

Welcome

So much has happened in a week.

The country reached a sad, sad milestone of 100,000 deaths from Covid-19. I believe it is so important that none of this staggering human cost is forgotten. It is truly tragic and has had an impact on many families in our community. Please remember, as a school we can offer support to children and their families either directly or by signposting you to specialist help. Please contact us if you need help in any way due to a loss or with mental health and wellbeing support.

Following this tragic death toll and the continued huge pressure on the NHS it was not a surprise that the full reopening of schools has been delayed until 8th March at the earliest. I am sure you'll agree that getting all of our children back into class as soon as possible is vital, though I understand the government's decision to extend the lockdown restrictions and at least we may have more notice to plan for this return.

STAY SAFE. STAY WELL

As has been the case right through this pandemic, I do not have any more information at this stage about full reopening other than what was announced on Wednesday by the Prime Minister. We await further detail from the Department for Education about what this full opening may look like. It seems certain that it will be a 'staggered start' for certain groups of students like we experienced last June, and that 8th March will be the earliest possible date - we are promised 2 weeks notice. What is crucial is that the government ensures that full reopening is done in a way which is safe and sustainable, and inspires confidence. Until then we will be providing high-quality remote learning with many interactive face-to-face experiences for our children. Hearing that the lockdown restrictions will be extended is difficult news for us all as we continue with this challenging situation. I wish to commend our students and you as parents and carers for your continued support and hard work at home in making the best of remote learning. Everyone is uniquely experiencing lockdown and adapting the best they can.

Students have continued to engage brilliantly across every year group with our average remote attendance to five lessons and tutor time each day being a remarkable 95%. On Wednesday, I spent part of my day joining remote lessons across year groups and the curriculum. The learning that was taking place made me feel so proud. The way students and their teachers have adapted, their use of technology, the self-discipline showed and engagement were all quite incredible. I will share some of what I saw later in this newsletter.

The Ofqual Summer Exam Consultation for GCSE, AS and A levels closed today. Myself, as well as senior leaders and many staff, have responded. We welcome the principle of assessing students relatively late in the summer term to maximise teaching and learning and maintaining student engagement and motivation. However, there are many complexities which have not been addressed which includes insufficient recognition of differential learning loss on students' performance. As ever, as soon as we hear back from Ofqual about summer assessment we will share more.

Our remote assembly focused on **Holocaust Memorial Day**, which was on Wednesday. Many staff and students joined to be part of this online event in the UK. Together we lit a candle at 8 pm to remember those who were murdered for who they were and to stand against prejudice today. The Holocaust threatened the fabric of civilisation, and genocide must still be resisted every day. Especially now the world feels fragile and vulnerable and we cannot be complacent. Even in the UK, prejudice and the language of hatred must be challenged by us all to create a safer future. It is important that we are all **'be the light in the darkness.'**



Take care and stay in touch if you need us,
Mr Brown, Headteacher



Great things
are done by a
series of small
things brought
together.
Van Gogh

in the loop

29th January 2021

Weekly Newsletter for Parents & Students



**HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
DAY 27/1**

BE BETTER THAN YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD BE

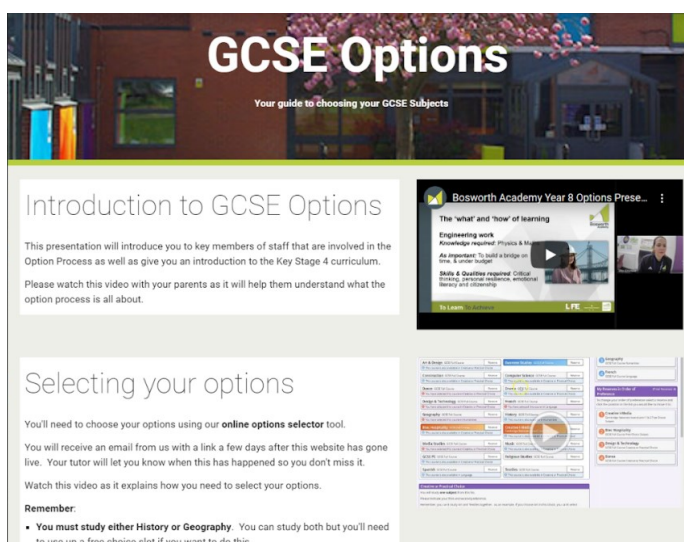


Year 9 Options (Year 8 Parents Read on!)

Bosworth Academy operates a three year GCSE programme of study. This means that in year 8 students must choose what they want to study in year 9 through to year 11. Our approach allows us to provide a broad, balanced and deep learning experience across all subject areas and gives students the option of studying what they really enjoy doing the most.

Every year in January, Bosworth Academy runs an options evening for year 8 students excited about making their GCSE option choices. Unfortunately, this year we are having to do things slightly differently. Teachers have recorded short videos explaining what each course involves and have shared these, along with some useful information about our courses, on our [new Options Website!](#)

Mr Dolinski, Assistant Head



Timings of the day

Please remind your child to be on time, ready and organised for all lessons and tutor time.

Tutor time: 8:40 - 8.55 am
Period 1: 9 to 9.55 am
Period 2: 10 to 10.55 am
Break: 10.55 to 11.30 am
Period 3: 11:30 to 12.20 pm
Lunch: 12:20 to 1pm
Period 4: 1 to 1.55 pm
Period 5: 2 to 3 pm



You said... we did:



Thank you to all parents and students for taking the time to complete our survey. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive with additional comments that have allowed us to reflect on how we can refine what we do next to support our students during this period of remote learning.

Parents and students told us that there isn't enough transition time between lessons, creating some pressure for students... we have slightly shortened lessons, giving students five minutes between each period to visit the toilet, stretch their legs or get a drink. Lunchtime is now 10 minutes longer, allowing students time to go outside and exercise if they wish.

Students told us that they learn better remotely through live lessons, or some live element followed by independent work... this information has been shared with teachers. Students should find that there are a variety of lessons to suit those who prefer live instruction, with opportunities for group work, independent learning and working away from a screen..

Parents said they would like an update on how their child is working remotely... teachers will be completing a 'Character for Learning' update for each student, which will be going out to parents before half term.



Assembly Theme

Each week 'In the Loop' will include the assembly for you to watch if you wish or to show to your children if they missed it. Here was last week's assembly entitled 'What can the film Groundhog Day teach us about lockdown?':

<https://screencast-o-matic.com/watch/crV2YvPS8Y>

We hope you enjoy it.

Mr Claricoates, Assistant Head

BE BETTER THAN YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD BE



Wednesday Period 2

From 10 till 11 am on Wednesday 27th January I visited many remote 'live' lessons across our school. The visits began with year 12 AS level Physicists hypothesising why diamonds 'sparkle'. Students investigated the refractive index of materials using a University of Colorado interactive simulator, by firing laser light into various objects. This led to the application in medical endoscopes and of course fibre optic communication - something we are all relying on heavily at present! Year 10 students in their English class were writing about the three Christmas Ghosts in Dicken's novella Christmas Carol and recording paragraphs in Pear Deck so that thoughts and ideas could be shared with the class. In French, the focus was 'Les problèmes pour notre planète et l'environnement', as students watched and listened to a French Youtube animation and shared their ideas with their peers. Our A level Media students were working in Google Meet breakout rooms and were surprised by my arrival! That didn't stop students eloquently sharing how they were examining how articles in the 1960s edition of Woman magazine and advertising had changed compared to today.

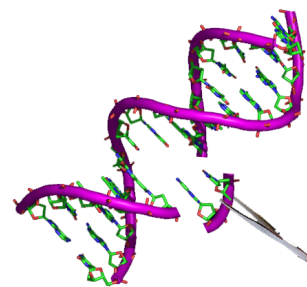


In Mathematics, GCSE students were introduced to statistics and spent time away from their screens collecting a wealth of data from around their home. Counting shoes, the thickness of books, number of windows in the house, completed star jumps in a minute and much more was fed into a google form for some real-world analysis. Year 13 Chemists were being provided online feedback to improve their understanding of Nuclear Magnetic Resonance whilst at the opposite end of school year 7 were making use of their 'Super Ears' around their homes and gardens!



I, unfortunately, missed our Catering students who had left their screens to plan their menus ready for their online assessment, though a couple of them kindly explained what they were up to. I didn't miss year

12 PE, just as I joined the Google Meet Mr Grest was demonstrating how to lose your balance as he fell over in his office! Students used this demonstration to theorise why instability is an important aspect of Sport, such as when on the starting blocks in a sprint race. Incomplete combustion of alkenes and the impact on our Earth was being addressed by AS Chemists, just before they delved into the Electrophilic Addition mechanisms. I was impressed by students sharing their answers and being unafraid to make mistakes - so important when we are working remotely - we learn best from mistakes.



As lessons drew to a close, Business Studies students were sharing budget variances across supermarkets which they had reviewed the accounts for and I culminated my period 2 tour with a visit to a year 10 Biology class. With a lesson themed around genetic engineering, students were studying the importance of new biological technology in fighting genetic variations of viruses. I think we'll all agree how important the knowledge and skills learned will be for creating a better future for us all!

Thank you to all students and teachers for providing such a wonderful learning environment on a Wednesday morning in January.

Mr Brown, Headteacher

Fun Stuff

The "Fun Stuff" ideas were well received during the first lockdown. Schoolwork is only part of a great education! It is important that we all keep active, get creative and flex that learning! We encourage students to also look after their well-being by engaging with some of the activities in the linked document. This document will be updated and added to regularly.

Link for [Fun Stuff is here.](#)

Mrs. Koncarevic, Director of Learning

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Careers Ed at Bosworth goes online!

This half term Bosworth will be running its annual year 8 school careers event ...online for the first time ever. On 3rd February, our year 8 cohort will have the opportunity to attend a speed networking careers event. Students will have the opportunity to meet four employers and ask them questions. They will prepare for this event during tutor time. This is an excellent opportunity to hear about what skills our young people will need to develop in the ever-changing landscape of the world of work.

Despite the obvious difficulties in organising such big events online, we made the decision to keep them on our agenda as we strongly believe our students need contact with employers and the world of work more than ever.

Next half term, our Year 11 and 12 students will be able to join in our virtual mock interview days meeting local employers and practice this vital skill in a safe environment. More information will be sent closer to these events. In total, more than 700 of our students across 3 year groups will be able to engage in these events. We wish them all luck and hope they will also have much fun in the process. All 3 events are organised in collaboration with LEBC, a local organisation which links schools and employers.

- Year 8 Careers Speed networking day 3/02
- Year 11 Virtual Mock Interview day 25/02
- Year 12 Virtual Mock Interview Day 4/03

Mme Delàge-Martin,
Careers Lead and Mrs
Gillespie, Careers
coordinator

[Read our latest newsletter here.](#)



Holocaust Memorial Day 2021



This week, students and staff have remembered the victims of genocides around the world. This year the theme of the day was 'Be the light in the darkness' and as part of this, students and staff have shared pictures to symbolise light in the darkness. There have been assemblies, discussions and moments to reflect. Last night, all staff and students were invited to watch the national ceremony, streamed live on the HMD website, this included inputs from HRH Prince Charles, Bear Grylls and many political and faith leaders. A recording can be found here (<https://www.hmd.org.uk/ceremony>). Throughout the ceremony, there were some really strong messages delivered through, films, poems and music. One of the clearest messages was that genocides should never be forgotten, never repeated and that we should learn from our past mistakes. Thank you to everyone who has supported this day this year.



Ben White, Deputy Head

February half-term

Schools will close as usual over February half-term and are not expected to remain open to vulnerable children and the children of critical workers during that week.

DfE Message

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Contact tracing over the February half-term

Schools continue to play an important role in contact tracing for those students and staff who **continue to attend their school**. Bosworth Academy will continue to contact trace on **Saturday 13th Feb and Sunday 14th February**, for children who have been in school, as this remains vitally important in the continued national effort to limit the spread of the virus.

Where students still attending school test positive having developed symptoms within 2 days of being in school, parents/carers should contact Bosworth Academy so we can assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the student may have been infectious whilst in school. Please email: attendance@bosworthacademy.org.uk However, if a student attending school tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) during the holidays, having developed symptoms more than 2 days since being in school, parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

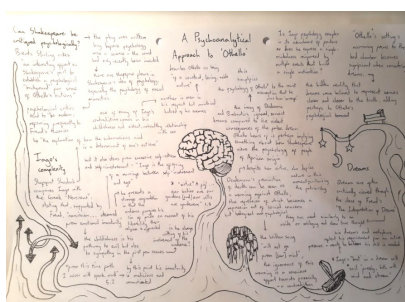
Mr Brown, Headteacher

Beautiful Work prize winners

The prizes this week go to (drumroll):

Isabel - (year 7) Enrichment horror story
Alexia - (year 7) English Oliver Twist work
Enis - Health tips in PE
Amber (year 10) Geography
Will (year 13) Othello - click link, see image below.
Alice (year 13) Othello
Dylan (year 13) Othello

Mr Claricoates, Assistant Head



LGBTQ+ History Month

At Bosworth Academy we know how important it is to support and encourage identity and expression. February is LGBTQ+ History Month and one of our



key values is to respect people for who they are and to celebrate diversity. This is something that we've particularly enjoyed this academic year with our Black History Month work and our celebration of Diwali. We know that our children do better when they are confident in who they are and we are proud to fly the Rainbow Flag here to show our support to the LGBTQ+ community. This year, the theme is mind, body and spirit which reminds us how key it is to be a balanced person which only works when you are fully happy in who you are. We wish all our students and staff a wonderful LGBTQ+ History Month.

Mrs Mills

Rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing in school

Our testing programme using lateral flow tests continues to identify if there are any cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst staff and students who are asymptomatic. We are currently testing everyone twice a week and conducting approximately 60 tests a day. This is an additional safeguard for everyone working in the school.

Mr Brown, Headteacher



Great things are done by a series of small things brought together.
Van Gogh

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Bosworth Academy awarded funding to revamp football facilities

People living in Desford and its surrounding villages are set to benefit from fresh investment into local football facilities. Bosworth Academy has been awarded a grant from the Premier League, The FA and Government's Football Foundation, to install a new full size, floodlit artificial grass pitch with a target date of September 2021, for this to be available for use.

The Football Foundation is the UK's largest sports charity and exists to improve the experience of playing football for everyone, by championing fair access to quality facilities.

This grant will enable Bosworth Academy to provide high quality PE, football training and competitive match experiences to its students and football clubs within the local community. The facility will enable Partner Club Desford FC, an FA Charter Standard Club with over 25 teams, to give its 450 members the chance to play and train each week at this new fit for purpose facility. Players will be able to enjoy playing on a better quality artificial pitch, providing space for more teams to be able to train and the club to continue to grow and develop, offering more opportunities. Additional funding to improve the existing grass pitches, will result in a significant improvement on the existing grass pitches that are prone to waterlogging and in need of improvement. Bosworth Academy and Desford FC with the help of a number of partners worked with the Football Foundation and Leicestershire & Rutland County FA to secure a £533,948 grant towards the project. Simon Goodman, Chairman, Desford Football Club said: "Desford Football Club and Bosworth Academy have been working in partnership for a number of years to bring to fruition the plan for a new full size, floodlit artificial pitch. The pitch will be a fantastic asset for both the Club and the Academy, supporting both our ambitions to see football flourish within local communities. We look forward to seeing the project completed and further developments in years to come."

Robert Sullivan, Chief Executive of the Football Foundation, said: "This grant award to Bosworth Academy towards developing a new state of the art football training and match facility is great news for

the local community. "It will support people's ability to play our national game locally and therefore help unlock football's many benefits to physical and mental wellbeing. That's why we're committed to transforming the face of grassroots football facilities in this country. It's therefore very welcome news to hear that this funding will support Bosworth Academy and Desford FC in developing opportunities for all of the local community to be involved in grassroots football for the benefit of the local community.

"The Football Foundation is working closely with our partners – the Premier League, The FA, government and Sport England - to support facility development projects like this across the country over the next decade to transform our grassroots game and unlock the power of pitches."

Mr Ripley, Sports HBSSPAN Manager

Children's Mental Health Week



This week is Children's Mental Health Week and we have a packed timetable of things going on. The theme is Express Yourself which ties in perfectly with the start of LGBT History month, which will be our assembly focus this week. We will be reflecting on the importance of expressing ourselves and being proud of who we are. We are also launching some increased opportunities to be active through our launch of non screen lessons and the promotion of physical activity for girls and women on Wednesday 3 February to coincide with National Girls and Women in Sports day.

Please also find our [signposting document](#) attached for where to access help with wellbeing. As always please contact your child's tutor or Head of Year if you need any support with the wellbeing of your child.

Tuesday 2 Feb	Wednesday 3 Feb	Thursday 4 Feb	Friday 5 Feb	Tuesday 8 Feb
LGBT history assembly	Express Yourself tutor activity National Girls and Women in Sports Day.	Assembly follow up quiz	Express Yourself tutor activity	Staying safe online assembly & questionnaire for year 9 students

BE BETTER THAN YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD BE



Literacy Update

Library Feature on Ebooks

Years 7 and 8

This week, all Y7 students have been told about various sources of ebooks (electronic books) available to them, during their library lessons.

Y8s will have their library lessons next week, so they will also have everything explained to them.



All Y7 & Y8 students are expected to read as normal during our remote learning period, and to do their Accelerated Reader book quizzes. Ebooks might be just the thing to help them access more reading material, and it would be lovely if you could ask your child to show you how they can access them. They need to log into our school website and click on the link for **Accessit**, which is our library catalogue (you can find this link under **The Compass** links).

The first 3 posts on the page take them to the various options for ebooks:

- **myON (short eBooks to read online)**. There is a video embedded on the page to explain how to use - only available to Y7 & Y8 students. Many of these books have an audio option so you can listen as well.
- **Our library catalogue ebooks** (can be downloaded & read offline). There is a video embedded on the page to explain how to use
- **Public libraries ebooks & audio books** (Yes, you can be a member of both Leicestershire & Leicester City libraries). Students will need your help to join these. The links on the website will take you to the right place to find out how to join.

For students in Y9 and up:

Please watch the video embedded on Accessit to find out how to borrow ebooks from our library catalogue. Any queries or issues, please email Mrs Griffiths, the School Librarian hgriffiths@bosworthacademy.org.uk

Why not look at these recommendations to start with:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/16U0p4yWX2gJzPeMj75Wp3s_oDE2uxYHSP1YakcqP7sY/edit?usp=sharing

Reading Together Remote Reading Academy

Over the last couple of years, we have invited KS3 students at Bosworth Academy to participate in our successful Reading Academy to support literacy skills. Now we are

going online. We will be introducing a new and exciting six week programme to allow KS3 students to continue the reading intervention through a remote setting. These sessions will improve the reading skills of students with the support of Post 16 reading coaches who have kindly volunteered. The programme will be led by staff during Tutor sessions in the week. Students have always enjoyed these interventions as it improves their confidence in their reading abilities. We look forward to sharing the launch programme, which we hope will continue the success of the Reading Academy.

Miss Masih Co Literacy Coordinator



How can I help my child get into reading?

National
Literacy
Trust

At 11 to 14 years of age your child may be too old for bedtime stories, but you can still help shape their reading habits. This week's National Literacy Trust Conference on Reading for Pleasure gave ten top tips on how parents can help their children to read more:

- Help your child to develop a reading routine - regular time - regular cosy/ comfortable place
- Talk to them about what kind of things they like to read and encourage them to find the right book
- Explore the library section of the school library website together
- Join the local library for free here: [Join the library](#)
- Discuss your child's reading with them - characters - feelings - links to their own lives?
- Sit reading together (when you have the chance!). Try picking reading material on subjects you both enjoy like a sports team, music group or holiday destination
- Read the books or plays that your child is studying in school and discuss what you've read with them
- Encourage your child to read aloud to you (can be tricky, we know!)
- Try eBooks/ Audiobooks for a change to engage students with texts and stories
- Remember, your interest will make a difference!



Building your child's enjoyment of reading will support their learning and bring wider benefits for mental health and cognitive development. Good luck, and please get in touch if you'd like more reading ideas.

Mrs. Starr, Lead Practitioner



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Useful Contacts

Head of Year Support

If you require support then please contact your child's tutor or their Head of Year:

Year 7 Mr. Mowbray

dmowbray@bosworthacademy.org.uk

Year 8 Mrs. Wake

vdebolster@bosworthacademy.org.uk

Year 9 Miss Green

bgreen1@bosworthacademy.org.uk

Year 10 Mr Blackmore

matthewb153@bosworthacademy.org.uk

Year 11 Ms Manning

jmanning@bosworthacademy.org.uk

Year 12 Dr Stephenson

chloes3@bosworthacademy.org.uk

Year 13 Dr Dover

mdover@bosworthacademy.org.uk

Attendance Support

If your child is ill or has a medical appointment and may miss remote learning, please contact:

attendance@bosworthacademy.org.uk

Technology Support

If your child requires any support with IT issues around remote learning then email:

ictsupport@bosworthacademy.org.uk

Head of Faculty

ADT

clairem6@bosworthacademy.org.uk

Business & Computer Science

ggrant@bosworthacademy.org.uk

Cultural Studies

janea27@bosworthacademy.org.uk

English

somalley@bosworthacademy.org.uk

Human & Social

susanod2@bosworthacademy.org.uk

Maths

marka2@bosworthacademy.org.uk

MFL

smainard@bosworthacademy.org.uk

PE

liamg36@bosworthacademy.org.uk

Science

chrisc20@bosworthacademy.org.uk



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Van Gogh



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