

ACADEMY UPDATE

BEXHILLACADEMY.ORG



Bexhill
Academy

Friday 14 February 2025



End of Term 3

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of Term 3, I want to take a moment to thank our entire school community for their hard work, dedication, and support over the past few months. It has been a busy and productive term, and I am incredibly proud of the effort and enthusiasm shown by our students in their learning and extracurricular activities.

Celebrating Achievements

This term has seen fantastic achievements across the academy, from academic progress to sporting successes and creative projects. I want to commend our students for their commitment and resilience, and I hope they take time to reflect on their accomplishments before we begin the next stage of the academic year.

Upcoming Events:

Term End
Friday 14 February 2025

World Book Day
Thursday 6 March 2025

Year 7 Parents' Evening:
Wednesday 23 April
4.00pm – 7.00pm



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Looking Ahead

While the break is a time for rest and relaxation, I encourage students to also use this time wisely—whether that's catching up on reading, exploring new interests, or simply taking a well-earned pause to recharge for the challenges ahead. Term 4 will bring new opportunities, and we look forward to seeing everyone return refreshed and ready to continue their journey.

The Importance of Kindness

As always, I want to highlight the importance of kindness within our school community. A small act of kindness can go a long way, and I encourage our students to continue fostering a positive and supportive environment both in and outside of school.

The Importance of Attendance

Regular attendance is key to academic success. Even one missed day can have a lasting impact, as lessons build on previous knowledge. Missing an important concept may leave a student struggling to catch up, even with extra support. While teachers do their best to help, there's no true substitute for being present when the lesson is first taught.

We encourage you to support your child in attending school on time every day, ensuring they make the most of every learning opportunity. Consistent attendance not only strengthens understanding but also builds confidence and success for the future.

Polite Notice

A reminder to please let us know if your child is coming into school unwell.

If a child becomes too unwell to stay in school we will contact you.

Did you know?

If your child is absent, you can notify us by sending us a message via Edulink or calling 01424 730722, Option 1 and leaving a voicemail.



Road Safety and Parking

For the safety of all our students, we kindly ask that you are mindful of where you park when picking up your child.

Please consider parking a short distance away from the school to help reduce congestion and keep everyone safe. With too many cars stopping, parking illegally, and pulling out, the risk of accidents increases.

We also ask that you speak to your child about being extra careful when crossing roads outside the school. Recently, we've had a couple of minor incidents, and we all need to work together to prevent anything more serious from happening.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping our school community safe!

Wishing You a Wonderful Break

On behalf of all the staff at Bexhill Academy, I wish our students and their families a restful, enjoyable, and safe break. Thank you for your ongoing support, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back next term.

Kind regards,

Dr. Craig Neal
Headteacher
Bexhill Academy



UNIFORM



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Uniform Expectations – Reminder

As we approach the return to school after the February half-term, we kindly remind all parents and carers to ensure their child is wearing the correct uniform. Uniforms will be checked daily, and students not meeting these expectations will receive an appropriate sanction.

Uniform Requirements:

- Shirts: Blue (Years 7, 8 & 9) / White (Years 10 & 11)
- Tie: Year-specific colour
- Blazer: Bexhill Academy Blazer (mandatory)
- Jumper: Optional
- Bottoms: Bexhill Academy Skirt with compulsory tights / Navy Culottes / Navy Trousers / Navy Shorts
- Shoes: Black, polishable
- Summer Option (Terms 5 & 6 only): White Polo Shirt

Branded uniform can be purchased from Superstitch in Hastings:

[Superstitch Uniform Shop](#)

For full uniform guidelines, visit:

[Bexhill Academy Uniform Expectations](#)

Thank you for your cooperation in maintaining our high standards.



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DANCE



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Bexhill Academy Shines at the Time to Dance Festival

On Tuesday, 11th February, 28 talented dancers from Years 7-11 took to the White Rock stage in Hastings to perform at the annual Time to Dance festival.

Time to Dance has grown into a highly successful event, now running over three nights and involving thousands of children from local primary and secondary schools. Each year, organisers set an exciting theme to inspire the schools' choreography, and this year's theme was "Memories."

Our Performances

We choreographed two pieces based on the theme.

"Time to Reflect" featured all 28 dancers and told the story of an elderly woman reminiscing about key moments in her life. Given the three-minute performance limit, we chose four significant memories: graduating from school, getting married, celebrating Christmas with family and children, and losing a loved one. To help set the scenes and bring the story to life, all the girls had two quick costume changes under their graduation gowns.



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"A Love Lost" was performed by 11 dancers and depicted a woman remembering her true love. The piece followed her journey from the night they met to the moment he left for war, culminating in the devastating day she received the letter telling her he would not be coming home.

Rehearsals went smoothly, and backstage was filled with excitement as everyone got ready. On stage, the dancers performed beautifully, and I am incredibly proud of them. I am already looking forward to our next performance.



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ANIMAL AID

Last week, the Food Department welcomed Animal Aid to speak with our Year 9 students. The session provided valuable insights into animal welfare, ethical food choices, and sustainability, encouraging students to think critically about the impact of their food decisions.

It was a fantastic opportunity for students to explore different perspectives and engage in meaningful discussions on these important topics.



ART

Our talented Art Scholars recently took part in the Lions Club Peace Poster Competition, showcasing their creativity and artistic skills. We are delighted to announce that Alfie P was selected as the winning entry for the school, with Maya W and Aida B finishing as joint runners-up.

Alfie's outstanding work went on to achieve even greater success, securing 2nd place at the District level — a fantastic achievement!

This week, representatives from the Bexhill Lions Club attended assembly to present Alfie with his well-deserved prize and certificate. They also generously awarded a prize to our Art Department in recognition of our students' achievements.

Congratulations to Alfie, Maya, Aida, and all our Art Scholars for their dedication and creativity!

Chris Mayne
Head of Art



SPARX MATHS



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Students in your school have completed

8,135 hours

of personalised learning
on Sparx Maths this year!

752,137

questions answered correctly in Sparx Maths so
far this year

**Can we hit 1,500,000 correctly answered
questions by the end of the year?**

**Year 7 – Term 3 Week 4
Average XP Score per student –
FORMS**

1ST – 7BA03
2ND – 7BA01
3RD – 7BA04
4TH – 7BA10
5TH – 7BA02

**Year 8 – Term 3 Week 4
Average XP Score per student –
FORMS**

1ST – CON 8
2ND – 8BA06
3RD – 8BA07
4TH – 8BA03
5TH – 8BA02

**Year 9 – Term 3 Week 4
Average XP Score per student –
FORMS**

1ST – 9BA07
2ND – 9BA08
3RD – 9BA06
4TH – 9BA02
5TH – 9BA05

**Year 10 – Term 3 Week 4
Average XP Score per student –
FORMS**

1ST – 10BA02
2ND – 10BA06
3RD – 10BA09
4TH – 10BA03
5TH – 10BA08



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INCLUSION



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On behalf of East Sussex Parent Carer Forum (ESPCF), we're sharing a survey to gather your views on the support your child receives at Bexhill Academy. This survey is aimed at improving school experiences for students who need extra support, regardless of whether they are on the SEN register or have a formal diagnosis of SEND.

Survey Details:

Deadline: Monday 3rd March

Survey Link: [Survey Link](#)

Anonymity: All responses are anonymous.

ESPCF is working with local services to ensure that the voices of parent carers are heard in decisions affecting SEND support in East Sussex.

Thank you for your time and feedback.

Mike Walton

Assistant Headteacher – SENCO

EAL

(English as an Additional Language)



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Celebrating Home Languages at Bexhill Academy

February is the month when we celebrate the incredible home language skills of our pupils. Throughout the month, we are embracing multilingualism by:

- Reading dual-language books and engaging in activities with our pupils
- Hosting dual-language story sessions for younger pupils
- Supporting older pupils in preparing for their home language GCSEs
- Encouraging entries for the Val Larkin Dual-Language Writing Award

This year's theme is "My Favourite Place", and we are thrilled to share a special story written by creative Year 7 student Yurii Y. With the support of Mrs Marina Orden, Bilingual Support Officer from ESCC, Yurii has beautifully captured his memories of Uspenovka, Ukraine — his favourite place in the world — writing in three languages: Ukrainian, Russian, and English.

His heartfelt story transports us to a village filled with stunning landscapes, cherished friendships, and unforgettable moments.

From the scent of summer hay to the joy of reuniting a lost puppy with its owner, Yurii's words remind us of the deep connections we hold with the places we call home.

Want to discover Yurii's favourite place? Let's read together! 😊



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EAL

(English as an Additional Language)



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My favorite place is my favorite village in Ukraine, Uspenovka. It is located next to the most beautiful Ukrainian city “Odessa”. I was born and raised in this village and I really want to tell you about it. I really miss my village, my family and my friends.

I can’t tell you what a wonderful place in the world this is and how nice it is to live there. There are beautiful fields with flowers, picturesque forests, and blue rivers. When I went to the forest and river with my friends, it was impossible to convey in words what a wonderful smell of grass and berries there is. One day we found a puppy in the forest, he was white and fluffy with blue eyes. It turned out that he ran away from his owners and was walking in the forest, of course, we took him. And when they returned home, they saw the advertisement and returned it to the owners.

The hostess was very happy and gave us pies with potatoes. It was very tasty. Have you ever jumped into hay from a roof? Of course, the barn was not high and the hay was very soft. Just imagine how delicious hay smells on a hot summer day. You fall into the hay and lie there, you can’t breathe and you don’t want to get up, you’d lie there for an eternity. I really hope that I will return home again soon and see my grandparents and friends. I'll go into the forest and swim in the river, how cool it will be.

By
Yurii Y



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SPORT



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Results from this week:

Please see below the results for this week and the fixtures for next:

- Year 7 Girls Football vs St Richards – 5 – 2 win
- Year 8 Boys Rugby vs Sackville – Postponed
- Year 7 Sports Hall Athletics – 6th place finish
- Year 8 Boys Football vs Claverham – 0 – 6 loss
- Year 8 Girls Cricket tournament – 3rd place finish
- Year 8 Girls Netball vs St Richards – 8 – 8 draw

Ben Petty

Director of Physical Education



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CATERING

This week, our Year 11 students have begun their final practical assessments for their GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition qualification.

With four practical sessions taking place this week and another four next week, students are showcasing their culinary skills in a challenging yet exciting task.

The theme for this year's assessment is International Cuisine, with students designing a meal suitable for the school canteen. Reflecting the diversity of our cohort, menus are inspired by global flavours, including dishes from Syria, Ukraine, Mexico, China, and Italy, among others.

Students have demonstrated an impressive range of high-level skills, from deboning chicken and making puff pastry to crafting fresh pasta, bread, and executing fine knife skills. Their creativity and technical ability have been truly outstanding!



READING INTERVENTIONS



Beyond the Books: Helping Students Thrive Through Reading

This term, we have been supporting our Key Stage 3 students in developing their reading skills through targeted intervention programmes. Our dedicated reading team has been running structured sessions to boost confidence, improve comprehension, and inspire a lifelong love of books.

With small-group and one-to-one support, students receive personalised guidance focused on decoding, fluency, and comprehension. Using engaging texts and interactive resources, we tailor our approach to different interests and reading levels, making the curriculum more accessible for all.

It has been fantastic to see students grow in confidence and participate more in class—their enthusiasm has been truly inspiring!

Parents and carers, you play a key role too—creating a reading-friendly environment at home can make a big difference. If you would like more information, please get in touch.

Let's keep working together to help our students succeed!



SAFEGUARDING



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Protecting Yourself and others from scams online Safer Internet Day 2025

This week, our school joined others nationwide to celebrate Safer Internet Day 2025, the largest global online safety campaign with tutor activities. This year's theme, 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online,' focuses on teaching children and young people how to identify and avoid scams, and highlights available support.

Scams can take many forms and target anyone, including young people. You may think that your child would be able to spot an online scammer, but the truth is that they are incredibly convincing and hard to spot. They often involve fake profiles and identities to target people.

You may have heard this referred to as 'catfishing.' If your child has been targeted by a scam online and they have been made to do something that they didn't want to, then they are not to blame, they are not in trouble, and support is available.

As Safer Internet Day involves everybody, we encourage you to join us in celebrating by continuing the conversation at home about spotting, responding to, and reporting online scams.



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SAFEGUARDING

Here are some helpful resources:

- You can complete the [UK Safer Internet Centre's interactive quizzes](#) with your child about this theme.
- The UK Safer Internet Centre have created resources for use with children and young people about this year's theme. These were designed for learning settings but can be adapted to use with your child. You can find these [here](#).
- Read the UK Safer Internet Centre's top tips for parents and carers [here](#).
- You can share the UK Safer Internet Centre's [top tips for children and young people](#) with your child.

You may also like to use one of these prompts to start a conversation with your child:

- What's your favourite thing to do online?
- Have you ever seen a scam online? How did it make you feel?
- What signs would you look out for to spot a scam?
- What advice would you give to your friends about scams?
- Who would you talk to if you saw a scam online?
- What more can I do to help you feel safe online?

A key part of protecting children and young people from online harms is through preventative education. By talking about this in school and at home, we can all work towards keeping children safe when they are online. Celebrating Safer Internet Day is a great opportunity for you to re-emphasise the online safety messages we deliver throughout the year.

If you have any concerns or questions about keeping your child safe online, please do get in touch with your child's form tutor or record on MyVoice which allows you to record concerns for your child from our [website](#).

SAVE THE DATE



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Coming Up

Spring Soiree – Thursday 1 May 2025

Shrek the Musical – Tuesday 15 – Friday 18 July 2025

Tickets available here:

www.ticketsource.co.uk/bexhill-academy



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MUSIC LESSONS



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Learn an instrument at Bexhill Academy!

We have some spaces available for students to learn an instrument at Bexhill Academy from next term!

We are very lucky to have a visiting team of excellent, industry professional music tutors across a range of instruments and vocals who come into school to deliver 30 minute lessons.

You can learn: piano, keyboard, guitar, bass guitar, drum kit, pop vocals, musical theatre vocals, classical vocals, flute, accordion, violin and/or music theory.

[Please click here to see the details on the form and application](#)

Did you know that learning an instrument has many other benefits? See below for all these benefits and more!



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FOOD BANK



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Food Bank Collection – March and April

On behalf of the Bexhill Food Bank, we are asking for your support in collecting items throughout the month of March.

For larger donations, such as those organised by neighbours, work colleagues, or community groups, the Food Bank is happy to arrange collection in April.

If you need to arrange a collection, please contact the Food Bank directly at info@bexhill.foodbank.org.uk or 07866570468. Alternatively, individuals can simply add their donations to the existing donation baskets in the local area.

Thank you for your generosity and support!



Lent Collection Calendar

Thanks for supporting local people in crisis by giving to the Bexhill Foodbank. Please drop your donations to 19/20 Station Road, Bexhill, TN40 1RE or contact us to arrange for collection. Please consider collecting during March, so the items can be given out in April. Thanks!
info@bexhill.foodbank.org.uk | 07866 570468

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Cat/ dog food | 2 Shampoo | 3 Chocolate treats | 4 Tinned tuna | 5 Chocolate spread/ Honey | 6 Deodorant |
| 7 Biscuits | 8 Crisps multipacks | 9 Cooking Oil | 10 Sugar | 11 Shower gel | 12 Tinned fruit |
| 13 Tinned soup | 14 Baked Beans | 15 Long-life fruit juice | 16 Instant mash potato | 17 Noodles | 18 Pasta sauce |
| 19 Squash | 20 Tinned ham/ corned beef | 21 Peanut Butter | 22 Coffee | 23 UHT long-life milk | 24 Ketchup/ Mayo |

Bexhill.foodbank.org.uk // 01424 736515 // 07866 570468

Registered Charity in England & Wales (1205042).



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STRESS MANAGEMENT COURSE



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The Pelham Counselling service invites you to

CHILL AND THRIVE

For school year groups 7-9

This course will look at...

- Why we might struggle
- How to manage stress
- Exploring anxiety
- What helps us to stay calm

4 Sessions

5TH MARCH

19TH MARCH

12TH MARCH

26TH MARCH

4pm - 5pm

Scan the QR code to sign up!

Registration is required due to limited spaces



At The Pelham, Holliers hill, Bexhill, TN40 2DD



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WORLD BOOK DAY



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THURSDAY 6TH MARCH

WORLD
BOOK
DAY

WORLD BOOK DAY

WHAT WILL BE HAPPENING THIS WEEK?

 **READ MORE**



1

MY TYPE ON PAPER

MONDAY

Activity - My 'Type on Paper' (what reading suits you?)

Location - Library

When - Break 2 and reading lessons

buzzing with life

2

GET CAUGHT READING

Activity - Be caught reading at any point across the academy and get a reward!

Location - Anywhere!

When - All Day



tuesday



3

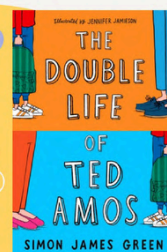
SIMON GREEN - AUTHOR VISIT

Activity - Selected students invited to a workshop with Simon Green.

Location - The Library

When - Period Two

WEDNESDAY



4

OPEN MIC NIGHT

Activity - Students invited to read their short stories with the community

Location - The Library

When - Thursday - 5-6pm



5

TUTOR DOORS

Activity - Tutor groups designed Diversity in Literature Doors

Location - Tutor Rooms

When - All Week!

friday



STAFF SPOTLIGHT



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Celebrating Our Staff: The Heart of Bexhill Academy

At Bexhill Academy, our staff go above and beyond every day to support, inspire, and empower our students. To shine a light on their dedication, we are launching a new weekly showcase – introducing the incredible people who make a difference in the lives of young people.

Each week, we will highlight a different member of our team, sharing the vital work they do to nurture, guide and support our students, whether in the classroom, through pastoral care, or behind the scenes.

This week, we celebrate **Matt Dann**, Assistant Headteacher for Behaviour and Culture (Year 8) and PE Teacher.

Matt is dedicated to fostering a positive school culture and inspiring students both in and out of the classroom. His leadership and passion help shape the Year 8 experience, ensuring students feel supported and motivated every day.



Thank you, Matt, for all you do!



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STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Meet Matt Dann: Supporting Students and Building Opportunities

As Assistant Headteacher for Year 8 Behaviour and Culture and a PE Teacher, Matt is passionate about helping students make positive choices and develop a strong sense of responsibility. He works closely with Year 8 students, supporting them in setting goals and preparing for their future options. "It's incredibly rewarding to help students make the right decisions and see them grow," Matt shares.

A Passion for Sports and Leadership

Matt holds a BA (Hons) in Physical Education and Sports Coaching (Grade 2:1) and a PGCE in Physical Education. He is also qualified with FA Level 2 Football and FA Level 2 Goalkeeping. Outside of the classroom, Matt is an avid sports enthusiast with a deep love for football and golf. Having played football for several local clubs, including Eastbourne Town and Hastings United, Matt now enjoys golfing at Lewes Golf Club, where he holds a 6 Handicap. He also enjoys long walks with his fiancée and their well-trained Rottweiler, Lola.

Giving Students Opportunities

Matt is also responsible for overseeing Clubs, Scholarships, and Educational Visits. By providing students with extra-curricular opportunities, he aims to create memories that will last a lifetime. "The trips, clubs, and scholarships are the things students remember long after they leave school," he explains.

Why He Loves Being at Bexhill Academy

For Matt, the best thing about Bexhill Academy is the strong sense of community. "The people at Bexhill Academy care more than anywhere I've worked, and that's something to be very proud of"

DATES



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Term 4 – Dates for your Diary

- Wednesday 26 February to Friday 7 March – Y11 Mock Exams
- Wednesday 12 March – Y9 Options Evening
- Thursday 20 March – Y9 Option Form return
- Wednesday 26 March – Y11 Parents' Evening
- Friday 21 March & Monday 24 March – Y11 Geology trip
- Tuesday 1 April – Y9 Vaccinations
- Thursday 3 April – Y10 Paris trip
- Wednesday 23 April – Y7 Parents Evening

Term Dates

- Monday 6 January – Start of Term 3
- Friday 14 February – End of Term 3
- Monday 24 February – Start of Term 4
- Friday 4 April 12.30pm finish – End of Term 4
- Tuesday 22 April – Start of Term 5
- Monday 5 May – Bank Holiday – The Academy is closed
- Friday 23 May – End of Term 5
- Monday 2 June – Start of Term 6
- Tuesday 22 July 12.30pm finish – End of Term 6



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We are



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As we reflect on the term gone by, we are filled with pride at everything we have accomplished together. From outstanding achievements in the classroom to moments of creativity, teamwork, and personal growth, our students have truly excelled.

Below is a selection of images that capture just some of the highlights from this term – a glimpse into the hard work, passion, and dedication that make Bexhill Academy so special. Enjoy the journey through our successes, and let's continue to build on these achievements in the term ahead!



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