

NEWSLETTER

WELCOME FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to our very first school e-newsletter, which provides a glimpse into the lives of our students at BOA Digital Technologies Academy.

This term we welcomed our new year 7 intake of digital minds where they have embraced the BOA Digital spirit. They've been focused and tried their best in each subject. In class they have been taking on technical projects, creating poems, and embracing community and kindness. Starting a new school can be daunting, but each of our students should be incredibly proud of what a fantastic first impression they have made.

A warm welcome back to our year 8 students who are developing their education to an outstanding level. They have been working through digital projects, understanding complex maths and science theories, and have embraced the wider community with projects such as Black History Month.



Turn Up. Try Hard. Be Nice.

Mr Avelis



LOOKING FORWARD

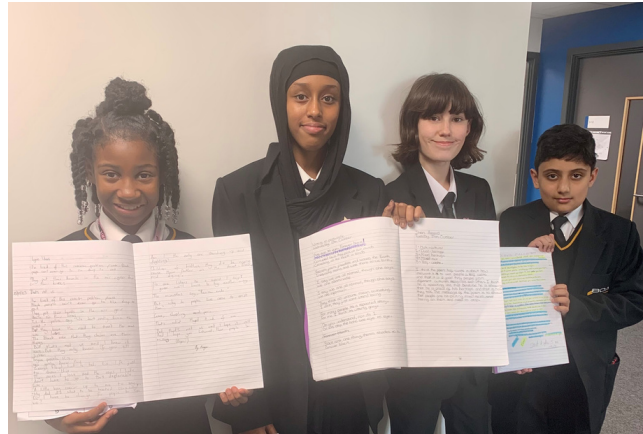
Whether your strength is coding, learning education through gaming, or designing digital magazines, BOA Digital Technology Academy provides a safe learning environment where students can develop their confidence supported by caring teachers across a rich and engaging curriculum. We are very much looking forward to seeing what the next half term brings for our students.

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BLACK HISTORY MONTH

October marked the beginning of Black History Month where students learnt and celebrated the contributions of those with African and Caribbean heritage to British Society. Developing an understanding of black British history allows students to value all those in our school community and recognise the values of equality and respect.

In our assemblies we explored this year's theme 'saluting our sisters', highlighting the crucial role that black women have played in our history. This includes contributions to literature, music, fashion, sport, business, politics, academia, social and health care, and more. The students then took this into their PSHE lessons, producing fact files on inspiring and influential black women in their lives.



ENGLISH

In English, Year 7 have been studying the module 'Identity and Voice'. Students have been reading a range of texts where authors have used their voice to make a positive difference in society. They have engaged with work from: Marcus Rashford, Emma Watson, Emmiline Pankhurst, Dave, John Agard and Imtiaz Dharker. Students have been looking at the persuasive features these authors use in order to promote change.

Following that, students were tasked with the job of coming up with their own performance to promote equality and celebrate Black History Month. Students produced some exceptional work, including poems, raps, songs, speeches, letters and adverts, which they performed brilliantly in front of the whole class and Mr Averis!

DON'T FORGET!

All current students - remember to enter for the Black History Months UK poetry competition!
www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/poetry-competition-entry/
Deadline 15th November 2023

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COMPUTER SCIENCE

At BOA Digital, alongside core academic subjects, students embrace the latest computing technologies including coding, developer skills, gaming, hardware, analytics, and AI. The academy works in partnership with the wider industry to address the growing demand for higher level digital skills and unlock unrivalled opportunities.

In Computer Science this term, Students have been learning to Code in HTML, Python, gaining a fantastic unique skill for future careers. Bringing students together that have a passion for all things technology, we have a coding club every Thursday where learners code in Python, HTML, and game design in Unity Hub. But that's not all, coming soon is an exciting CAD session, where students would be able to design and print their parts using Thinker CAD or Leo CAD. It's crucial that we keep up with emerging technologies, giving our students the best digital foundation.



MATHS

At BOA Digital we are using Desmos to enhance students' learning in Mathematics lessons. This not only encourages students to use their digital skills, but also allows them to engage with Maths by getting instant feedback from teachers, scaffolded questions and challenges to meet their individual needs with a range of different activities. Students can use the graph tool, the mathematics calculator, and sketching spaces to show their working out and move through questions with ease to test their understanding and practice key skills - in lessons or at home! They can access this on their mobile, tablet or laptop, some even love finishing off activities on the journey home from school!

FUN FACT

The digital sector contributed nearly £151 billion to the economy in 2019, with the UK having approximately 1.7 million filled jobs in the digital sector in 2020 (GOV.UK)

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FOOTBALL SUCCESS

Following the success of both the England men's and women's football teams, what a time to take some inspiration and have a go ourselves! Students have been working exceptionally hard in P.E and training sessions and the first BOA football team was selected.

For our first game of the season, we travelled to Small Heath Leadership Academy. First half, although with some strong defending efforts, we went down 2-0. The great comeback was looming, and we scored early on the second half, with Nathan Cooper exploding from our own half and hitting it straight into the back of the oppositions net. Unfortunately, we could not break the other team down and eventually lost 2-1.

The second game was at Yardley School. First half, Y7 boys scored and were level 1-1 on a very muddy pitch. In the second half, a whopping two more goals smashed the back of the net and we managed to hang on for our first win of the season, with the final score being 3-2. Great effort by the boys in terrible weather conditions.

It was also the start of the season for our girls' team. Unfortunately, despite an incredible effort, they narrowly missed their first win scoring five goals to Yardley's six.

An incredible effort from all those involved and our goal scorers. A very close match - no doubt their first win of the season is coming soon!

All students were exceptionally well behaved and a credit to the school. We can't wait to see what the second half of this term brings.

Mr Mahmood

MEET OUR BOYS TEAM



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TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS

It's an exciting time for our technology projects as we embark into the next half term.

Year 7 will be delving into the world of app design and creating their very own mobile phone apps. They will be designing, coding and creating a fully functional digital school planner-style mobile app.

Year 8 will be working with STEAM house across the next term on a project to help them develop their theoretical-based skills. They will be developing their design thinking skills and learning the theory behind the design thinking process. Students will be getting into the minds of consumers, analysing a brief and collaboratively designing a prototype to fit the needs of a user.

NOTE TO CURRENT PARENTS

Please may students bring in budget standard wired headphones to their technology lessons (if they are able to) so they can play audio and edit videos easily



AND FINALLY...

I would just like to emphasise how incredibly proud we are of our students this term. Students represented the school at various open events, educational workshops and even a very exciting project with a radio station (more on that next time).

September is an excellent time for the students to set goals for the new school year. Whether that's settling in and making friends or excelling in their education and technology projects. We ask all our students to work to the best of their ability and most of all be kind.

We hope you all have a restful half term break. Well done for a successful start to the school year.

Mr Averis