



## Spring Term Newsletter 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our Spring 2022 newsletter. We have lots of news to share and celebrate, again, this term. Although we were hit by Covid in the early part of the term, students were magnificent in adapting very quickly to a blended curriculum offer of learning partly in school and partly online via Google Classroom. We hope we are over the worst of Covid now. Although we were testing students twice a week this term, we have now been advised that, as from next term, schools are no longer required to carry out on site testing.

This term we have encouraged staff to organise off site visits and trips to enhance the education provision we provide on site. Our students have made us very proud in the way they have conducted themselves and engaged positively in all of the visits. We have also enhanced our curriculum offer this term by incorporating an enrichment, wellbeing and life skills strand. We are now offering cooking, music and driving theory as well as other sports based activities. They are proving to be very popular.

I would like to commend Year 11 students for their resilience in completing their mock exams. We know that this practice will stand them in good stead for their 'real' exams in the Summer term. We know that Year 11's will need to learn from this experience and continue to make the most of the daily after school revision classes, which will continue until the Summer exams are over.

We are also delighted to report that 4 students have been accepted back to mainstream school this term. Although we are very sad to see them go, we are very happy for them and recognise what a tremendous achievement this is. We wish them every success and are proud that we have played a part in their education journey.

May I take this opportunity to thank all parents and carers for your continued support. Please remember that we have yours and your child's best interests at heart and are always willing to discuss any concerns you may have. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's form tutor in the first instance. Alternatively, please contact Wendy Kelly, our Safeguarding and Attendance Lead, if you have further issues you wish to discuss or need advice on.

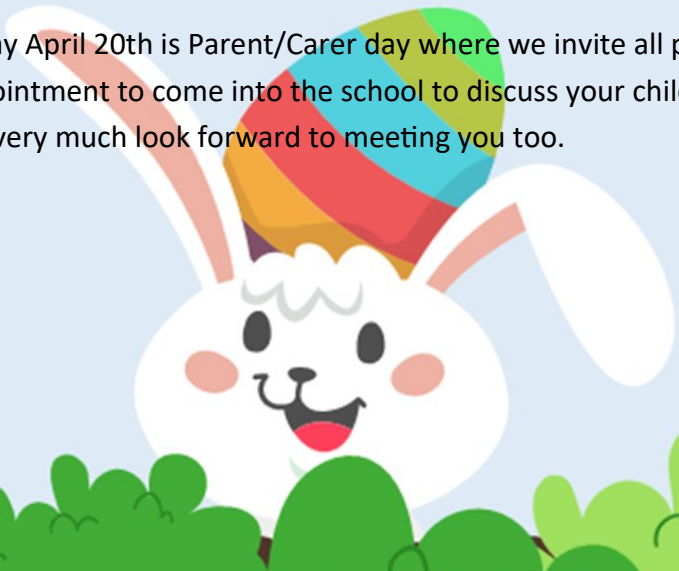
Finally, may I remind you that the morning of Tuesday April 20th is Parent/Carer day where we invite all parents/carers and their son/daughter to make an appointment to come into the school to discuss your child's progress and focus on targets for the term ahead. I very much look forward to meeting you too.

Very best wishes,

Liz Rattue

Head Teacher

Burnside Secondary School





### **Trips and Visits:**

We are delighted that we have been able to start organising trips this term, as well as opportunities to experience a wider cultural events that we believe will benefit our students. We have had a Class 5 trip to a music studio, where students were given the opportunity to unleash their creative talent and record their own tracks, which were then played in assembly. The rest of the students and staff were very impressed with the quality of the final production.

We have also been able to offer two careers trips this term. One trip was to a construction workshop. The facilitators were so impressed with our students, that we were invited back for a follow up visit, where students had practical, hands-on experience. The other trip was to a careers fair in Westfield, Stratford, where students visited a large number stalls with information on potential post 16 careers options. Again, staff reported that the behaviour of students was exemplary. Finally, Class 6 have visited the London Dungeons as part of a post mock exam London trip. They thoroughly enjoyed the trip. See pages 3 & 4 for more information and photos.

### **Sexual Health:**

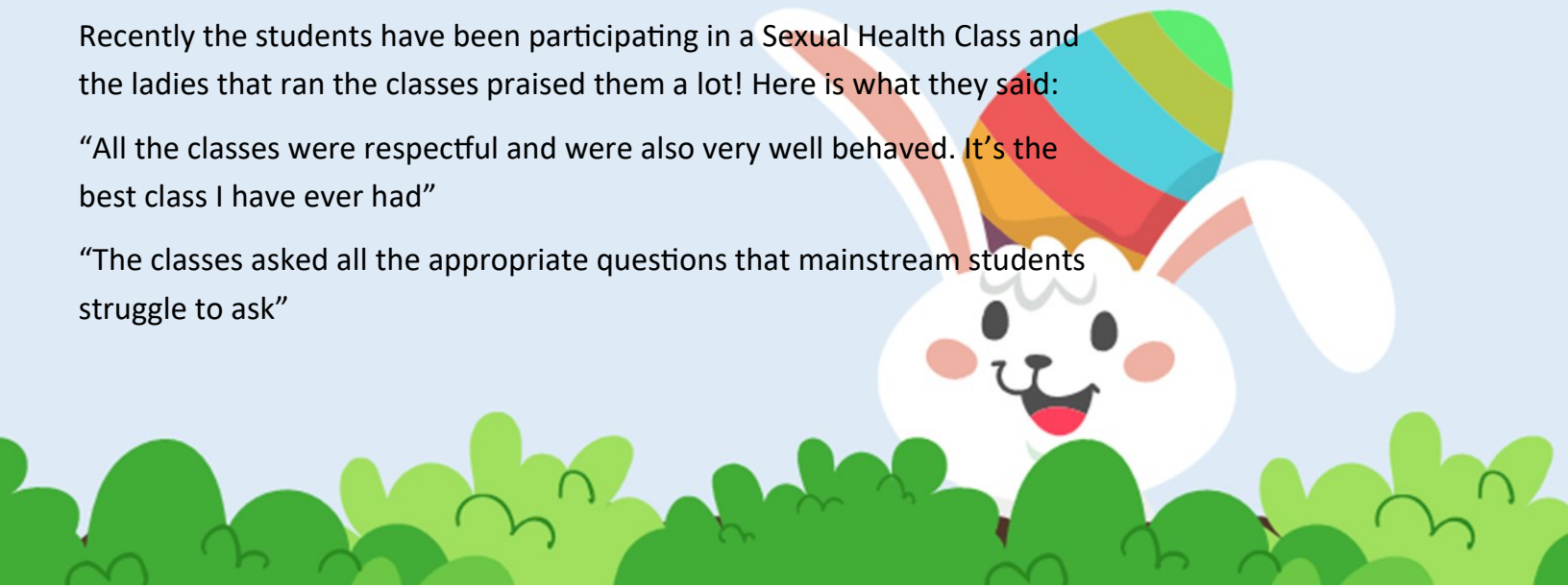
Recently the students have been participating in a Sexual Health Class and the ladies that ran the classes praised them a lot! Here is what they said:

“All the classes were respectful and were also very well behaved. It’s the best class I have ever had”

“The classes asked all the appropriate questions that mainstream students struggle to ask”

Upcoming Dates for your Diary:

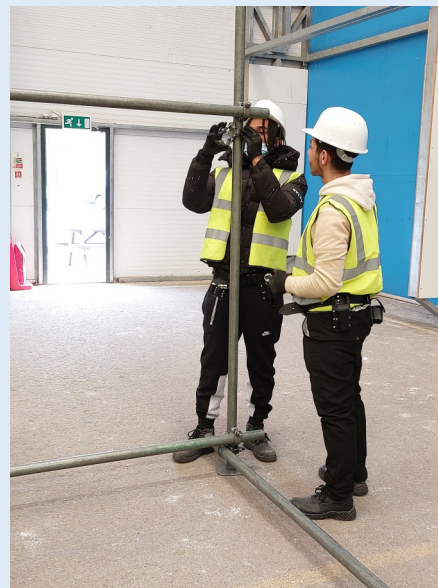
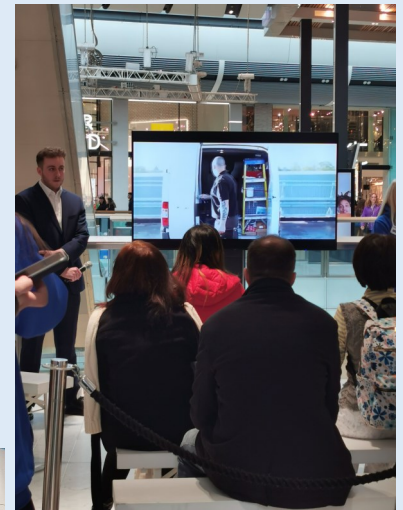
- **Easter Holiday:** 4th—18th April 2022.
- **Staff Training Day:** 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022
- **Parent / Carer Day:** 20th April 2022.
- **May Day Bank Holiday:** 2nd May 2022.
- **May Half Term:** 30th May—3rd June 2022.
- **Last Day of Summer Term:** Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July





Stratford Westfield hosted the 2022 Jobs Fair where there were over 40 different employers including The Army, British Transport Police, London Fire Brigade, Mercedes Benz retail group and more. The Jobs Fair was visited by the Year 10 and 11 students, giving them the opportunity to explore different career paths, looking more in depth at what skills and qualities are needed for a range of career pathways.

The KS4 students had the pleasure of being re-invited to the LASC Construction site based in Leytonstone, following the successful trip last month. This visit consisted of a practical session where students were taught how to build a tube and fitted scaffold, along with system towers, whilst also building up key skills such as communication, teamwork and resilience. After 2 hours of hard work, the students were rewarded with some downtime, playing with the virtual reality system. Overall I would like to thank the KS4 students for representing Burnside in a highly respectful manner and being great role models to one another and the community.





**London Dungeon 31.03.22**

Class 5 went on a trip to a professional music studio trip as part of a creative cultural trip and a reward trip for consistent, good behaviour and positive attitudes to learning. The students were able to have a studio session, which included a professional sound engineer who provided music development and a space to write lyrics, as well as recording time. Students left with two professionally recorded and edited tracks; they should be very proud of themselves.

The Year 11's went on a trip to London Dungeon for an end of term trip but also to celebrate the end of their mock exams. They enjoyed learning about the history of London and what happened in the olden times. They all had a fabulous time even though some of them were scared!



**Job Fair - 11.3.22:**

"I learned that you can be anything you want to be"

"I learned what subjects I need to focus on"

"I enjoyed talking to all different people"

**Construction Trip—29.3.22:**

"I really enjoyed the scaffolding and VR"

"I am going to do an apprenticeship in scaffolding"

**Construction trip- 21.2.22:**

"I learned that you are forever qualified to do a job anywhere in the world"

"Really nice experience"

**London Dungeon 31.03.22:**

"Really loved it, it was really scary"

"I was scared but it was really good!"

**Music Trip:**

"Really enjoyed getting to have studio time"

"Really enjoyed being able to record my own music"





We hope you all have a restful Easter break and come back feeling refreshed and ready to start the new term.

- Love from all the Staff at Burnside!



If you have any inquires do not hesitate to contact the School Office on:

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