

# Academy Newsletter

Co-op Academy Stoke-on-Trent

2023/24 Issue 2 - 29.9.23



## Co-op Academy Stoke-on-Trent's Unforgettable Journey to Barcelona

### Exploring Culture, Cuisine, and Creativity in the Heart of Catalonia

We are thrilled to share the incredible experiences of our recent school trip to the captivating city of Barcelona. A group of enthusiastic students from Years 8, 9, and 10 embarked on this adventure, which included visits to iconic locations such as Parc Güell, Las Ramblas, Los Golondrinas, and the spectacular show at the magic fountain of Montjuïc.

One of the highlights was a relaxing boat ride on Los Golondrinas, where we admired the city's stunning skyline from the tranquil waters of the Mediterranean Sea. Students strolled along the lively Las Ramblas, a bustling street filled with markets and street performers, giving them a taste of Barcelona's vibrant atmosphere.

They were also captivated by the mesmerizing show at the magic fountain of Montjuïc, a symphony of music, water, and lights that left a lasting impression.





Ms. Askey, who planned and led the visit, shared her thoughts on the trip: "The trip to Barcelona was a great success! I want to say a huge thank you to all of the students who joined us as they were fantastic. Over the three days, we managed to pack in a huge amount - we covered all modes of transport, visited all major landmarks, tasted the local food, and of course, many football shirts were purchased amongst many more things. If you would like to hear more about the trip, I am sure the students will happily share it all."

Beyond the tourist attractions, the trip was an educational adventure. Students practiced their Spanish language skills, learned about Catalan culture, and gained insights into art, history, and architecture in an immersive way.

We extend our gratitude to Ms. Askey, Mr. Horscroft, Mr. Baldwin, and Mr. Wright for their dedication to our students and for ensuring the trip's success.



# Year 8 boys' Football Match v Ormiston

## Horizon - Match Report

Thursday kicked off the Year 8 football season, but it seemed some of our star players had been lured away on "international duty" in sunny Spain with Mrs. Askey and Mr. Horscroft. Consequently, Mr. Ahmed fielded a team of seven debutants against the formidable Ormiston Horizon, leaving the young lads feeling like they have been thrown straight into the deep end.

The initial 10 minutes looked like a crash course in defensive maneuvers as Ormiston relentlessly attacked. Despite their valiant efforts, a penalty managed to sneak past our nearly-heroic goalkeeper, Josh. If that wasn't wild enough, Ormiston later scored a goal that seemed to have taken lessons from a pinball machine, bouncing off players and the post before finding the net.

But fear not, the Co-op crew found their footing, and amidst the storm, Alfatih set up a goal, neatly finished by Ahmed Khan. It wasn't enough, though, as Ormiston surged ahead, sealing the game at 6-1. Unfortunate luck facing Ormiston for our first match, but hey, we reckon if we'd been up against Man Utd, victory would've been ours!

So, head up Year 8! It's just game one, and there's a whole season of footy adventures ahead.

The team:

Sev Ravuca, Kyro, Cain, Barty, Yahya, Ahmed K, Ahmed N, Armaan, Cole, Flavius, Josh, Yusuf, Alfathi, Mazen, Maazur, Enes and man of the match Kyle 'the pit bull' Terris



# Open Evening

This Thursday, September 29th, marked a significant event in the calendar of Co-op Academy Stoke-on-Trent as we hosted our annual Open Evening. It was a night filled with excitement and anticipation as we had the privilege of throwing open our doors to welcome Year 5 and 6 students, along with their families, into our vibrant Academy.

Visiting families started their evening hearing a talk from our Headteacher, Mr Richardson. His inspiring words resonated with both parents and students, shedding light on our academy's vision, values, and commitment to living out our vision as a student focused, standards driven academy.

As the evening unfolded, our team of Year 11 prefects and Co-op Young Leaders (CYLs) took the helm, leading tours of our academy. They provided a sneak peek into the diverse and enriching experiences our students enjoy every day. Visiting families had the chance to try some tapas in Spanish, play code breaking games in Computing, learn some African drumming techniques in Music and all sorts of different activities around the Academy. From state-of-the-art classrooms to our well-equipped science labs and creative arts spaces, the Academy was buzzing with enthusiasm and curiosity.

With the evening filled with engaging activities, informative sessions, and the chance to explore our facilities, it was a true reflection of the vibrant and inclusive learning environment we offer.

Ready to apply for  
your secondary  
school place?

Scan the QR code or visit

[https://admissions.stoke.gov.uk/CitizenPortal LIVE/](https://admissions.stoke.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/)

to apply

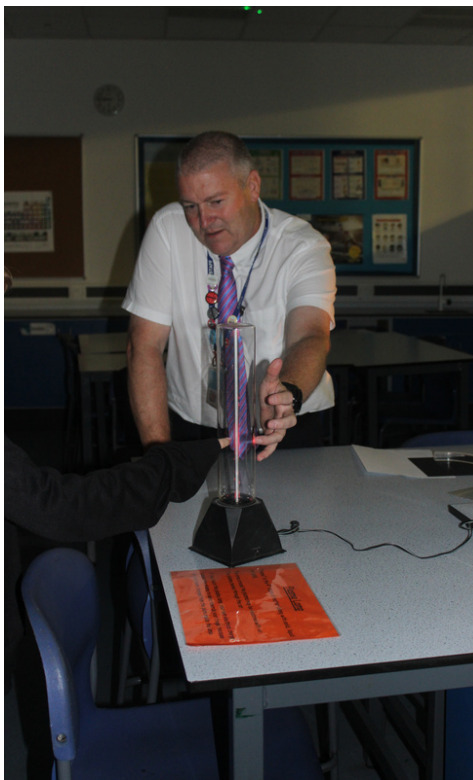


*We are a World Class School and that was never more evident than during this year's Open Evening. From Isaac playing the keyboard so beautifully for our visitors as they arrived, through to our wonderful community partners and the fantastic activities in each subject area, it's no surprise that the night was so popular. It was fantastic to hear so much positive feedback from families on the night. Make sure you apply online by 31st October, and we're looking forward to welcoming lots of you to our Academy in September 2024.*

*Ms Williamson, Assistant Headteacher*

For parents and carers in Stoke-on-Trent, it's crucial to note that the deadline for applying online for secondary school places is fast approaching. Applications must be submitted by October 31st to ensure a place for your child in the next phase of their educational journey. We encourage all families to visit our website for comprehensive guidance on the application process and to explore the countless opportunities awaiting students at Co-op Academy Stoke-on-Trent.







# Food Bank Collection



We are delighted to announce that our Year 11 Life Skills group have overseen a successful collection for our local Food Bank. This initiative saw enthusiastic participation from our students.

The Food Bank provides essential support to an average of 1,900 individuals each month this year. Unfortunately, the demand remains high, with many families in crisis. In response, our students asked for your kind support in donating a variety of products, including tinned produce, biscuits, tea, coffee, and UHT milk.

## Stoke City Inspires

Co-op Academy is privileged to be collaborating with Stoke City FC on the Stoke City Inspires programme for the 2023/24 season. This partnership holds immense significance for the personal development of our students, as Premier League Inspires takes a unique approach to mentoring.

The programme's primary objective is to provide one-to-one mentoring to young people. The ultimate goal is to foster a sense of well-being among these students and cultivate trusting relationships that enable them to thrive academically and personally.

In essence, Co-op Academy's partnership with Stoke City FC on the Stoke City Inspires programme is a beacon of hope for our students. It is a testament to our commitment to their personal development and well-being, providing them with the necessary support and tools to thrive despite life's adversities.

We are greatly looking forward to the project and will keep you up to date with exciting developments throughout.

Ms. Cunningham, Assistant Headteacher, had this to say about the initiative: "It was really heartwarming to see a group of Year 11 students wanting to help others in the local community. They worked as a team to create a presentation and organise drop-off points within the Academy for donations. They went around to explain how a small donation would make a real difference to those in need. They were a pleasure to work with and are a credit to us."

Your contributions truly made a significant impact on the lives of those in need. We would like to express our gratitude for your generosity, which made this year's collection even more successful than the last.





# Celebrating Diversity: European Day of Languages at Co-op Academy Stoke-on-Trent

At Co-op Academy Stoke-on-Trent, the 26th of September is a day of great significance.

It marks European Day of Languages, a day that underscores the remarkable diversity of our school community. With over 50 languages represented, our academy is a microcosm of the world's linguistic richness.

This year, each faculty added a touch of cultural flair by dressing up to represent various European countries. The highlight was a school-wide language quiz that engaged all students, challenging their linguistic skills and fostering an appreciation for languages as cultural bridges.

Mr. Horscroft, Head of KS3 Languages, emphasised the day's importance, saying, "as a multicultural school it is embedded in our roots and our values to share differences that make us unique. European Day of Languages allows us as teachers to prompt the developing mind of students regarding a wider view of the world and what it has to offer. There is far more out there, why not explore it?"

In essence, European Day of Languages at Co-op Academy Stoke-on-Trent is a celebration of our diverse, globally connected community. It reminds us that languages are not just tools for communication but gateways to understanding and unity. Let's continue to embrace and cherish our diversity every day.



Want to test yourself?

Scan the QR code to complete the official European Day of Languages quiz. The link also takes you to a number of languages games, facts and fun activities.



# Match Report: Year 10 boys' football league: Co-op vs Biddulph

In their inaugural match of the season, Co-op Year 10 boys faced off against a seasoned and experienced Biddulph team. The day kicked off with an electrifying pre-match pep talk from Mr Rogers, setting the stage for an intense showdown. The Co-op squad came onto the pitch with a determined mindset, applying relentless pressure each time Biddulph had possession. The dynamic midfield duo of Swaid and Blake showcased a remarkable synergy - Blake's physical prowess complemented Swaid's finesse beautifully. Together, they triumphed in numerous midfield battles, enabling them to unleash the offensive prowess of Yasin, Yahya, Orishae, and the dangerous Big Curt.

In the early stages of the game, both teams displayed excellent footballing skills, but the scoreline remained locked at 0-0 for most of the first half. The defensive quartet of Mohammed, Ossie Beshar, Fareh, and the secretly Aston Villa-clad Ahmed Khan made it an arduous task for Biddulph to carve out clear-cut chances. When Biddulph did manage a shot, Nathaniel stood tall between the posts, making crucial saves.

However, the game was in need of a spark, and Biddulph delivered with a sublime pass that dissected our defense, leading to their opening goal. They swiftly doubled their lead. Yet, Co-op refused to be disheartened. They conjured up two golden opportunities that, on any other day, would have hit the back of the net. Yasin, usually a reliable marksman, narrowly missed the target, and Orishae's effort came agonisingly close, grazing the post.

As the second half kicked off, Biddulph made some tactical adjustments, hitting a dominant stride for a brief 10-minute spell, adding to their lead. Co-op responded with a change, introducing Fadil, who nearly got a C1 for providing the Biddulph striker with an unexpected assist. The final scoreline of 7-0 however, did not accurately mirror the contest.

Co-op's performance was characterised by unwavering effort and resilience. They embodied the qualities of a formidable team by relentlessly chasing down loose balls, displaying tenacity in regaining possession, and maintaining an attacking mindset despite facing a deficit. While the loss was disappointing, it served as a catalyst for future improvements.

In the eyes of Mr. Ahmed and Mr. Rogers, the Co-op Year 10s did their school proud. Their commitment and determination are indicative of a team poised for success in the upcoming fixtures. The future holds promise, and Co-op's footballing journey is far from over.





## Sweet Success: Cake Sale Raises £250 for Global Relief Trust

A delightful aroma filled the air at our recent cake sale, organized by Mrs Tatton, Head of Year 11, and assisted by a group of diligent prefects. We are thrilled to announce that the event was a resounding success, generating an impressive £250 in profits!

This money is destined for a noble cause - the Global Relief Trust (GRT), a locally-based charity making a global impact.

GRT's tireless efforts in Libya and Morocco provide crucial support to those in need following the recent earthquake and flooding. The funds we've raised will contribute to essentials like food parcels, sanitation kits, and emergency shelters. These resources can make a world of difference to individuals and families facing challenging circumstances.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to this sweet success. Your purchases and generous donations will have a meaningful and far-reaching impact through GRT.

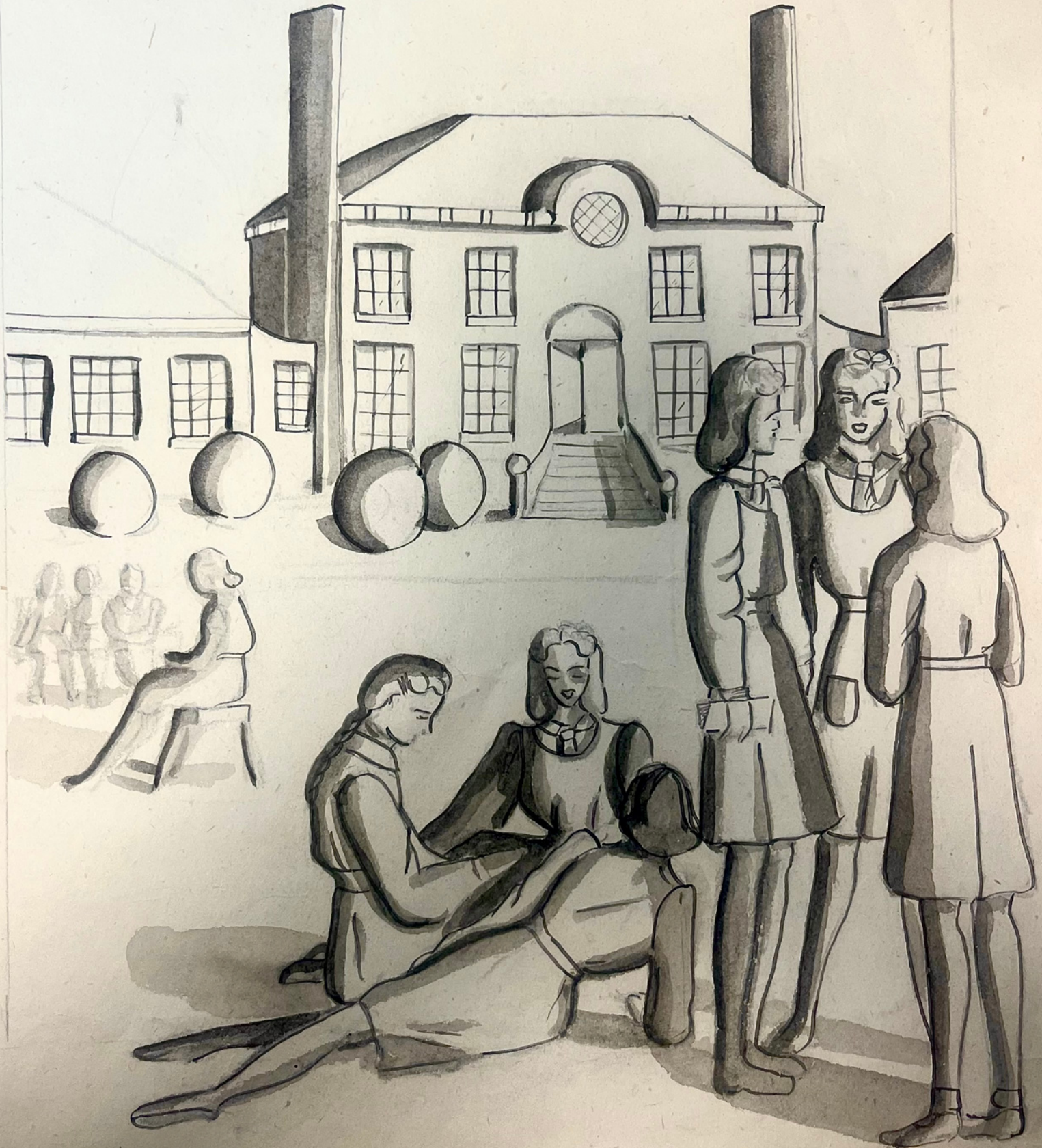
Thank you for your support and generosity.





# From The Archive

Our first 'From The Archive' features a fantastic pencil drawing of Brownhills High School for Girls. The artist was B Evans, a student of the school, and dated 1941.



BH High School  
14th Dec 1941  
B Evans