

# The Bolsover School Newsletter



Winter 2024

## Winter

Time to enjoy a well earned rest...

As we approach the festive season and the end of the first full term of this academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on what has been an enjoyable start to the year whilst keeping an eye on what is still to come.

Last month we hosted our annual Celebration Evening, which was a fabulous event. It was wonderful to see so many of our students being recognised for their hard work and achievements. The evening was filled with joy and pride as we celebrated the diverse talents and accomplishments of our students. Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended and supported this special event.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Year 11 cohort for the way in which they approached their recent mock examinations. Seeing so many of the students take on board the advice and strategies learnt during the revision conference was extremely pleasing.

I am delighted to share that our students performed exceptionally well at the recent district cross country event. We had several strong performances, with one of our students winning his race! Congratulations go to Jacob for this achievement. We are incredibly proud of all our participants for their dedication and hard work. Their efforts meant that we were crowned the overall winners of the event.



Looking ahead, we are thrilled to announce that our school will be staging a production of the musical "Oliver JR!" in the new year. Our students have been working tirelessly in rehearsals, and we are confident that this will be a spectacular show. Please keep an eye on the school calendar and alerts about ticket sales in order to join us for what promises to be an unforgettable performance.

As we wrap up this term, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all parents and carers for your unwavering support so far this year. Your involvement and encouragement are vital to the success of our students and the school community. We truly appreciate your commitment and partnership.




As we look forward to the new year, I am excited about the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. Together, we will continue to support our students in their journey to success.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable holiday season.

Kind regards,  
Miss Spence  
*Head of School*



 **REDHILL**  
ACADEMY TRUST  
Equality and Achievement

 [www.thebolsoverschool.org](http://www.thebolsoverschool.org)  
 The Bolsover School Official  
 thebolsoverschool

# House Points

Nightingale are currently in the lead with 348 points!

322



326



342



300



348



## Curriculum Plus



Curriculum Plus was launched for this year with a new look!

The new booklet contains a vast number of different clubs and extra-curricular activities.

Whether you are interested in Homework, Football, Debating, Dungeons and Dragons - or even Oasis - there is certainly something for everyone!

Check out the full booklet on our website - [www.thebolsoverschool.org](http://www.thebolsoverschool.org) - Students - Curriculum Plus.



## Our School and Trust Values

At our school, we are guided by a set of core values that underpin everything we do:

- **We promote high expectations for all our students**

We believe in the potential of every student and strive to create an environment where they can achieve their best.

- **We are committed to equality and diversity**

We celebrate the unique backgrounds and perspectives of our students and staff, fostering an inclusive and respectful community.

- **We value and celebrate academic achievement**

Academic excellence is at the heart of our mission, and we take pride in the accomplishments of our students.

- **We aim to widen students' experiences**

Beyond the classroom, we offer a range of extra-curricular activities and opportunities to enrich our students' lives. This can be seen in our curriculum plus offer which includes a range of different clubs that students can take part outside of formal lesson time. We encourage every single student to take part in something in order to develop new skills and refine existing ones.

- **We consistently deliver outstanding teaching**

Our dedicated staff are committed to providing high-quality education and inspiring our students to reach their full potential.

## 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.

## SHOUT OUT



Exceptional work and attitude towards learning will be recognised with all new Shout Outs!

Keep up the hard work and one may be sent your way...



## Celebration Evening 🎉

On 14th November we hosted our annual celebration evening. Students were nominated by their teachers to receive a variety of awards for their attainment and achievement across all subjects, as well as rewards for contribution to the school.



## Wear it Pink 🎀

Teaching and support staff wore pink as part of Breast Cancer Now's Wear it Pink event.

We raised £85 and looked fabulous whilst doing so!

£85!



## Festive Food Bank 🎄

Our food bank collection for #RHFestiveFoodBank was once again a huge success! Thanks to all who donated items.

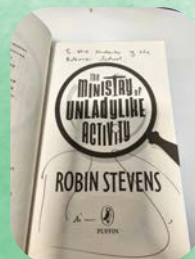


## Book Signing 📖

Over half-term Mrs Gillian went to a book signing with Robin Stevens, the author of the popular Murder Most Unladylike series.

She kindly signed a book from her latest series: The Ministry of Unladylike Activity on behalf of the school.

It was a brilliant experience and she was fascinating to listen to! The audience even created their own murder story with her help.



## Black belt in Kickboxing! 🏆

Jacob F has recently achieved 2nd Dan Black Belt in Kickboxing at his Kickboxing Academy.

This is a great achievement and we hope Jacob continues to progress with his sport.



## Macmillan Coffee Morning ☕

At the end of September students were busy baking and kindly donated cakes for our Macmillan Coffee Morning cake sale.

Thanks to all who donated cakes and those who purchased a piece.

We raised a grand total of £171.16!

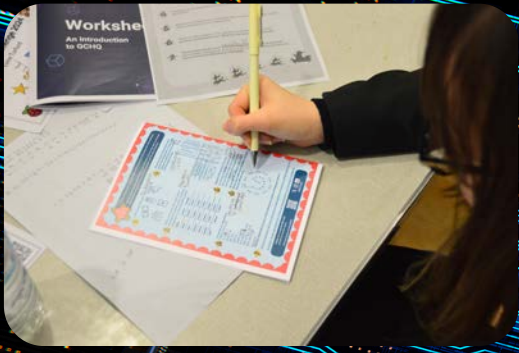


£171!

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT



# GCHQ Christmas Challenge



## Christmas Codebreakers

On 11th December our students were busy solving puzzles as part of GCHQ's annual Christmas Challenge!

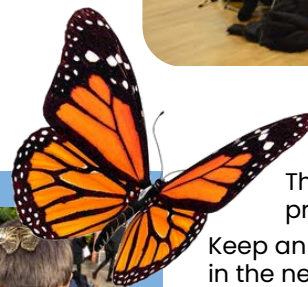
The Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) is one of the three UK Intelligence and Security agencies. They work alongside MI5 and SIS (also known as MI6). Their goal is to identify, analyse, and disrupt threats to the UK, working across several missions from counter-terrorism and serious crime, cyber security and support to defence, through to protecting the NHS and improving the nation's economic resilience.

The GCHQ Christmas Challenge is a series of seven puzzles that need to be solved to reveal the secret hidden message. Students had to work together as a team, using their combined skills to crack the code!



## A trip to the Tropical Butterfly House

Miss Richmond took a group of Art students to the Tropical Butterfly House in South Yorkshire. Students enjoyed drawing the animals and had a great time exploring the park.



## Food Glorious Food!

The Bolsover School will proudly present Oliver JR! in 2025. Keep an eye on our social media in the new year for more details...





## Bebras Challenge

Students took part in the Bebras challenge this term. The UK Bebras challenge is organised by the Raspberry Pi Foundation and delivered in partnership with the University of Oxford. It is designed to introduce computational thinking to students worldwide. This exciting challenge takes place in schools, under the supervision of teachers, over a two-week period every November. Last year, over 3 million students from more than 80 countries participated!

In the UK, the challenge is open to all young people aged 6 to 19. Each participant has 45 minutes to tackle a series of interactive tasks, designed to encourage logical thinking and problem-solving skills appropriate for their age group. The challenge is conducted online, and tasks are marked automatically by the competition system. The tasks are designed to allow every student the opportunity to showcase their potential, whether they excel in maths or computing, or not.

Mr Ward entered all of our Year 8's and 9's in to the Intermediate level, with just over 240,000 students participating in the challenge this year. Mr Ward would like to give a special mention to 11 students who gained gold certificates.

These certificates are produced on national grade boundaries for the top 10% of students in the challenge!

A huge congratulations to:

Thomas B	Yuvraj D	Esme T	Melissa H
Addison T	Dexter S	Samuel N	Roksana D
Emily T	Kieran B	Benjamin W	



Raspberry Pi Foundation



## Bolsover District Cross Country

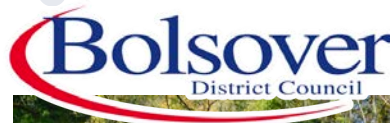
The District Cross Country Qualifiers took place in November. We were crowned champions overall on the day, finishing first place in 5 out of 6 categories!

Out of 76 places across the whole district, 26 of our students have qualified for the County Championships in January, which is an amazing achievement.

Good luck to all at the Championships! 🏆

## Young Voice

Students representing The Bolsover School as part of Bolsover District Councils Young Voice met up with other schools at Creswell Crags earlier this term.



**VIRTUAL ROWING COMPETITION**

**2,913**  
STUDENTS ENTERED

**1,997,896**  
METRES ROWED

## Trust Rowing Competition

Bolsover student Isla R has won the Trust Virtual Rowing Competition for the Year 8 Girls category!

Across the trust, 2,913 students entered rowing a combined total of 1,997,896 metres. Isla rowed 738 metres in only 3 minutes.

All winners received a £20 voucher, a London Youth Rowing water bottle and a certificate celebrating their achievements.

Well done Isla!

## New minibus



We waved goodbye to our old mini bus at the end of the school year. We have a new one to continue taking students on a variety of **co-curricular** and **extra-curricular** activities!





## Loud and Proud is BACK!

Loud and Proud is back with a fresh new look. Keep an eye on our social media in the new year to see students showcasing their best work.



## Art Gallery

Take a look at the latest selection of student artwork. Emma H (Y11) has produced some amazing Lino printing, and Riley B (Y11) has produced some spectacular works of local shops in the town centre!

Our Year 8 students have also produced some excellent sketches, with a sketch of a Dog by Henry S and a Roaring Lion by William D.



# PUMPKIN COMPETITION

It was great to see a wide range of spooky creations for the pumpkin competition this year! Congratulations to all who entered to earn valuable house points - these contributions add up and make a difference at the end of the school year.





## Careers Fair

We had a great turn out at our annual Careers Fair for our Year 11 students.

A number of Post-16 providers visited us, providing a great opportunity for our students to find out more information about a wide range of potential career paths - helping them decide on their next steps!



## Detective L Stewart

We had an insightful careers talk from Detective Constable Leyon Stewart. He provided us with up to date, accurate and realistic information about all the career pathways with Derbyshire Constabulary.

DC Stewart has served in the Police force for over 30 years. He has undertaken lots of covert investigations, often living away from home and assuming another identity, so that criminals do not identify him as a law enforcement detective. Fascinating but also sobering listening to the situations he has dealt with and the criminals he has helped to arrest and incarcerate.



## Mr Frostbite

Nigel Vardy (aka Mr Frostbite) came in to school to give a motivational assembly for our Year 8 students.

Nigel is a Mountaineer and Adventurer who has climbed mountains across the world, as well as having a career in Engineering for over 35 years.

In the assembly Nigel provided an insight in to his life, discussing the adversity he faced and how he overcame these challenges. In 1999 at the age of 30 he lost his nose, fingers and toes in temperatures of -60 degrees Celsius on Mt. McKinley, Alaska.



Nigel talked passionately about working hard, achieving your potential and how to believe in yourself. We hope his enthusiasm and storytelling had a positive impact on our students and offered them a new perspective on how to overcome life's challenges. Thanks to Speakers for Schools, Nigel, and Mrs Crossley for making this possible.

## We will remember them

On Armistice Day all of our students took part in a two-minute silence. A wreath was laid at our memorial by our Student Leadership Team.

A group of 'Young Voice' students visited The Arc in Clowne for Bolsover District Council's Remembrance Service. The students can be seen pictured (bottom right) with the Chair of the Council, Cllr Tom Munro, and the CEO Karen Hanson.



# Uniform



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

