



**BEDLINGTON**  
Academy

# WINTER NEWSLETTER

December 2022



## MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Welcome to the Christmas edition of our termly newsletter.

How quickly time has flown since the beginning of the academic year! As always, we have managed to pack a huge amount into the last term, much of which is highlighted in this edition of our newsletter.

I have been delighted to see such overwhelming support for our 12 Days of Christmas activities in the last few weeks. There has been a wide range on offer for all ages, and it has been lovely to see our young people enjoying themselves in the lead up to the festive season. It has been a privilege to host events for our community in school.

Our students have also been out spreading joy in the community, including our fantastic choir who have been busy singing at local care homes and churches. Another highlight was the Christmas concert; watching our students performing with such

confidence was a wonderful experience. A huge well done to all involved.

Since returning to school in September, staff have worked incredibly hard as we continue to drive the school forward. I would like to publicly thank each and every one of them for their ongoing commitment, and for the contribution they have made to helping the school secure its Good Ofsted judgement.

On behalf of all the staff at Bedlington Academy, I would like to wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas break. Thank you for your continued support.

*Joanna Lamb*

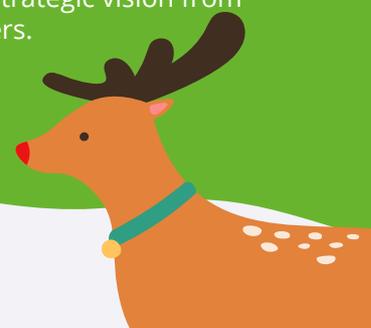
**Mrs Lamb**  
Head of School



## Ofsted success!

**Earlier this term, school inspectors Ofsted awarded Bedlington Academy a 'good' rating in all areas.**

Over the course of two days, all aspects of our school life were scrutinised with inspectors concluding that staff were providing an excellent level of education in a "calm, purposeful and happy school." The inspection report highlights multiple areas in which we excel, in particular our strong sense of community, culture of respect, broad and successful curriculum and strong strategic vision from school leaders.



## Continued from front page...

Speaking of the inspection visit, our Head of School, Mrs Lamb, said:

"We are delighted that Ofsted have told us what we have known for a long time now, that our previous poor Ofsted judgment is a thing of the past and that the school has rightly gained its reputation as a fantastic seat of learning in Northumberland.

"School staff and leaders from the North East Learning Trust have worked tirelessly over the past four years to ensure the highest standards of teaching and learning are impressed into every aspect of the school."

"I was particularly pleased that inspectors highlighted our strong sense of community. Being a close-knit area, Bedlington Academy has a special place in the hearts of parents, friends and neighbours who have helped us on this journey and who I hope will all share with us in our success."

**[You can read the full Ofsted report here.](#)**

## Dates for your diary

- 22 DEC** Break up for Christmas
- 09 JAN** Back to school
- 17 FEB** Break up for half term
- 27 FEB** Back to school

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

[www.bedlingtonacademy.co.uk](http://www.bedlingtonacademy.co.uk)

## Festive performances

The music and drama departments have been very busy this term showcasing the talents of our fantastic students in our Christmas concert to a sell-out audience.

Our festive Open Mic event saw staff and students perform a range of Christmas classics to a packed out school hall.

The brilliant choir spent an afternoon entertaining residents at Birkenshaw Manor Care Home with a mix of traditional carols and festive songs to a delighted audience. Drama students read the Nine Lessons whilst the choir performed carols to family, friends and the congregation of St. John's church in Bedlington station. A huge well done to everyone who took part.

## Multifaith day 2022

Back in October, we welcomed visitors from several different faith groups into school to talk to students about what faith means to them.

We had representatives from the Pagan community, Buddhism, Islam, The Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church.

Students thoroughly enjoyed the different presentations and relished the opportunity to ask questions. Speakers brought in artefacts for students to look at, small keepsakes to take away and we had a Pagan altar set up which students were really interested in.

Students have commented on how informative they found the day and how it had helped them to get a better understanding of different religions.



# Student Council

November saw our exciting Student Council elections take place.

We had a record number of students take part by casting their much-valued votes.

Following tutor group nominations students took to the polling station to vote for their chosen candidates.

Congratulations to our newly elected student council members Mae, Andrew, Emily, Jack, Maisie, Lucas, Elise, Ava, Brandon, PJ, Jason, Imogen, Nathan and Tia.

We look forward to seeing what each student brings to their new role.



# Tasty treats for a great cause!



Earlier this term the tasty treats were in abundance for our annual Macmillan coffee morning and raffle.

Our brilliant sixth formers worked incredibly hard to organise and host the event - a huge thank you and well done to them! The event was an incredible success with £426.97 raised for a great cause. Thank you to everyone who contributed and donated



## We're social



@bedlingtonacad



@bedlingtonacademy

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!

# Christmas tree, oh Christmas tree



We kicked off our 12 Days of Christmas in style this year as students decorated our Christmas tree beautifully with Mrs Lamb.



# Boogie wonderland!

This term has seen students have a blast at both our Halloween and Christmas discos!

From All I Want for Christmas to the Macarena, students had a brilliant night getting everyone in the Christmas mood.

Back in October we were wowed by all the brilliant costumes we had on display. Check out some of the snaps below!



# Two little ducks, 22!

Key Stage 4 students had a brilliant night at our 'Crimbo Bingo' extravaganza, traditional bingo with a twist.

Taking part in traditional bingo, dance-offs and audience participation, everyone had an amazing night!



# ECO-tastic

Students of both the Eco-Committee and Eco-Club have been working together with an aim to becoming an Eco-School this term.

So far students have taken part in litter picking during break and lunch times; students are working on a project to enter into a Young Environmentalist Competition; improving waste and recycling facilities in school, and a Plastic Pledge for all students to get involved and earn themselves a free water bottle!

In the new year, the North East Learning Trust are launching a new eco campaign across all eleven schools named 'What Would David Do?' to help students follow in the footsteps of eco-warrior and national treasure David Attenborough.

We can't wait to see what our students have planned to earn themselves a coveted 'What Would David Do?' badge and certificate.

# Did you know?

Visa cards are used about 6,000 times every minute during the Christmas season.

# Sporting stars

We have so many sporting success stories from this term! Let's take a look at just a few of them below...

Our **Under 13 boys' football team** played a hard-fought match against Blyth Academy which was a rollercoaster from start to finish. In the first half Bedlington were 3-0 up before Blyth equalised all three goals in the second half. In the last ten minutes of the game, hat trick goal scorer Lucas secured Bedlington a 4-3 victory. Well done to all players on an excellent result.

This term the PE Department have launched a huge number of lunchtime clubs to encourage students to increase their activity levels and get involved in a wide range of sports. It has been fantastic to see so many students making use of these opportunities and enjoying being active. Badminton, table tennis and dodgeball have proved to be particular highlights and the PE Department are looking forward to providing students with more opportunities to get active.

Our **Year and 8 netball team** demonstrated exceptional communication skills and teamwork playing Ashington Academy at home under the captainship of Chloe. The team won both matches 7-1 and 3-2. Rowan was awarded player of the match after scoring 7 goals in one match! Huge congratulations to all players on their fantastic achievements.

Our Level 2 and 3 BTEC sport students recently had the opportunity to visit Northumbria University this term. Students had a tour of the sports facilities on offer and took part in a strength and conditioning session led by university staff. The group spoke to staff about the courses and opportunities available at the university and got an insight into student life. The day was really beneficial to our students and they were all a credit to the Academy.



Our Under 13 girls' football are off to a flying start this term. The team had their first match of the season in November and secured their first win!

For some of the girls this match was their first ever competitive 9 a-side game and the team all demonstrated great teamwork and determination!

Courtney scored an impressive four goals, with Chloe also making the score sheet and player of the match was awarded to the squad's goalkeeper, Olivia!



## Voices like angels

This term our choir had a fantastic time performing festive songs for residents and family members at Birkenshaw Manor Care Home.

The afternoon certainly put us into the Christmas spirit. Everyone had a brilliant time - thank you for having us!



# A busy term in the art department



Take a look at just some of the wonderful pieces our students have produced this term...

## Year 9 - Developing Creativity - Fantasy Creatures

Students have focused on developing their observational drawing studies and researched the work of Brian Froud to create their own fantasy creatures.



## Key Stage 4

Students in Key Stage 4 have produced a range of different pieces this term using a wide variety of inspirations and media. We are very impressed with the outcomes!



## Remembrance

Year 8 created a beautiful poppy exhibition for Remembrance Day this year. Students created mixed media designs which were all displayed for everyone in school to enjoy and appreciate.





North East  
SCITT

# Train to be a teacher in 2023

Primary and secondary  
courses available in a  
range of subjects.

Tax-free bursaries of  
up to £26k available in  
some subjects.

Train in schools across  
the North East from  
day one.

A nine month course  
with qualified teaching  
status on completion.

Train in partnership  
with Newcastle  
University.

Train with experienced  
teachers from day one.



Find out more at: [www.northeastscitt.co.uk](http://www.northeastscitt.co.uk)

## Making the move to teaching is easier than you think...

Did you know you can train to be a teacher in our school? Training to teach in our school with North East SCITT takes less time and is more affordable than many people realise. Our nine-month courses begin every September meaning you could be starting out on a new career before you know it. Many people worry they don't have what

it takes to make the move into teaching, but with training and support from our team of experienced, outstanding teachers who are right beside you from day one, we always prove them wrong. If you have a good degree and the desire to learn new skills and make a difference, then we'd love to talk to you.

## Thinking about training to teach?

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 with North East SCITT.

19 <sup>th</sup>	January	2023
8 <sup>th</sup>	February	2023
10 <sup>th</sup>	March	2023
18 <sup>th</sup>	April	2023
19 <sup>th</sup>	May	2023
8 <sup>th</sup>	June	2023
27 <sup>th</sup>	June	2023

Virtual taster days also available. Please check our website for more details.



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