



BEDLINGTON
Academy

WINTER NEWSLETTER

December 2018

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Welcome to our winter newsletter. In this edition, we will share details of just some of the many exciting things which have taken place. There are also some useful dates for your diary.

It has been a very busy term for us at Bedlington Academy. We have welcomed new students and staff and seen Year 11-13 students complete their mock exams.

Recently, we have enjoyed a number of festive celebrations, including a cinema rewards trip, Christmas Jumper Day and a delicious Christmas lunch.

We have also proudly hosted our senior citizens' Christmas lunch, something which is a well-established school tradition and which reflects our important place in the local community.

Students have taken part in a huge range of sporting activities, extra-curricular events and visits this term. It has been a pleasure

to see how enthusiastically they have participated and how proudly they have represented the school.

Finally, I would like to thank parents and carers for your support this term. I look forward with great excitement to seeing our students go from strength to strength in the new year.

Have a lovely Christmas.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Lamb
Head of School



Best exam results ever!

It's official, the numbers have been crunched and we can now proudly say that this year's GCSE and A level results are our best ever!

After lots of hard work, our students have done themselves and the school proud in delivering a great set of exam results.

We had a 100% pass rate and were in the top five schools in Northumberland for A level with our average Grade awarded a B-.

Continue inside...



Bedlington Sixth Form scientists win awards

Earlier this term, five of our sixth form students attended the *Bring It On* science fair to present their research projects for the regional *Big-Bang-Fair* competition.

Over the summer, Muzghan Wazir, Jack Whinnom, Megan Goss, Cameron Arkle and Kieron Robson participated in post-graduate research projects at local universities through an initiative run by the Nuffield Foundation. As part of the programme, they presented their research projects to judges so they could be considered for awards.

All five students were presented with certificates from the Nuffield Foundation for completing the programme. Three of the students also received awards from the judging panel.

Cameron was awarded the innovation prize for his project about the application of positive psychological therapies to help treat people living with lower limb amputations. Jack was awarded the resilience prize for his project about water chemistry in a fjord fed by a glacier in west Greenland.

Megan was awarded for her project about dye-sensitised solar-cells and has become one of the ten finalists who qualify to compete at the *Big Bang UK Young Scientist and Engineers* competition in March 2019. We'll let you know how she gets on - watch this space.

Well done to all five students who took part.

FREE BREAKFAST!

We are now offering a free breakfast to all students thanks to the Magic Breakfast charity who are providing us with unlimited bagels, porridge and cereal.

Pop along to the technology area anytime from 8.15am - 8.50am to pick up your free breakfast.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 21 DEC - Christmas holiday begins
- 07 JAN - Back to school
- 09 JAN - Year 12 Parents' Evening
- 09 JAN - Year 13 Parents' Evening
- 15 FEB - Break up for half term
- 25 FEB - Back to school
- 27 FEB - Year 8 Options Evening
- 13 MAR - Year 8 Parents' Evening

To keep up to date with all news and events please visit:

www.bedlingtonacademy.co.uk



Language ambassadors inspire the next generation

Last month, we welcomed an intelligent group of Newcastle University language ambassadors into school to inspire our students to study languages.

The visitors hosted a number of interesting assemblies and workshops centred around careers in languages and the value of learning about other cultures.

In order to continue to raise awareness of languages, our visitors are training a group of students to be our in-house language ambassadors. A number of Year 10 students have now joined the programme and they already have some great ideas. Good luck!



Best exam results ever

Continued from front...

At GCSE, 1 in 4 grades were awarded at Grade 6 (B) or higher and we had a 13% increase in the proportion of students achieving strong passes in GCSE English.

We also had outstanding progress in science, languages, music, IT, creative media, construction, engineering, food and health and social care.

Eight students achieved at least five 9-7 grades and over 40% of students achieved at least one top grade. The proportion of 9-7 grades (A*-A) doubled from the previous year.

Well done to everyone who tried their best and to our wonderful staff who go above and beyond to help students reach their full potential.



Phoebe and Aleysha cook up a storm!

Year 10 students, Phoebe Taylor-Walker and Aleysha Harness, went to Gateshead College last month to compete in the local finals of the *Future Chef* competition.

The girls had a budget of £7 to create a main course and dessert for two people which was nutritionally balanced, displayed high skill, was well flavoured and beautifully presented. Both students produced excellent dishes and received a certificate and recipe book for their efforts.

Phoebe created a roasted tomato, pancetta and garlic risotto topped off with a parmesan crisp and tiramisu.



Aleysha served up crunchy chicken goujons, spiced sweet potato wedges and homemade coleslaw followed by a gooey chocolate brownie.



We're on Twitter and Facebook!



@bedlingtonacad



@bedlingtonacademy

Brass band perform at the Sage!

A huge well done to our brass band who performed at the Sage last month as part of the *Brass in Concert Festival* alongside other local schools.

Music teacher, Miss Davies said: "It was such an honour to be invited to play at the Sage as part of the brass band project. Our students

performed brilliantly, especially considering this was their first ensemble performance - well done!"



Year 7 transition residential

80 Year 7 students recently enjoyed an action-packed three day residential at Dukeshouse Wood in Hexham.

Students started the trip by making their own beds, organising and planning shower rotas and house keeping of dorms to encourage independence.

They then took part in outdoor activities such as 3G swing, abseiling, jacob's ladder and archery which focussed on team building, resilience, confidence building and making friends.

Mrs Weatherley commented: "The students had a brilliant time - well done"



New football kit!

Thank you to our uniform supplier, Emblematic, who have gifted all schools in the North East Learning Trust with a brand new football kit of their choice.

Our fantastic under 14 boys' football team recently received the new kit and we think they look brilliant!

They've had a successful start to the season so far and we look forward to the second half of the season kicking off after Christmas.



Are you on the nice list this Christmas?

It's very easy to get *wrapped up* in presents, parties and pantos at Christmas time and we can all be guilty of it. But, for some people, Christmas is tough and it may help if they receive a little dose of unexpected kindness.

Here are some ways you can be kind this Christmas. We guarantee you will be on the nice list after this...

1. Donate clothes and food to foodbanks
2. Smile and thank everyone who serves you
3. Hide a happy note for someone to find
4. Offer to help someone
5. Lend a friend your favourite book/movie
6. Pick up litter and put it in the bin
7. Talk to someone who is sitting alone
8. Let someone in front of you in a line
9. Send a nice text to five different people
10. Practice self-kindness and spend 30 minutes doing something you love.

THE JOKE CORNER

Who hides in the bakery at Christmas?

A mince spy!