

Edition 28

Summer 2

July 2025

*Summer has finally arrived and the long summer holidays, nigh.*

*It's been a very bustling end to a very busy year.*

*Having formally said goodbye to our wonderful Year 11 pupils, we now begin to receive our lovely new cohort.*

*Our Awards Evening / Leavers Assembly was extra special this year, as the school celebrated its 10th Anniversary at the very splendid venue - Houldsworth Golf Course.*

*Also, and particularly noteworthy is the news that Broadstones received excellent feedback from the National Nurturing Schools Programme, meaning we are now a beacon nurturing school.*

*For details of this (and much more) read on....*

*"a shining example of what you can achieve by embedding nurture into your school's culture"*

Following a very successful re-accreditation with the National Nurturing Schools Programme, our school has been highlighted by Nurture UK as "a shining example of what you can achieve by embedding nurture into your school's culture."

Nurture UK is running a project spotlighting schools and wanted Broadstones to take part. This involved their representatives visiting our school, which they had not previously had the opportunity to do, so they could speak to pupils, staff and parents, take photographs and make a short video of their time with us.

All parents and carers were invited into school on July 9th to join us for lunch and to meet the representatives from Nurture UK. They were able to share their thoughts and experiences of how the school's approach has impacted their child.

Thanks to all pupils, parents and staff for their attendance and contributions at this significant event.

## Awards Evening / Leavers' Assembly



Sue and John opening the event on 27th June 2025

The event was absolutely wonderful. A celebration of the hard work and sheer determination of the last ten years that has made Broadstones that 'shining example' of what it means to be a nurture school.

A very fitting venue to pay tribute to all the past, present and future successes of the school. John and Sue are very proud of all pupils, parents and staff that came together and made it a truly successful evening.

For more coverage, please see our two-page spread to honour the night on pages 2 and 3.

Houldsworth Golf Club, the hundred acre, set in parkland, ten hole golf course since 1910, was a splendid venue to host this special event. Did you know it was originally commissioned by Sir William Houldsworth, the 19th Century industrialist, who had a vision to set up a self contained and thriving community (Houldsworth Model Village)?

And here we are, over one hundred years later, bringing together the past and present, to celebrate the extraordinary achievements of our young people, also past and present.

Broadstones is thrilled that Tony Hancock, ex-Stockport County player, agreed to attend and present awards to our incredible Year 11 leavers.

Tony has also played for Burnley, Preston North End and Northwich Victoria football clubs, as well as managing teams since 2007.

A true Reddish local legend, Tony is very proud of the fact that he was born and raised in Reddish.

He talked about how proud he was to be given the opportunity to present at the event. Tony said: "I am so honoured to be asked to speak tonight; I am truly humbled in the presence of these wonderful young people."

The theme of perseverance pervaded Tony's presentation, as he gave anecdotal evidence of his

past trials and tribulations, how he overcame them and that "never, ever giving up, is the key to succeeding in life."

## **Awards Evening / Leavers Assembly / 10 Year Anniversary**

We thank Tony for his contribution to the evening and are grateful that he was able to address the assembly.

After welcoming speeches from Sue, John, Dan, Dave and Tony, the presentation of awards was underway, with many pupils receiving awards, both academic and light-hearted. Every single pupil showed immense courage and confidence in the way they received their awards - as we can all imagine that walking onto a stage in front of a crowd is not for the faint hearted!

Then the delicious buffet was opened with a plentiful array of food and cake on offer; added to this was the tombola, raffle and music, and the scene was set for a night of sheer entertainment.

Music commenced in the form of Skye S. who opened the proceedings, with her superb renditions of songs including Amy Winehouse's *Valerie*.

To stand on stage, alone, and perform to that amazing standard, signifies a level of confidence that is not only a credit to Skye, but to everyone who has helped her on

her journey. We thank Skye for contributing to making the night that bit more special.

Also adding to the convivial atmosphere, whilst banging out a few classics were Broadstones' own band: The Rolling Broadstones.

A seemingly effortless, synchromatic performance featured Skye TW on vocals, Rocky and Kayden on drums, with Lilly-Mai and Levi on guitar and bass guitar.

Any last minute nerves were soon dimmed as they lit up the stage with their reworking of *Billie Bossa Nova* (Billie Eilish) and *Dakota* (Stereophonics).

After that, it was disco time as staff and pupils began to boogie the night away, before it was time to say their emotional goodbyes. Although all our leavers know that Broadstones will always be there for them if needed.

Sue, John and all staff and stakeholders wish to thank everyone involved: parents, pupils, outside speakers, staff (and staff at the venue) for all their time, planning and hard work that took place behind the scenes and on the night to make it a truly memorable experience.

Overleaf are some of the images from the evening. but due to data protection laws, we are unable to publish images of young people's faces here. However, if you wish to see our official photos please contact the office on: 0161-830-1974





Sue, John and Claudia's final finishing touches before guests arrived



A special thanks to Claudia and her salon team for taking overall charge of organisation



Sue, John and staff proudly enjoying the awards ceremony



A special thanks to Tony Hancock for agreeing to present the awards



Dan, Dave, Tony and Claudia co-presenting the awards



Another snapshot of the beautiful room



Dan, Headteacher, proudly opening the event



A glimpse of the celebrations



Staff preparing for formal photos



Dave and Liz (school governor) adding a touch of humour and solemnity to proceedings



Manik, ex-pupil Logan (now at university) and friend catching up



(and, sorry.....) staff preparing for informal dancing



## Further Brilliant Important News!



Sue and John officially signing the contract to acquire land for the new school building.

Some of you may have heard through the grapevine that Broadstones School is expanding!

Sue and John, after what seems like years of waiting for the council to finalise the plans, are now proud owners of a substantial plot of land adjacent to the vale site, which will be, in a few years time, the new management and academic hub of the school as well as a host of other facilities to improve the school.

This means that our sites will be more consolidated, with the office in the mill and the bungalow no longer used.

A joint statement from Sue and John confirmed: "Today: Thursday 10th July 2025 is a truly monumental day. It is the day we finally signed the contract to purchase the land in which we shall build our new school..... watch this space!"

### New Evening Classes

Broadstones is thrilled to announce the commencement of exciting new

evening classes, starting with a brand new art course. See the text below taken from the official advert:

### Welcome to Broadstones School of Decorative Art

 **Learn Rare Decorative Art Skills**


**at the School of Decorative Art**  
*Hands-on courses in traditional crafts for adults*

*Unlock your creativity and gain practical, beautiful skills that blend **history, design, and craftsmanship**. Our adult courses offer a unique chance to explore **signwriting, gold leafing, wood graining, and marbling**—all taught by a skilled artisan and member of the **Heritage Crafts Association**.*


*These are rare and endangered skills, officially listed on the **Heritage Craft Red List**, and this is your chance to help keep them alive.*

 **No experience needed**

 **Small, friendly classes**

 **Great for creative minds, career changers, hobbyists, or professionals in:**

 **Fine Art & Design**

 **Painting & Decorating**

 **TV, Film & Theatre Set Design**

*Come along and try something completely different. Learn how to make beautiful, lasting artwork with your own hands—and be part of preserving a vital part of our cultural heritage.*

*If interested, please contact:*

0161 820 1974

[admin@broadstoneschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@broadstoneschool.co.uk)



We are pleased to announce that once again, school will partially open during the summer break, on a purely optional basis.

Every Wednesday, between 10am and 2pm, at the vale site, there will be plenty of fun activities to keep our pupils occupied, such as meeting up with friends, playing PlayStation, partaking in sports, etc. Snacks will also be provided.

The sessions begin 30th July and run up to 27th August.

### Science with Claire

Jamie and Ailee were in their element playing the science game - Frenetic.

Designed to help learners learn the periodic table, this fast-paced, exciting game involves players racing against the clock to make as many words as they can using the symbols from the table. Whoever gets the highest number of all the atomic numbers added together is the worthy winner of a round.

Periodically, it's always a magnetic experience when the chemistry is there (Jamie and Ailee) to allow learners to understand in a fun way



how the elements are structured and organised.

Claire said: "Their reaction to the game can only be described as highly reactive."

Also in Science, pupils have been busy carrying out various scientific investigations.

Lacey, Millie and Lily-Mai have been preparing cheek cell slides and were amazed at what they could see under the microscope.

Meanwhile, Kayden has been investigating how temperature affects the rate of a reaction. To do this he had to devise makeshift waterbaths with a beaker inside another beaker to change the temperature.

Brooke has extracted DNA from a kiwi (fruit not bird!)

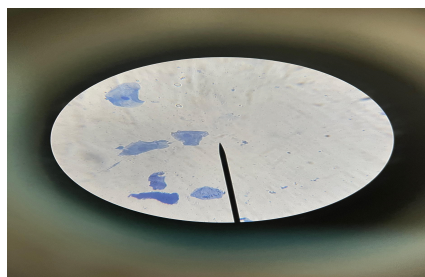
This involved crushing the kiwi with a fork and mixing with some washing up liquid to help break down the cell membranes to allow the DNA to come out of the cell and nuclei. She then filtered the mixture and placed freezing ethanol down the side of the measuring cylinder so that the DNA would precipitate out of the solution (that means we can see it as white strands floating in the liquid).

Ailee has reacted metals with acids and realised that some metals react with acid giving off the gas hydrogen. She checked it was hydrogen by placing a lit splint to the gas which gives a loud squeaky pop!

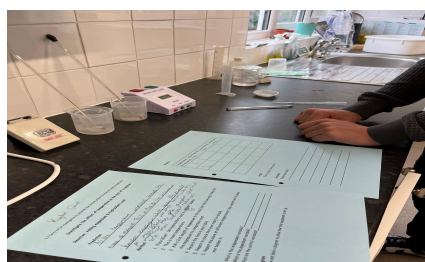
All pupils have been investigating how acid rain affects the germination of cress seeds. They concluded that acid rain will not allow cress seeds to germinate and asked the question: how many other types of seeds would this affect? And how will this affect the world's food growth?



Jamie, Rocky, Kayden germinating cress seeds



Lacey's cheek cells where you can see the cell membrane, cytoplasm and nucleus clearly in the photo.



Kayden's analysis of how temperature affects the rate of reaction



Brooke extracting DNA from Kiwi (fruit not bird)



Ailee reacting metals with acids

## SEN Football Stars Shine at Stockport Sports Village! (by Amy, PE Tutor)

Last week, a team from our school had the fantastic opportunity to take part in a SEN Football Tournament at Stockport Sports Village. The event, organised by Leader Education, brought together schools from across the area in a celebration of sport, teamwork, and inclusion.

We are incredibly proud of our three students who represented our school with enthusiasm, determination, and great sportsmanship. Not only did they play brilliantly, but they also came away with medals and certificates to mark their achievements. In fact, some of our team members even went on to win the event and won a trophy!

Throughout the tournament, the boys impressed not just with their football skills but with their amazing team spirit. The organisers from Leader Education were quick to praise their positive attitude, and several teachers from other schools also commented on how well our students engaged and worked alongside others.

It was a day full of smiles, new friendships, and proud moments. Well done boys - you've made us all incredibly proud.



Richard, Mohin and Kayden in action at Stockport Sports Village

## On a lighter note.....

### Invasion of Caterpillars at the Bungalow

The beginning of July brought an unusual storm of caterpillars to the bungalow garden grass.

Whilst out counting ants, Manik noticed one or two on the grass and then screamed out: "My God, there's thousands of them...there's literally thousands of them on the grass!"

As per strict health and safety protocol, Claire and Davina responded to this potential threat immediately, suspecting the need for a possible lockdown situation.

However, it turned out that Manik's mathematical calculations were somewhat optimistic as according to Davina (who wanted to take some home as pets) said: "There were about 20 of them."

Claire was just pleased to be able to capture some of the caterpillars, believing: "They are definitely a new species. I have never, ever, seen moths this colour before."

Which dampened Manik's hopes of a "Bungalow Butterfly Garden to be

proud of."

Never mind, maybe next year!



One of the (about 20) caterpillars that invaded the bungalow garden



What Manik swore he saw

## Any other business?.....

From September, the newsletter, with the permission of our learners, will begin publishing their academic achievements termly.

Academic assessment is ongoing in Broadstones, with pupils gaining qualifications and sitting exams on a regular basis - when they and their tutor feel the time is right.

This system propels the rate of progress and takes the fear out of being assessed.

Our next newsletter, to be published at the end of half term 1, will publish results of our 2025 leavers (permission already given).

We hope this celebration of achievements will foster a sense of motivation, pride and ultimately confidence and wellbeing.

From everyone at Broadstones, have a safe and joyful long summer break.

## useful contact numbers:

**KOOTH:** (on-line mental Health support for 11-18 Year olds);

**MOSAIC:** (Drugs & Alcohol Services): 0161-218-1100;

**MASSH:** (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub): 0161-217-6028

Editor of this edition:  
Davina Rothwell  
[davinarothwell@broadstoneschool.co.uk](mailto:davinarothwell@broadstoneschool.co.uk)  
School Office :  
Room 413, 4th Floor, Broadstone Mill,  
Broadstone Rd, Reddish, Stockport, SK5 7DK  
Tel: 0161 820 1974



