



BOURNE  
ACADEMY

# Head of School

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

It is almost the end of term and what a busy one it has been!

Our staff and students enjoyed another Christmas dinner which took place in the canteen on Wednesday. It was wonderful to see the Christmas joy with students tucking into the festive meal with their party hats on! I would like to say a huge thank you to David Lane (Catering Manager) and his team who served the Christmas food so efficiently on both Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

It is a matter of days to go to the Winter Concert, which has now officially sold out! This will be a great evening to share in the festive spirit and to watch our talented young people who will be performing a range of songs.

For any student who may have missed out on a ticket to this event, I am delighted to inform you that on the last day of term (Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023), the performing arts team will be hosting a series of performance assemblies which will include excerpts of the Winter Concert. The following year groups will attend their special Christmas assembly performance:

- Period 1 - Year 7
- Period 2 - Year 10
- Period 3 - Year 11
- Period 4 - Year 9
- Period 5 - Year 8

On Tuesday last week, Bourne Academy held an inclusive Panathlon event for some of our local primary schools through our links with Lincolnshire School Games. This involved four primary schools attending the event which was supported by a group of aspiring Year 10 leaders. Panathlon is a national charity that provides young people with disabilities and special educational needs the opportunity to take part in competitive sport. This included events like Skittles, Volleybat and Precision Bean Bag. The Year 10 students were there to support with the running of the event, scoring of the different activities, and providing encouragement to all involved and they did this throughout the event. They really were a credit to themselves and the school. We have already had some fantastic feedback from Rupert Gibson who is one of the event organisers, where he said *"The leaders were polite, friendly and helpful with the primary children and staff. The pupils and staff who came had a brilliant time, potentially the only occasion these pupils will ever play sport for their schools. The excitement and happiness was amazing."*



Aspire • Challenge • Achieve

On Thursday last week, a team of Year 11 students represented the school at the annual Elite 11 competition organised by Boston College at the Peter Paine Performance Centre in Boston. The event involved individual students competing against other schools in Olympic style events (inspired by The Tokyo Olympics 2020). Included were tests of strength, speed, power, agility, problem solving and team based challenges; all of which were linked to events seen at the Olympics and Paralympics.

Students faced one of the most gruelling challenges which saw their fitness put to the test in a number of fitness challenges, cheering each other on to get a good start in the competition. Students continued to support each other and built on the good start that they had made. Later in the day, more familiar events faced the Bourne Academy team with aspects such as a netball shooting challenge and a throwing challenge.



Lunch was followed by some further challenging events for the students, one of which was a test of power through the use of a wattbike, with Henry Pearce claiming bragging rights for making it into the top 3 student! The day culminated in a reaction time event which all students excelled at and achieved the highest group score on for the day.

As all the events began to draw to a close, all 12 competing schools returned to the hall for the results where an inspirational talk was given by Josh Blue who discussed his pathway into the industry of bodybuilding and personal training. Overall, our fantastic team of students built up a score that saw them finish the day in 3rd place which was a brilliant achievement given the level of competition.

Congratulations to all following eleven students involved for their exemplary representation of the school and performance at the event.

Elite 11 Team:

- Molly Barrett
- Evie Benson
- Emily Carey
- Loui D'Angelo
- Dan Ellington
- Alex Glenn-Mitchell
- Millie Green
- Henry Pearce
- Matthew Sewell
- Sam Sharpe
- Felicity Wafaa

Thank you to all of the Year 11 students for their conscientious approach to their Pre-Public Examinations throughout these last few weeks. There has been endless independent revision undertaken, additional intervention classes attended and a high usage of GCSEpod throughout this period. Students have been well supported and their conduct has been excellent, PPE's continue next week with Art, Speaking and Listening for English and French Speaking. We have designed the PPE's to take place before the Christmas holiday period so students can then enjoy their break with their families and friends and not worrying about upcoming examinations. The results for these will be in January 2024.

All week we have held our Super Prize Draws for our highest achieving students in school in Years 7 to 9. All year groups have achieved very highly on this data point. We had a large number of students eligible to enter for this prize draw based on their incredible AOL data, attendance data and achievement grades. Students entered for the super prize draw will also be able to sign off this task on the Aspire Passports! Well done to all the winners.

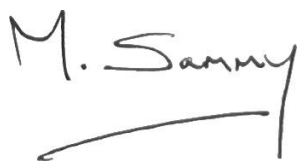
We have some staffing changes that I would like to inform you of. Melissa Mayfield and Helena Vignolo will sadly be leaving us at the end of this term. Both Melissa and Helena have made a huge contribution to Bourne Academy throughout their time and they will be sadly missed. We wish them the very best for the future. As a result of Mrs Vignolo's departure, I am pleased to inform you that Mr Ben Broome will be the new Head of Galileo House. Additionally, Mrs Thalia Alexander who will join us as our new Maths Teacher in January will take over from Mr Broome's tutor group.

As you will know, this is my last newsletter as Head of School at Bourne Academy. I would like to firstly thank Mrs Conley (CEO) who afforded me the opportunity to serve as the Head of Bourne Academy. It has been a genuine privilege to work with everyone associated with this school, including you as parents and carers. I am so incredibly proud of the students who continue to impress me on a daily basis with their enthusiasm and exceptional talents. I also want to express my gratitude and thanks to all members of staff at Bourne Academy. Our students are incredibly fortunate to have such a dedicated team of staff who continually goes 'above and beyond' to ensure all students can fulfil their potential. I will always have very fond memories of Bourne Academy and I wish you, your family and the wider community all the very best for the future.

Finally, just a polite reminder that we break up on at 3.15pm on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023. Please remember all year groups return to school on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024.

Merry Christmas and a happy, prosperous and healthy New Year.

Kindest regards,



**Mr Matt Sammy**

Head of School, Bourne Academy

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- [www.facebook.com/BourneAcademyLincs](https://www.facebook.com/BourneAcademyLincs)
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