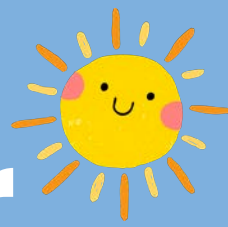


# The Bolsover School Newsletter



Summer 2024

## Summer

Exciting opportunities  
await...

As we approach the end of another academic year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we've shared at Bolsover Secondary School. Our students, staff, and community have demonstrated resilience, determination, and unwavering support for one another.

Our students have achieved remarkable milestones, both academically and personally. From creative projects such as the Matilda production and a performance at the Globe Theatre to sports day and a student achieving every single pledge, their dedication has been truly inspiring.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated teaching and support staff. Their commitment to nurturing our students' growth and well-being is commendable. Their tireless efforts behind the scenes make our school a vibrant and nurturing environment.

Your involvement as parents and guardians has been invaluable. Whether attending school events or supporting your child's learning at home, your partnership strengthens our school community. Thank you for being active participants in your child's education.

As we bid farewell to this academic year, let's look forward to the next. Exciting opportunities await our students, and I am confident that together, we will continue to thrive. We eagerly anticipate welcoming our students back on September 9th for the start of the new term.

Wishing you all a restful summer break filled with joy, laughter, and cherished memories.

Kind regards,  
Miss Spence



Head of School



REDHILL ACADEMY TRUST  
Exsisto Optimus



[www.thebolsoverschool.org.uk](http://www.thebolsoverschool.org.uk)

The Bolsover School Official

thebolsoverschool



# House Points

A huge congratulations to Hardwick who have scored an impressive 753 points!

677



676



753



663



627



## The School Day

Lesson timings will be slightly different from September. In order to meet the requirements set out by the Department for Education, lunch has been extended by 5 minutes. This means that the end of the school day will be 3pm.

8:30	Period 1
9:30	Period 2
10:30	Break
10:50	Form / Assemblies
11:20	Period 3
12:20	Lunch
13:00	Period 4
14:00	Period 5
15:00	End of day
> 15:00	Co-curricular

## Trustworthy – Brave – Successful

At The Bolsover School, we strive to create a culture of very high expectations which is articulated through our school motto – ‘nothing but the best’. We believe that for an individual to be the best they can be, they should leave school as a trustworthy, brave and successful young person. These three values will underpin everything we do in school on a day to day basis and are underpinned by routines, rules and behaviour norms that we expect our students to adhere to at all times.

Students will be held to the following code of conduct:

### Trustworthy

- We act in a calm, sensible and orderly manner both in and out of lessons.
- We have good manners and treat other people with kindness and dignity.
- We are open-minded and have respect for diversity.

### Brave

- We listen and respond to feedback in a positive manner.
- We are stoic and resilient during challenging situations.
- We are independent and take responsibility for our actions.

### Successful

- We respect that everybody has the right to learn.
- We are well-organised in terms of punctuality, uniform and equipment.
- We approach all aspects of school with maximum effort and determination.



Trustworthy – Brave – Successful

## Six rules for successful learning

We have **six** very clear classroom rules that apply at all times:

1. Put your hand up to speak
2. Listen in silence when instructed
3. Be fully equipped every lesson
4. Remain seated and facing the teacher
5. Be kind and respectful to others
6. Try your best

We believe these rules ensure successful learning can take place for all students. We have a strong belief that as the adult in the room, the teacher must always be in charge for very good reasons. They are also the subject expert and in order for all students to reach their full potential, they must be allowed to teach. We have zero tolerance for any student who purposefully breaks these rules.



## Year 11 Prom #ClassOf2024

On the 27th June 2024 our Year 11 students had their Prom at the SMH Group Stadium, home of Chesterfield FC. We hope all of our leavers enjoyed the evening and wish you all the success for the future.



### *Songs for the People*

Frances Ellen Watkins Harper  
 Let me make the songs for the people,  
 Songs for the old and young;  
 Songs to stir like a battle-cry  
 Wherever they are sung.  
 Not for the clashing of sabres,  
 For carnage nor for strife;  
 But songs to thrill the hearts of men  
 With more abundant life.  
 Let me make the songs for the weary,  
 Amid life's fever and fret,  
 Till hearts shall relax their tension,  
 And careworn brows forget.  
 Let me sing for little children,  
 Before their footsteps stray,  
 Sweet anthems of love and duty,  
 To float o'er life's highway.  
 I would sing for the poor and aged,  
 When shadows dim their sight;  
 Of the bright and restless maidens,  
 Where there shall be no night.  
 Our world, so worn and weary,  
 Needs music, pure and strong,  
 To hush the jangle and discords  
 Of sorrow, pain, and wrong.  
 Music to soothe all its sorrow,  
 Till war and crime shall cease;  
 And the hearts of men grown tender  
 Gild the world with peace.

## Poetry by Heart

Matha M gave a storming performance of Songs for the People at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London in the Poetry By Heart competition.

Poetry By Heart is a national competition in which students are invited to learn poems and recite them, practicing performance poetry. The competition supports reading, literacy skills, language and vocabulary. Over 110,000 children and young people were involved in Poetry By Heart 2024. A record-breaking 48,000 poems were performed by heart by young people across the United Kingdom this year. To be selected as a finalist is an unbelievable feat, and Matha captivated the audience with her stunning recital.

Mr Hallam's full account of the event can be found in the Summer Curriculum Newsletter!



## Dreadlock Alien

A group of Year 7 pupils who have made significant progress in the Accelerated Reader programme this year were invited to a Trust-wide celebration event at Oakwood Academy in Nottingham.

The workshop was led by performance poet the Dreadlock Alien, aka Richard Grant. The students produced and presented some fabulous poetry, based on books they have read, in front of an audience of well over a hundred people.

They are all to be congratulated on their creativity, determination and willingness to step outside their comfort zone. Their love of reading is taking them from strength to strength.

- Miss King, Librarian



## Skiing in the Nationals!

In April, Hannah B represented The Bolsover School in the finals of the National Schools dry Slope event in Gloucestershire and came 5th!

Hannah also took part in the National School Championships (South) at Hemel Hempstead Snow Centre and placed 2nd in the under 19s!

In May, she participated in the Welsh National and in July took part in the National Schools Championships (North).

Congratulations to Hannah for these achievements and we hope you continue with your skiing success!



## Talk the Talk

Year 8 students had the privilege of engaging in oracy workshops with Talk the Talk, who provide sessions designed to improve students' speaking and listening skills.

By enabling a student to find their voice and use it confidently, Talk the Talk are shaping the leaders of the future.

Students engaged in oracy games and were encouraged to trust each other and value people's opinions. Staff had a great time getting involved too!

You can keep up to date with Talk the Talk via their social media - @talkthetalkUK.



## Young Fashion Designers

Miss Martin is very proud of her students who have entered some fashion competitions!

Larni R was tasked with creating a series of designs exploring her identity for 'The Young Talent of Tomorrow' fashion design competition. Larni based her designs around her favourite books and British culture.

Millie P entered the 'Young Fashion Designer Award 2024'. Millie's work was based on recreating a common and underused item of clothing to help reduce fast fashion. For this, she created a series of designs to reuse a school uniform once a student has finished school!

## Mathematic Enrichment



A group of KS4 students had a great time at a session run by the Advanced Mathematics Support Program.

This girls enrichment session aims to inspire and enthuse female students about maths and to help them to consider post-16 mathematics options.



## A Quest for the Witch

Our Dungeons and Dragons adventurers have spent this year completing A Quest For The Witch.

Our brave adventurers - Aspen, Verdos, Bartok WithaQ, Cogsley, Gerald, Jon Wick, Dave, Rapid Slayer, Eryn, and Phil have travelled across the land to earn favour with the Witch by returning her stolen goods.

They battled mind games in the Corn Maze of the Scarecrow to win the Helm of Invisibility; competed in events to steal Liquid Courage from Big Bertha (the Tabaxi Carnival main attraction), navigated traps and fought automatons to retrieve the Heartstone Brooch from the Warforged Factory.

The culmination of these artifacts lured out the big bad evil guy, the Hag, and her dog, who had stolen the Witch's Winged Boots.

A three-week-long fight ensued that the fearless adventurers won... and only then did they realise they had been playing The Wizard of Oz all along.

A big well done to Kacey-Mai T, William B, Rudi A, Thomas B, Owen C, Emily H, Leo D, Dexter S, Addison T and William D. May your rolls be Nat 20s all summer.





## Equipment

All students will be required to bring with them to school at least the following equipment; pen, pencil, ruler, student card and a reading book.

In addition to this, students will be required to bring their PE kit, food technology ingredients or any other equipment/resources requested by their class teacher.

We don't just teach subjects; we teach students how to be better and more resourceful people. Being organised is an important life skill and habit we want all of our students to have in order to make them more successful. Please could you support your child in having the correct equipment needed for school and remind them about good organisation to improve their chances of success.

## Mobile devices (inc. earpods)

Smartphones are now a huge part of people's lives, changing the way that we communicate, socialise, access entertainment, shop and even order food!

In education, any benefits of smartphone use are far outweighed by the drawbacks. Smartphone use in school has a detrimental effect upon a student's ability to focus and concentrate, think deeply, avoid distractions and concentrate on difficult material.

Please can we remind parents that we operate a complete ban on smartphone use both in lessons and at social times.

Staff apply this rule using the 'not seen and not heard' principle when dealing with smartphone misuse. Proven misuse of a smartphone and/or earpods will result in the device being confiscated for collection by the student at the end of the day.

Refusal to hand over a smartphone or repeated transgressions will result in additional sanctions. Teaching students how to use technology is just as much about teaching them when not to use it and we firmly believe young people being device-free from 8.30am until 3.00pm can only be beneficial for their general health and well-being.

## Year 11 Graduation

Congratulations to all of our Y11 leavers! We hope you have a fantastic summer break and we wish you all the success in your future endeavours.

Results day is **Thursday 22nd August!**

#Classof2024

## Punctuality

There is a very basic principle when it comes to lateness in schools – if a student isn't in a lesson, they aren't learning. Being late by just 3 or 4 minutes every lesson soon becomes a habit that is slowly building up problems for the future.

We are committed to ensuring punctuality both first thing in the morning and to all lessons throughout the day is of the highest standard and therefore it will be seen as an extremely high priority in September. We define good punctuality as not being on time but being as early as possible. This helps students to arrive at lessons in a calm and purposeful manner, improving focus, concentration and ultimately helps them become more successful.

To not challenge students regarding their punctuality is doing them a disservice – all students will be monitored every lesson of every day with sanctions in place for repeat offenders. Please re-iterate to your child the importance of being as early as possible to all lessons.

## High expectations

We expect 'nothing but the best' from each and every one of our students through raising the standard of acceptable performance – whether this is based on attitude in lessons, punctuality or uniform standards.

Having high expectations means having the same high standards for ALL students regardless of their circumstances and having a genuine belief that ALL students can meet them.

Sometimes, students make a mistake and get it wrong. Everybody makes mistakes but what is important is that we learn from them to make better choices next time.

High expectations means we sometimes have to sanction students. When we issue a sanction to a student, it is because we care about them reaching their full potential and 'to let them off would be to let them down'.



## The power of routines

Routines provide structure and make us feel safe and secure about what is about to happen. We are asking students to make lots of decisions throughout the day. If we want them to make the right decision, then it is important that they have quick, readily available examples of what the right thing to do is. Whole school routines save time by the teacher not having to repeat themselves; they reassure students that there is consistency, structure and justice; they stop poor behaviour happening resulting in a more positive learning environment; they teach students good habits and they free up a student's thinking space for much better things. Routines must be learned which means someone has to teach them.

In September, we will be introducing a range of 'whole-school routines' which will be used by every student in every lesson, every day. Research suggests that these not only improve behaviour but allow a student to focus on more important things such as the lesson content rather than wondering how to line up or where to put their bag. These will be taught to our students with as much care and attention as algebra or Shakespeare.

Examples of these routines include how to line up; how to enter a classroom; how to leave a classroom; how to focus on the teacher; how to enter during assembly; how to walk down the corridor and how to enter the refectory.

## Good manners

We define having good manners as 'treating the other person as if they matter' and this applies to the entire school community – both students and staff.

The good manners we want to see demonstrated by staff and students include:

- Saying please, thank you and excuse me.
- Holding the door open for others.
- Making eye contact when talking to others.
- Not interrupting others when they are talking.
- Responding to people when they speak to you.
- Asking for permission if you are unsure about doing something.
- Knocking on doors and waiting for a response before entering.

Students will be challenged on their manners and these will be modelled by staff at all times. We want The Bolsover School to be a place where everyone is treated in a way that makes them feel as if they matter.

# Celebrating art

## Creative Computing!

This term students were set a project based homework. Their task was to create, make or design something that is related to computing.

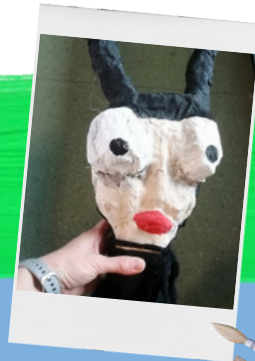
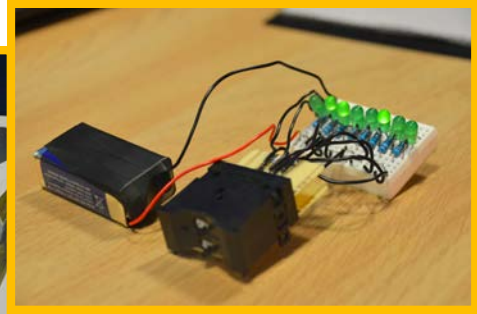
Different groups were given different years to research and to make something related to that spread of years:

- X1 and Y1 - focused on computing before 1800.
- X2 and Y2 - focused on computing between 1800 and 1900.
- X3 and Y3 - focused on computing between 1900 and 2000.
- X4 and Y4 - focused on computing from 2000 onwards.

This was the only criteria, everything else was left to their imagination on what to create.

Some amazing work has been produced!

- Mr Ward, Head of Business and Computing



Year 8 have been busy creating puppets inspired by the illustrative work of Tim Burton other fictional characters (above). They have also produced some abstract collage portraiture inspired by the work of Hannah Hoch (below).



# SPORTS DAY

A huge congratulations to Nightingale who were crowned Sports Day Champions for the second year running!

Only one point separated 1st, 2nd and 3rd place!

It was great to see students cheering each other on whilst engaging in a variety of competitive events. Excellent performances were given, whether this be javelin, discus, high jump, the track events - or even croquet!

We would like to thank the students for their excellent behaviour and for making the day enjoyable for all.



# Uniform



The full policy can be found on our website:  
[www.thebolsoverschool.org.uk](http://www.thebolsoverschool.org.uk) - Parents - School Uniform

## Prohibited Items

The below items are prohibited in school and the **new** uniform policy should be followed at all times.

### ✗ Hoodies



### ✗ Unbranded trousers & skirts



### ✗ Trainers



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 at the discretion of the staff
- Unnaturally coloured hair is not permitted
- False nails are not permitted

All students will be expected to be in full school uniform on the first day back in September. We would greatly appreciate it if all parents/carers could support the school in ensuring their child adheres to the uniform policy.

