

3rd May 2024

ACADEMY UPDATE 25

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to everyone who has already responded to the letter that went out this week about the upcoming parent/ carer forum on the 23rd of May. As you will know for the last year we have been hosting one of these, termly. We understand that these meetings are extremely beneficial to our community and a great way for you to have your voice heard. I would like to encourage anyone who hasn't been yet or is considering attending any future forums.

This week, Bexhill Academy hosted a workshop led by Children's Services. The workshop, titled "Cultural Curiosity – Working Better with Migrant Communities," was aimed at people in the local community as well as staff at Children's Services who work with migrant communities. This was a fantastic opportunity for our school to serve our local community and make a difference.

We kicked off the summer sporting season this week with all sorts of matches! The boy's rugby wowed the crowd as they won 30-5 to St Leonards and then 20-5 to Claverham. Well done boys, we can't wait to see what you do with the rest of the season. The girl's Cricket teams played impeccably and took home the win for Bexhill Academy in both of their games against St Richards this week and I know they are eager to get out and win some more! Finally, The girl's rugby team had their first matches of the season, unfortunately just missing out on the win to St Leonards and then to Claverham. I know the girls were disappointed with these results but as a school we are immensely proud of their determination and resilience.

The Global Girl Leading project extended itself this week to some other year 9 students. Mrs Graebe and Ms Gordon arranged a workshop for 20 Year 9 girls, called 'Letters To Our Daughters'. This was such a wonderful and insightful afternoon where the girls reflected on what they would say to their younger selves/ if they had a daughter. This thought-provoking session resulted in some heartwarming letters that I am looking forward to sharing with you at a later date. To read how the girls spoke about themselves was truly poetic and eye-opening.

On Wednesday, we had another theatre trip! Bexhill Academy very much values *The Arts*, so to be able to offer so many experiences to our students is a blessing. This time around, a group of students went to see the sell-out show 'Everybody's Talking About Jamie!'. An astonishing musical about a young boy who marches to the beat of his own drum... proudly! If theatres aren't your thing, you can catch the movie on Amazon Prime.

We are delighted to announce that we are expanding our support for students next year. We would like to increase the number of teaching assistants to support in lessons and are currently advertising for this role. If you or anyone you know would be interested in becoming a teaching assistant or has thought about a career in education, then please have a look at the vacancies page on our website (<https://www.bexhillacademy.org/page/?title=Vacancies&pid=37>). Our inclusion team would be more than happy to accommodate a school visit if you would like to see the school in action and discuss what the role of a teaching assistant involves, on a day-to-day basis. Being a teaching assistant is a truly rewarding job and every day is different. In addition, we are looking to recruit cover supervisors. Again, if you or anyone you know would be interested in covering lessons for absent staff members, please do get in touch, and arrange a visit or a discussion over the phone.

This week's newsletter features a new layout of a weekly year group run down which will give parents and carers a chance to hear directly from their child's Head Of Year. We hope you enjoy this update and please let us know any feedback you may have via our communications email. communications@bexhillacademy.org.

Just before we break for the weekend I had my weekly hot chocolate morning with 8 fantastic students. Brody B, Libby T, Maddison H, Ben W, Alfie T, Scarlett J, Josh P and Ayva N. we had some fantastic conversations about the summer uniform, food and ideas for future clubs.

I hope you have a lovely bank holiday weekend. Let's hope the weather brightens up just in time!

With best wishes,



Dr. Craig Neal
Headteacher

Calendar Dates

Term 5

Monday 6th May – Bank Holiday

Monday 15th May – Year 6 Transition Crafts Session

Friday 24th May – Last Day of Term 5

Term 6

Monday 3rd June – First Day of Term 6

Tuesday 16th – Thursday 18th July – The Big Show

Wednesday 26th June – Last day of GCSE Exams

Wednesday 26th June – Year 11 Prom

Friday 28th June – **INSET Day (Students do not attend)**

Tuesday 23rd July – Last Day of Term 6

2024/25 Dates

Term 1

Monday 2nd September – INSET DAY – No Students In School

Tuesday 3rd September - INSET DAY – No Students In School

Wednesday 4th September – Year 7 and Year 11 (Only) First day

Thursday 5th September – The whole school's first day back

Wednesday 23rd October - Last day of Term 1 for students.

Thursday 24th October – INSET DAY

Friday 25th October – INSET DAY

Term 2

Monday 4th November – 1st Day Term 2

Friday 20th December – Last Day Term 2

Term 3

Monday 6th January 2025 – 1st Day Term 3

Friday 14th February – Last Day Term 3

Term 4

Monday 24th February - 1st Day Term 4

Friday 4th April – Last Day Term 4

Term 5

Tuesday 22nd April – 1st Day Term 5

Monday 5th May – Bank Holiday

Friday 23rd May – Last Day Term 5

Term 6

Monday 2nd June – 1st Day Term 6

Tuesday 22nd July – Last Day Term 6



YEAR TEAM NEWS

THE RUNDOWN

YEAR7

The start of the Summer term has been a busy yet exciting one for our year 7 students. We have hit the ground running with our New Year 7 team and I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Mrs Kemp, our new pastoral manager, and also Mrs Barrington-Smith, our year 7 administrator. Both Mrs Kemp and Mrs Barrington-Smith are really getting to know the year 7 students and we are so proud of how they have all adapted to the change.

A small group of our year 7s have been attending the Education Future Trust programme in Hastings and have had a superb time experiencing forest school, cookery, sport, and an introduction to DIY. All students on this have been behaving impeccably and the staff at EFT were amazed at the developments they have seen in just 3 weeks.

With the winter weather slowly moving away, we look forward to making the most of the school's outside spaces not only at break times but during lessons. We have noticed a large number of students coming to our office for cups or bottles of water. Please bear in mind that we are unable to supply students with cups and bottles of water, so we kindly ask that with the weather getting warmer your child has a refillable bottle they can use whilst at school.

Alex Humphrey

YEAR8

In lieu of any Year 8 events we have not yet had the opportunity to meet or be formally introduced. I joined the Bexhill Academy Team last term as Head of Year 8. The move to Bexhill Academy also coincides with a move to East Sussex, having lived and worked in Essex for the last 17ish years. I'm not originally from Essex, my early years were spent in a coastal town in Kent before relocating to East London.

I have been involved with education in some form or another for over 2 decades. I knew I wanted to teach when I was 16 and have never regretted the decision to continue with education and work with young people. Education opens doors, it provides opportunities and expands horizons. I will always advocate for young people's right to access education but with that comes the expectation that they embrace that access. That they try. When I first met Y8 I told them I was already very proud to be their Head of Year, that I had heard brilliant things about them, that they were "one of the best year groups in school". Wonderful things to hear when taking on responsibility for a year group, but I don't want us to be one of the best. I want to be the best! I want Year 8 to be the hardest working, the best presented, the politest, the most engaged. I want them to move up through school and be the best version of themselves. I want them to be successful, whatever that success looks like for them. As a year team we will care, we will help, we will advocate but we will not lower our expectations. We show our care for your child by having those high expectations of them.

I hope to get to know Year 8 even better over the coming weeks, months and years. I hope to get to know many of you better also. Thank you to those who have already demonstrated their support and thank you in advance for your continued support moving forward. DJ Barron

YEAR9

Year 9s are once again at the top of the leader board for the highest amount of XP points on Sparx. We have also had many students 'level up'. This is a wonderful achievement and will impact the progress our students are making in their maths lessons. Well done!

Today some of our year 9 girls took part in a workshop with Miss Graebe as part of the 'Letter to Our Daughters' project. The girls will be joining Mulberry Girls School and other groups of girls worldwide to pen lyrical letters of beauty and hope to inspire the next generation of young women. The project culminates in a ceremony called Global Girl Rising Conference in central London in October. They will be meeting again in two weeks' time to finalize their first drafts!

Mrs. Browning is currently selling raffle tickets at £2 each to win an amazing sweetie bundle to raise money for The Rocking Horse Foundation. Please can students purchase tickets from the year 9 office to support this wonderful charity.

Jo Deeprose



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YEAR 10

College taster days are now live for Year 10 students to book onto. The dates for each college are:

East Sussex - Lewes Campus - Monday 17th June/Wednesday 19th June (TBC)

East Sussex - Hastings Campus - Monday 24th June

East Sussex - Eastbourne Campus - Thursday 27th June

Plumpton College - Tuesday 9th July

Bexhill College - Wednesday 10th July

Year 10 students need to book at least two of the college taster days via the college websites. Deadlines for these are fast-approaching, so please ensure that you book on to avoid disappointment.

Please ask the Year 10 team if you have any questions about college taster days.

Matt Dann

YEAR 11

Leading into the crunch time for year 11 with the exams starting next week.

There has been a great atmosphere in the academy in all year 11 lessons this term, and especially this week, busy trying to get as much information and understanding in preparation for next weeks exams.

In addition, staff have been putting on outstanding intervention after school from 3-4 everyday. This will continue throughout the exam season.

As a year team we are very proud of the efforts and maturity the students have shown. We are excited for the students to show off their progress they have made, and we wish them the very best of luck.

Ben Eldridge

ATTENDANCE

Our End of term Attendance raffle was a Success!!!

We had over 1000 students with 100% attendance for the last two weeks of term which is great, All students were rewarded with 5 Positive points for their attendance for the last two weeks of term and they were all entered into a raffle which randomly picked 5 students from each year to get a prize reward, The prizes were a range of items including a Premier League Football, Stationery sets, and vouchers.

This is something we will be doing again this term as it has been such a success so please continue to encourage your child with their attendance. Thank you to you all, for your support.

1066 BOOK AWARDS

This term, Mrs McKay and 7 students ventured out to Hastings academy for the 1066 Book Awards. See our website for the full article.



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Useful contact information

Year 7

Pastoral Manager – Cheryl Kemp – Cheryl.Kemp@bexhillacademy.org

Learning Leader – Alex Humphrey – Alex.humphrey@bexhillacademy.org

Senior Leader – Mark Linch/ Lee Starkey – Mark.Linch@bexhillacademy.org / Lee.Starkey@bexhillacademy.org

Administrator – Gill Barrington-Smith – Gillian.Barrington-Smith@bexhillacademy.org

Year 8

Pastoral Manager – Nikki Austin – Nikki.austin@bexhillacademy.org

Learning Leader – DJ Barron – dj.barron@bexhillacademy.org

Senior Leader – Chris Steward – Christopher.stewardf@bexhillacademy.org

Administrator – Samantha Cheshire – Samantha.Cheshire@bexhillacademy.org

Year 9

Pastoral Manager – Kym Browning – kym.browning@bexhillacademy.org

Learning Leader – Jo Deeprose – Jolene.Deeprose@bexhillacademy.org

Senior Leader – Luke Borland – Luke.borland@bexhillacademy.org

Administrator – Claire Cook – Claire.Cook@bexhillacademy.org

Year 10

Pastoral Manager – Kim Fuller – Kim.fuller@bexhillacademy.org

Learning Leader – Matt Dann – Matthew.dann@bexhillacademy.org

Senior Leader – Sarah Williams – Sarah.williams@bexhillacademy.org

Administrator – Michele Wilkinson – Michele.Wilkinson@bexhillacademy.org

Year 11

Pastoral Manager – Nicky Humphries – Nicola.humphries@bexhillacademy.org

Learning Leader – Ben Eldridge – Ben.eldridge@bexhillacademy.org

Senior Leader – Wendy Minns – Wendy.Minns@bexhillacademy.org

Administrator – Jackie Houlihan – Jacqueline.Houlihan@bexhillacademy.org