

BHS Update



20th November 2020

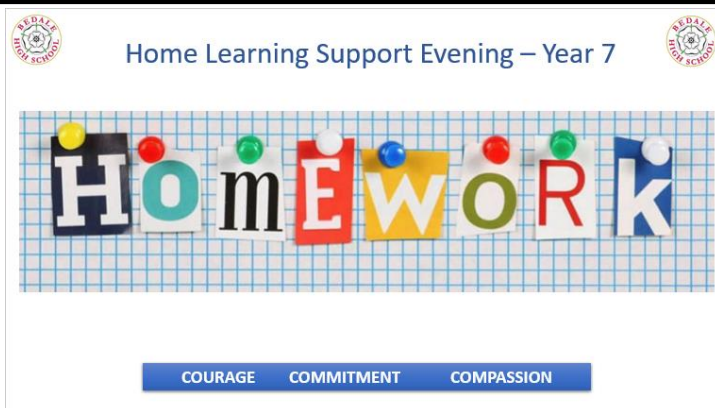
Get Help Here...

Form Tutor/Pastoral Team/Miss Bradbury (KS3)/Miss Temple (KS4):

for any wellbeing concerns: bradburys@bedalehighschool.org.uk / templec@bedalehighschool.org.uk

Subject Teacher: for any subject specific questions around learning tasks

General Queries: Email: admin@bedalehighschool.org.uk or call 01677 422419



Yr 7 Homework Support Evening

Thank you to all the Year 7 parents who attended this virtual event last night, and to Mr Gill and Mrs Knight for hosting it. We received lots of positive feedback that further supports our own view of how well the Year 7s have settled into BHS, despite this being such a strange year.

We know that home-learning is vital to develop students' independence and we have learned some lessons from years gone by in that it is important to phase homework in for Year 7s, so that it is less of a shock!

I know that some parents were unable to attend last night, so please find attached the presentation which we went through with parents. Should you have any further questions or issues with home-learning, please contact your child's form tutor or Miss Bradbury.

OUT OF HOURS COVID-19 CONTACT

If you need to notify school of a positive case of Covid-19 (outside normal school hours), please email kellyt@bedalehighschool.org.uk

Year 11 PPEs

The first set of Pre-Public Exams (PPEs) for Year 11 begin on Monday. They should be really well prepared for these now following Mr Gill's assembly this week, the revision lessons in school, the after-school sessions our teachers are running and input from mentors.

As ever, the challenge is to maintain the right balance between committing to an organised and thorough approach to revision ('little and often'), and maintaining a sense of calm, confidence and wellbeing. I'm a firm believer that the confidence and calmness come from the knowledge that you have prepared well for something, - so it's difficult to have one without the other! Miss Riley-Fox and Mrs Gray are also running some support sessions for some targeted individuals in Year 11 who do sometimes struggle with the associated stress of exams. A small number of Year 11s are currently self-isolating, - they will follow the same exam timetable through virtual monitoring. Thank you to parents, Mr Gill and Miss Riley-Fox for the extra effort that has gone into this aspect.

The exams mean that the gym is now out of use for break and lunchtime. We have redesigned our Covid-secure seating plan in the main hall to allow for Year 7, 8 and 9 to safely use this space for eating.

Timetable attached and remember to check the revision help videos on the school website:

<https://bedalehighschool.org.uk/need-to-know/curriculum/revision/>

Teenage Cancer Trust

We have now raised just over £500 for this cause! Miss Riley-Fox and the rest of us are absolutely thrilled with the response - thank you so much for your generosity. Our thanks also go to the generous contributors...we now have 5 hampers up for grabs and the draw will be made on Monday 23rd November. Fingers crossed for a lovely start to the week for a handful of lucky winners!



Christmas Dinners Every Wednesday in December

Mrs DeRoche - our Catering Manager - is refusing to let Covid dampen our Christmas spirits. She and her team have done an amazing job during recent weeks. Many schools are still choosing not to offer hot dinners as they battle Covid restrictions, but our team have been brilliant in adapting a more creative approach to ensure that we can do so safely. Now they are taking this a step further so that all students will be offered the chance for Christmas dinner. The Children will be rotated by year group to go in first for dinner, so that everyone will hopefully get one.

It will also be available for the second sitting. Please look out for our festive specials throughout the week in December.



Want to save money on uniform?

Recycle your old school uniforms with www.oldschooluniform.co.uk -

An online platform where you can give away or sell your unwanted school uniforms items. We have added Bedale High School to the site. If you have school uniform items that your child has out-grown or no longer uses, why not register and upload them here?

Year 9 Reports

As previously notified, the Year 9 Parent Evening which was due to take place this half term will be replaced by written reports that go home to parents. These are due to go out on Tuesday 2nd December. The reports will include summative grades on Attitude to Learning and Home-Learning, as well as the current grade and forecast grade for your child. Parents will also receive a written comment from each teacher within these reports.

**REPORTS – COMING SOON
TO A CHILD NEAR YOU!**

Setting of Work for Covid-related absences

I would like to reassure parents that we are continuing to look at ways of fine-tuning our approach to setting work for students who are absent for Covid-related reasons. As parents, I know that you (as would I) expect the work to come through promptly, and to mirror as closely as possible the lessons that are taking place in school. While this has been happening in the vast majority of instances, I must be honest and acknowledge that there have been some cases where there has been a delay in getting this work to the student.

The challenge we face is that teachers are already doing more than they have had to do in the past: more duties, an earlier start time for registration, written reports to replace parent evenings and so on. Inevitably, they now have less time for planning and marking, and also have to set additional work for absent students. We are using Teams live lessons more and more where we can, but this is not an automatic fix for everyone, and requires a substantial investment in some new equipment to enable all our teacher computers to facilitate this as an option. A significant number of our students do not have access to an appropriate device during the day at home, (the national scheme for providing us with laptops has only supplied us with a handful). And even with Teams, it is difficult to ensure that all students have the relevant associated resources for the lesson.

I know from other schools that this is a common problem and we are trying to make changes anywhere we can to keep this an absolute priority: stripping back after-school meetings to allow more planning time, buying more equipment to support live lessons, encouraging subject teams to work together to share the load and so on.

Thank you to parents and students for your patience and understanding while we continuously adapt our systems to the 'Covid world'.

Latest guidance for parents and carers from the Department for Education:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-at-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

Year 11 Open Event – Darlington College



LOST PROPERTY SINCE SEPTEMBER?

Pastoral have a large amount of clothing that has been deposited with us since September, a number of coats, hoodies, sportswear, jewellery, charms etc.

Can we ask parents if they are missing any items of their children's clothing, please either contact me in Pastoral via email and we will check for them or ask their child to attend and describe the item that is missing.

To contact myself via email with a description of item missing use collinsona@bedalehighschool.org.uk

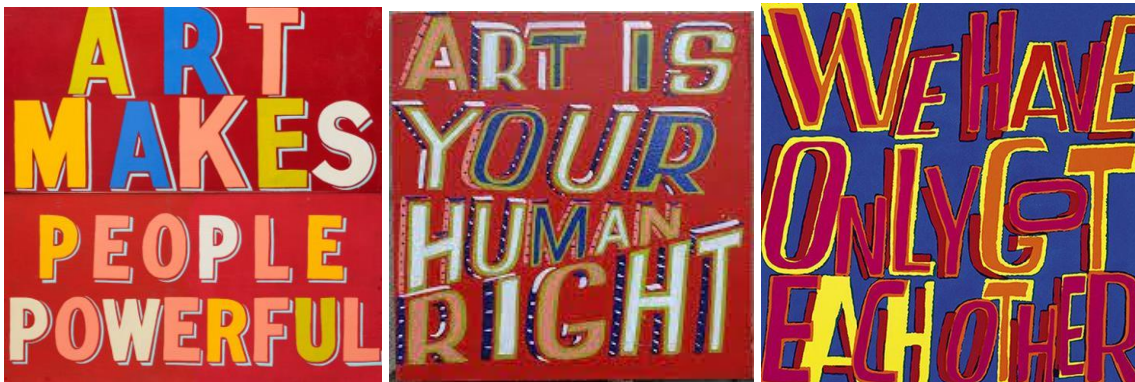
November Art Department Challenge

Miss Ackers is keen to promote the following competition to all students...

Pick your favourite song lyric, quote, or use your name to create a drawing / painting in the style of the artist Bob and Roberta Smith. Think carefully about:

- Colours: Contrasting colours will make your words stand out!
- Fonts: Think back to your calligram lessons for inspiration.
- Background: Is this going to be plain or are you going to include some pattern?

Here are some images of the artist's work to inspire your creations...



Drama – Whole School Production of Blood Brothers

Rehearsals are underway and the cast are making great progress...some pics shared here of the rehearsal last night:



Whole School
Production 2021
**BLOOD
BROTHERS**

