

# Welcome

16th May 2025

# in the loop

Weekly Newsletter for Parents & Carers

It's been another brilliant week here at Bosworth Academy, full of hard work, enthusiasm, and impressive achievements. A special congratulations goes to our Year 7 and 8 students who took part in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge. We're delighted to share that many of them achieved some of the best results we've ever seen, some even progressing to the next round! Our Mathematics Leader, Miss Barrowcliffe, couldn't be prouder of their performance and determination.

Students sitting their examinations have, on the whole, felt positive about how things are going so far. Many have shared how their focused revision and commitment are truly paying off, which is fantastic to hear.

On Wednesday, I had the pleasure of joining our Year 11 students for a Maths Masterclass session. Led by our expert Maths team, the students rotated through a series of engaging workshops—each one targeting key topics such as indices, standard form, surds, and equations for graphs. The focus and energy in the room were

inspiring, and I appreciate all of the extra support that our staff have been providing our students beyond their lessons.

These Masterclasses are continuing across a range of subjects in the coming weeks. They're a brilliant way for students to boost their confidence and pick up essential tips ahead of their exams. Please encourage your child to take advantage of these opportunities—they really do make a difference.

It was a real privilege to open our Year 13 Celebration Assembly on Thursday afternoon. Our Sixth Form students gathered with their brilliant Head of Year, Dr Chloe Stephenson, for a heart-warming rewards assembly that reflected on the many memorable moments

from their last two years at Bosworth Academy. Earlier that day, in a special tutor intervention lesson our Year 11 students received personal postcards from their teachers—each one offering words of encouragement, pride, and hope for their future success. It was a touching moment that captured the spirit of our school community. Year 11 students then enjoyed their Celebration Assembly, led by the outstanding Head of Year, Mrs Jones. Teachers recognised students for their excellence, resilience, determination, and positive contributions. We took time to reflect on the incredible journey this group has been on through challenges, growth, and success. Tutors shared memories and stories that reminded us just how far our students have come, both as learners and as young people.

During both assemblies, I spoke to students about the journey ahead. They are ready for this testing examination period. Not because it will be easy, but because they have prepared, and worked for it. We know, of course, that exams don't define who our young people are. They are more than a grade. But exams do matter. They open doors to future opportunities, and the effort students put in now will stay with them long after results day. Giving your best—truly giving your best—is something no one ever regrets, no matter the outcome.

I stated, "So when you walk into those exam halls, walk in with your head high. Not with fear, but with quiet confidence. Confidence in your preparation. Confidence in your journey. And confidence in who you've become."

Thank you, parents and carers, for your continued support in helping them reach their potential. Enjoy your weekend,

**Mr Brown,**  
Headteacher



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## Y11&13 Leavers

This week we celebrated the achievements of Year 11 and Year 13 with Leavers' assemblies as they embark on the next step of their journey. Year 11 students took the opportunity to have their shirts signed by staff and fellow students whilst both year groups enjoyed the ice cream provided. We wish all students all the best for the future.



## Year 11 Attendance

Students are remaining in school during their exams and attending lessons as normal. Students have received personalised timetables which are designed to maximise learning time in preparation for each exam. We have had a minority of students requesting to leave site after their exams have finished in recent days. Whilst we understand that some requests are genuine, there have been occasions where we have had no communication with parents. We cannot stress enough the importance of attending school during exams. It has been consistently proven through research that students achieve higher grades when they remain in school during exams which is why the majority of schools across the country have removed 'study leave'. Each lesson provides crucial information, reminders and tips on how to achieve the very best grades and if students are not in school they will obviously miss out on this. Teachers are also using these lessons to guide students through past exam papers and their predictions of what will be on the exams, something that many students find to be invaluable. If your child does need to leave the site then proof of appointments (e.g. hospital letters) will be required to authorise the absence. Without this, any absences at this stage will be unauthorised. The attendance figure used for references for Sixth Form, colleges and apprenticeships will include all attendance until the final exam. These arrangements will remain in place for all students until 16th June. Following the Physics exam on the morning of 16th June, students will be able to make arrangements to go home. This is with the exception of students taking Music who will remain in school to prepare for their exam which is in the afternoon of the same day. Students who are unable to get home will be able to remain in school and take part in supervised revision independently. For all exams following 16th June, students will only need to be in school for their exams.

**Mr Worn, Head of Key Stage Four**



## Sports Day 2025 Update

Over the last few weeks KS3 students have been busy signing up to events for sports day. They have a choice of traditional track and field events and also non-traditional field events such as frisbee passing and hoola hooping.



There will also be a tug-o-war competition in tutor groups. Year 7 students have been getting a taste in core PE of the non-traditional events available. The deadline for students to sign up to events is Friday 23rd May and tutor who meet this deadline will receive bonus points for their overall total.

The Sports Day will always be part of the school calendar but in order that students can experience it in a stadium, rather than on our school field, we are asking parents and carers to make a contribution of £5. This will allow us to hire the buses and the state of the art facilities.

Payment for this can be made via iPay. If you have any issues in accessing iPay then please contact the office on [office@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:office@bosworthacademy.org.uk).

Below you can see the current contributions to Year 7 and Year 8 goals.

**Year 7 - 8%**

**Year 8 - 9%**

**Mrs Hayton, Head of Year 8**



## Sports Day Sponsorship

Here at Bosworth Academy we run an annual Sports Day for all students in Year 7 and 8 which is around 500 students. We run a mixture of traditional and non-traditional events and host the day at Saffron Lane Athletics Track in Leicester. We believe that giving students the opportunity to compete in a high quality environment really adds to the day and is an unforgettable experience for all involved. This year, the event is being held on Monday 30th June.

Year on year the cost of the event increases so this year, to help fund the event, we are asking companies if they wish to sponsor the event alongside fund-raising activities led by each tutor group as well as asking for contributions from parents.

Please get in touch if you would like to sponsor this event to help with the costs and ensure that we can continue to give our students this experience. Your company's name will be shared on our social media channels and also in our 'In the Loop' newsletter and via communication with parents regarding the event.

These are suggestions and can be discussed or adapted:

£500 - Sponsorship of the Sports Day x1

£250 - Sponsorship of the transport x4 (one per year group)

£100 - Sponsorship of the stand x 4 (one per year group)

£25 - Sponsorship of an event x 20

If interested then please contact Kirsty Hayton ([khayton@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:khayton@bosworthacademy.org.uk)) to discuss how you can support this.

**Mr Grest, Senior Leader**

## Year 9/10 'Sports Day'

This year, rather than visiting Saffron Lane, we are planning for Year 9 and Year 10 students to experience a different form of sports 'day'.

This will be taking place during their normal PE slots as opposed to being on one day.

By doing this, we will be able to tailor activities for groups to ensure their experience is personalised and engaging.

More details will be shared in the coming weeks.

**Miss Hall, Curriculum Lead PE**





## Geography Urban Fieldwork

Year 10 Geography students participated in three days of fieldwork visits last week to develop their knowledge and skills.



Students were investigating how quality of life varied between the Aylestone and Westcotes areas of Leicester. In dry and (mostly) sunny conditions students worked collaboratively in groups to interview local residents and assess the environment around them.

Students used GIS and app based technology to record and analyse their findings. We were proud to receive positive feedback from members of the community on the polite and mature conduct shown by the group.

A big thanks too to all parents for their support: the results and experience will be a great basis for Paper 2 in their Year 11 exams. Students typified our 6Cs values and we look forward to taking them on further visits later this term when we visit the Peak District National Park. A huge thank you too to Mrs Symons, Mr Hewitt, Mrs Kasuji, and Miss Wilson for their support and leadership of the visit.

**Mr Blackmore, Head of Geography**

## Sun Awareness Week

As the weather continues to be bright and sunny it is timely that this week is Sun Awareness Week. This [guide](#) provides helpful tips on staying safe in the hot weather.



Make use of the shade  
(especially between  
11am and 3pm)



Wear clothes that  
protect you from the  
sun



Use sunscreen  
(SPF30+) and re-apply  
it every 2 hours

## Grant for Pool Equipment

Bosworth Academy was delighted to receive a grant award of £9,637.50 from the Hinckley & Bosworth Parish Community Initiative Fund to support the costs involved in purchasing replacement pool equipment.

The grant has paid for a 1.4m glass fibre-reinforced polyester resin pool filter vessel and the installation of a new chlorine gas detection system with sensor and outdoor alarm unit.

The old pool filter vessel was at its end of life and in need of urgent replacement, the gas detection system was



recommended on the latest service report and will help ensure the safety of staff involved in maintaining the pool. The new pool filter will have a lifespan of 8-10 years, helping to ensure that the pool continues to support both school and a wide range of local community use which includes an extensive learn to swim programme, disability swim sessions, public swim sessions and community club swim sessions.

With a number of pools closing each week across the country it is great to have the grant support from Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council and the support of Desford Parish Council to help meet the costs of maintaining and running the pool.

Cllr Martin Cartwright, Executive Member for Rural Affairs at Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council visited the school to see the new equipment and said: "Thank you for the opportunity to come a long and see the completed works with the new filter and gas detection system working and in place. One of the more unusual grants we have been able to offer but just as important. It was good to learn about the history of the pool, its various user groups who benefit as well as the extensive use by the schools pupils. I would like to thank all the staff that keep the pool running and to such a high standard of water quality extending the overall life of the facility. It is vital for as many people as possible to have the ability to swim".

**Chris Ripley, LiFE Multi Academy Trust  
Facilities & Programmes Lead**



## Examinations 2025

This week saw a number of GCSE, AS and A level examinations take place.

Students have received their exam timetables and this will have on it the date, time and their seat number.

Revision needs to continue throughout this period at home and within school. To support students further we will be adapting their timetable on certain periods and where possible due to staffing to allow for students to have input from a subject specialist before their exams.

**Miss Baxter, Deputy Headteacher**

## Exam Contingency Days

The Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) has asked us to remind members that the awarding bodies have designated the **afternoon session of Wednesday 11 June** and the **morning and afternoon sessions of Wednesday 25 June** as contingency sessions for examinations in the event of national or significant local disruption. This means that should any exam need to be rescheduled these are the contingency dates.

**Miss Baxter, Deputy Headteacher**



**Joint Council for  
Qualifications** CIC

## Year 11 Masterclasses

Exciting news for Year 11 students! Masterclasses continue to help boost learning in key subjects.

- **Monday 19 May:**  
English Literature
- **Wednesday 21 May:**  
Physics
- **Time:** 3.10-4.30pm



To attend students will need to sign up using the Google Form sent to their email. Once registered, you'll receive a ticket that can be exchanged for a slice of pizza.

See below the timetable for upcoming masterclasses:

### Masterclasses 2025

(Meet in the canteen for pizza)

Free pizza for all who attend!

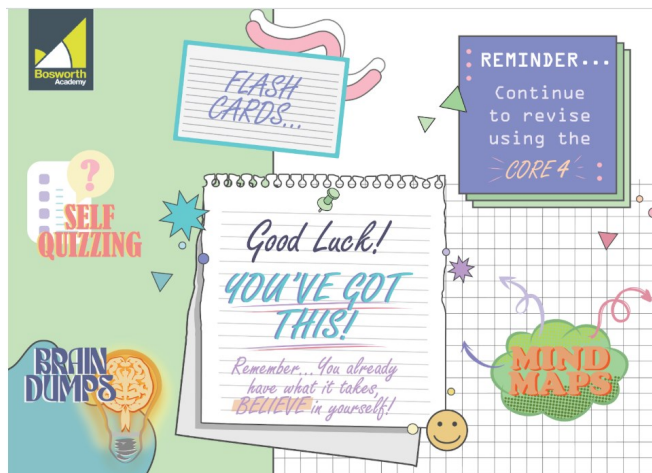
Time 3:10-4.30pm.

Subject	Date	Topic/ USP
English Literature	Monday 19th May	Component 2
Physics	Wednesday 21st May	Paper 1 - Phuntastic Physics
English Language	Wednesday 4th June	Component 2
Science	Thursday 5th June	Required Practicals - Better Light than Never
Maths	Tuesday 10th June	Paper 3
GCSE PE	Thursday 15th May	Paper 1
GCSE PE	Thursday 5th June	Paper 2

## Exam Self Care

As the exam period approaches, it's easy to feel overwhelmed by the pressure to perform well. While studying and revising are important, it's equally essential to take care of your mental and physical well-being. If you're looking for top-tier self-care tips to support yourself or your classmates during exam season, check out the following resource: [Exam Self-Care – Young Minds](#)  
**Mrs Whitaker, Designated Safeguarding Lead**

# YOUNG MiNDS



## Exams For the Week Ahead

Exams to be taken week beginning 19 May 2025 are listed below.  
The full exam timetable for Summer 2025 can be found [here](#).

Week Beginning 19th May				
19-May	2h	AQA	AL	Sociology ADV Paper 1
19-May	1h 45	AQA	GCSE	Chemistry
19-May	1h 15	AQA	GCSE	Science Trilogy Chemistry
19-May	1h 30	Edexcel	GCSE	PE Paper 1
19-May	1h 30	OCR	AS	History
19-May	2h 15	WJEC	AL	Media Studies 1 Media Prods
19-May	1h 30	OCR	GCSE	ICT
20-May	2h	AQA	AL	Business ADV Paper 2
20-May	1h 30	AQA	AS	Chemistry AS Paper 2
20-May	1h 30	AQA	AS	Sociology AS Paper 2
20-May	2h 30	Eduqas	GCSE	English Literature Component 2
20-May	1h 15	OCR	AS	PE: Psychlgcl & Socio-Cultur Wrtn
20-May	1h 30	AQA	AS	Psychology AS Paper 2
20-May	1h 45	AQA	GCSE	Computer Science 2
20-May	1h 30	Edexcel	AL	Further Maths - Core Pure Maths.1
21-May	2h	AQA	AL	Psychology ADV Paper 2
21-May	35m/45m	AQA	GCSE	French Unit 1 Listening
21-May	45m/60m	AQA	GCSE	French Unit 2 Reading
21-May	2h 30	AQA	AL	English Language ADV Paper 1
21-May	1h 30	AQA	AS	Physics AS Paper 2
21-May	1h 45	AQA	GCSE	Religious Studies
21-May	2h 30	WJEC	AL	Film Studies 1 Varieties of Film
22-May	1h 30	AQA	AS	Biology AS Paper 2
22-May	1h 30	AQA	L3	Mathematical Studies
22-May	1h 30	AQA	AS	French AS Paper 2 Writing
22-May	1h 45	AQA	GCSE	Physics
22-May	1h 15	AQA	GCSE	Science Trilogy Physics 1
22-May	1h 15	Edexcel	AL	English Literature - Prose
22-May	1h 30	AQA	AS	Business AS Paper 2
22-May	1h 30	Edexcel	AL	Further Maths - Core Pure Maths.2
22-May	2h 15	Edexcel	AL	Geography Paper Two
22-May	1h 30	Eduqas	GCSE	Media Studies Unit 2
22-May	1h 30	WJEC	GCSE	Engineering
22-May	45m/50m	Edexcel	GCSE	Arabic Listening/Reading
23-May	2h 30	OCR	AL	Hist A: Pop Cult & Wtchcrz Wrtn
23-May	2h	AQA	AL	Physics ADV Paper 1
23-May	2h	Edexcel	AL	Russian L/R/T
23-May	1h 45	Eduqas	GCSE	English Component 1
23-May	2h	OCR	AL	PE: Physlgcl Fctr Afct Perf Wtn
23-May	1h 30	AQA	AS	Mathematics AS Paper 2





# Exam Preparation — Effective Revision Strategies

Students at Bosworth Academy are developing 'The Core Four' - strategies designed to improve study skills for effective revision. Some study strategies are more effective than others.

Click this [link](#) for a webinar, aimed at parents and carers, that discusses these study approaches in detail, and outlines ineffective strategies that students should avoid. There is lots of useful practical advice, based on the latest evidence from research, that parents/carers can use to support learning outside of the classroom. The strategies discussed are ideal for all students in Year 7-13, **particularly those in Year 11-13 who have upcoming exams.**

I recommend that you watch the webinar with your child, discuss their work in school and how they can implement the strategies at home in preparation for end of topic tests and exams.

Mrs Patel, Associate SLT



### Summary: How to create flash cards

- 1. Identify knowledge**  
What are you creating flash cards on?  
Do you have your knowledge organized?  
Use your book to look at previous misconceptions from whole class feedback.
- 2. Colour coding**  
Use different coloured flash cards for different topics. This helps with organization NOT recall.
- 3. Designing**  
1 Question per flashcard. Making them concise and clear.  
Use a one word prompt, so that you can recall as much as you can.  
No extended answer questions. Number your flash cards for self quizzing.
- 4. Using**  
Write your answers down, then check. Or say your answers out loud. This really clearly shows the gaps in your knowledge.  
Do not just copy & re-read. Shuffle the cards each time you use them.  
Use the Leitner system to use flash cards everyday.
- 5. Feedback**  
How have you performed when you look back at your answers?  
Is there anything you need to revisit in more detail?  
Is your knowledge secure? If so, move onto applying knowledge in that area in specific extended exam questions.

### Summary: Self Quizzing

- 1. Identify knowledge**  
Identify knowledge/content you wish to cover.
- 2. Review and create**  
Spend around 5-10 minutes reviewing content (knowledge organisers/class notes/text book)  
Create x10 questions on the content (if your teacher has not provided you with questions)
- 3. Cover and answer**  
Cover up your knowledge and answer the questions from memory.  
Take your time and where possible answer in full sentences.
- 4. Self mark & reflect**  
Go back to the content and self mark your answers in **purple** pen.
- 5. Next time**  
Revisit the areas where there were gaps in knowledge, and include these same questions next time.

Why the Core Four?

- Builds confidence
- Reduces exam anxiety and stress
- Improves grades

Click each summary for more details

### Summary: How to create a mind map

- 1. Identify knowledge**  
Select a topic you wish to revise. Have your class notes/knowledge organisers ready.
- 2. Identify sub topics**  
Place the main topic in the centre of your page and identify sub topics that will branch off.
- 3. Branch off**  
Branch of your sub topics with further detail.  
Try not to fill the page with too much writing.
- 4. Use images & colour**  
Use images and colour to help topics stick into your memory.
- 5. Put it somewhere visible**  
Place completed mind maps in places where you can see them frequently.

### Summary: Brain dumps

- 1. Identify knowledge**  
Identify the knowledge/topic area you want to cover.
- 2. Write it down**  
Take a blank piece of paper/white board and write down everything you can remember about that topic. (with no prompts)  
Give yourself a timed limit (e.g. 10 minutes)
- 3. Organise information**  
Once complete and you cannot remember any more use different colours to highlight/underline words in groups.  
This categorises/links information.
- 4. Check understanding**  
Compare your brain dump to your KQ or book and check understanding.  
Add any key information you have missed (key words) in a different colour.
- 5. Store and compare**  
Keep your brain dump safe and revisit it.  
Next time you attempt the same topic try and complete the same amount of information in a shorter period of time or add more information.

Activate Windows  
Go to Settings to activate Windows.

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## Duke of Edinburgh

Last weekend our Year 10 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh students completed their first expedition – a true test of endurance, teamwork, and outdoor skills.



Over two days, they navigated countryside routes, carried their kit in heavy rucksacks, cooked meals on camping stoves, and camped overnight. There were a few unplanned “scenic routes” along the way, but every wrong turn became a lesson in teamwork and map-reading (eventually!). Despite this, the students showed outstanding resilience, positivity, and support for one another throughout the journey.

We are incredibly proud of all who took part. Completing the Bronze expedition is no small achievement – it takes real commitment and determination. A huge congratulations to our DofE participants!

**Mr Shergold and Miss Wilson**

## Safe From Knife Crime

Parents and carers are invited to a free online workshop on Wednesday 21 May hosted by the Violence Reduction Network, focused on understanding and preventing knife-related harm.



The session will cover:

- Knife-related harm in Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland
- Why young people may be at risk
- How to keep children safe
- Where to get help and support

There will also be a Q&A, and attendees can remain anonymous if preferred – no need to use cameras or microphones unless you wish.

Register now: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/liviolencereductionnetwork/1643684>

**Mrs Whitaker, Designated Safeguarding Lead**

## Extra Curricular Activities

We now have a wide range of clubs for students to participate in during lunchtimes and after school.

For full details, including timetables, click [here](#).

As a reminder, transport will not be provided for after school clubs.

**Mrs Coulson, Lead Practitioner**

## 3G Boots

A reminder that students need to bring boots when on the 3G/in the dome. We have an increasing number of students not bringing boots for their PE lessons. Please contact Miss Hall on [shall6@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:shall6@bosworthacademy.org.uk) if there are any issues with your child's football boots.

**Miss Hall, Curriculum Lead PE**



## Y11 Prom 2025 GoFundMe

As we approach the end of the school year, we are excited to begin preparations for the Year 11 Prom, an event that marks a significant milestone in our students' lives and provides them with a memorable celebration of their hard work and achievements.



To make this occasion truly special, we are aiming to enhance the event by including additional features such as themed decor, a professional photographer, a photo booth, and other elements that will create a wonderful experience for our students. However, these added touches come at a cost beyond the ticket purchased.

With this in mind, our Prom Committee has decided to set up a GoFundMe page to raise additional funds. This will allow family members, friends, and the wider community to contribute and support us in creating an unforgettable prom for our Year 11 students. There is no expectation for anyone to make a donation but every donation, no matter how small, will go a long way in helping us reach our goal.

Here is how you can help:

- Share the GoFundMe link with friends, family, and on social media to spread the word.
- Contribute directly if you are able to.

The link to the GoFundMe page is: <https://gofund.me/ad202e9e>

We are incredibly grateful for any support you can provide. Together, we can ensure that the Year 11 Prom becomes a cherished memory for all our students.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss other ways to support this initiative, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you very much for your continued support.

**Mrs Jones, Head of Year 11**



## Take Your Child to Work Day

We are excited to inform you about an upcoming opportunity for students in Key Stage 4. As part of our careers programme in school, students will be participating in **'Take Your Child to Work Day' on Monday 30th June**. This is an important opportunity for students to gain exposure to the working world and develop a better understanding of different career pathways. We expect that the majority of our students will take part in this day of valuable experiences.

Should you require guidance or are unable to find a placement for your child please get in touch with Mrs S. McCristal at

[smccristal@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:smccristal@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

Once the place is confirmed, please complete the attached consent form stating where your child will be going and with whom: [Consent Form](#). The deadline for completing this form is Friday 23 May 2025.

Thank you for your support in providing this valuable experience for our students.

**Mrs McCristal, MFL teacher and Careers Lead**

## Careers Bulletin

You can now stay up-to-date on Careers news with our Careers Bulletin.

From apprenticeships to careers talks, advice and Post 18 options, you can get the latest on Careers by clicking [here](#).

**Careers Team**



## Maths Puzzle of the Week

Last week's puzzle: : Find the value

Rules:

1. A letter represents a digit from 0 to 9, and has the same value throughout a single puzzle.
2. No number can start with the digit 0.
3. Within a puzzle, different letters must have different values.

$$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ + A \\ \hline B \ 2 \end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{r} 8 \\ + 4 \\ \hline 1 \ 2 \end{array}$$

Find the value of C, D, E, F and G in these puzzles.

$$\begin{array}{r} C \\ + 8 \\ \hline D \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} E \\ + E \\ \hline 8 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} F \\ + F \\ \hline G \ 4 \end{array}$$

C = 1  
D = 9  
E = 4  
F = 7  
G = 1

This week's puzzle: Find the value

Use your maths skills to find the value of each symbol and the ? in the puzzle below

$$48 = \text{Teddy} + \text{Lollipop} + \text{Teddy}$$

$$\text{Watermelon} \times \text{Diamond} = 0$$

$$\text{Diamond} = \text{Teddy} \div \text{Diamond}$$

$$\text{Teddy} = \text{Lollipop}$$

$$\text{Diamond} + \text{Teddy} + \text{Watermelon} + \text{Lollipop} = ?$$

## UKMT Maths Challenge

On Thursday 1st of May 77 students in Year 7 and 8 took part in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge. This is a competition held every year to challenge some of the country's top young mathematicians.



They are set 25 challenging

questions that they have to figure out without a calculator, using their minds and only a blank piece of paper to help.

This year's results are in and they are some of our best ever!

47 of our students have achieved either bronze, silver or gold certificates:

**In Year 7:**

15 Bronze

8 Silver

4 Gold

**In Year 8:**

12 Bronze

6 Silver

2 Gold

**Our top 5 for Year 7 are:**

1) Ethan C - Gold

2) Harman A - Gold

3) Avaani A - Gold

4) Matthew T - Gold

5) Eben S - Silver

**Our top 5 for Year 8 are:**

1) Sienna W - Gold

2) Walter M - Gold

3) Gabriel N - Silver

4) Isabella H - Silver

5) Harleen C - Silver

Ethan, Harman and Avaani all qualified for the follow on rounds, with Ethan in the Mathematical Olympiad and Harman and Avaani into the kangaroo so a big congratulations to these three! Details of follow-on rounds will go out to students soon.

Ethan also got a new school record score in the Junior challenge as he managed to get all the possible marks, meaning he got all 25 questions that he faced correct. This is absolutely amazing! Certificates for all those who took part should come out in the next few weeks.

Miss Barrowcliffe, Teacher of Maths





# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MINECRAFT

Still the best-selling game of all time, Minecraft is a bastion of creativity and community, with hundreds of millions of players building and crafting in its almost endless world. The popularity of Minecraft among gamers of all ages means it's important to remain informed about the game, including how to play it safely and whether it's suitable for the children in your care. That's why we've created this guide explaining the risks associated with Minecraft and how to ensure a purely enjoyable gaming experience.

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

**SCARY ELEMENTS**

While Minecraft can be seen as a kind of 'digital LEGO', certain game modes include creatures accompanied by eerie sound effects. These can be a bit too frightening for some younger players, potentially leading to distressing in-game combat and other encounters – although the combat is quite basic and free from any real depiction of violence.

**GRIEFING**

Some players in Minecraft take pleasure in deliberately damaging or destroying another person's creations. This behaviour, known as 'griefing', is a form of bullying – it intentionally ruins someone else's experience by erasing hours of their work and forcing them to start over. Many public servers regard griefing as a serious offence and often ban those who engage in it.

**ADDICTIVENESS**

Minecraft's focus on creativity means that, as with any creative endeavour, it can be easy to get carried away. If your child is finding it difficult to manage their time because they're drawn in by Minecraft's gameplay loop of resource gathering and building elaborate projects, it could have a knock-on effect on their social interactions and schoolwork.

**PUBLIC SERVERS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

With public servers being so easily accessible in Minecraft, it's highly likely that children will end up chatting with strangers through the in-game text chat. Some servers even place an emphasis on social interaction, actively encouraging communication between players. While there's nothing inherently wrong with this, it does carry certain risks. In addition to the concerns around speaking with strangers online, players who host their own servers may have their IP addresses exposed, posing a further security concern.

**ADDITIONAL PURCHASES**

Minecraft is available as a free trial on a variety of devices; however, the full game requires a one-off purchase, which is typically around £15. After that, players have the option to buy additional cosmetic upgrades or subscribe to Minecraft Realms. Realms is an entirely optional subscription service that allows users to run their own private server to play with friends. Without proper supervision, younger players may end up making unintended or excessive purchases.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

**CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE**

Selecting Creative or Peaceful mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is far lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of enemies and creatures attacking you or damaging your building.

**HOST A PRIVATE SERVER**

The easiest way to find a safe server for children to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given its address and password. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and – if necessary – ban anyone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft. Hosting a private server, however, will cost a monthly fee.

**TALK ABOUT STRANGERS**

At some point in their lives, almost everyone will make contact with a stranger online. Talking to children about online safety, therefore, is essential – as is having a plan for dealing with any hostile or difficult people. It's important that a child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

**RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS**

Much of Minecraft's early stages can be an exercise in frustration for players who don't know where to start. Thankfully, there's a wealth of material online and in video format to help you learn the basics. Just be mindful that some of this content may not be appropriate for children, so you should consider watching it yourself first.

**PLAY MINECRAFT WITH YOUR CHILD**

As a creative building tool, Minecraft makes it great fun for children to team up and construct vast buildings accompanied by imaginative landscapes, much like working with LEGO or model kits. Playing in a game mode that includes enemies can encourage critical thinking and teamwork; however, you should consider which game mode is appropriate for the child in your care.

**Meet Our Expert**

Lloyd Coombes is Gaming Editor at the Daily Star, and has worked in games media for more than 6 years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety for children of all ages.

**#WakeUpWednesday**

The National College

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 14.05.2025

The best-selling game of all time has hundreds of millions of players. With its vibrant worlds and endless potential for creativity, Minecraft continues to capture young imaginations. Interest in the game remains strong after the Minecraft movie hit cinemas in April. But whether they're mining resources or building digital castles, children could also encounter strangers, scary content or bullying behaviour online. This guide offers the latest top tips on how to keep children safe from issues like griefing, chat risks, and unintended purchases, whilst embracing the game's educational and creative benefits.







# The Compass

## Library News

We have got a 2nd student now who managed to read 10 books from our Year 7 reading challenge and has earned his platinum certificate - well done Viren S.!

And another student has achieved a bronze certificate, having read 3 books - well done Alfie B!



Our KS3 students are working their way through their reading bingo challenge and getting small sweet treats - well done Phoebe H. & Dylan S. And some have already got full house on their reading bingo - well done Toby P., Insher V., Veer B., Danielle R., Aaron K and Mason B.



## Book Recommendations

### Key Stage Three

There are stories about people who want to live forever. This is not one of those stories. This is a story about someone who wants to stop...

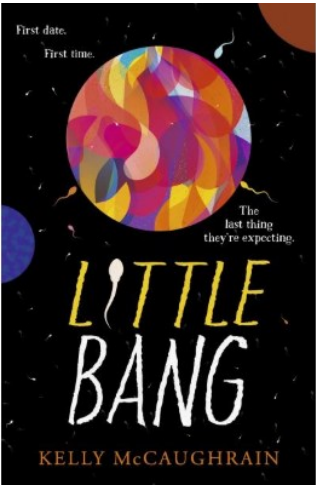
Alfie Monk is like any other nearly teenage boy - except he's 1,000 years old and can remember the last Viking invasion of England. Obviously no one believes him. So when everything Alfie knows and loves is destroyed in a fire, and the modern world comes crashing in, Alfie embarks on a mission to find friendship, acceptance, and a different way to live...



... which means finding a way to make sure he will eventually die.

**Key Stage Four**

Beneath the New Year's Eve fireworks, shy science-nerd Mel and slacker songwriter Sid get pregnant on their first date. Any sixteen-year-olds would expect trouble - but this is Northern Ireland 2018, where abortion is still illegal. Mel's religious parents insist she must keep the baby, whilst Sid's feminist mum pushes for a termination. Mel and Sid are determined to do this together, but they soon discover that pregnancy is totally different for boys and girls. When their relationship starts to fall apart under all the pressure, Mel finds herself feeling alone with the impossible dilemma of the Little Bang growing inside her.



**High School Musical**

High School Musical tickets have gone on sale via iPay for the followings dates:

- Wednesday 25th June
- Thursday 26th June
- Friday 28th June

All performances will start at 7pm.

We are also offering the opportunity to purchase tickets externally as well via the following link:

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/bosworthacademy](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/bosworthacademy)

Mrs Jones, Teacher of Drama



**Dates For Your Diaries**

DATES	EVENT
Monday 19 May – Monday 23 June	Exam season Y10,11,12,13
Monday 26 – Friday 30 May	Summer Half Term. <b>School closed</b>
Friday 20 June	Y11 Prom 7-10pm King Power Stadium
Thursday 26 June	Early finish. <b>School closes at 2pm</b>
Monday 30 June	Y7 & 8 Sports Day Saffron Lane Athletics Stadium
Thursday 10 July	Last day of Summer 2025 term
Tuesday 12 August	Y13 Prom 7-11pm The City Rooms Leicester

[Term Dates 2024-25](#)  
[Term Dates 2025-26](#)

**Parent Governor Vacancy**

**VACANCY!**

**PARENT GOVERNOR**

**CLOSING DATE FOR NOMINATIONS: 1st JUNE**

Contact [hr@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:hr@bosworthacademy.org.uk) for a nomination form or more info





## Lunch Menu

We will now be having the lunch menu on a two-week rotation.

Next week we will be on the Week One timetable and you can see the menu below.

[Week One](#) and [Week Two](#) menus are also available to view by clicking the links.

Ms Ford, Head Cook

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH THIS WEEK?				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Chicken Burger in a bun	Beef Spaghetti Bolognese	Chicago Town Pepperoni Pizza	Chicken & Bacon Pasta	Pork Sausage Roll
Garlic Roasted New Potatoes	Corn on the cob	Potatoe Wedges	Carrots / Broccoli	Herby Diced Potato
Peas & Sweetcorn	Garlic Bread	BBQ Beans	Garlic Bread	Baked Beans
Coleslaw	Leafy Salad	Coleslaw	Salad	Leafy Salad
Hunters BBQ Chicken Breast	Chicken Wrap (ask on flavour)	Chicago Town 4 Cheese Pizza	JUMBO Hotdog	Steak Slice
White Rice	Corn on the Cob	Potatoe Wedges	Carrots & Broccoli	Herby Diced Potato
Peas & Sweetcorn	Garlic Bread	BBQ Beans	Salad	Baked Beans
Coleslaw	Leafy Salad	Coleslaw	Salad	Leafy Salad
Vegan Bites / BBQ Sauce (optional)	Vegan Spaghetti Bolognese	Vegan Pizza	Tomato & Basil Patsa	Vegan Sausage Roll
White Rice	Corn on the Cob	Potatoe Wedges	Carrots / Broccoli	Herby Diced Potato
Peas & Sweetcorn	Garlic Bread	BBQ Beans	Garlic Bread	Baked Beans
Coleslaw	Leafy Salad	Coleslaw	Salad	Leafy Salad
Dessert Of The Day	Dessert Of The Day	Dessert Of The Day	Dessert Of The Day	Dessert Of The Day

Filled Baguettes, Sandwiches, Wraps available Daily  
Week 2.... February - Easter

If you would like information on which foods contain allergens please ask a member of the catering team who will be happy to help

## Read All About It!

Want to look up an old article?

Our most recent In the Loop newsletters are available [here](#) for you to access.

## Important Contact Details

If you have any concerns about your child that can not be sorted with their form tutor or class teacher then please contact their pastoral team.

**KS3 Leader Assistant Head Teacher:**

Liam Grest [liamg36@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:liamg36@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Head of Year 7:**

David Mowbray [dmowbray@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:dmowbray@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Assistant Head of Year 7:**

Caroline Tallis [ctallis@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:ctallis@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Head of Year 8:**

Kirsty Hayton [khayton@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:khayton@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Assistant Head of Year 8:**

Ellen Wright [ewright@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:ewright@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Assistant Head KS4 Leader: Tom Worn**

[tworn@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:tworn@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Head of Year 9:**

Lisa Milner [lmilner@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:lmilner@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Assistant Head of Year 9: Wendy**

Sessions [wsessions@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:wsessions@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Head of Year 10:**

Jenny Jacobs [jennyj1@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:jennyj1@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Assistant Head of Year 10:**

Laura McQuaid [lmcquaid@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:lmcquaid@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Head of Year 11:**

Brogan Jones [bjones@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:bjones@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Assistant Head of Year 11:**

Steve Hewitt [shewitt@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:shewitt@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**KS5 Leader Assistant Head Teacher:**

Louise Holdback [louiseh27@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:louiseh27@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Head of Year 12:**

Alison Woolley [awoolley1@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:awoolley1@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Head of Year 13: Chloe**

Stephenson [chloes3@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:chloes3@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Pastoral Leader: Kay Coxon**

[kcoxon@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:kcoxon@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Designated Safeguarding Lead: Nikki Whitaker**

[nwhitaker@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:nwhitaker@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Report a safeguarding concern:**

[DSL@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:DSL@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Student Support:**

[studentjusttalk@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:studentjusttalk@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Anti-Bullying Form: Report [here](#)**

**Attendance Support:**

[attendance@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:attendance@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**IT Support: [ictsupport@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:ictsupport@bosworthacademy.org.uk)**

