



BEDLINGTON
Academy

SPRING NEWSLETTER

April 2020



WELCOME

to our spring newsletter...

Although recent events have given us a new set of challenges to deal with, there is still much to celebrate this term. It has been lovely to meet so many parents and carers at our parents' evenings. Our Year 8 students have also recently made their GCSE choices and I have been very impressed by their mature discussions.

Democracy has been a key theme for us this term, with students participating in student council elections and a mock election for the Northumberland Youth Parliament. It has been a pleasure to meet and work with our newly elected student council representatives and I look forward to seeing them really shape the direction of some key changes at the Academy in the future.

As ever, there has been a wealth of exciting activities going on beyond the school day. Students have an ever-growing range of extra-curricular clubs to choose from, from sport to Spanish! We have also seen successful visits this term including a geography residential to Patterdale in the

Lake District, and Sixth Form scientists visiting Geneva. We have all enjoyed getting involved with exciting events in school such as World Book Day and Sport Relief.

I am immensely proud of the way that students, staff and parents have dealt with recent events. The way that students have engaged with online learning and got to grips with new technology is remarkable, and the support from parents has been incredible. We are truly an exceptional community and we will get through this together.

Please remember to check the virtual school section of our website for updates during our closure period. We will also be posting some exciting challenges for students to get involved with over the Easter holidays.

Stay safe everyone

Mrs J Lamb, Head of School
Bedlington Academy

Creative enterprise!

A group of Year 9 students have been working with local organisation, *This is Creative Enterprise*, to explore the full scope of careers that exist within the commercial creative industries.

The workshop started by introducing students to the design brief. They were then tasked to work as a team to design a catwalk appropriate outfit to match the brief they were given. In addition to the design, the girls produced an advertisement for their outfit alongside a presentation to pitch to a potential influencer to market their product.

To finish their task, the team presented their outfit and marketing materials to the company CEO. The group created some amazing outfits!





WORLD BOOK DAY 2020!

Our students spent a day celebrating their love of reading as part of World Book Day 2020.

World Book Day aims to give every child and young person a book of their own. The day also lets students celebrate authors, illustrators, books and reading, which our students certainly did!

Students started the celebrations in form classes where they were each given a bingo card to play 'book bingo' in lessons throughout the day. Each department was tasked with choosing a novel to fill classrooms with

clues. Students then had to figure out each department's choice through the clues they had found. There were many completed bingo cards handed in and the lucky winners received brand new books.

There was a real buzz around the school as students searched for clues and talked about their favourite books and, of course, our teachers' costumes were a real highlight of the day!



Students raise funds for charity, Tiny Lives

Students recently hosted a Mother's Day stall which raised £51 for Tiny Lives, a charity that supports premature and sick newborn babies on the Neonatal Unit at Newcastle's Royal Victoria Infirmary.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Due to the uncertainty caused by the coronavirus pandemic, we cannot commit to any fixed school events at the moment. Parents' evenings and other planned events in school are postponed until further notice.

Please keep checking our website and social media channels for the latest updates.



Health and wellbeing

Students recently took part in personal development days, aiming to help further their understanding of the contributing factors that could affect their health and wellbeing.

The development days included workshops on a range of topics such as mental health, self-care, body image and sleep. Students also learned about other health issues and how to administer CPR.

Mrs Lamb commented: "Our students enjoyed the personal development days - they are a great way to help build their confidence and identify issues that could affect their wellbeing and hinder their studies."

Well done to all students who took part!



Students launch new sustainability project

Our newly elected student council have been working with Parish Council, John Batey, and pupils from local primary schools on the launch of a new sustainability project.

Bedlington Academy students led younger pupils in developing and presenting their ideas to an audience.

Everyone commented on how our students were fantastic ambassadors and we look forward to seeing the project develop over the next year.

We're on Twitter and Facebook!



@bedlingtonacad



@bedlingtonacademy



Year 11 pizza party

During their last day in school, Year 11 students were treated to a pizza party in the hall during lunchtime.

The party started with a special guest appearance from Director of Learning, Mrs Gray, via video link and a goodbye speech from Mrs Lamb, before tucking into

delicious pizzas. Lots of staff came to wish Year 11 well.

We look forward to a more formal celebration with Year 11 after their results.



Lucas rows for gold!

Congratulations to our talented student, Lucas, who recently earned a spot in the Regional Indoor Rowing Competition.

Lucas achieved his spot in the competition after securing second place in the Blyth Bedlington Indoor Rowing event earlier in the year. Lucas achieved an impressive 1000 metres in just four minutes as he represented the Academy.

This sporting success was followed up when Lucas competed in a Junior Inter-

Regional Regatta for his club and came first in his time trial!

As a result of his win, Lucas has been asked to represent the North at a national event.

We wish Lucas every success in the next stages and congratulate him on his achievements so far.



SPORT RELIEF

Students at the Academy recently spent a week getting active to show support and raise money for Sport Relief.

During PE lessons, all students completed the 'Sport Relief Mile' as well as various fitness challenges including tug of war. Students also got involved in lunchtime and after school sports club where they enjoyed games of badminton, dodgeball, table tennis, fitness and five-a-side football competitions.

Miss Scott commented: "It has been great to see so many students having fun and increasing their activity levels this week through attending additional lunchtime and after school clubs. A real highlight has

been seeing every student challenging themselves to achieve their personal best and complete the Sport Relief Mile."

Sixth Form students took on Academy staff in a cycle-a-thon throughout the final day, competing to see who could cycle the furthest without stopping.

It was close, but staff were victorious cycling 129km against students' 118km.

Staff were also crowned winners in the staff v students bench ball... maybe next year students!



Geographers take to the Lake District

40 keen geographers recently visited Patterdale Hall in the Lake District to complete geography fieldwork.

The students from Year 8, 9 and 12 took measurements in a river to identify whether it was a true representation of how textbooks describe them. The river was very cold due to melting snow, but students were superb, completing the data collection very efficiently. They then assessed human geography around the local village, Glenridding, before taking part in some group activities such as canoeing and egg rocketing.

Our students displayed some fantastic teamwork skills and were keen to get involved.

Teacher training opportunities

Shotton Hall
SCITT
School Centred Initial Teacher Training

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Through our sponsor, The North East Learning Trust, we are a partner of Shotton Hall SCITT, the Trust's very own outstanding teacher training provider.

Trainees start their training at The Academy at Shotton Hall in Peterlee, then undertake placements in schools right across the North East, including here at Bedlington Academy.

Applications are now open for primary and secondary courses starting in September 2020 with bursaries of up to £26k available

for certain subjects.

To find out about entry requirements and the opportunities available, as well as hearing from people who have taken the leap and changed career visit:

www.shottonhallscitt.co.uk

