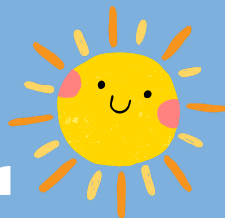


The Bolsover School Newsletter



Summer 2026

Summer

Successful Year of Achievement, Growth and Recognition...

As we reach the end of another successful academic year at The Bolsover School, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support, encouragement, and partnership.

Looking back over the year, there is much to celebrate. Our students have continued to demonstrate the resilience, ambition, and determination that make The Bolsover School such a special place. Whether in the classroom, on the sports field, through the arts, in leadership opportunities, or through the wide range of enrichment activities available, they have embraced every opportunity and represented the school with pride.

This year has seen many highlights. Students have taken part in a variety of Trust events and competitions, including rowing, poetry, and chess, alongside a growing programme of co-curricular activities that continue to provide opportunities for every young person to discover and develop their talents. It has been wonderful to see so many students building confidence, developing new skills, and engaging fully with school life.

One of the most significant moments of the year was the publication of our Ofsted report following the inspection that took place earlier in the academic year. We were delighted that inspectors recognised the many strengths of our school, noting our ambitious leadership, inclusive ethos, strong behaviour standards, and the high aspirations we hold for every student.



Inspectors highlighted that pupils are prepared well for their next steps, that personal development is central to our work, and that our curriculum reflects the high ambitions we have for our young people. These comments reflect the hard work of our students, staff, parents, and carers, and they reinforce our shared commitment to continual improvement. I would like to thank all of you for being a part of this journey.

[Continued on the next page]

 **REDHILL**
ACADEMY TRUST
Equality and Achievement



 www.thebolsoverschool.org
 **The Bolsover School Official**
 **thebolsoverschool**

As we look ahead to September, we are excited to welcome our new Year 7 students and their families to The Bolsover School community. Recent transition events have given us a wonderful opportunity to meet the newest members of our school, and we have already been impressed by their enthusiasm and eagerness to begin their secondary school journey. We know they will quickly become valued members of our community, and we look forward to supporting them as they embark on this important next chapter.

September will also see the introduction of our new Management Information System, Arbor. This exciting development will further strengthen communication between school and home, providing parents and carers with improved access to key information about attendance, behaviour, achievements, and school communications. We appreciate that any change of system takes time, and we thank families in advance for their patience and support as we make this transition. We are confident that Arbor will further enhance our partnership with parents and carers.

I would like to thank our exceptional staff. Every day they go above and beyond to support, challenge, and inspire our students. Their dedication, expertise, and care are at the heart of everything we do, and I am extremely grateful for their continued commitment to our school.

As we come to the end of the academic year, we must say farewell to several valued members of staff who are moving on to new opportunities. We would like to thank Mr Derbyshire (Modern Foreign Languages), Miss James (Art), Miss Camfield (Maths), Miss Bennett (History), Mrs Willis (Art) and Mrs Brown (Food Technician) for their dedication, hard work, and commitment to our students and wider school community. Each has made a significant contribution to life at The Bolsover School over the years, helping to shape the experiences of countless young people. On behalf of everyone at the school, I would like to wish them every success and happiness for the future as they begin the next chapter of their careers and lives.

During the summer break, I encourage our students to take time to relax, enjoy time with family and friends, and make the most of the opportunities that summer brings.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support throughout the year. It is a privilege to lead such a vibrant, ambitious, and caring school community. I wish all our families a safe, restful, and enjoyable summer holiday, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back in September.

Kind regards,
Miss S. Spence
Head of School



House Points

A huge congratulations to **Peveril** who are this year's winning house with an incredible 1234 house points!



993



1075



991



1225



1234





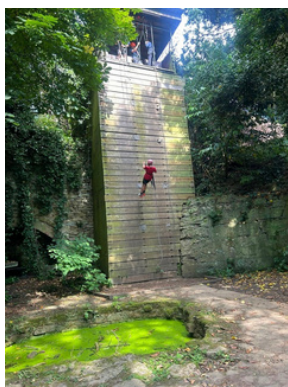
The Lion King at the Primary Dance Festival

Our talented student dance group recently performed at the Primary Dance Festival and wowed the audience with an energetic performance of 'I Just Can't Wait to be King' from The Lion King. Choreographed by Libby, the students also performed at our Summer Showcase!



Trip to Geneva

This term a group of students enjoyed an exciting trip to Geneva, Switzerland. Students participated in tours including the United Nations, CERN, and rode the Mont-Salève Cable Car, with extraordinary views at the top!



Outdoor Activities at Manor Adventure

Our Manor Adventure trip saw students participating in a wide range of outdoor sporting activities including kayaking, archery and abseiling. All students had a fantastic time, requiring teamwork and support for one another to complete all of the activities.



Bolsover Engagement Hub Visit

A group of our students visited the Bolsover Engagement Hub on Cotton Street in Bolsover town centre. The Engagement Hub is a creative space to give local people, including young people, the opportunity to discuss and explore their own ideas for the future of the town. The hub forms part of Bolsover District Council's £15 million regeneration plans.

Our students took part in a series of interactive activities based on real-world processes used in town planning and regeneration. Students gained an insight into how different council teams work, from planning and regeneration to safety, business support, and environmental health. The visit concluded with a careers activity, allowing our students to ask questions about the opportunities available and the steps they can take to pursue those career paths. Our students were outstanding in their contribution, ideas, and overall engagement throughout.



Year 9 Students Visit EMTEC

A group of our Year 9 students had the exciting opportunity to visit EMTEC, part of Nottingham College, for an employer engagement experience. The visit provided a valuable insight into the world of work, particularly within the engineering and construction sectors. During the day, students explored state-of-the-art facilities and workshops, where they were introduced to a range of career pathways.



The School Garden Project 🌱

A big thank you to NAL Plant, Muk Tubs, Topps Tiles and Bolsover Sheds and Fencing for their kind donations and support with the school garden project! If anyone can offer further support with this project, please contact the school.



Street Doctors

This term we were visited by Street Doctors – an award-winning national charity specialising in training young people in the physical and psychological consequences of street violence. The training is delivered through a network of young healthcare leaders (trainee doctors, nurses, and paramedics) who volunteer with youth workers across the UK to empower young people to become lifesavers in their community.

4000 Pages in 1 Day!

Our participation in the trust-wide 'Read for Good' readathon was once again a huge success. Over 4000 pages were read throughout the day!

11 students spent the whole day in the Library to raise money for Read for Good as part of our National Year of Reading celebrations. Read for Good is a charity that provides access to books for children in schools and hospitals in the UK, as well as tools and resources for parents and professionals to motivate children to read.



Year 7 Emotion Monsters

This term, Year 7 students have been exploring the theme of emotions through the exciting concept of "Emotion Monsters." Inspired by the work of contemporary artist James DeRosso, pupils have investigated how colour, shape and texture can be used to express different feelings in creative and imaginative ways. Students began by studying DeRosso's vibrant and expressive monster illustrations, discussing how artists communicate mood and personality through exaggerated features and bold design choices. They then developed their own unique "emotion monsters," experimenting with drawing techniques and refining their ideas in preparation for a 3D outcome. To conclude the project, students will be creating clay pinch pots inspired by their original emotion monster designs. This will give them the opportunity to build on their practical skills, learning key ceramic techniques such as shaping, joining, and adding surface detail.





Outside and Live 🎵

Students and staff have been taking to the stage each week throughout the summer term for Mr Stacey's Outside and Live! This annual set of lunchtime concerts is always very popular and eagerly anticipated by all, seeing both staff and students providing entertainment for the courtyard. It is always a fantastic pop-up event that really celebrates live music and encourages students to be brave and step into the spotlight!



Girls Robotics Champions 🤖🏆

Congratulations to our students Charlotte, Annabel, Emily, Sienna, Evie, Hope, Poppy and Lacey who represented The Bolsover School at the 2026 Redhill Academy Trust Year 8 Girls Robotics Competition. Bolsover Team 1 took first place for the best individual team and won the 'Acrylic Robot' trophy. The Bolsover School was also the overall winner and took home the 'Flame of Creation' trophy.

This was the second time The Bolsover School proudly hosted the event, with secondary schools from across Redhill Academy Trust competing to complete a series of challenges by programming a micro:bit robot. The event aims to promote computer science for girls and provides an opportunity for them to showcase their programming talent outside the classroom. Many thanks must also go to our Head of Computing and Business, Mr Ward, for organising the event and for training our winning teams!



Girls Cricket Champions 🏏🏆

Our U13 girls' cricket team has been crowned District Champions after an outstanding performance at The John Fretwell Centre.

Playing in extremely hot conditions throughout the day, the girls showed tremendous determination, resilience, and skill. Their success was built on excellent teamwork, with every player contributing and supporting one another both on and off the field. The camaraderie and positive spirit within the squad were evident in every match, helping them overcome tough opposition and ultimately secure victory.

The team displayed great sportsmanship and represented the school with pride and enthusiasm throughout the competition. We are incredibly proud of all the players for their fantastic achievement. They are a real credit to the school and thoroughly deserved to be crowned District Cricket Champions.

Congratulations to the entire team on a memorable and well-earned victory!

Trust Chess Tournament ♟️

A huge well done to Harry, Dhruv, Oliver, Lavenia, Lacey, Masa and Ivy for competing against all other trust secondary academies at the Redhill Academy Trust Chess Championships 2026!



We have raised...

£1400

Thank you to all! ♥

Sponsored Walk

We are delighted to announce that our Sponsored Walk and Non-Uniform Day have raised a grand total of £1400 for The Brain Tumour Charity and Brain Tumour Research! Thank you to all who have donated and participated in both fundraising events. These have been in memory of our former staff member, Operations Manager Mrs Wilson, who sadly passed away in September last year.



House Awards' Evening

Our annual House Awards' Evening celebrated the successes of students from each form group. Unlike our celebration evening, the house awards are not just about celebrating academic achievement, but rather traits such as a willingness to learn, responsibility, respect for others, and perseverance.



Summer Showcase

Our Summer Showcase was a wonderful celebration of the hard work, talent and achievements of our students. Performing in front of an audience is always challenging, but our students excelled - with musical performances and dance routines - all while raising money for Diabetes UK.



Hardwick House take the trophy from Nightingale at Sports Day!

Hardwick are champions at Sports Day 2026!

Mr Crespin's house ended Nightingale's three-year winning streak to take the crown for this year's Sports Day!

Well done to everyone who participated and represented their house - it was great to see all students supporting one another.

Keep an eye on our socials and website as photos of Sports Day will be released very soon!



Prom '26

Our Year 11 Prom was held once again at the SMH Group Stadium. It was wonderful to see everyone enjoying time with friends and making memories to celebrate their time at The Bolsover School.

We would like to wish our Year 11 students the very best for the future. We are so proud of everything you have achieved and can't wait to see what comes next.

Keep an eye on our socials and website as photos of Prom '26 will be released very soon!

Year 10 Design and Technology Students Begin Their GCSE NEA Journey

Year 10 Design and Technology students at The Bolsover School have officially begun one of the most important elements of their GCSE course – the Non-Examination Assessment (NEA). Worth 50% of their final GCSE grade, the NEA gives students the opportunity to demonstrate their creativity, design thinking and practical manufacturing skills by solving a real-life design problem.

This year's AQA contextual themes encourage students to design innovative products linked to:

- Making and Enjoying Music
- Exploring Outdoors
- In the Classroom

Students will now investigate one of these themes, identifying the needs and wants of a real client or user before developing a design brief and specification. They will carry out research, generate a range of creative design ideas, develop and refine their chosen solution, manufacture a high-quality prototype and evaluate how successfully it meets the needs of their client. Throughout the project, students will continually test, improve and justify their decisions, following the iterative design process used by professional designers.

The NEA results in both a professionally presented design portfolio and a fully functioning prototype. It challenges students to combine technical knowledge with creativity, problem-solving and practical skills, preparing them for future study and careers in engineering, product design, architecture and manufacturing.

There has already been a good start to the project, with students exploring the contextual themes and beginning to identify exciting opportunities to solve genuine design problems. Miss Whapplington has produced some incredible resources to support students in reaching their full potential.

GCSE Geography Trip to Burbage Brook and Hathersage

Year 10 GCSE Geography students took part in a field trip to Burbage Brook and Hathersage in the Peak District. Students were collecting data from the river. This involved them having to get into the river to measure the depth and how fast the river was using dog biscuits. The students then went to Hathersage where they had to ask members of the public questions about where they worked and conduct an environmental quality survey. The behaviour of the students on the trip was excellent and they were a credit to the school. The field trip and the following lessons will help students prepare for their unit three exam next summer.



World Cup Poster Competition

The students have been working hard in their tutor groups this term creating a visual presentation about a World Cup country. After the form tutors selected a country at random, students have been researching and putting their presentation together to be judged by Mr Hall and Miss Spence. House points have been awarded on the last day of term to go towards winning the House Trophy.

- N5 – Senegal
- H6 – South Korea
- B6 – Morocco
- A2 – USA
- H5 – Canada



Year 10 Trip to Skill Street

Year 10 took part in an exciting trip to Skill Street as part of our work experience programme, gaining valuable insight into the world of work through a range of interactive activities and industry-led challenges.

Students developed key employability skills including teamwork, communication and presentation skills while engaging with professionals from a variety of sectors, including the NHS, aviation, construction and more. The experience provided a fantastic opportunity for students to explore future career pathways, build confidence and develop the skills employers value most.



Year 10 Food and Nutrition Students Experience University Life at Sheffield Hallam

Our Year 10 Food Preparation and Nutrition students recently enjoyed an inspiring visit to Sheffield Hallam University, where they experienced first-hand what studying Food and Nutrition at university is like. Throughout the day, students explored Sheffield Hallam's impressive specialist facilities, including the development kitchens, food science laboratories and sensory evaluation suite. They discovered how food scientists and nutritionists use these industry-standard facilities to investigate food, develop new products and improve health through nutrition.

The visit included a range of interactive practical activities led by university staff. Students explored the functions of sugar in a cake, took part in sensory evaluation activities and learned how food scientists investigate taste, texture and consumer preferences. They also discovered how food safety, nutrition and food science play an important role in the development of new food products.

The day gave students an excellent insight into the wide variety of careers available within the food industry, including food product development, nutrition, public health, food science and quality assurance. They also learned about the different Food and Nutrition degree courses available at Sheffield Hallam University and the exciting opportunities these can lead to.

Our students represented The Bolsover School exceptionally well throughout the visit. They showed enthusiasm, curiosity and excellent behaviour, asking thoughtful questions and fully engaging in every activity.

Experiences such as this help bring classroom learning to life and inspire students to think about the exciting pathways available to them after school. We would like to thank the staff at Sheffield Hallam University for providing such an informative and enjoyable day, and we look forward to continuing our links with the university in the future.

Explore the sustainable development and production of safe and nutritious food while gaining valuable qualifications:

www.shu.ac.uk/courses/food-and-nutrition/bsc-honours-food-and-nutrition/full-time/2026

Study how diet impacts on health at individual and societal levels on an accredited degree that's ideal for aspiring Registered Nutritionists:

www.shu.ac.uk/courses/food-and-nutrition/bsc-honours-human-nutrition-and-health/full-time/2026

**Sheffield
Hallam
University**



Year 10 Food and Nutrition Students 'Rise' to the Challenge in NEA 2 Practical Assessment!

Our Year 10 Food Preparation and Nutrition students have recently completed a demanding practical assessment, based on the style of the OCR GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition Non-Examination Assessment (NEA 2). The challenge gave students the opportunity to demonstrate the knowledge, technical skills and independence they have developed throughout the year, preparing them well for their GCSE assessment in Year 11.

Working within a three-hour practical session, students planned, organised and produced two high-quality dishes suitable for primary school children, ensuring their menu included fruit and vegetables while meeting the needs of the target group.

Students selected from a range of highly skilled dishes that showcased advanced food preparation techniques. These included:

- Fresh pasta for lasagne
- Homemade pasta served with meatballs
- Choux pastry profiteroles
- Shortcrust pastry quiche
- Roulade, demonstrating the skill of separating eggs
- Bread making, including naan bread to accompany a curry and bread rolls for beef burgers

Throughout the practical assessment, students were expected to demonstrate excellent food safety and hygiene, work efficiently and independently, manage their time effectively, and produce dishes of a high standard with excellent presentation.

The standard of work produced was exceptional. Students approached the challenge with confidence and maturity, working independently throughout the three-hour session and demonstrating impressive organisational skills. They showed resilience when faced with complex techniques and produced a range of high-quality dishes that they were rightly proud of.

Mrs Crossley is incredibly proud of every student. Their commitment, determination and enthusiasm throughout the assessment have been outstanding, and we look forward to seeing them continue to develop their skills as they begin their final GCSE year.



DANCOP Inspires Students Through a Year of Successful Workshops

Students across the school have benefited from a series of engaging and informative workshops delivered by DANCOP throughout this academic year. Designed to raise aspirations, build confidence, and encourage students to think about their future pathways, the sessions have had a positive impact on learners across multiple year groups.

One of the highlights of the year was the 'Steps to Success' programme for Year 9 students. The workshop encouraged students to reflect on their strengths, set goals for the future, and understand the importance of making informed decisions about their education and career pathways. Through interactive activities and discussions, students explored the skills and qualities needed to achieve success both in school and beyond.

Year 7 students also took part in the 'Future Ready' workshops, which focused on communication skills, time management and team working. The sessions encouraged students to recognise their talents, understand the value of learning, and explore how the choices they make today can influence their future aspirations. Students responded enthusiastically to the activities and gained valuable insight into the world of education and work.

Another highly impactful programme delivered by DANCOP was 'He and Me', which provided students with the opportunity to explore topics around identity, aspirations, and personal development. The workshop encouraged meaningful conversations and helped students develop greater self-awareness, confidence, and resilience. Feedback from participants highlighted how valuable they found the experience and the opportunity to reflect on their future goals.

Throughout the year, DANCOP's workshops have complemented the school's commitment to careers education and personal development. By providing students with opportunities to develop essential skills, raise their aspirations, and think positively about their futures, the programmes have made a significant contribution to students' learning and development.

We would like to thank DANCOP for their continued support and for delivering such engaging and inspiring workshops. We look forward to working together again in the future to help our students continue to achieve their full potential.

Youth Action Bolsover

Lots of our students have been involved in Youth Action Bolsover, a long term and youth-led initiative that aims to improve opportunities, support and services for young people across the Bolsover District. It brings together young people, community organisations, public services, employers, funders and local leaders to ensure that the voices of young people help shape decisions that affect their lives.

Young people aged 12-25 who live in the Bolsover District can get involved by:

Joining the youth media collective – This opportunity is ideal for anyone with an interest in either marketing, social media, photography, filmmaking, or graphic design. This group will be telling the story of the project working with professional marketing managers and filmmakers to establish a unique brand (including a more exciting name) created by and for young people in Bolsover. They'll be plenty of opportunities to develop skills across marketing (storytelling, copywriting, PR), film, photography, and design all while working alongside professionals and using professional equipment. There is a strong focus on legacy with this part of the project, and the ambition is for the established group to continue producing work across Bolsover for local events & business. Junction Arts & Defeye Creative will lead on this www.junctionarts.org & www.defeyecreative.co.uk

Joining the youth forum – The youth forum is a leadership development opportunity that will take the findings from the research and drive them forward, creating real change. The first opportunity for this will be at a youth summit event in November where the group will present the initial findings of the programme to key partners and stakeholders. Platform Thirty1 will be leading on this www.platformthirty1.com

Becoming a peer researcher – This is an opportunity for anyone who's interested in conducting interviews, has good relationships with their peers, is comfortable communicating with people, or are scientifically minded. People in this group will be helping to come up with a research question on the topic of what do young people need from Bolsover and then conducting the research with fellow young people. The role will include training opportunities on how to conduct research with The Young Foundation www.youngfoundation.org



Careers trips this year include...

Rolls-Royce, University of Oxford, Food and Nutrition trip to Sheffield Hallam University, Skill Street, West Nottinghamshire College, and Nottingham Trent University.

What are V-Levels?

V Levels are new level 3 vocational qualifications designed as an option for young people aged 16-19 following GCSEs and will be taught in schools and colleges.

- They last 2 years.
- They are similar in size to one A-level.
- Students will be able to take V levels in multiple subjects and in combination with other qualifications such as A-Levels and level 2 English and Maths.
- Learning is designed around real jobs and the skills employers need.
- Students will receive a nationally recognised qualification.
- They attract UCAS points.



Uniform

Prohibited Items

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

✗ Hoodies



✗ Unbranded trousers & skirts



✗ Trainers



The full policy can be found on our website:
www.thebolsoverschool.org - Parents - School Uniform

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 (boots NOT permitted).
- Hoodies and sweaters are NOT allowed – these will be confiscated from students.
- Leggings are NOT permitted – TBS plain black school trousers or TBS knee length skirt only which can be ordered via the links below.
- 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.
- Natural nails only – false nails are not permitted.
- Stud earrings only – hoops are not permitted.
- Students may wear one discreet nose stud – nose rings are not permitted.
- We reserve the right to ask students to remove any jewellery that is deemed as inappropriate or excessive.
- Bags are compulsory and we ask that all students arrive to school with a bag and stationary so that they are ready to learn.



There will be a full uniform check for all students on the first day back, which is Tuesday 8th September (for Years 7 and 11) and Wednesday 9th September (all other year groups). This gives families time to replace any missing items of uniform and ensure students are adhering to our uniform policy. Students not wearing the correct school uniform will be asked to borrow the item from the school store; failure to do so will result in a period of isolation.



www.logoleisurewear.com



www.just-schoolwear.co.uk

