



BEDLINGTON
Academy

WINTER NEWSLETTER

December 2021

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Welcome to the Christmas edition of our termly newsletter.

We are thrilled to share with you some of the many exciting things that have taken place in school. We are so proud of the way our students have settled back into school life this term. We have also welcomed our biggest ever year groups in Year 7 and Year 12, and it has been a pleasure getting to know our lovely new students.

This term has been exceptionally busy with a huge range of new and exciting extra-curricular activities on offer. From cooking to musical theatre and even fishing, there really is something for everyone!

Our students have represented us with pride at sports events, climate change conferences and debating competitions. They have developed new

skills, made new friends and participated fully in everything that Bedlington Academy has to offer. In the lead up to Christmas we enjoyed our '12 Days of Christmas' festivities and took part in lots of charitable and community initiatives.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to parents and carers for your ongoing support. I wish you all a safe and restful Christmas break, and I look forward to welcoming students back to school refreshed in January.

Have a lovely Christmas!

Mrs Lamb
Head of School



Students support the community

Once again this year, we were proud to support St John's Church in their winter coat appeal.

Staff, parents and students alike provided a fantastic response to the very worthy cause, kindly donating bags full of coats. Thank you for your generosity, it makes a real difference!



Festive feasting!

In the lead up to Christmas, our Key Stage 3 students loved competing to see who could create the best gingerbread house.

The houses were intricately decorated, covered with sweet treats and topped with candy canes. Great job everyone - they look fantastic!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!

- 17 Dec** Break up for Christmas
- 05 Jan** Back to school
- 18 Feb** Break up for half term
- 28 Feb** Back to school
- 08 Apr** Break up for Easter
- 25 Apr** Back to school
- 27 May** Break up for half term
- 06 Jun** Back to school

To keep up to date with all news and events please visit:
www.bedlingtonacademy.co.uk

NELT SCHOOLS BATTLE IT OUT IN BIG DEBATE

This term saw secondary schools within the North East Learning Trust come together for an inter-school debate day held at The Academy at Shotton Hall in Peterlee.

Our debate club took part in some fantastic debates. The standard was incredibly high as students explored a variety of ambitious topics including the value of the monarchy, cosmetic surgery, social media and free speech.

Themes were well researched, persuasive and challenging and it was clear just how much preparation and rehearsal had gone into these debates. All of these topics were then challenged where cross questioning by the rival school was thrilling to watch! The stakes were high and students really responded well.

The students from Bedlington were all incredibly impressed by the participants and are now ready to take part in the next debate.

We really enjoyed our visit and the debate team are now ready to meet with a new aim in mind - to win that trophy!

Hello Norway!

The North Sea Link is a 720 kilometre subsea interconnector linking the electricity systems of the UK and Norway, stretching from Blyth, across the North Sea, to Kviteseid in Norway.

Our geography students in 7A1 have spent some time this term looking at the North Sea Link and the benefits it brings to the local area and the UK as a whole. However, it's all very well looking at the actual links and the process but what is actually at the other end?

We spent a morning exploring what was at the other side by linking up with Vinjar school in Norway. Students in grade 6 and 7 at Vinjar put together some videos and presentations for our students to tell them about Norway and the lives that they have there.

Our students then produced some presentations about life in England and Bedlington and to show what this end of the interconnector looked like.

Students then delivered their presentations 'live' to the students who were waiting to eagerly hear them in Vinjar school. The morning was a great success!

A VERY BUSY DRAMA DEPARTMENT

This term, our drama department just hasn't stopped, from a Director's Conference at the National Theatre to casting workshops in school, we've seen it all this term...

NE6 students have been developing their choreography and facilitation skills when delivering workshops at our very own dance club. Participants enjoyed learning routines from a variety of styles including: Hip Hop, Lyrical, Commercial and Musical Theatre. This has given students an insight on how to express their emotions through movement as well as having fun and learning new styles.

Our Youth Theatre have also had a great term as they prepare to participate in the National Connections Festival 2022. Parents, carers and friends will be invited to see the play at Bedlington Academy in the Spring, followed by a public performance at a venue in Sunderland in May. This is a fantastic opportunity for our young people to work with industry professionals and likeminded people.

WE'RE SOCIAL!

Did you know that our school regularly posts exciting updates on Facebook and Twitter?

Our social media pages are a great way to connect to our online Bedlington Academy community. You can find photos, videos and important updates on our pages and see what your youngsters are up to in the classroom.

If you don't follow our pages already, please give us a like or a follow to stay in the loop!



@bedlingtonacad



@bedlingtonacademy



CHRISTMAS TREE, OH CHRISTMAS TREE

This term, a select group of students enjoyed decorating our lovely Christmas tree. We think that you will agree that they did a great job!



Caring for the climate

Last month, we kept a close eye on events at COP26 in Glasgow.

Students learnt about the key reasons for this event and the impact it could have on the world.

Our Year 12 geographers were selected to represent the school at the climate change conference held at Newcastle University on the 12th November, below is a short write up by Luke Brown:

The climate change conference was a really great experience for me and others and included a research task which then led onto a presentation of your findings.

This was helpful for me as it allowed me to get a wider perspective on what is happening in the world and try to figure out any solutions which can be used to resolve the issue.

Also, since this event was held at Newcastle University, I was able to ask some of the students there how they are finding their geography courses and what they are studying. After they had answered my questions, it meant that I was more intrigued to possibly go further with geography!

STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTION

This term saw our brand new student council form for the new academic year!

Students across all year groups developed their understanding of democracy by taking part in a whole school vote to elect nominated students as the newly formed student council.

Well done to all students who were nominated and congratulations to all those who were successfully elected!



Why does Santa have three gardens at the North Pole?

So he can Ho, Ho, Ho

CHRISTMAS QUIZ

1. Which country started the tradition of putting up a Christmas tree?
2. How many ghosts show up in A Christmas Carol?
3. In Home Alone, where are the McCallisters going on holiday when they leave Kevin behind?
4. Which country did eggnog originate?
5. How many gifts were given in total in 'The Twelve Days of Christmas' song?
6. What year did Mariah Carey's 'All I Want For Christmas Is You' come out?
7. In which Christmas movie does Tom Hanks play 6 of the characters?
8. In which country is it tradition to eat KFC for Christmas dinner?
9. In the movie Love Actually, which character sang 'Christmas Is All Around'?
10. How many of Rudolph's fellow reindeers' names start with 'D'?

Quiz answers:

1. Germany
2. Four
3. Paris
4. Britain
5. 364
6. 1994
7. The Polar Express. He plays Hero Boy, Father, Conductor, Hobo, Scrooge and Santa Claus.
8. Japan
9. Billy Mack, played by Bill Nighy
10. Three - Dancer, Dasher, Donner.



**North East
SCITT**

Did you know that our school is a partner of North East SCITT - an organisation that trains new teachers in schools across the north east - including in ours!

Whether you're a new graduate, in your final year of university or considering a change of career (it's never too late you know!), North East SCITT's high-quality school-based initial teacher training courses can provide you with the best start to a new career in teaching. They are based in the North East Learning Trust's lead school, The Academy at Shotton Hall in Peterlee, but training happens in schools all across the region.

The quality of training they offer is rated 'outstanding' by Ofsted for both their primary and secondary courses. Along with this they have a proven track record of amazing

results and high employment rates. The programme gives you the opportunity to learn to teach 'on-the-job'. Unlike traditional university courses, you are in the classroom from the outset, interacting with pupils and teachers and learning first hand the knowledge and skills you'll need to become an outstanding teacher.

You will practise in a broad range of schools, gaining experience in different areas including special educational needs and disabilities, behaviour management, English as an additional language, phonics, and maths mastery (for primary only).

You will also be allocated a subject mentor from a team of specialists with vast experience who will introduce you to school life and help you to learn how to teach your subject.

At the end of the 10 month course you'll be a qualified teacher with a PGCE from Durham University.

So if you're thinking of teaching - there is no better place than through our school partners North East SCITT - please get in touch - we know they would love to speak to you!

Subjects available:



- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Primary Computing | Physical education |
| Design and technology | Religious education |
| Drama | Biology |
| English | Chemistry |
| History | Physics |
| Geography | Modern foreign languages |
| Maths | |
| Music | |

Try a teacher training taster day...

If you're thinking about training to teach, you can come and spend the morning at The Academy at Shotton Hall in Peterlee or Browney Academy in Durham to get a taste of what teacher training is like. Find out more and book your place at:

www.northeastscitt.co.uk/taster

Apply now for Sept 2022

New year, new career?

Become a teacher in 2022!

Outstanding teacher training in schools across the North East



Bursaries of up to £24k available to train in some subjects

Find out more at: www.northeastscitt.co.uk