

Principal's Blog

Edition 66: 12 November 2025



Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends

I hope that all our pupils enjoyed their two-week half-term break.

I would like to thank the leadership team for covering my brief absence following an emergency operation on my eye. It is reassuring to know that the day-to-day running of the school is in good hands.

On Tuesday 11th November we held the traditional minute silence as part of Remembrance Day. It was a poignant tribute to those who sacrificed so much for us all, and it marked another memorable occasion in Bedford Greenacre's history, being the first commemoration to take place at our new site. The students lined the pathway and Mr Roberts led the tribute, which can be viewed on our social media. Thank you to Mr Roberts and everybody involved in the organisation and to the students for their impeccable behaviour.



Admissions

There is a Reception-in-action morning taking place on Saturday 15th November for those with children due to start school in September 2026.

Also, due to increased interest, we have another Open Morning on Thursday 20th November, 9.00 to 10.30 a.m., where families from all age groups can come to view the school 'in-action'.

Interest has also increased in our Nursery located on Kimbolton Road, with an extensive waiting list in force. We recently improved the aesthetics of the setting and it is a thriving environment for our younger children to enjoy under the excellent leadership of Miss Niro.

If you know of anybody who is interested in attending the Open Mornings or wants more information on our Nursery, please ask them to contact admissions, with all contact details available on our website.

Over the past six months we have been increasing our social media presence; this allows parents across the age groups to see what happens on a daily basis in the school. I believe it is interesting for parents to have an idea of the whole school activities, particularly those in the younger age groups, so they know what the children have to look forward to in future. I hope you enjoy seeing the organic posts; interestingly, I have noticed other schools following some of our ideas recently, but as the only school in the area that offers all-through education, from Early Years to Sixth Form, our social media platforms remain unique.

Developments

Over half-term I went along to watch one of the local football clubs making use of our 3G pitch; it is really great to have the local community enjoying our facilities. You should have seen the announcement about the planning application for the indoor padel courts, which will form part of the sporting facilities on our land. Please do make comments on Bedford Borough's planning survey about the introduction of padel. Our pupils are certainly enjoying having the 3G pitch and the new netball courts, and I am sure that they will enjoy padel too.

Catering

We routinely review our catering, with menus discussed with pupils. Last week we did another pupil survey regarding the lunch options, which was extremely positive. Our catering team do a good job in providing a variety of lunch options at an affordable termly cost to our families, which has barely gone up in recent years even though the cost of food has dramatically increased. Of course, in today's world many children have different tastes and although we already do try to accommodate a wide variety of palates, we always welcome ideas. If you would like to suggest any, please email hello@bedfordgreenacre.co.uk so that I can discuss your ideas and feedback with our Chef.

WhatsApp

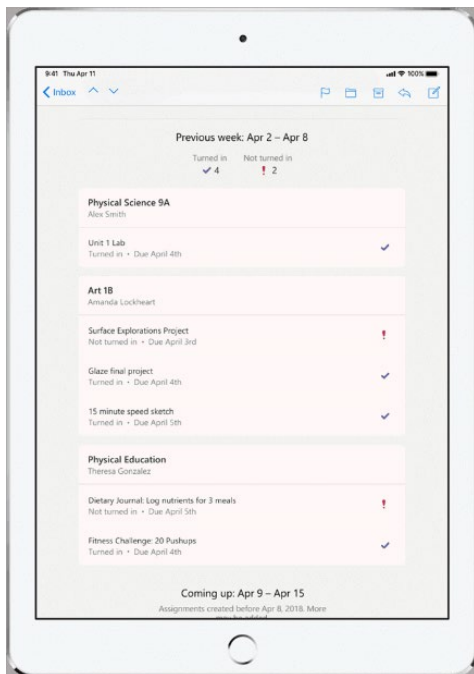
Direct communication via hello@bedfordgreenacre.co.uk is always advisable if you have any queries or concerns, rather than turning to WhatsApp groups, that way you will receive the correct information or action from the school. We strongly suggest that Class or Year Group WhatsApp groups are kept for social arrangements.

Microsoft Teams for Year 7 and above

We are excited to announce a new feature in Microsoft Teams that will help you support your child with their homework and assignments. You recently began receiving weekly assignment summary emails, these are scheduled to be delivered to you by Sunday afternoon.

These emails will include:

- A list of your child's assignments from the previous week, showing whether each task was turned in or is still missing.
- Due dates for assignments in the upcoming week, so families can plan ahead and help students stay organised.



Understanding the Symbols

All assignments for the completed week will show whether the student has completed the work with a tick or an exclamation mark next to each assignment:

- ✓ Tick: Demonstrates the work has been completed.
- ! Exclamation Mark: Shows the work has not been completed; this further implies that the work is now overdue.

Please note that each student's assignment information is private and will only be shared with their parents or guardians.

We believe this feature will strengthen the partnership between home and school, making it easier for you to stay informed and support your child's learning journey.

If you have any questions or do not receive the email after the rollout date, please contact us for assistance.

Events

A reminder that our Winter Fayre is taking place on Saturday 29th November, 11 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. and we look forward to welcoming all our families to the event, which is always a lovely start to the festive season. Traditionally, this event is part of the school calendar, so pupils should attend, otherwise their form tutor should be advised why they are going to be absent.



Careers and community

Following on from the Inspection Report in March 2025, we have been working extremely hard on our careers and community programme. To keep you updated, we are setting up partnerships with local universities in a bid to enhance the understanding of higher education pathways for our pupils. We will be providing 'My future choices' booklets to our Year 9 pupils to help them consider their GCSE options. We are introducing a 'Career of the fortnight' poster and termly booklet which will be the catalyst for discussion on different career options in class. We are planning a Careers Fayre in 2026, which will be open to our pupils and those attending local state maintained schools. This is aimed at providing information on the types of qualifications required in various industries so that pupils can make informed decisions about their future study choices.

We have also appointed a Link Governor to help oversee the careers and community programme, Mr Jamie Stevenson, a former pupil of the school.

If you or anybody you know can help with our careers programme, please email either Miss De Sylva or Mr Saunders, their email addresses can be found on our website.

We are also putting together ideas for an Environmental workshop in 2026, to focus on sustainability issues and further details will be circulated as soon as possible.

As part of Harvest Festival celebrations, our sixth formers donated 98kg of food to the local food bank. These fundraising efforts make a huge difference to people living in poverty and this amount is the equivalent to 188 meals. Well done to them all.



Maths UKMT

We were delighted to, once again, have students achieve certificates in the recent UKMT Senior Maths Challenge. Students from years 11, 12 and 13 achieved bronze and silver certificates. Year 11 students: Tristan Collymore achieved the highest grade in the school and gained silver, as did Nethu Liyanagunawardana. Seth Johnson Magee and Oliver Holman both achieved bronze. In Year 12, the following students all achieved bronze certificates: Dasha Sternyk, Ray Cameron, Ed Forster and Alessio Sepede. In Year 13 Boris Broadbent, Kyle Mwatutsa and Aranvir Patti all achieved bronze. Many congratulations to them all. They should be proud of their achievements.

Odd Socks



At Bedford Greenacre we support Odd Socks Day, which marks the start of Anti-Bullying Week. It is a fun way to celebrate what makes us all unique. This year, the aim is to support the message that one kind word can make all the difference – a small act of kindness can brighten someone's day and help create a happier, safer school community.

Junior Stars of the Week

Class	w/c 3 November	w/c 10 November
Forest (Reception)	Daisy Muniu	Romee Richens
1M (Meadow)	Remy Hayman-Read	Aliza Locke
2C (Clover)	Krithika Ramanathan	Drai Karavadra
3E (Emerald)	Finley Kelly	Will Orr
3W (Willow)	Hattie Soul	Ari Karavadra
4J (Jade)	Elizabeth Nutley	Oscar Holgate
4S (Sage)	Masha Sternyk	Olivia Canning
5W (Woodland)	Eli Hickman	Sienna Joly
5P (Pine)	Lynne Kyaw-Zaw	Hugo Acquah
5m (Moss)	Maisie-Alice McBride	Barnaby Hickman
6J (Juniper)	Arabella Taylor	Max Costa-Hale
6F (Fern)	Harry Stock	Derrick Selyer
6L (Laurel)	Natasha Turpie	Oliver Eastwood

Sports News

Hockey tournaments have taken place recently for the U8s and U9s, with Eliana and Lucy being named Players of the Match at the Akeley Wood U8 tournament. Whilst in rugby, Moyo was named Player of the match whilst playing against Bedford Modern and Sharnbrook Teams. Well done to everybody who took part in fixtures over the past fortnight.



Our U11s have had an incredibly busy and successful week, taking part in both a regional football tournament and a national rugby competition. The squads represented us brilliantly at both events, competing at a very high standard throughout.

In the football tournament, the boys narrowly missed out on qualifying for the national finals in the cruellest of ways—losing in a tense penalty shootout.

At the rugby competition, we were proud to be one of only two schools to enter two teams, showcasing our impressive strength in depth. Our A team won 5 out of 6 matches and were very unlucky not to make it a clean

sweep. Meanwhile, our B team put in a fantastic effort and were the most successful B team at the event—something they should be extremely proud of.

Nursery News



Last week, our younger children enjoyed a vibrant and engaging celebration of Bonfire Night. Through a range of sensory-rich activities, the children explored the sights, sounds, and stories behind this traditional event – all while developing key skills in line with the EYFS framework.

Using chalk and paint, the children created their own dazzling firework displays. This activity encouraged them to explore colours, shapes, and patterns, while also strengthening their fine motor skills and spoken language and linking to EYFS using Expressive Arts and Design (Creating with Materials), Physical Development (Fine Motor Skills) and Communication and Language (Speaking)



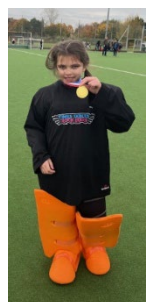
The children built a sensory bin "bonfire" using red, yellow, and orange tissue paper to represent flames, along with brown fabric and foam logs. Pinecones and sticks were added for imaginative "toasting" play, sparking creativity and conversation.

During group time, the children were introduced to basic firework safety. They found out how to stay safe around fires and fireworks, helping them develop an early awareness of personal safety and environmental hazards and linking to EYFS; Personal, Social, and Emotional Development (Managing Self) and Communication and Language (Listening, Attention and Understanding).

Principal's Awards

Charles Stewart Year 7 for a great science project.
Zachary Caldly Year 8 for excellent History work.

Personal Achievements



Sophie had an amazing day at the U10 Sandy and Shefford Tournament, representing Bedford Hockey Club, her team won four matches, drawing one, and not conceding a single goal. They came away with gold medals and lots to be proud of. Well done, Sophie and the team!

During the summer, Aahil played for Bedford Cricket Club's U15 team, they reached the finals and played against Flitwick, winning. Aahil opened the innings and played a match-winning knock of scoring 30 runs and had to retire as per match rules.

Arhaan played for Wollaston Cricket Club's U13 team and they won the final against Oundle Town. Arhaan got 4 overs, 18 runs and he took 2 wickets.

Well done to both Arhaan and Aahil, who both display excellent cricket skills.



Over the half-term break, Seth and Joseph took part in a 10km Halloween walk around London, raising money for Cancer Research UK. Both boys did amazingly well, showing great determination and spirit throughout the event. A fantastic achievement for a very worthy cause—well done, Seth and Joseph!

Good luck to Jesse Bates who will be taking part in the Putnoe Scout Group's Cardboard Box Sleep-out on Friday night. He is helping to raise funds for Bedford Giving. The aim of the charity is to help shape a brighter future for the next generation in Bedford. If you would like to find out more you can do so on <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/cardboard-box-sleepout-2025>

I would like to congratulate George, our outstanding Sixth Form student, on his appointment as a Lord-Lieutenant's Cadet. What an incredible honour and something to be very proud of as it is testament to his dedication and service to the local community. Very well done, George.

Kind regards



I M Daniel, BA (QTS), NPQH
Principal

