

# BHS Update



11<sup>th</sup> December 2020

## Get Help Here...

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

for any wellbeing concerns: [bradburys@bedalehighschool.org.uk](mailto:bradburys@bedalehighschool.org.uk) / [templec@bedalehighschool.org.uk](mailto:templec@bedalehighschool.org.uk)

Subject Teacher: for any subject specific questions around learning tasks

General Queries: Email: [admin@bedalehighschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@bedalehighschool.org.uk) or call 01677 422419

## Department For Education Notice re Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December Duke of Edinburgh's Award Year 11s

Parents have probably seen or heard in the news about a notice to schools that came from the DfE on Tuesday afternoon. Basically, they are suggesting that schools close for Christmas on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup>, rather than Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December.

**I have decided not to do this, and lessons will run as normal until the end of Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December.**

Without wanting to get drawn into the politics, I do want to explain some of my reasons for this:

- Changing arrangements for the end of term with little more than 1 week's notice to you seems completely unreasonable - it could affect people's working hours and Christmas leave that you have already organised and booked.
- This has been promoted as a 'rest day' for school staff - but in fact schools have been told it would count as one of our training days, and advised to run a day's online training for staff. We have planned our training already and do not wish to move the dates or focus at this stage.
- It makes far more sense for us to have a training day at the start of term (as already planned) when staff are fresh and rested.

Like many Headteachers, I am frustrated by the DfE's communication, which has then been used in some sections of the media to portray school staff as lazy, pampered slackers. It is so unfair when our staff have worked so hard, as have you, to try to keep things as routine as possible in the face of Covid. I hope that you will understand and support my decision on this issue.



Mrs Wilson is working hard to see if we can formulate a plan to allow the Year 11 DofE students to complete the award that had to be 'paused' during Lockdown 1. Thanks to Mrs Drysdale for also supporting with this, - they are meeting with students next week and we will update you when we can confirm plans.

## 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](mailto:kellyt@bedalehighschool.org.uk) (see notice below re. guidance for positive cases during Christmas holiday period)**

## What happens if there is a positive Covid case in the Christmas holiday?

- Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus, having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.
- For the first 6 days after teaching ends, if a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus, having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school will assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school. **In this situation, please email [kellyt@bedalehighschool.org.uk](mailto:kellyt@bedalehighschool.org.uk) . I will ensure that I regularly check school emails during this period.**
- School staff are not asked to remain on-call or conduct any contact tracing more than 6 days after the final day of teaching. Where a school's last teaching day is on Friday 18th December, there should be no pupil contact tracing asks beyond Thursday 24th December.

## Year 10 Prefect Applications

Well done to the Year 10 students who have applied to become Prefects.

They have all written letters of application which were shared with the Year 11 student leadership team who applied some rigorous quality assurance!

Miss Temple then brought the applications to our senior leadership team meeting on Tuesday to agree the final successful applicants. She will meet with them next week to confirm their appointments.

The prefects will be responsible for promoting activities and actions in 3 key areas of school:

- Health and Wellbeing
- Sports
- Extra-Curricular, Charity and Community

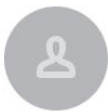
We are developing a new student leadership model with the emphasis on embodying our core values of Courage, Commitment and Compassion. The first task for the new Prefects will be to create an appropriate job description for the role. We are really looking forward to seeing this develop into meaningful actions for our school and wider community and will keep you informed as things happen.

## Exams Access Arrangements

**From Alison Knight:** We would like to let parents of Year 10 students (and a handful of Year 11 students) know that the specialist assessors are going to carry out virtual assessments on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December. This is in order to see if students will qualify for formal support (a reader and extra time etc) in their examinations. It will take place over Microsoft Teams. Parents will receive a text and email the w/c 14th December to make them aware if their child will be assessed virtually. In the meantime, if Miss Riley Fox or Mrs Siddique speak to the pupils about this - you will now know why. If parents have any questions, please email me: [knighta@bedalehighschool.org.uk](mailto:knighta@bedalehighschool.org.uk)

## WW1 Poster Competition

Well done to all the Year 8s who entered Miss Tallentire's WW1 Propaganda Poster competition. The event was organised by Miss Tallentire and Miss Ackers, as a cross curricular competition for History and Art. You can see Miss Tallentire's awesome display of the winners' work below, and special congratulations go to the winners listed here: Lucy Malcolm, Robbie Gladman-Sykes, Charlotte Lewis, Charlotte Taylor, Sam Ogier, Joseph Walters, Ian Newbould, Katie Elsdon, Harriet Bradley, Emma Patchett, Grace Barker, Keiran Wilkinson and George Hobson.



**Isobel Tallentire**

Teacher of History and Citizenship.  
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Winners of the Year 8 WWI Propaganda Poster cross-curricular homework competition on my new display in my classroom! So impressed with the effort pupils have put into their posters and they have demonstrated fabulously their skills in both History and Art! Well done Year 8!



## Christmas Holiday Free School Meal Vouchers

Mrs Knight is working with colleagues to ensure that eligible families all receive their allocation of supermarket vouchers to support with the purchase of food over the holiday period. These families will receive £40 worth of Co-Op vouchers per child for the two week period that school is closed (£20 per week, per eligible child). Please ensure that you reply to any queries or contact from school over this issue to help us ensure that you can access the vouchers as required. Schools have been awarded a set amount of funding for this purpose, to support those families that are eligible for Free School Meals.



## We CAN do it ☺ - Tin Christmas Tree

Students are doing a brilliant job of bringing in tins for our Hambleton FoodShare charity project. We have mini tin trees growing in form rooms, and the 'big daddy' (or mummy?!) standing proud in the reception area. Any donation really does help us make a massive difference to this great project. Hambleton FoodShare is a community partnership which provides emergency food parcels for people who are struggling to feed themselves and their families. With COVID and Christmas - it's the perfect time to help out. Thank you for your donations of tins, and please visit their website if you want to see more ways to help: [hambletonfoodshare.org.uk](http://hambletonfoodshare.org.uk)

Welcome to Hambleton Foodshare  
Are you in need of an emergency food parcel?



### I Need a Food Parcel

COVID 19 UPDATE - We are still open on a Monday evening 4pm - 6pm. We are based in the Living Rooms in Garthway arcade, Northallerton, DL7 8NS.

We are now accepting self - referrals for your FIRST visit - then we will give you information on how to get further referrals from one of our agency partners - we can accept referrals via e mail text or on the phone - if you need help or advice on where to get a referral please ring 07514 244158 or e mail [info@hambletonfoodshare.org.uk](mailto:info@hambletonfoodshare.org.uk).



### Need 'new' school trousers/blazer?

Mr Collinson has a number of donated blazers and school trousers that we are happy to give out to any student who needs a replacement, in order to save parents from having to spend more money. They are in good condition and we have only kept them if they are wearable. Please email [collinsona@bedalehighschool.org.uk](mailto:collinsona@bedalehighschool.org.uk) to check sizes/availability.

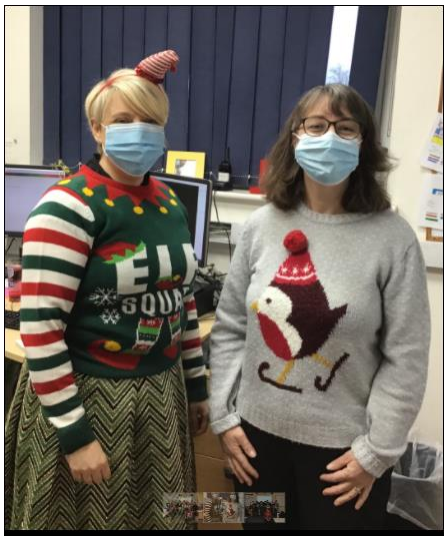


## Christmas Jumper Day

Today's Christmas Jumper Day has been a real success. You may remember that we have decided to donate this year's funds to the Children's Cancer Fund in support of Bailey, a Year 6 student at Bedale Primary School. We have managed to raise an impressive £400 so far and you can see from the pics here that the students have certainly enjoyed the chance to wear something festive! You can read more about Bailey's story here:



[https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jennifer-nunn4?utm\\_source=Twitter&utm\\_medium=fundraising&utm\\_content=jennifer-nunn4&utm\\_campaign=pfp-tweet&utm\\_term=06c2bea6c1f943889d627064f706bfa5](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jennifer-nunn4?utm_source=Twitter&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=jennifer-nunn4&utm_campaign=pfp-tweet&utm_term=06c2bea6c1f943889d627064f706bfa5)



**FESTIVE CHRISTMAS QUIZ...**  
**PERIOD 5, FRIDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**