

## Friday Update

### Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024

It has been a really positive week at Bexhill Academy, with lots going on. This week, we have two key notices, followed by headings for what has been happening at the academy this week. I know that some of you will enjoy reading the whole newsletter, but for those of you that are short of time, you can read the sections that most interest you/are most relevant for you. At the bottom of the newsletter are some key dates for your diaries. Have a fantastic weekend.

#### Key Notices

##### **End of Term Arrangements**

On the last day of term, **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December, we will be finishing at 12.30pm.**

##### **Parent Survey**

Thank you to all parents/carers that have taken the time to complete our parent survey. It really does help us to continue to drive improvements in the academy when we receive your feedback. If you haven't yet had a chance to fill this in, there is still a chance, using the link below:

<https://forms.gle/m5gSMCC7r1TJmFL97>

#### This week at Bexhill Academy

##### **Remembrance – 2 Minute Silence**

As always, the students were exceptionally respectful on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November, when we held our whole school 2-minute silence in respect of those that fought, contributed, sacrificed and served in wars around the world. You could hear a pin drop in the atrium, despite 1500 students and over 150 staff in one open space to pay respects. It really was a powerful moment, and one that shows how we as a school show respect and appreciation. I was very proud of the whole school community.

##### **Y11 GCSE Mock Exams**

It has been such an intense week for our Year 11 students as they have been sitting exams all week. We are so proud of how they have approached the exams and look forward to discussing the results and the progress being made at the Year 11 parents evening on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December.

## **Sports Results**

We have had a lot of sports fixtures and events recently, here are some of the results:

- Year 9 Boys Football – 6 – 1 win vs Claremont
- Year 7 Boys Rugby – 4<sup>th</sup> place in their first-round county cup round robin tournament
- Year 8 Boys Football vs Ark: 1 – 4 loss
- Year 8 Girls Netball area tournament: 1 win, 4 draws and 1 loss
- Year 9 Boys Football vs St Richards: 1 – 4 loss
- Year 9 Boys Rugby vs Heathfield: 17 – 22 loss
- Year 8 Boys Basketball vs St Richards: 45 – 13 loss
- Year 10 Boys Football vs St Leonards: 2 – 2 draw

Well done to all involved and thank you to the PE team for running these fixtures and events for the students.

The PE department have also run our annual cross-country competition, with some excellent performances.

## **Girls Football Leadership Course**

**(From Miss Devereux, Teacher of PE)**

On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November, 13 year 7&8 students attended a Girls football leadership course. The girls learnt how to deliver warm-up's, deliver skill-specific drills, and basic referee training. This training was delivered with the intention to prepare students to lead a girl's football festival for one or more local primary schools or organise something within our own school for the Biggest Ever Girls Football session on 7<sup>th</sup> March. The students represented the school with pride and we received lovely comments from the organisers about how fantastic our students were. Thanks to Miss Devereux for organising and taking the girls for this great experience.

## **Year 10 Hospitality and Catering Visit to the Grand Hotel, Eastbourne**

**(From Miss Purdy, Head of Food Technology)**

We had the pleasure of accompanying a group of our Year 10 Hospitality & Catering students to The Grand Hotel Eastbourne on Wednesday. It was a wonderful opportunity to gain an insight into the running of a 5 star hotel, getting the chance to see some of the rooms available and behind closed doors with a tour of their kitchens. We were then given a demonstration by the head chef on preparation techniques of their Afternoon Tea and a talk on

the proper way to serve tea. Our students were particularly well mannered throughout the trip, notably holding doors open for older guests. We are very much looking forward to visiting again with our other Year 10 group.

## **Year 5 Dance Masterclass**

**(From Miss Baker, Director of PE)**

For many years I have taught year 5 Dance masterclasses but today's will go down in history as one of the classes I am most proud of.

A few days before the class I completely lost my voice (terrible timing) so I asked some students that come to my weekly Dance club to help me.

We decided to create a fun megamix made up of Texas Holdem, Jai Ho and Wakka Wakka. The girls stepped up, learnt the dance and did an amazing job of being my voice and helping me to teach 30 year 5 students from a range of our local primary schools. For the full two hours the primary school students were fantastic at listening and had fun learning and performing the energetic new dance. I couldn't be more impressed with the students for stepping out of their comfort zones and improving their confidence and leadership skills, I literally could not have managed to deliver the class without them.

## **Parent/student Event – Ceramics**

We had over 40 parents and students in this week to do some artwork with clay and make Christmas decorations. It was lovely to see parents and students working together, and the atmosphere in our beautiful art room was lovely.

## **English Scholars**

**(From Miss Graebe, Teacher of English)**

Last week I introduced the English scholars to an Old English poem called The Dream of the Rood where a tree tells us the story of how it became the crucifix used for Christ. I asked the students to write something inspired by this... if an object could talk, what would it say? There was some really inspiring work produced, and I am so proud of how the students are doing. Well done English scholars!

## **Attendance**

**(From Mr Bayliss, Attendance Officer)**

This Term's attendance mentoring is off to a brilliant start! With all KS3 students participating well and giving great contributions to the group work. We have done some tasks around feelings, thoughts and behaviours; with all students showing a great understanding into "why we do what we do".

Please encourage students to tell you about their attendance ladders they use to compete with peers in form time. We have been seeing some brilliant spikes in attendance with rewards and sweet treats up for grabs!

## **Remembrance Sunday Parade**

## **(From Mrs Mendela, Teacher of Maths)**

A number of our students were involved in the Remembrance Sunday Parade and service at the war memorial in Bexhill, attending with various army cadet and scout groups they belong to. They were all remarkable as it was quite a march and a long wreath laying service to stand still for, which was attended by local and regional dignitaries (including the MP). Well done to all students involved in this and other remembrance events across the Country.

### **Bexhill Charter**

We have launched the Bexhill charter, and this week, a Year 7 student was the first to achieve a bronze charter badge. Well done!

### **Shoebox Appeal**

Many thanks to everyone for collecting items for the shoebox appeal. Please do keep the items coming in to support our local community during the festive season. See below and on website.

#### **Dates for your Diary**

- **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December** – Parents/carers and students of Year 7. Christmas card making in the Academy. Free of charge. Sign up to come...
- **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December** – Year 11 Parents' Evening (4-7pm)
- **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December** – Parents/carers and students – Elf 'film night' in the theatre in the Academy. Free of charge. Bring your own refreshments and enjoy a movie.
- **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December** – Year 7-10 Christmas Parties (at the Academy)
- **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December** – Year 11 Christmas Party (at the Academy)
- **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Concert
- **Friday 20<sup>th</sup>** – Finish at 12.30pm

#### **Term Dates**

- **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 12.30pm finish** – End of Term 2
- **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January** – Start of Term 3
- **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February** – End of Term 3
- **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February** – Start of Term 4
- **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 12.30pm finish** - End of Term 4
- **Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April** – Start of Term 5
- **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May** – Bank Holiday – The Academy is closed
- **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May** – End of Term 5
- **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June** – Start of Term 6
- **Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 12.30pm finish** – End of Term 6

**Please support our Local Community Project this Christmas by donating items for our Community shoe boxes by 12 December.**

We are looking for donations for our shoebox / hamper appeal. Can you spare the following:

**For an elderly person's shoe box;** - puzzle books, hot chocolate, biscuits, warm socks, gloves, slippers, scarfs, hats, tins of soup, toiletries, confectionary, mug, handmade gifts.

**For a child's shoe box;** warm socks, gloves, scarfs, hats, toiletries, confectionary, pens, cuddly toys, puzzles, books etc.

**Local Food Bank;** We are also donating towards the local food banks, non-perishable items such as tins and dried food including rice, pasta etc. would be greatly appreciated.

*All donations can be either dropped off in the school reception or given to your child to hand in at school. Thanks for all your help and support.*

