

# The Bolsover School



Easter Newsletter 2024



## Foreword from Miss Spence

As we approach the Easter break and the chilly grip of winter begins to loosen its hold, signs of spring emerge and a gentle warmth is starting to become apparent. The Easter newsletter gives us the opportunity to pause and take time to reflect upon our journey so far in 2024.

The run up to February half-term saw the school showcase the incredible creative talent within the student population through the Matilda production. I am sure all who attended over the two evenings would agree that the staff and students involved put on a performance to be remembered.

Soon after the event, MP Mark Fletcher wrote to school and stated the following. 'Witnessing the emerging superstars on stage was a joy, and I have no doubt they have bright futures ahead'. I really could not agree more with this comment.

Since September, many of our students have demonstrated a deep thirst for learning, showing great character in doing so. We often talk about character in school and I believe that character is what a person does when nobody is watching. It is a true marker of who a person is: the real you. This is one of the many positive values that I am proud to say that the vast majority of students demonstrate on a consistent basis.

Many students are also showing consistency when it comes to attendance; it is extremely pleasing to see that the whole school figure for attendance is in-line with the national average. We know from analysis of previous outgoing cohorts that there is a direct correlation between achievement and attendance. Our Y11 students are almost at the threshold of their examinations now, and revision is well and truly underway. As part of our extensive revision package, the Home Straight has been launched, providing additional opportunities to revise in school. I am pleased to say that the response from students has been simply outstanding.



We recognise the commitment and hard work of our students in many ways, including achievement points, certificates or pledge badges. Whilst we recognise and understand the importance of intrinsic motivation, we also feel that there is a place for rewards activities and trips. With this in mind, there will be an end of year rewards trip to Alton Towers. Students with outstanding conduct and achievement will be invited to take part in this trip.

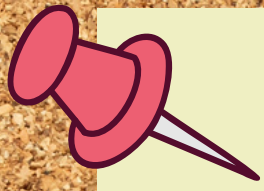
Finally, we look forward to welcoming parents and carers of the Year 7 cohort into school for the first full parents evening just after Easter. This will be a great opportunity to obtain further information on progress so far and to meet your child's teachers face to face. Year 7 reports will be sent out during the week commencing the 8th April 2024.

I would like to sign off by wishing the community a very happy Easter.

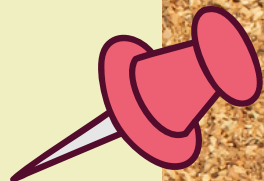
*Miss Spence*





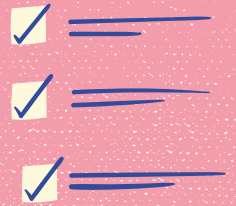


# Announcements



## Staffing Updates

Mrs Willis (formerly Miss Deaton) will soon say farewell for now as she leaves us to go on maternity leave. She will be temporarily replaced by Mrs Marsh. We wish Mrs Willis all the best for now.



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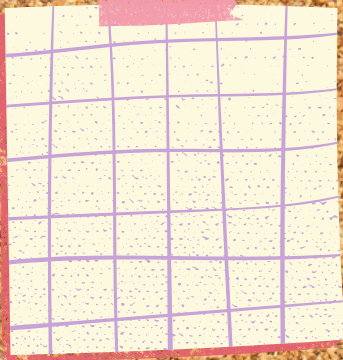


## Follow Us!

Follow our social media channels to find out about the latest trips, events and other school activities!



The Bolsover School Official  
@thebolsoverschool  
www.thebolsoverschool.org



## House Points

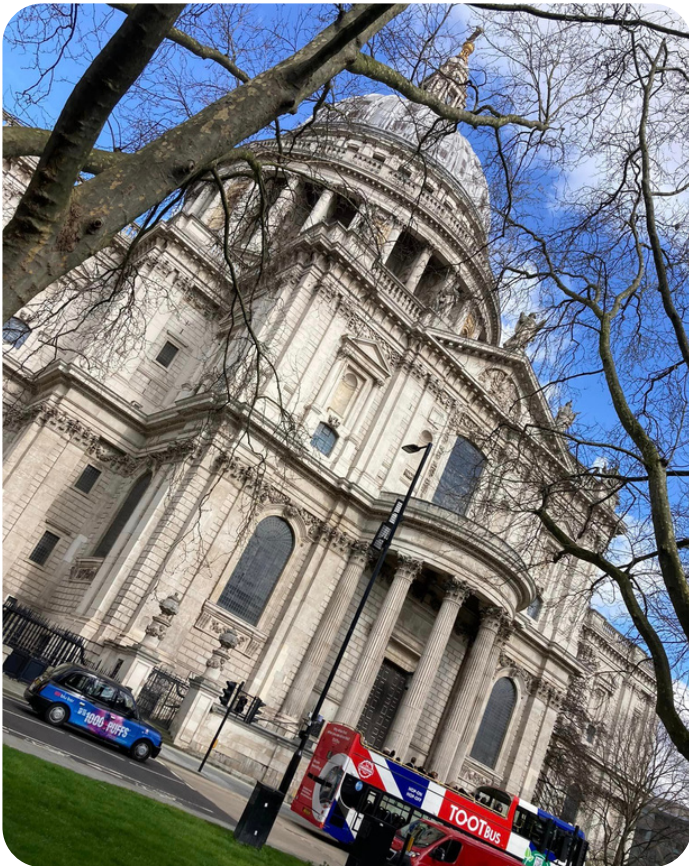
Arkwright	318
Bainbridge	278
Hardwick	343
Peveril	340
Nightingale	266





What a fabulous Arts experience this trip is for our students. From brushing shoulders and taking selfies with celebrities at Madame Tussauds, experiencing the truly aesthetic environment of a Matilda West End performance and being taken back through theatrical history at the Globe theatre. Add a slice of Italy with a meal at Pizza Express and an opportunity to take in the street performers and culture of Covent Garden, the students have truly had a wonderful residential. We are already looking forward to London 2025...

# LONDON 2024 The Bolsover School







# SKI 2024!



Students showed off their talents on the Ski trip to Bormio, Italy. Here are a collection of photographs from the epic trip! Ski 24 was a huge success where all of our students developed their skiing skills over the 5 days of activities.





# ROALD DAHL'S Matilda THE MUSICAL JR.

This term, guests were treated to a spectacular performance of Matilda The Musical JR!

Students were exceptional in their roles, both on stage and behind the scenes. The show was ran by students with help from Mrs Lyne and Mr Stacey.

The energy and talent displayed by the students truly brought the beloved characters of Matilda to life. From the captivating performances of the lead actors to the seamless coordination of the backstage crew, it was evident that countless hours of dedication and hard work had gone into making the production a resounding success.

Mrs. Lyne and Mr. Stacey's guidance and support throughout the entire process was invaluable, and their commitment to nurturing the students' creativity and passion for the arts is inspiring. The standing ovations and roaring applause from the audience were a testament to the incredible teamwork and talent that shone brightly on stage.

As the curtains closed on the final performance, there was a great sense of pride and accomplishment among the students and staff. The memories created during this magical production of Matilda The Musical JR. will surely be cherished for years to come, a testament to the power of collaboration, hard work, and the transformative nature of the performing arts.





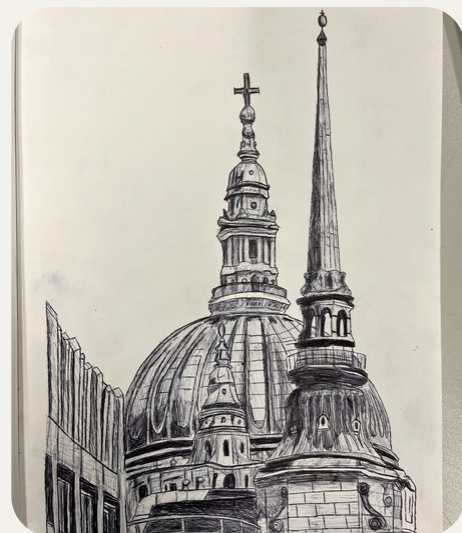
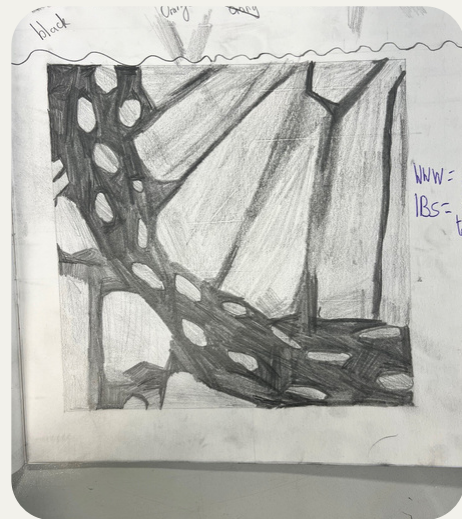
# ***Student Art Gallery***

**The Bolsover School (est. 1955)**

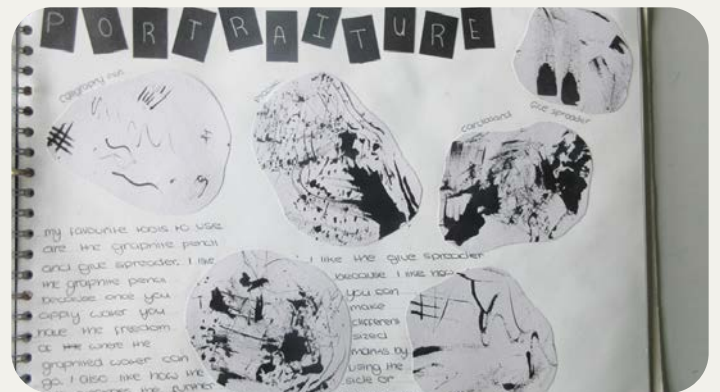
*Student Artwork, 2024*

Mixed Media

The below are examples of work made by our students this academic year so far.









# Broadcasting All Things Bookish!

Another eventful World Book Day has been and gone, with lots of reading, quizzing and competition participation. Houses demonstrated a significant competitive streak and great knowledge as they deciphered distorted book covers, named authors and remembered Redhill Academy Trust Book Award shortlisted titles since 2019. As the race towards crowning the end-of year house champions heats up, the overall standings at the end of our literary week looked like this...

- 1st **Nightingale**
- 2nd **Bainbridge**
- 3rd **Hardwick**
- 4th **Peveril**
- 5th **Arkwright**

A special shout-out goes to B5 and H3 for achieving top scores in the respective form competitions.

The Redhill Academy Trust Read for Good sponsored Readathon was, once again, launched on World Book Day, where students continue to raise money for books for sick children in hospital through the power of reading. Donations are already coming in for this good cause and we hope to top our previous totals with students pledging to read avidly throughout their Easter holiday.



*World Book Day '24*

The Title Quest and Scavenger Hunt competitions were well-subscribed and a huge success, with congratulations and National Book token gift cards going to two lucky winners, Shakeel and Paige.



Congratulations Shakeel!



The introduction of our new Accelerated Reader word count achievement badges has sparked even more enthusiasm for reading and we have a pleasing number of Year 7 & 8 students now wearing their badges with great pride.



The opportunity to give away new books to students was heart-warming and the school library was extremely grateful for the very generous book donations from parents and students to keep our Learning Resource Centre shelves well-stocked.

The RHAT Book Award Ceremony brought WBD celebrations to a close, with an eagerly-anticipated visit to The Carlton Academy accompanied by our shortlist readers and student librarians to meet 2023 award-winning author of 'The Chime Seekers', Ross Montgomery.

The students were highly entertained and quick to come back to school and source more books to read by the same author, as well as taking pleasure in the announcement of this year's winner ... a book they all enjoyed ...



**The Bolsover School can safely say that 'Reading Rocks!'**



# READY, STEADY... COOK!

## with the Royal Navy



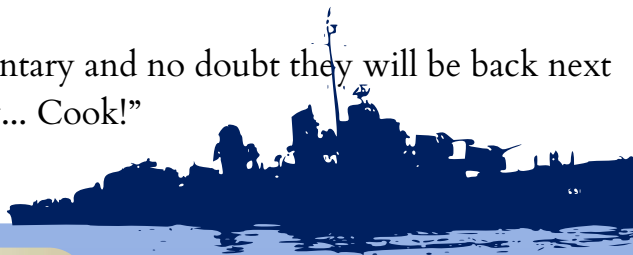
This term our Year 10 Food students were involved in a “Ready Steady Cook” competition, judged by 2 serving members – George and Leon from The Royal Navy Catering Services Branch. What an amazing session we had!

Students were deployed into groups to prepare and cook pasta and meatballs in a tomato sauce, accompanied by garlic bread, followed by sticky toffee pudding. They had just 1 hour and 15 minutes.

The clock started and they were off! The energy in the room was incredible and the competitive edge was clear to see. George and Leon were very impressed with the level of food practical skills demonstrated by our students, which was reflected in the judging process.

After careful consideration and much deliberation, the winners were selected. Our Y10 Food students were outstanding and both Mrs Crossleys were incredibly proud of their achievements. The workshop also provided useful information about the wide range of careers in The Royal Navy. In addition to their cooking skills, the students had to use communication, organisation and time management skills to successfully complete the challenge.

The Navy were very complimentary and no doubt they will be back next year for another “Ready, Steady... Cook!”





# Careers Trips

## LAST TERM INCLUDED...



### The Chesterfield College Group

#### Chesterfield College Taster Day

15 of our Year 10 students were able to have various taster sessions at Chesterfield College. These included: Engineering, Construction, Digital Technologies, Travel & Tourism and Business. Our students benefit greatly from these types of visits; it helps them to make informed decisions, try before they decide, tour the college facilities, meet tutors and other college students and answer any questions they may have about college. This will aid the Year 11 transition process when they leave school.



#### Y11 Apprenticeship Workshops

Over 50 students in Year 11 had the opportunity to find out more about applying for an apprenticeship, specifically the application process, which includes assessment centers. Students were briefed on the combination of tasks and activities they may have to undergo to test their suitability for the job. They had the chance to practice and demonstrate a wider range of skills needed to be successful in securing an apprenticeship. Students found it challenging!

Key skills which employers look for include:

*adaptability, analytical thinking, commercial awareness, communication, creativity, decision-making, leadership, negotiation, organisation, persuasion, planning, teamwork, time management*



#### Junction Arts visit to West Studios in Chesterfield

Our fabulous artists had the chance to visit the head office for Junction Arts, where they made bags and pencil cases using printing techniques. Some great creative skills were on show, and they all came away with an amazing goody bag full of creative stationery.

Shayde, Y9 said "2 things I enjoyed about today was touring the drama theatre and practicing printing on fabric".



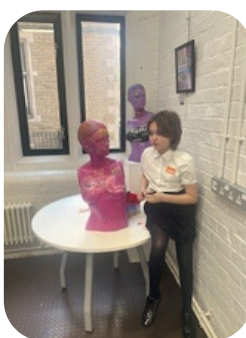
#### Engineering Careers Talk

Year 10 GCSE Engineering students benefited from gaining an insight in to the life of an engineer, when David Beet from United Castbar came in to talk to them about what United Castbar do, the skills and knowledge needed in the engineering sector, and the benefits of apprenticeships.



#### HEPP - Higher Education Progression Partnership

The Bolsover school works in partnership with HEPP, Higher Education Progression Partnership, as we aim to encourage more young people to consider Higher Education opportunities. A mix of 15 Year 9 and 10 students visited the University of Sheffield in March, and they participated in various workshops, and we had a tour of the university, students loved the world's biggest Paternoster lift in the arts tower!





For Easter, Alex A in Y8 has created some artwork for the newsletter! Thanks for the hard work Alex, and we cannot wait to see where your drawing skills take you in the future!



## Fire Cadet Success!

Congratulations to Abbi H on achieving her BTEC Level 2 Certificate on Fire and Rescue Services in the Community! This is a fantastic achievement and we wish Abbi the best of luck with all future pursuits.





# FUSION LEARNING

Louie H has been completing alternative provision at Engineered Learning. In this article, we showcase Louie's work and ask - what does this opportunity involve and what have you learnt so far?

I have attended the placement for over 15 weeks, from 9.30am until 2pm. I am enjoying the opportunity to do something which is different to school. I now feel more motivated at school. The alternative provision is at Engineered Learning, and Dan and Chloe teach us.

I have made a money box, I cut the shape out with a bandsaw and cutting disc, ensured it was fully marked up, found the middle point, created small pilot holes with a center punch, and then used a pistol drill, increasing from 3mm, then 5mm to 7mm to avoid the drill jamming.

I used a welding bay, and welded the top and bottom. After allowing it to cool I used an angle grinder to polish it, and finally painted the piece. We worked out how many pound coins it would hold.... 972 pound coins in total!

I enjoy using Maths in the work place - GCSE D&T, Physics and Maths have really helped my understanding of doing mathematical engineering tasks. I love measuring and cutting using these skills, and I am also following engineering sketches which involve lots of mental mathematics!

I have also made an engineering try-square using a laser cut out. I knocked off the slag with a hammer and chisel, and then used a sanding disc, angle grinder and polishing discs to remove surface level rust.

My alternative provision has allowed for me to develop new skills, and has helped me to decide what I want to do after school. I feel a lot more eager to learn now, as I can see the practical benefits of my studies.

My future plans are to work at Aztec oils as an apprentice.





# Uniform Reminder

We have a uniform policy that reflects the professional attitude we aspire our students to have and all staff are instructed to challenge students regarding their uniform and appearance during the day. High academic standards and therefore being successful is built upon the solid foundation of day to day positive habits which includes uniform and appearance.

We believe the benefits of a professional uniform policy include **creating a sense of community, reduces the potential for bullying, increases safety, prepares students for employment and improves study ethic**. The full uniform expectations can be found on the school website under the 'parents' section but could we please draw your attention to the following points:

- Black trainers are NOT allowed – black shoes only
- Hoodies and sweaters are NOT allowed – these will be confiscated from students
- Leggings are NOT permitted – plain black school trousers or knee length skirt only which can be ordered from logo leisurewear
- Blazers and ties must be worn – these can be removed during hot weather in the summer
- Unnaturally coloured hair is not permitted
- False eyelashes and false nails are not permitted

All students will be expected to be in full school uniform on the first day back after Easter. We would greatly appreciate it if all parents/carers could support the school in ensuring their child is looking smart and ready for learning by replacing any items that are missing or no longer fit.

