

Head of School UPDATE

Friday 1st December 2023

Dear parents/carers and students,

Rewarding students forms an integral part of our school ethos and it was therefore a pleasure to congratulate a number of our Sixth Form students this morning for their recent excellent AOL data. To celebrate this achievement, the Sixth Form team held a special breakfast in the canteen to acknowledge the outstanding academic outcomes of our students and all students were appreciative of the hot chocolate and pastries on offer! Danny Petherick in Year 12 said "It's nice to have the recognition for all the hard work we put in" and Tegan Wyche, also in Year 12 said "I'm grateful for the fact our hard work is rewarded and to give us a moment from our studies."



In addition to the normal news stories of the week, it is always important to take the opportunity to share student successes. This week, I have the pleasure of highlighting the remarkable achievement of Year 12 student William Robbins. Following just over one year of training, in November 2023, William became one of the youngest individuals in the UK to pass his skills test to become a qualified private pilot! When



William was aged 9, his father booked a trial flying lesson for him, but with deep sadness, Mr Robbins unfortunately passed away soon after. However, six years later, William started flight training at Fenland Airfield where he was able to build his skills to eventually complete his first cross country with his instructor in January of this year. On his 16th birthday, William flew his first solo flight and since then, William has flown over 1,000 miles so far! William commented, "I can't wait for next year to take up my friends and family for many fun days out and begin further flight training!" We are all so proud of William and his stunning achievements.



Enrichment activities are important to us and we offer a wide range of trips to our students. On Tuesday, the drama department organised a trip to see a performance of The Woman in Black at the Theatre Royal in Nottingham. The play is studied by Year 10 students on the BTEC Performing Arts course and affords a valuable opportunity to help prepare our young people when preparing their devising exam which takes place at the end of Year 11. A big thank you to Mr Swinn and the Performing Arts team who organised this trip.

Another trip this week saw a number of our Sixth Form students visit Burghley House. Students who attended this visit were able to collect primary research for their Principles of Marketing coursework as part of their BTEC Travel & Tourism course. Students were provided with a guided tour of the historic house and the grounds, as well as a presentation from the Marketing Manager to assist with the student's coursework. Despite the chilly day, all students had a great time and my thanks go to Mrs Maddison for organising this trip.

Over the course of this week, our Year 12 and Year 13 students have been completing their Pre-Public Examination (mocks). This provides a valuable opportunity for our teachers to assess the progress our students are currently making which will inform appropriate interventions. Our students are privileged to have a dedicated team of staff who are always willing to go the 'extra-mile' to ensure our students are well prepared for all examinations. Similarly, from Tuesday 5th December, our Year 11 students will be sitting their PPE's which will be taking place over the next two weeks. All students have been well prepared for their upcoming examinations through key messages in assembly and tutor time.

As we have now officially welcomed the month of December, it is appropriate to talk about Christmas! This coming Monday, our Christmas tree will be placed in reception which is always an exciting moment that brings the festive cheer! You may be aware that the 'Bourne Christmas Fayre & Light Switch' on will be taking place tomorrow in the town centre. As part of this, some of our students will be joining with other local schools to share the festive spirit by singing some class Christmas songs. This event is always a much-anticipated event for the town and I encourage you to sing along with the choirs if you have the chance to visit!

Christmas would not be the same without a hearty Christmas dinner and this is what we will be offering our students on Wednesday 6th and Wednesday 13th December 2023. The traditional Christmas roast, with vegetarian options and all the trimmings will allow students the opportunity to enjoy not just one, but two Christmas dinners with their friends. Visit www.bourneacademy.org/best-meal-of-the-year-twice for the full menu and prices.

Rehearsals are continuing as students are busy preparing for the upcoming Winter Concert that will take place on Tuesday 19th December 2023. This is the perfect festive event for the end of term, which all of the family can enjoy. You can be guaranteed there will be amazing performances from a diverse mix of bands, soloists as well as vocal and drama groups. Tickets are £3 each and can be purchased online from www.ticketsource.co.uk/bourneacademy and there are no ticket booking fees. The performance will start at 7.00pm with doors open at 6.30pm.



Finally, I would like to remind you that we are holding our annual Year 9 Parents' Evening on Thursday 7th December 2023 from 4.30pm to 7.30pm. This is a very important evening for parents and carers, as it provides important information regarding your child's progress. We have already sent parents/carers information about this evening including how to book your appointment.

Have a great weekend.

Kindest regards,

Mr Matt Sammy

Head of School, Bourne Academy

For the latest news

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- www.instagram.com/BourneAcademy
- www.facebook.com/BourneAcademyLincs
- www.twitter.com/BourneSLAT