

Friday 12th July 2024



BEDALE

HIGH SCHOOL

Courage

Commitment

Compassion

Your child's Form Tutor:	<a href="mailto:surname + 1<sup>st</sup> initial @bedalehighschool.org.uk">surname + 1st initial @bedalehighschool.org.uk
Pastoral Support Team:	woodl@bedalehighschool.org.uk
Miss Bradbury (Head of KS3):	bradburys@bedalehighschool.org.uk
Mrs Clayden (Head of KS4):	claydenv@bedalehighschool.org.uk
SEND & Inclusion Queries (Mrs Clayden):	claydenv@bedalehighschool.org.uk
General Queries:	admin@bedalehighschool.org.uk or call 01677 422419
Subject Teacher:	<a href="mailto:surname + 1<sup>st</sup> initial @bedalehighschool.org.uk">surname + 1st initial @bedalehighschool.org.uk

Thank You and Farewell

As I start to pull together my last ever newsletter at BHS (next week will just be a quick end of term update), it is truly difficult to know what to say. My staff here would tell you, if they are honest, that I struggle to speak coherently when I feel emotional about something...so I am very grateful that I can write this instead of having to say it to your faces (public blubbing is never a good look!).

I feel that I have been blessed to have had the opportunity to work at this school for the last seven years - first as a Deputy Headteacher and then as Headteacher. My dad was a Headteacher, and though he died many years back, he remains (alongside Marcelo Bielsa!) my biggest influence. He loved being a Headteacher. But by his own admission, he probably stayed in the job too long. I promised him that I would not do this, and that I would leave at a point when it felt right.

I have been very fortunate throughout my career to work in schools where the local community is valued, where students inspire, and where staff forge strong friendships (to support this point, I can tell you that if you are reading this on Friday evening, I will be enjoying a pint of real ale with friends from Thirsk School where I left about 12 years ago, as I do every week at this time!). But there is something different and special about this Bedale community. It may be because it is on a smaller scale to some of the other places I have worked, - so inevitably you get to know people more quickly and relationships are vital to move things forward. But it's more than that. We serve a really interesting and vibrant community: forces families, farming families, local business owners and so on ... but one thing that has always struck me in my time here is that there is a very strong desire to feel proud of your local high school. Of course you want your children to do well, like all parents do, but it goes beyond this. Whenever we face difficult moments or challenges, your messages of support flood in. And it's not just your words, - you support us in your actions.

Your children are such impressive young people. I become very frustrated when some of the lazier sections of the media report the latest distressing example of teenagers behaving in a shocking or offensive manner. If their reporting was more proportionate and objective, we would hear more about the endless examples of their compassionate service to others, and the courage

they show in taking on challenges to grow and develop themselves. For a small school, we have an excellent record in public service achievements, student council influence, sporting success, Duke of Edinburgh engagement, student leadership, outreach work, school productions and so on. Yes we are really lucky in that we have so many staff who are willing to give up their time for all of this - but it really only works because your children want to be a part of it. When visitors or interview candidates come to the school, they often say to me 'I really like your courage, commitment and compassion values that you have in school'. My response is always to say that they are not my values - they are *our* values - lived and showcased every single day by your children, and by this amazing group of staff.

So what about the staff? We have people here who have served this community for much longer than I have. Speak to them and you cannot fail to understand how much Bedale High School means to them. Their passion and loyalty to the school is something very precious and valuable. In a school this size, every role matters: the site team, admin support, front desk staff, data-handlers, catering, technicians, teaching assistants, cleaning team, finance, pastoral support, business management, exams, attendance and teachers. People tend to think the school day is all about lessons - but the work of all of these other people is crucial in enabling the school to function effectively and to support all of our students.

I would also like to thank our team of school governors. Unless you are directly involved with them, it is difficult to appreciate just how much time, energy and commitment they give to this school. They have been a massive support to me since my appointment as Deputy Headteacher, then as interim Head, and then putting their trust in me to do the job on a permanent basis. They have supported my ideas and never lose sight of the fact that we are here to serve our local community. Like you, and like our staff, they are passionate about helping the school continue to move in the right direction.

People keep asking me what I plan to do next. In fact my wife is particularly keen to know (she recently commented 'You know you're not retiring don't you? You're supposed to be getting another job?'). The truth is I don't yet know what my next steps will be. It is scary but also quite exciting. I've finally come to terms with the fact that I'm never going to play for Leeds United and I feel like this new-found maturity is a positive sign for my future development.

Enough waffling. I would like to say a very genuine thank-you to everyone in this wonderful and supportive community. I truly have been very lucky to work here. Next Friday will be a very emotional day for me and I will be limiting my conversations to monosyllabic grunts in order to avoid any overt shows of emotion! The school has changed in many positive ways over recent years, and this is down to you, our staff and your amazing children. They make me laugh every day and I will miss their humour, their energy and their enthusiasm. Don't let anyone tell you that the youth of today are the problem. They are not the problem - they are the hope. And I am constantly in awe of them.

I thank you, your children, our staff and governors, our business friends and alumni, and the many other patrons and supporters we have in this wonderful community. I wish you all the very best for the future.

Have a lovely summer when it comes.

Yours faithfully,

Tom Kelly
Headteacher (for just a little longer)

Sports Day 2024

At the start of last week, Mr Bielby came to see me to express some concern about the weather forecast on Friday (Sports Day). He explained that it looked unsettled with the chance of some rain. I paused. I looked at him over the rim of my glasses with my most-practised stern headteacher stare, and reminded him that this was to be my last Sports Day at BHS, and that as such, I expected him to ensure that the weather was the usual balmy summer's day that I have always experienced in previous BHS Sports Days. I am pleased to say that he redeemed himself by duly resolving the situation - and once again the weather was (mostly) bright and sunny. Mr Bielby has completed a full write up of the results and new records which is attached to this week's newsletter. But here is a selection of pics that captured the spirit of the day. It was the best we have had in terms of the numbers of students who participated in events. This was particularly noticeable in Year 10. Thank you to Mr Bielby, Miss Temple and all of the usual team of helpers who made it another fantastic BHS Sports Day, and well done to all of the students for engaging so positively in their events. Many schools no longer do a whole school Sports Day - but it is done so well here - and is always a pleasure to attend.



Athletics Update

Miss Temple writes:

Last Monday we took approximately 60 students to Middlesbrough Sports Village to participate in the annual Area Athletics Championships. This is a fantastic event where students get to compete against all the other secondary schools in the area in an athletics stadium. We had a brilliant day in the sunshine and the students performed extremely well, displaying our core values superbly. We are incredibly proud of all the students who competed.

The team results were as follows:

Y7 Girls - 4th Place
Y7 Boys - 4th Place
Y8 Girls - 5th place
Y8 Boys - 4th Place
Y9 Girls - 4th Place
Y9 Boys - 3rd Place
Y10 Girls - 3rd Place

Given the size of our school, compared to the other schools we were competing against, this is a superb achievement! There were also lots of standout individual performances.

The following students finished in first place in their events:

Lucy B (Y10) - 1st Place in 200m and Long Jump - jumping an impressive 5m10 in the long jump!
Ava F (Y7) - 1st Place in High Jump
Coco M (Y7) - 1st Place in Long Jump
Y9 Boys 4x100m Relay Team finished in 1st Place

The following students finished in second place in their events:

Imogen P (Y10) - 1500m and Triple Jump
Izzy N (Y10) - Hurdles
Marley R (Y9) - 100m
Will W (Y8) - Shotput

The following students finished in third place in their events:

Jessica J (Y7) - 200m
Heather H (Y7) - Shotput
Holly W (Y8) - Hurdles
Hollie J (Y8) - 300m
Anna C (Y8) - High Jump
Evie J (Y8) - Shotput
Ella H (Y9) - 1500m
Jasmine M (Y10) - 100m & Javelin
Maddie M (Y9) - 300m
Izzy N (Y10) - Shotput
Annabel N (Y10) - Discus
Noah S (Y7) - 800m
Will W (Y8) - 100m
Jacob B (Y8) - 300m
Tyler P (Y8) - Javelin
Josh G (Y9) - Hurdles & Long Jump
Harrison A (Y9) - 800m
Carter R (Y9) - Triple Jump
Marley R (Y9) - Shotput
George B (Y9) - Discus



Basketball Star!

Congratulations to Jaydon WM in year 10 for winning the U15 Aspire All Star tournament after beating London 77-74 in their final match, (they won all 4 games on their way to becoming champions).



Football Awards

Well done to Leila in year 7 for picking up the award for most dedicated player at the Bedale Junior Football Club awards, she is captain of the U12 Girls Harrogate team and she has not missed a game and even stepped in for the Goal Keeper position when they needed a keeper.

On Thursday, Mr Gosling took 2 Y7/8 girls football teams to Richmond to participate in a summer 7 aside festival. The girls had a brilliant afternoon, showing great skill and team spirit. Team 1 went undefeated all day, finishing in 2nd place overall on goal difference. Team 2 also had a great tournament finishing in third place. There were 7 teams in the tournament so to have both teams finish in the top 3 is a fantastic achievement. A huge well done to all the girls involved.



EARLY FINISH NEXT FRIDAY

A reminder that on Friday 19th July, school finishes at 12.30pm. School buses will be arriving early to match this finish time, and students with Free School Meals will be able to pick up a grab bag before they leave.

If any parents/carers are concerned about safe supervision of their child between 12.30 – 3pm we can supervise them in school until 3pm (though please be aware that there will be no school buses coming at this time).

Please email admin@bedalehighschool.org.uk if this is something you would like to request.

Art ^{work} Week

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Year 7 have been looking at Day of the Dead in Art this term. Here are 7S2's final pieces. What a festival of colour!





Back to School

Back to School is here and by the end of July we'll have all our finished stock in the warehouse.

Orders can be placed as soon as you wish and if you needed to exchange any item before school starts in September, just send the item(s) back to us and we'll send the replacements straight away.

Orders can be placed online, or from 8th July you can book to come to our shop in Elvington.

The best way to ensure a prompt service if you come to our shop is to make an appointment and you'll be seen promptly. You can still just call to our shop but you may have a wait if we have people with appointments waiting.

Need Advice or help?

Quite often parents have a number of questions, particularly if your child is just starting school or starting a new school for example moving up to Year 7.

If you need any advice or have questions relating to uniform for your school, then please get in touch.

The best way to contact us is by e-mail and we aim to respond within 24 hours.

Send your questions to:

sales@school-shop.co.uk

Saturday Opening

We will start our Saturday opening as soon as schools break for Summer.

Our first Saturday will be 20th July and our last Saturday will be 31st August.

Our Saturday opening times will be 8am to 3pm, again we recommend making an appointment, just visit our website from 8th July to book.



The cut-off date for ordering uniform online before school starts in September is:

29th July

Uniform can be ordered any time throughout the summer, but to guarantee you have your uniform in time for school starting in September please ensure we have your order by 29th July.

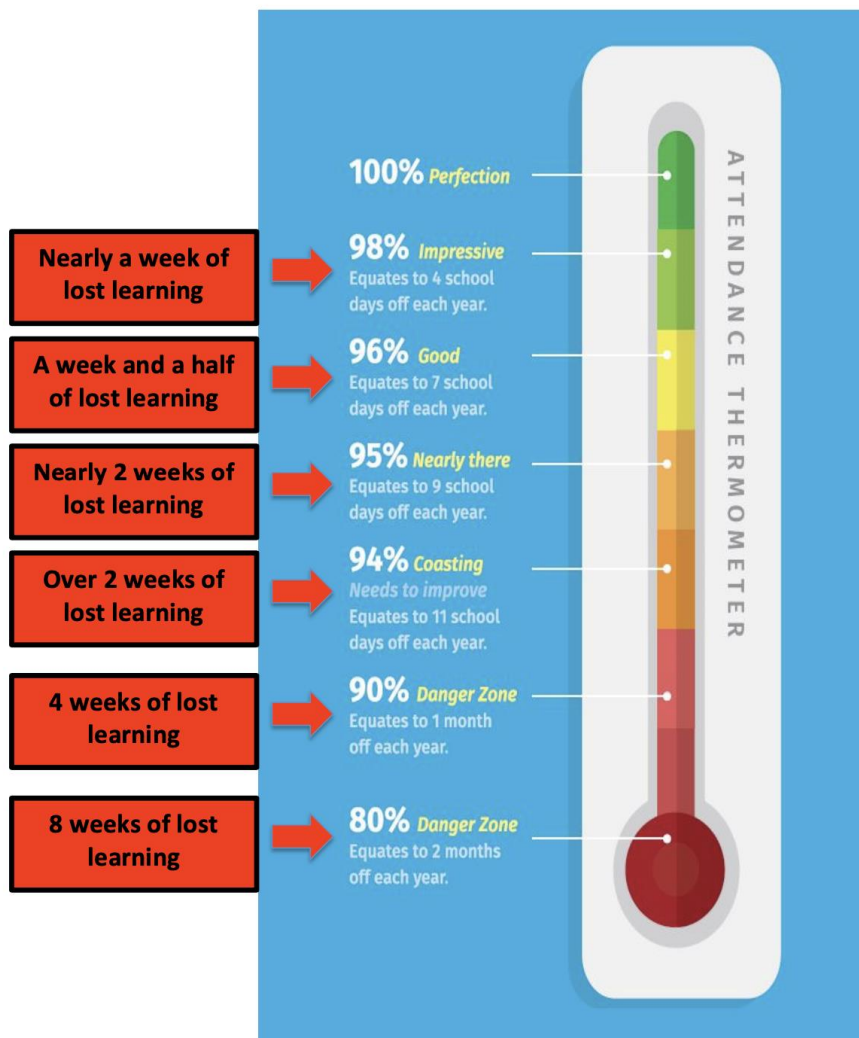
Due to the volume of orders received it can take up to 2-3 weeks to process orders which are placed during Back to School.

If you require an update on an order, please allow 2 weeks from placing the order before you contact us for an update and the best way to contact us is by e-mail.

IF YOU DON'T RECEIVE AN E-MAIL CONFIRMATION OF YOUR ORDER FROM US, PLEASE CONTACT US STRAIGHT AWAY AS THAT MAY MEAN THERE HAS BEEN A PROBLEM WITH THE PROCESSING OF YOUR ORDER.

Attendance Makes a Positive Difference to All Aspects of School Life

ATTENDANCE THERMOMETER SHOWING THE IMPACT OF ABSENCE ON LEARNING



If you are concerned that your child is not attending school enough, or worried that they are regularly missing days, please contact us for a friendly chat so that we can help you and them overcome any barriers to being in school. We know how difficult this situation can be for some families and have lots of helpful ideas...it starts with a conversation.

Tel. 01677 422419
(Ask for Pastoral, Mrs Hayes, or Mrs Woodward)

Or email: admin@bedalehighschool.org.uk and just ask for someone to contact you.

Looking for some support with parenting teens?

- <https://thegoto.org.uk/im-a-parent-or-carer/parenting-teenagers/>
- <https://thegoto.org.uk/im-a-parent-or-carer/>

What's Coming Up at BHS?

Keep an eye on the changes and updates to events as this table will be updated weekly. I hope that it gives parents and carers an idea of the fantastic range of opportunities and events that are available to BHS students. We firmly believe that the happiest students are the busiest students – the ones who take advantage of the experiences we can offer them...please encourage your child to get involved!

DATE	EVENT	AUDIENCE
15 th -19 th July	Work Experience Week	Y10 students
15 th July	Your Sustainable Future - Day 3	Year 9
18 th July	Stand Up Against Violence Day	Year 8
19 th July	School closes early: 12.30 finish	

If you would like to share any of your child's achievements with us in the newsletter, please email pics and a brief summary to admin@bedalehighschool.org.uk . We love to celebrate and share these with them and the wider community.

Mental Health Signposting

*We have now been awarded the NY Healthy Schools Gold Award!
Please visit our updated Mental Health and Wellbeing section on the school website: [Mental Health and Wellbeing at BHS](#)*

Wellbeing Support from Bedale High School

There are lots of places you can access help and support...



www.thegoto.org.uk

This is a website developed by the NHS North Yorkshire Clinical Commissioning Group. It is a single point of information that promotes different mental health support services (like a signpost). The website is designed primarily for young people but there is information for parents and carers too.

Contact details:

Mr T Kelly
kellyt@bedalehighschool.org.uk

Mrs V Clayden
claydenv@bedalehighschool.org.uk



Please don't hesitate in contacting Mr Kelly or Mrs Clayden if you have any concerns during the break or if you need support with something.



Text 07520 631168 to start a supportive text conversation with friendly professional support

Another useful resource:

Bedalehighschool.org.uk
↓
Safeguarding
↓
Where to go to for help

Further Information

In our area, there are a range of national and locally-funded support forums for children and young people which are now embedded, including:

<https://thegoto.org.uk/> The Go-To Website - the home of wellbeing and mental health in North Yorkshire. The website helps young people find the right help and support to stay well, whatever is happening in their life.



Childline - free, confidential, anonymous 24/7 service for anyone under 19 in the UK with any issue including emotional and mental health.

YoungMinds Textline - free, 24/7 text support for young people across the UK experiencing a mental health crisis, with texts answered by trained volunteers supported by experienced clinical supervisors

Buzz Us Text Messaging Service - confidential advice, support and signposting from a wellbeing worker within one working day via text for young people aged 11-18 across North Yorkshire and York.

Self Harm help: Here you can see a link to the YoungMinds website and a guide aimed at supporting parents who have children who may be self-harming. It is a useful and user-

friendly guide which include further ideas for help:

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/self-harm/>

There is further information - including health professionals' referral forms - on NHS North Yorks CCG Website .

Compass Buzz Us Service for 11-18s

BUZZ US



BUZZ US is an anonymous and confidential text-messaging service for young people aged 11-18 in North Yorkshire where you can speak to a worker of Compass Phoenix to receive advice, support and signposting for any mental health and wellbeing issues you may have.



BUZZ US

Thank you for messaging in, how can I help you today?

I've been feeling really low in mood for the past few months

I'm sorry to hear this, shall we work through this together and look at some strategies that may help.

