



BOURNE  
ACADEMY

# Head of School

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2023

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

Although it has been a shorter week as a result of the extra Bank Holiday for the Coronation of King Charles III, there are plenty of events I would like to highlight in this week's update.

Literacy and our communications agenda is always an integral part of our curriculum. On Wednesday, DEAR Time (Drop Everything And Read) took place again to enrich our Year 7/8 students' understanding of the wider world around them, as well as crucially developing reading skills and vocabulary acquisition. It was a joy to see our students immersed in their reading in this very important initiative.



We have a strong sense of community at Bourne Academy where our Sixth Form students can support the learning of our younger students. One such initiative is through the Sixth Form Reading Ambassador project. The Sixth Form students listen to their mentees read and ask them comprehension questions about their books. They also support them with accessing the Accelerated Reader scheme with the overall aim of the project being to improve confidence with reading, as well as improving the students' reading ages. It is pleasing to note that the Reading Ambassadors initiative is making a positive impact as 85% of Year 7 students who are being mentored improved their reading age. Similarly, 70% of Year 8 students involved in this initiative have also improved their reading age.

We are lucky to have a team of Sixth Form volunteers who dedicate their time to run our LGBTQ+ club at Bourne Academy. Annually, we hold a 'thank you' lunch to show our appreciation for these hard-working



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role models. We will greatly miss our eight wonderful Year 13 volunteers who have worked so hard over the past two years supporting the group. Miss Taylor, Miss Monds and Miss Brackley look forward to working alongside our seven Year 12 volunteers next year after all their incredible work this year.

Every other week, the Heads of House run an assembly for their respective House, focusing on a variety of important topics. These assemblies aim to raise awareness and promote healthy discussion between students. This year, assemblies have been held on Comic Relief, World Book Day, Holocaust Memorial Day and the recent Coronation of King Charles III, to name a few. The theme of this week's assembly was Skin Cancer Awareness. The month of May is Skin Cancer Awareness Month, and with the weather getting warmer, it was a perfect opportunity to highlight the importance of staying protected in the sun, whilst also enjoying the summer months.



House assemblies are also a perfect opportunity to celebrate our students and their achievements within and also outside of school.

Last week a number of our students took part in the County Athletics Trials. I am pleased to inform you that the following students have been selected to represent South Lincolnshire Superzone at the County Athletics Championships on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023:

- **Year 7:** Malachai Gillick, Rebecca Palmer and Finley Smith
- **Year 9:** Evie Benson, Emily Carey, Dan Ellington, Sophie Fisher, Gemma Fox-Hall, Alex Glenn-Mitchell, Evie Hall, Malachy McIvor, Olivia Ulyatt, Jodie Walton and Isabella Winsworth
- **Year 11:** Ted Ash, Oliver Barber, Bella Gillick, Daisy Hay and Hentry Moxley
- **Year 13:** Donovan Capes

Finally, I would like to wish all of our Year 11 and 13 students the very best as the first formal written exam begins this coming Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023. Our students have worked incredibly hard with their revision and exam preparation and although this will be a somewhat busy and tiring time for our students, we know they will do themselves very proud!

Have a lovely weekend.

Kindest regards,

**Mr Matt Sammy**

Head of School, Bourne Academy

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