tourism Revision	H Band – English C Band - Maths BTEC Travel and Tourism Revision	H Band – Geography/History C Band - Science BTEC Travel and Tourism Exam (2 Hours)	H Band – Science C Band – History/Geography	Travel and Tourism

WEEK 1		Period One	Period Two	Period Three	Period Four	Period Five	Subjects Complete
Date	Tue 7 May	Option D	H Band - Science C Band - Maths	H Band – French/Spanish/Hospitality C Band – History/Geography	Option C	H1 – RE H2/H3 - English C Band - Science BTEC Enterprise Revision	
Date	Wed 8 May	H Band – Core PE C1 – English C2/C3 - RE BTEC Enterprise Exam (2 Hours)	H Band – Maths C Band – Core PE	H Band – Science C Band - Maths	H1/H3 – English H2 – RE C Band - Science C2 – RE Revision	H1 – RE H2/H3 – English C1 – RE C2/C3 – English H Band – RE Revision	Enterprise
Mon 6 May Bank Holiday							

	Thu 9 May	<p>H Band – Geography/History</p> <p>C Band – Spanish/French/Art</p> <p>Religious Studies Exam (Christianity/Judaism) (1Hr 45)</p>	<p>H1/H2 – English H3 – RE</p> <p>C Band - Maths</p>	<p>H Band – Science</p> <p>C1/C3 – English C2 - RE</p>	<p>H band – Maths</p> <p>C1/C3 – RE C2 English</p> <p>C Band – Science Revision</p>	<p>Option D</p>	
Fri 10 May	<p>H Band – Science</p> <p>C band - Maths</p> <p>Combined Science: Bio 1 Exam (1Hr 15)</p> <p>Triple Science: Bio 1 Exam (1Hr 45)</p>	<p>H Band – Maths</p> <p>C Band - RE</p>	<p>H1 – English H2/H3 – RE</p> <p>C Band – History/Geography</p>	<p>H1 – RE H2/H3 – English</p> <p>C band – English</p>	<p>H Band – Spanish/French/Hospitality</p> <p>C Band – Science</p>		

Half term 5 – An Opportunity to Raise the Bar

Here is school we are challenging students to make **'Every Moment Count'**. To do this, we continue to reinforce the messages of good attendance. Remember to monitor your child's attendance via the Arbor App.

Parents of Year 11 students, you will have received the following text message, *'As we approach the first GCSE exam, we know that 'Every Moment Counts' for your child. One day off means 6 lessons and Tutor Time/Intervention missed. These valuable lessons may be the difference between GCSE grades. Let's work together and push the students for 100% attendance in the lead up to the exams.'*

If your child has attendance between **87% and 89.99%**, they are just sitting in the category of 'Persistent Absence', which is a cause for concern (we know of those with exceptional circumstances). The message is, that a big push this half term, with no further absences, will see students rise above 90% and out of this category.

For those **94% - 95.99%**, the student has been identified as one with attendance just below the school target of 96%. The message is, a big push this half term, with no further absences, will see them achieve the whole school target, which will be a great achievement.

Over the next week, your child's Head of Year is leading a Reward and Recognition assembly, with celebrations taking place to recognise to ongoing efforts and high standards of the students.

The Boteler Centurion – Has your child achieved 100 House Points in a term?

Students have been challenged to achieve 100 House Points this term, with a recently launched initiative, where students can achieve The Boteler Centurion Award.

We will also be handing out a number of these awards for those who achieved this target for Term 2 (January – March 28th).



THE BOTELER CENTURION AWARD

IN RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVING

100 HOUSE POINTS

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

DATE:

HIGH EXPECTATIONS | HIGH ASPIRATIONS | HIGH STANDARDS | YOU WILL SUCCEED

End of Year Reward Trips

We are currently finalising the plans for the end of year reward trips which will take place during the last week of the academic year. Students have been informed that in order to meet the criteria to attend the trips, which includes:

- Having no attendance concerns related to unauthorised absence – pushing to achieve the school target of 96%+ attendance for half term 5 and 6
- Positive conduct points (House Points minus Negative Behaviour Points = Conduct points)
- A review of C3 and truancy incidents
- No serious incident behaviour logs e.g. suspensions

In order to finalise transport arrangements, please can you complete the form via this link <https://forms.office.com/e/ZGe500V25x> to declare interest in your child attending one of the trips.

At this point as we are only looking at initial interest, please can we ask that you do not make any payment to school until the trips have been confirmed.

Operation Banishing assembly

This week we had PC Wendy Whitehead and a team of staff from the Problem-Solving team deliver a Year 10 and 11 assembly regarding Operation Banishing. The focus was regarding a safety message about potential predatory behaviours, what to look for and what to do if you have any concerns. The project takes on a zero-tolerance approach to violence against women and girls, with the team reporting how they had seen a great success in reducing the level of risk posed within Warrington.

As always, if any of the sensitive messages impacted the students, please contact a member of the safeguarding team at school.

Personal Development

Year 10 completed their Mock interviews with employers this week and we are very pleased with them all for preparing for this, completing their CV's and taking part in the interview. We are thankful to the following employers who joined us on the day:

NHS, Murphy Group, Solvay, Cavendish Nuclear, Cheshire Police, Barclays, NCSG, Little Heroes, Local Hair Salon, Jacobs, Atkins Realis, Sellafield Ltd.

Some comments from the employers:

"Good to hear that the students gained valuable experience from the event (it was very well organised)."

"All the pupils represented the school very well and the school should be proud of each pupil".

"Thank you so much for the invite to your beautiful school. It was a true pleasure to meet some wonderful and inspirational young children. Being a mother of four myself I can appreciate how hard it can be to keep our young people engaged in their studies, make good choices while enjoying themselves. I do hope all the children I meet will go on to make the most of their opportunities that have been given to them."

"I would happily come to any future events that support our children and help them consider a future within the NHS."

All students will receive their written feedback next week.

Post 16 Parent/Carer information evening

Year 10 last chance to sign up for our Post 16 Parent/Carer information evening on Tuesday 30th at 6pm in the school hall. A chance for your parents to find out all about the options available to you after school. <https://forms.office.com/e/JwMn8nadEW>

Warrington & Vale Royal Newsletter

Please click on the link to see Warrington & Vale Royal College's School Leaver Newsletter <https://t.ly/gI3n6>

Colomendy Visit

Reminder that the balance for the Year 7 Colomendy visit needs to be paid in full by **Friday 3rd May 2024**.

GCSE Geography Trip - Italy 2024

April 2024 seemed a lifetime away when the Geography department first booked our trip to the Bay of Naples in Italy, however, here we are reflecting on what has been a completely incredible and unforgettable experience for both students and staff.

We arrived safely in Naples on 13th April to beautiful sunshine and excitedly made our way into the bustling city of Naples where we experienced our first Neapolitan restaurant and real Italian pizza. Led by our local guide we navigated the beautiful streets to visit Naples Underground, a fascinating trip through tunnels, caves, galleries and passages.

We experienced bomb shelters, underground pools, theatres and even gardens. We then travelled along the stunning coastline to our hotel before travelling high up into the hills for a pizza making class as the sun set over the sea. We can all now mix up an authentic dough after being given the secrets to Italian pizza making!

As a group we enjoyed our second pizza meal of the day, a perfect end to a fantastic first day.



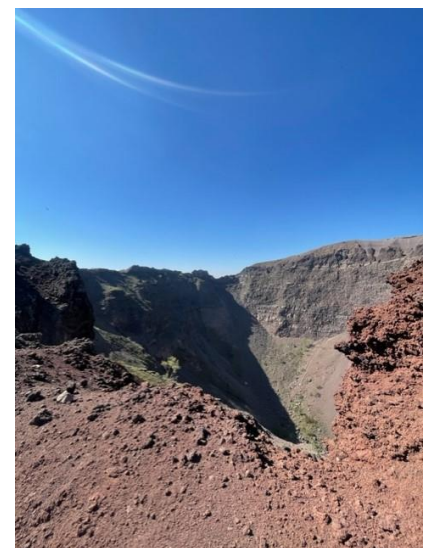
Day 2

Day 2 was an early start with more stunning weather. We travelled straight to Pompeii, the beautifully preserved city destroyed by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79AD.

With our local guides we discovered the incredible ruins and history of the city buried by volcanic ash and debris; helping us to fully appreciate the catastrophic effects of a volcano.

We were then lucky enough to visit Mount Vesuvius, where after a long coach climb we were able to continue to the crater by foot, a steep and challenging 30-minute walk. As we reached the crater we spent time with a volcanologist allowing us to gain real life understanding of tectonic processes and the hazards caused directly by Mount Vesuvius.

The views from the crater were absolutely stunning taking in the city and Bay of Naples, the experience of looking down into the volcanic crater was unforgettable! Having the experience of visiting a volcano and observing its hazards after studying this content within our curriculum was utterly invaluable and unforgettable!

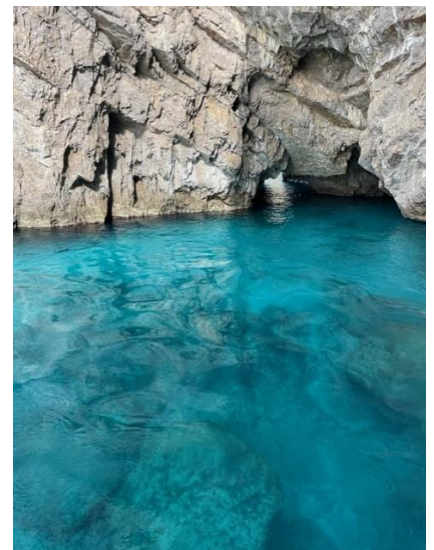
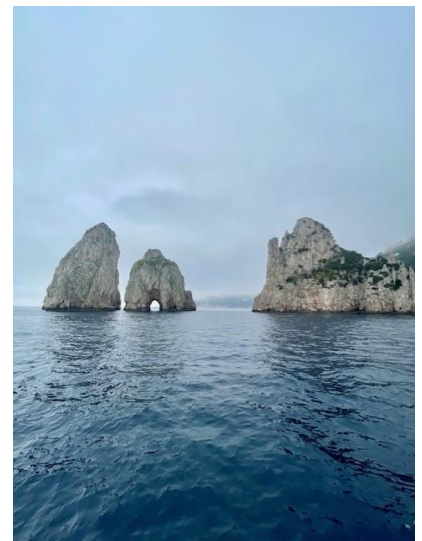
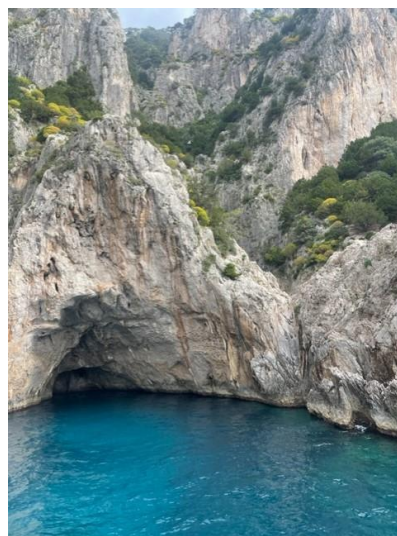


Day 3

We were up and out very early after an evening of games and a good night sleep. Day 3 was our much-anticipated visit to the beautiful island of Capri. We travelled to Capri on the hydrofoil boat arriving in the famous marina to the absolutely stunning backdrop.

We immediately made our way on to a laser boat for an hours guided boat tour around the island where we experienced the rocky coves, coastal landforms and stunning coves with water so blue we could not quite believe it was real. As a group we spent our day visiting both Capri Town and Ana Capri enjoying the incredible views, delicious gelato and ambling down the quaint streets.

We enjoyed another boat ride back to Sorrento Port before returning to our hotel for a relaxed evening of food, games and socialising.



Day 4

For our final full day in Italy we were picked up by two guides in small coaches which were able to navigate safely along the famous Amalfi Coast Road.

This unique stretch of coastline was absolutely stunning, taking in famous towns including Positano and Maori.

During our free time in Amalfi we were able to visit stunning churches, stop at cafes and shop for souvenirs. However, our favourite part was spending time together on the beach, we ate lunch and paddled with some of our braver students and staff even having a swim in the sea.

This was all topped off with us spotting dolphins passing right in front of the beach, something we will never forget. From Amalfi we had our last Italian boat ride to begin our journey up to Ravello, the highest point on the Amalfi Coast. We were able to relax and enjoy the Italian culture throughout the day before enjoying our final evening meal at the hotel before packing up in preparation for departure.

Again, our evening was filled with games and social time, the perfect end to a wonderful day!



Day 5

After the most incredible time in Italy it was time for us to check out and head back home. We all reflected on our time in Italy as we travelled, mostly how we would have liked to stay longer, we have definitely left a little part of our hearts on the Amalfi Coast.

As staff we wanted to thank our students for the wonderful experience we all had. All students were outstanding, true ambassadors for Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School. This was highlighted to us on many occasions by members of the public, airline crew and staff we worked with in Italy. We had numerous positive comments passed to us every day. Our overall experience has been truly incredible and will be forever remembered by students and staff alike. I would like to extend our thanks to parents and carers for allowing us the opportunity to share this experience with our young people.

To our Italy 2024 students we are incredibly proud of you, grazie e arrivederci!

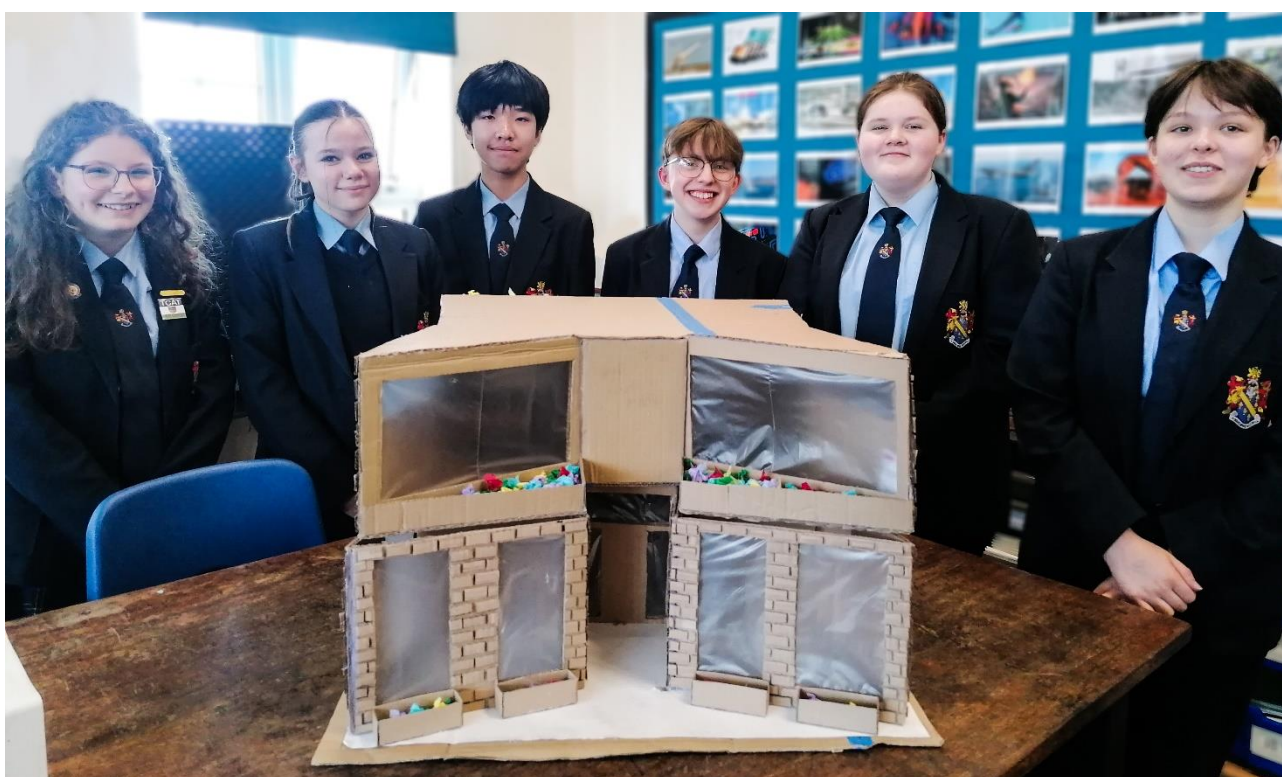


Engineering Masterclass Challenge 2023/24

An amazing triumph for our Year 9 budding entrepreneurs! For the last 20 weeks some of our Year 9 students have been meeting at lunchtime and after school, working on a competition project run by United Utilities and TCAT.

The brief was to design a new community centre in the Lake District, taking into account a full environmental impact assessment, water and electricity supply, design of the building and to scale floor plans, what the centre will provide and how the local and tourist communities benefit from the building all within the range. The judgement of the competition took place on Friday at the Halliwell Jones Stadium.

Because of all the students' preparation by every member of the team and their dedication, we are incredibly proud to announce that they won the United Utilities Engineering Masterclass Challenge 2023/24. Congratulations to our amazing students – we are so very proud of you.



Uniform Kit Shop

The Uniform Kit Shop has been very popular this year. A reminder that students can bring items of uniform, shoes, bags, coats that no longer fit them to donate and/or swap for something else.



STEM by Nuclear Transport Solutions

On Wednesday 17th April the Science department hosted a STEM session delivered by Nuclear Transport Solutions, who constructed an interactive immersive game on renewable fuels. This was a 4-hour game which was then followed by an hour of post 16 pathways information into the energy sector. This is vitally important on a national scale sector, due to the global switch away from fossil fuels.

30 Year 10 and 30 Year 9 students participated eagerly and were a credit to our school throughout the day. They explored all of the renewable energy resources to date and how they worked. They realised that there is no single perfect resource in a world where advantages have to overcome disadvantages. The students worked hard on where best to locate each resource with the minimal environmental impact yet obtain the highest possible efficiency.

Afterwards the students were fascinated by the huge range of skills that are needed in this sector with the post 16 talk. Hopefully this day will inspire some of our students to look to this area as apprenticeships, after college or University courses.



Year 8 Immunisations

Please click on the link to view a letter from the School Immunisations Team regarding the HPV vaccinations which are being offered to Year 8 students in school on 8th May and 15th May.

<https://t.ly/dy3vh>

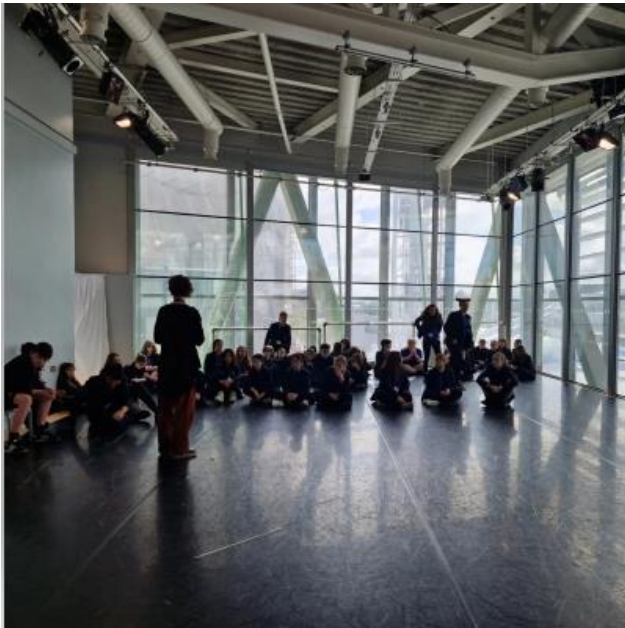
If you have any questions, please contact the School-aged Immunisation Team on 01925 946808

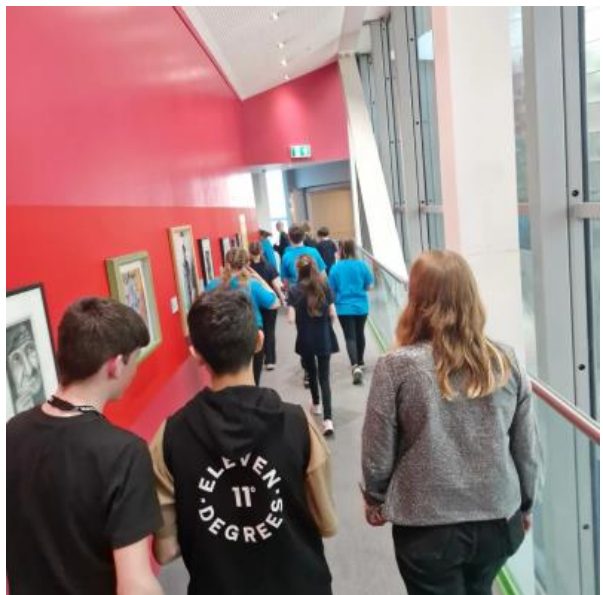


On Friday 19th April, our amazing Boteler StageCraft group performed to a full audience at the Lowry in Salford as part of the National Theatre Connections Festival.

Lead of Drama and School Productions, Ms Armstrong, who directed the play said "What a brilliant achievement."

I am so proud of all the students who took part in The Periodicals as members of Boteler StageCraft. We had an amazing time in Salford at The Lowry, taking part in workshops and rehearsals and performing to a sold-out audience. A valuable experience for the students to see the careers and opportunities that studying Drama can bring."





National
Theatre
CONNECTIONS
2024

DANCE EXPLOSION



**Showcasing
a variety
of year
groups
and dance
styles from
across the
decades**

2nd July 2024 ★ 6pm

At Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School

£2 per ticket

Tickets available from the main school office
