



BEDLINGTON
Academy

SPRING NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2022



WELCOME to our spring newsletter..

Dear parents, carers and friends of Bedlington Academy,

As we approach the Easter break, there is so much to reflect on. This term has been incredibly busy!

We have seen the launch of our new Character Awards system and the continued growth of our extremely popular extra-curricular clubs. Our students have embraced these opportunities and involved themselves in the wider life of school with the enthusiasm and passion we have come to expect from them. I have been particularly impressed with the work of our performing arts group in staging a new production 'Hunt' as part of the National Connections project.

Lessons have been purposeful with students' efforts rewarded with literally thousands of

points - and our rewards scratch cards have proved a big hit! Our Year 13 and Year 11 students tackled their second round of mock examinations with maturity and dedication which impressed us all. We are proud of our students, and they are a credit to you.

Please do read on and see for yourselves what our students have been up to this term. Once again, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to parents and carers for your ongoing support. I wish you all a safe and restful Easter break and look forward to welcoming students back to school refreshed in the summer term.

Mrs J Lamb, Head of School
Bedlington Academy

Thank you and goodbye!

The time has come for us to wish our fantastic catering team member, **Gillian Brown**, farewell and all the very best for her retirement.

Gillian has worked at Bedlington Academy for over 42 years and is never without a smile on her face. From creating delicious breakfasts and lunches for our ever-hungry students and staff, to whipping up handmade tasty treats for afternoon tea, nothing is ever too much trouble for Gillian. She will be a huge miss to not only the catering team but to all at Bedlington Academy.

We wish you a long, happy and well-deserved retirement Gillian and thank you for your long service to our school.



Art attack!

We've rounded up some brilliant examples of artwork from this term. We can't wait to see what students produce next term...



IMPORTANT DATES

for your diary

- 25 APR - Back to school
- 02 MAY - Bank holiday
- 27 MAY - Break up for half term

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



Students take to the stage

This term has been an incredibly busy time for the drama department as the Bedlington Academy performance group have been preparing for their involvement in the National Theatre Connections Festival.

Student directors and designers worked incredibly hard behind the scenes to prepare for rehearsals, while actors demonstrated creativity and resilience when developing their characters.

This year's National Theatre Connections play for the team is *Hunt* by Fionnuala Kennedy. The group performed the show brilliantly in school at the end of March before they take it to an even bigger stage at the Firestation in Sunderland on 6-7th May.

The National Connections festival showcases talent from all areas of the UK, allowing young people to become the theatre-makers of tomorrow.

After their performances at Bedlington Academy, students will soon meet with Oliver O'Shea from the National Theatre who will offer feedback to help them prepare for the transition to The Firestation performance. If you'd like to come along, tickets are available online.



Were social!

Follow our social media accounts to stay up to date with all of the latest news from around the Academy!



@bedlingtonacad



@bedlingtonacademy



TRAMPOLINE TRIUMPH

Tom was jumping for joy when he represented our school at the North of England Schools Trampoline Finals this term.

Year 8 student, Tom, had been training for months in the lead up of the event and successfully placed 3rd meaning he will now be recognised as one of the top three national finalists in the country.

We caught up with Tom to interview him on his successful trampolining career so far and his plans for the future. Here's what he had to say...

How old were you when you started trampolining?

Five years old - I started out doing gymnastics then moved on to trampolining.

Do you need any specialist equipment to take part in trampolining?

A pair of trampolining shoes but socks are fine for beginners.

How many times a week do you train?

I train three times a week for three hours per session.

Would you recommend trampolining to others?

Yes definitely. It's fun, a good way to exercise and you can make lots of friends.

What is next for you?

Learning a new skill of a 'Barani ballout' (one for Google folks!).

What a fantastic achievement - we can't wait to see what the future holds for Tom as a National Trampolinist!



Rowing for gold

A group of students took to the water this term to compete in the trials for the 14-16 year olds' group for a national event later this month.

Congratulations to Owen, Dawson and Olivia for taking part at such a high level and being such excellent ambassadors for our school and the North East.

A special congratulations goes to Lucas who has been selected to compete, for the second time, at the National Sports Centre in Nottingham along with other young people from Hexham, Durham and Teesside representing the North.



Duke of Edinburgh's Award returns

We are thrilled to announce that the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme is starting after the Easter holidays.

All students in Years 9-13 will be given the opportunity to take part in the scheme covering volunteering, physical, skills and expedition activities.

Students participating in the programme can expect to gain valuable experience of working with others both through voluntary work and through teamwork.

Students can build their self-confidence by setting and then working towards the goals they set themselves. They will also get to push their boundaries, go exploring, discover new things about the world around them, and hopefully also discover something new about themselves.

Further information will be made available to students in the coming weeks.

Are you ready for a challenge?



Red Nose Day

To support the Red Nose Day appeal as part of Comic Relief, this year we hosted a wealth of activities.

From afternoon tea, 'soak the teacher' and a penalty shoot out to a bake sale and open mic performance - there was something for everyone!

We had a fantastic time and managed to raise over £430! Thank you for your kind donations to a great cause.



Geographers take to the lakes

The sun shone as our Bedlington Academy geographers enjoyed the return of their annual geography residential trip

Students spent three days in the great outdoors developing their fieldwork skills where they enjoyed canoeing on Ullswater with some brave ones opting to plunge into a cold February lake!

Patterdale Hall residential centre were fantastic hosts as always and made sure everyone was well looked after and extremely well fed.

Students all had a fantastic time and were a credit to our school and the journey home was incredibly quiet with many catching up on sleep!

It was so good to get back outside and start our fieldwork programme up again after the disruption of the past few years. Thank you to everyone who was involved and we already look forward to next year!

