

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends

This half of the term seems to have flown by and I am sure that our pupils are looking forward to the Easter break. As always, I would remind our Year 11s and Sixth Formers, who are rapidly approaching their formal examinations, that the break needs to be used wisely for revision purposes. They really must have a sensible revision timetable to follow and take note of the tips here.

Today, at the End of Term Assembly, it was nice to have all the pupils from Reception to Sixth Form on one site, which reminds me that we are getting ever closer to that being the norm. The Kimbolton Road pupils from Years 8 to 10 will be moving to Shakespeare Road in July after the completion of the formal examinations and as we head into a short transitional period, where the sixth formers will move to Kimbolton Road. This arrangement will make it easier as the current Year 10 pupils will not have to travel between sites, which they have been doing because some of their options are already co-ed. It will also ease pressure on some members of the teaching staff who travel between sites for the Years 8-10 age groups.



Bedford Greenacre adopts a holistic approach to the education of our pupils and we like to celebrate all manner of achievements throughout the year, a few years ago I introduced the 'Good Egg Awards' which were presented at the End of Term Assembly. These Awards focus on 'Character Education', the wider personal development of a child, beyond academic ability. The aim is to instil in our pupils a number of characteristics and values, which are resilience, honesty, humility and motivation. I am sure you would agree

these characteristics are very important as children move into their adult lives. As such, I would like to congratulate all those who received a 'Good Egg Award' today:

Junior School – Miyo Molo, Lilith Cope, Humza Mughal, Cameron Newbury, Amber Ayres, Thomas Sharp, Micah Ofori, Oso Twomey, Dylan Yarr, James Milne, Olivia Evans, Freddie Penning, Matilda D'Cruze, Jash Prabhu, Georgina Warne, Megan Pyatt-Slade, Fergus Patrick, Asad Hasan, Dorothy Duke, Ishaan Aulakh, Satdaya Paul, Stefan Clyde.

Middle School – Isabella Diffey, Alanna Gill, Ayda Morris, Will McHugh, Honey Day, Daniel Adefisan, Elijah Knight, Perpetual Nyamtowo, Abigail Elphick, Quincy Thomas, Oliver Gerig, Alannah Heady, Jacob Roach, Pippa Jordan, Tara Adams, Amrit Gill, Cooper Hands, Katie Connell, Freddy Kilroy, Ellie Palmer, Charlie Broughton, Amy Vincent-Fernie, Zara Griffiths, Shay Bodani, Rina Efimba,



REVISION TIPS

- Start revising early: Months, not days before the exam.
- Plan your revision using a timetable: Planning out your revision means you can spend more time revising and less time worrying you've forgotten something.
- Don't spend ages making your notes look pretty: This is just wasting time. For diagrams, include all the details you need to learn, but don't produce a work of art.
- Set up a nice, tidy study space: You'll need somewhere with good lighting, your pens close by, your phone out of sight and your TV off. Try not to revise on your bed.
- Vary your revision with different activities: Try a variety of different revision techniques, answering practice questions, writing down notes from memory, and using Revision Guides, Flash Cards and Exam Practice Workbooks.
- Stick revision notes around your house: So in the exam you think, "Aha, I know that one, I stuck it on the fridge..."
- Do lots of practice papers and questions: You'll find it far easier to answer questions in the exam if you've tried similar ones at home beforehand. Sample papers can be found on the Exam Board's website.
- Set aside time to do fun things – don't turn into a revision zombie: Don't totally stop yourself from having fun. This'll help you stay motivated, relax, and allow you to keep up with your favourite hobbies.
- Again, **Keep your phone and other distractions away!**
- Don't just read your notes: You have to **WRITE STUFF DOWN.**
- Take your revision wherever you go: lots of Revision Guides and Textbooks come with online editions – great for revising on the go!
- Sleep and eat properly: Sleep is more important than you'd imagine – it helps your brain store all the information you've learned throughout the day. Drinking plenty of water and eating healthy foods will also boost your concentration throughout the day.
- On exam day, make sure you arrive in plenty of time: Nothing adds extra pressure to exam day like the fear of being late.

Bhargavi Iarala, Eva Abitoye, Bella Menozzi, Hannah Collins, Tommy Willars, Iona Paton, Thomas Wigley, Lakshay Sathishkumar, Zara Webb, Kayden Charles.

Senior School – Oliver Holman, Will Burgess, Evie Hurst-Porter, Holly Wilkinson, Blaine Kelly, Ali Ghazzawi, Maisy Frazer, Amy Parrish, Rupert Parrish, Jonas Lee, Ben Morgan-Jones, George Whitehurst, Molly Fellowes, Amelie Ferguson, Amelia Curtis, Amelia Creasey, Miles Folbigg, Finley Thygesen, Reuben Lamb, Ben Hedley, Harrison Quirke, Oscar Quirke, James Murray, Ollie Onyett, Archie Knox, Alex Clayton, Leo Abruzzese, George Woodlock, Jacob Peilow, Tommy Stewart, Seth Johnson-Magee, Elizabeth Taylor, Matilda Aston, Milly Barker, Cerys Durkin, Daisy Kerr, Tegan Mabbitt, Martha Mahoney, Chashe Gono, Saikisha Camatchee, Phoebe Phillips, Sophie Weston, Dasha Sternyk, Nyasha Magobeya, Nathan Johnston, Lily Nuckey, Maddie Corley, Erik Treis, Felicity Barker, Luke Wilson, Mabel Jefferys, Saja Adams.



We extend our sincerest gratitude to Johnathan Joseph, DJ Spooky, for his incredible careers presentation and for graciously presenting our Good Egg Awards to our students. The energy and insight you brought was truly inspiring, and our students thoroughly enjoyed the experience.



Miss Hendricks joined our team at the beginning of this academic year to focus on developing speech and drama opportunities throughout the school. It is great to see the number of pupils opting for individual or group lessons increasing, which gives them the opportunity to take LAMDA examinations. If your child is interested in this opportunity, please contact the school office for further details. Miss Hendricks' pupils also had the chance to enter The Bedfordshire Festival recently in various categories.

During my 35 years as a teacher at this school, we have always understood the importance of encouraging pupils to take to the stage. It has so many benefits, not least boosting their confidence and helping them to make a wider friendship group. We've already had an incredible performance this term from our Seniors in their Show, 'The Wizard of Oz', and not to be outdone, our Juniors took to the stage for their 'Battle of the Bands'. Well done to everybody who took part in the fantastic performances, all in aid of Comic Relief.



As part of their PSHE lessons, focusing on the different faiths within the Queens Park community of Bedford, Year 6 took part in a Culture Walk. They visited the Parish Church, Mosque and Gurdwara, to learn about the Christian, Muslim and Sikh faiths. The pupils enjoyed the chance to explore the different cultures and traditions, which they can then expand on in class.

I was delighted to see that our Chamber Choir had the opportunity to enhance their performance skills recently with a visit from Composer, Bob Chilcott. He shared his expertise during the workshop, and I hope that our pupils enjoyed the experience of having the composer himself leading them in performing his work.



Open Morning on the 16th March was a resounding success, with a vast number of families attending to hear all about the inclusive environment Bedford Greenacre provides. Our architect was also on hand to answer questions about the new site and provide a video presentation so that families can get an idea of what they can expect. Thank you to all our pupils who came along to help out on the morning, you really are our best advertisement and make me immensely proud of the School. I would also like to thank the Governors who attended, together with the teaching and support staff who helped make the morning successful. There is a great deal of interest in places, particularly Year 7, for September 2024 and September 2025

starts.



We saw a little bit of sunshine recently and some milder weather, which allowed the younger children to enjoy their first Forest School session of the year. It is nice to watch the pupils learning about nature and having fun doing scavenger hunts. Just imagine what the Forest Schools are going to be like when we have moved into the new site, with 40-acres of land to enjoy. There are so many possibilities for introducing more environmental and agricultural studies in the years ahead.

I was at the new site this week speaking to one of the contractors, he commented "When the seasons change, up on a site like this, it will be beautiful". I agree! I think the pupils and staff who will be located at Bedford Greenacre over the years ahead will be very fortunate in its stunning location. The site is 80 times bigger than the combined sites we have now.

This week, I was completing our new Travel Plan for the Local Authority; I had to insert the figures about car parking spaces at the new site. To clarify, there are 241 car parking spaces located over the upper and lower car parks, including a drop-off zone, so parents will no longer have to worry about where to park when dropping off or collecting at the beginning and end of the school day. We can also utilise other areas for parking should we really need to, bringing the total to around 300 spaces. There are also 110 cycle storage spaces, so if your child wishes to cycle, and has passed their proficiency test, they have a safe space to store their bike. It really is going to be a different era with so much space, which will make events much easier for everybody and staff will enjoy the benefit of parking within a few metres of their workplace. With that in mind, please note that during the transitional period, our staff car park at Shakespeare Road will be closed so that the developer can commence their works. We have worked with local companies in order to provide alternative parking arrangements for staff to the best of our ability for the short period of time until the move takes place. Please do not park in the car park at Shakespeare Road after Easter under any circumstances.

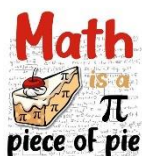


Stunning views and so much space!



The steps will provide seating areas for outbreak lessons in the large communal areas.





Thursday 14th March saw Bedford Greenacre celebrate Pi Day once again, thank you to the Maths department. We had an amazing array of cakes produced for the Bake-Off. The standard was incredibly high and made judging particularly difficult. We did have some winners, however, and they were:

Shakespeare Road: 1 st Place – Kyan Sohal – Year 7, 2 nd Place – Seb Fawcett – Year 7 3 rd Place – Satdaya Paul – Year 4	Kimbolton Road: 1 st Place – Esme Creese – Year 8, 2 nd Place – Poppy-Grace Duff – Year 9 3 rd Place Amrit Gill – Year 8
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Here is a selection of the many cakes that were entered for the competition.



Other activities that took place through the day included students producing bead chains using the digits of Pi, drawing Pi ski-lines, watching a video about the history of Pi and how it is calculated, and the English department had students studying a Piku in Pilish! (this is a Haiku where the number of letters in each word equals the corresponding digits of Pi), along with a number of other activities around the theme of circles and Pi. Students really did get to see that maths is linked to many other subject areas.



Junior Stars of the Week

Class	w/c 15 March 2024	w/c 22 March 2024
Forest (Reception)	Ari Ubhi	Miyo Molo
1M (Meadow)	Finley Kelly	Ayla Acquah
2C (Clover)	Arya Sohal	Maya Kayum
3E (Emerald)	Connor Brannan	Hugo Acquah
3W (Willow)	Sophie Surridge	Kamilla King
4J (Jade)	Jesse Bates	Natasha Turpie
4S (Sage)	Godfrey Sandati	Arthur Woodlock
5W (Woodland)	Rupert Wilson	Arhaan Sayed
5P (Pine)	Nathan Soltanieh	Oso Twomey
6J (Juniper)	Audrey Jones	Valentina Lopez Aliseda
6L (Laurel)	Georgina Warne	Anmol Waraich & Charlotte Gallacher-Olssen



It was pleasing to see that our anti-bullying ambassadors are taking their roles seriously, judging the e-safety poster competition. Well done to the winner, Ariyan Rai



Sports News

Once again, there have been a number of fixtures taking place over the past couple of weeks, covering netball and football at various levels, including District matches. Great to see the girls enjoying football fixtures, which are a new option for the School. Well done to everybody who has represented Bedford Greenacre recently. Particular mention goes to the Players of the Match: Charlie Hawkins, Spencer Pinnock, Izzy Christian, Connor Bannan, Giacomo Spiniello, Paddy Doyle-Fisher, Ethan Anker, Rafa Mehmi, Barney Wilson, Asad Hasan, Flo Stott, Gabriel Holland, Elyn Daniel, Luca Newman.



As usual, please follow us on BGISport on Instagram for full news of sporting fixtures.

Nursery News

The Nursery have been leading up to some exciting changes at the end of this term. Building work on two new classrooms has now finished. These classrooms will nurture our older toddlers and young three-year-olds. These linked classrooms will provide amazing opportunities to support children's transitions and, within carefully timetabled opportunities, children across both rooms will join to share the excitement of cookery sessions, problem solving together or developing the skills needed for independence. With the opening of these new rooms, we have worked hard to ensure that all children who are moving have remained with someone they know well.

We have also welcomed Sarah and Sorrell to the team this term making us a team of 26 strong.

Our next big project is to create special outdoor spaces for all age groups to enjoy. We would kindly ask any parents who may have spare seeds or pots to donate them.

Lastly, a public conveyance of gratitude to the nursery staff for all their hard work this term.



The children helped our Site Agent, Jonathan celebrate his big birthday. They sang 'happy birthday', made him a lovely spanner shaped card, and helped him blow out the candles on his cake! Jonathan has worked here for 27 years and is always very popular with our youngsters who enjoy watching him go about the place working with tools and asking the 'What you doing?' question, which he always patiently answers each time!



Year 8 had a lovely experience at Hill Farm. Thank you so much to the Paton Family for giving the pupils insight into cattle breeding, crop production and the opportunity to feed the lambs. A great day for learning outside the classroom, with cross curricular links to science and food technology.

Our KS1 explorers had an amazing time at Herrings Green Farm. They had the opportunity to interact with a diverse range of animals, including magnificent Birds of Prey. From petting adorable creatures to witnessing the impressive Flying Display, it was a day packed with fun and educational experiences.



Personal Pursuits



Zara recently took part at the Eastern Counties Competition. She was competing against eight other clubs within the East of England, and she won the silver medal, missing out on the gold by just 0.1 point! Zara has now earned her place to represent the East of England at inter-regionals in May. Well done to Zara on a great achievement and good luck with the competition in May.



Jenna from Year 10 recently took the captaincy for her netball squad London Pulse and was awarded Coaches Player of the Tournament. Well done Jenna!

Clara had a wonderful time celebrating International Woman's Day at Daytona. Clara is now registered to join the Jamie Chadwick Race Series.



Get ready for Summer!

Date for your diary: The Summer Fayre will take place on Saturday 6th July 2024.



The Summer Term ahead will be full of residential trips and I would like to thank the staff in advance for giving up their time to allow the pupils these opportunities. We value your support.

We are pleased to be able to provide a whole year group residential trip for the Year 10 age group this year, traditionally Year 10s have subject specific trips to help embed subject knowledge; however, the whole year group were given the option to go to Cornwall to take part in water-based activities. This trip will depart on the 24th June 2024, returning 28th June 2024.

Some of our GCSE pupils will still have the option to attend subject specific residential trips, such as geography in year 10. Year 12 geographers also have a residential and will be away between the 3rd and 7th June in North Wales.

Year 9 to Year 13 will be completing their Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, with the bronze taking place locally, whilst silver and gold take place in the Peak District. Bronze is Friday 14th to Saturday 15th June 2024; Silver is Wednesday 3rd to Friday 5th July 2024 and Gold is Tuesday 2nd to Friday 5th July 2024. I will be the assessor and, therefore, attending the trips with Mr Morrish, Mrs Ryall and Mr Mudzovvera.

We are also considering reintroducing the ski trip in 2025, subject to demand and we will send out a survey to gauge thoughts on this.

Years 8 and 9 have the option to attend Blue Peris in beautiful Snowdonia for their residential. Year 9s will go between 6th and 10th May and Year 8s will go between 3rd to 7th June 2024.

Year 7 are visiting Caythorpe between the 13th and 17th May 2024.

Year 6 were given the option of going to Longtown between the 7th and 10th May 2024.

Year 5 will enjoy the opportunity of sampling the delights of Bushcraft between the 1st and 3rd May 2024.

Years 3 and 4 will visit Kingswood between the 12th and 14th June 2024.

Year 2 will be spending a night away at Gulliver's Land in Milton Keynes on the 23rd May 2024.

For those of you with younger children, it is always interesting to learn about the opportunities ahead of them in different age groups and you can see the gradual progress from 1 night away in Year 2, to 4 nights away in the senior years.

Staff News

I am very proud to have led Bedford Greenacre to achieve excellent ratings in all areas during the past 14 year as Principal, and I am immensely proud to be leading the school into its new era as a fully co-educational establishment, located on a superb new development. However, I know that Bedford Greenacre Independent School is based on the strong support and loyalty of our families, and I am immensely grateful to you all for that. It is also more than the bricks and mortar, it is about the excellent teaching and learning provided by our staff and the superb level of care, so I take this opportunity to thank the staff as we move into an exciting new phase in the development of Bedford Greenacre.

I wish all our pupils a lovely Easter break and look forward to seeing them on Tuesday 23rd April 2024. If you do need to contact the school during the break for emergencies, the hello@bedfordgreenacre.co.uk is always monitored by one of the leadership team.

Kind regards



I M Daniel, BA (QTS), NPQH
Principal

PTFA News



We had an incredible time at the PTFA quiz night on Friday 22 March. Both staff and parents joined in, making it a memorable occasion. The food, prepared by Marcus our school Chef, was delicious, and the atmosphere was fantastic! A big thank you to everyone who contributed to the fun. Plus, PTFA are thrilled to announce that we raised an impressive £1520.

Please look out for more upcoming events on our social media pages and the next blog.

Be a BGI Helper

If you would like to get involved at events and volunteer your time or your ideas, please let Gina or Anna know.

PTFA Events Calendar for 2024

- Friday 28 June - Swish Swap Evening
- Saturday 6 July – Summer Fayre
- Friday 4 October – Auction of Promises
- Saturday 23 November – Winter Fayre



Pre-loved uniform shop & more...

- Friday 3rd May, shop and breakfast for parents, 9-10.30 a.m. at Kimbolton Road.
- Friday 24th May, shop, 9-10.30 a.m. at Kimbolton Road.
- Friday 7th June, Parent Council Meeting and breakfast, 9.00 a.m. start at Shakespeare Road, all welcome, please advise the school office if you plan to attend on hello@bedfordgreenacre.co.uk
- Friday 14th June, shop, 9-10.30 a.m. at Kimbolton Road.
- Friday 5th July, shop, 9-10.30 at Kimbolton Road.



Contactless payment available.

Donations of uniform gratefully received.