



BOURNE
ACADEMY

Head of School

Friday 5th July 2024

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

We have had another great week at Bourne Academy.

Over the last few weeks, students have been gripped by 'election fever' as we held a Trust-wide mock General Election to coincide with the actual General Election on 4th July 2024. As part of our PSHE programme, we hold a Parliament Week in November to provide practical understanding of British democracy. This General Election therefore provided the perfect opportunity for students to get a taste of what it is like to vote as many students will be able to vote next time there is a General Election in five years' time.

Just like how the real elections work, we split each school in the Trust and each year group into separate constituencies with 17 areas up for grabs. We gave the opportunity for students to choose to vote from six political parties, which were represented by 19 exceptional students from the SLAT Sixth Form at Bourne Academy to provide a test of their debating and presentation skills. The Sixth Formers were split across the different parties and travelled to all four schools in the Trust to take part in 17 live hustings that were held in front of each year group where they could campaign on various issues and manifesto pledges.

The topics of 'national service for 18-year olds' and 'allowing over 16s to vote' sparked lively discussions among the students and they were keen to find out the financial and green credentials for each party. This encouraged students to discuss the issues that mattered to them and our society. As well as the campaigning done by our Sixth Formers, students cited that that had taken notice of political information from other sources such as social media, YouTube, TikTok, mainstream media, leaflets in the post as well as conversation within their social groups.

It was encouraging to see that students across all years and in all schools had voted for all of the political parties on offer. The overall majority across the Trust was for Reform UK with the Green Party coming a close second place. It was interesting the three main political parties were not the most popular choices amongst under 16s and it shows that these parties have work to do if they want to engage with future young voters.



Aspire • Challenge • Achieve

It has been immensely rewarding to see how students have engaged in the political process by discussing key political issues to helping them understand the complexities and responsibilities that come with participating in a democratic society. The mock election has been invaluable in teaching students about the importance of voting, the electoral process, and the role of political parties in shaping the future of our country. By taking part in the voting process they will be better prepared and informed when it comes to put an X in the box for the very first time.

We would like to especially thank the Sixth Form students who campaigned so admirably and in good spirit over the last few weeks. We may even have encouraged some future political leaders – who knows?

This week, our Year 10 Geographers as part of the GCSE Geography course went on a fieldtrip to Hunstanton, which focused on Physical Geography. This follows on from the Lincoln trip based earlier this academic year which focused on Human Geography. The aim of the trip is to provide students with the opportunity to apply fieldwork skills and to collect data, as well as supporting and developing concepts covered in lessons. The work conducted on these fieldtrips is worth 30% of their final GCSE grade and will be assessed by examination at the end of Year 11. The students had a great time at Hunstanton which was the chosen location for the coast. Students followed the route from Old Hunstanton to the town's beach to analyse physical processes and assess coastal defences.

On Wednesday, we took eight of our students to Bourne Abbey Primary School. These students were the winners of the 'Read Your Way' competition and won the chance to attend the primary school and read their stories to the children. The Reception class children were incredibly receptive to this and loved the visit from the older children - the class hugely enjoyed the creative tales that our students had crafted. The children then had the chance to read their own reading books to our students who supported them brilliantly with this task. All of the students got involved, helping the younger children and encouraging them with their reading. Overall, the visit was a resounding success and we will definitely be looking to do more reading work with local primaries in the future.



The Superzone Tennis tournament took place at Boston Tennis club on Monday 1st July 2024. We had six teams entered into three different age groups. The students enjoyed playing at this fantastic venue and played some very competitive tennis throughout the afternoon. The doubles teams played teams from Bourne Grammar School, Spalding Grammar and Spalding Academy. The games were tightly fought with Alex Short and Toby Timson winning their league. This meant they went through to the semi-final in the Under 13 competition. They won this match 4-0 against Bourne Grammar School Team 2. This meant they faced Bourne Grammar School Team 1 in the final. The boys played extremely well after being down two games. They fought back to two games all and made some fantastic returns to the opposition. This coupled with some outstanding serving from both boys, Alex and Toby were the eventual winners and are the Under 13 Superzone Champions! A fantastic achievement by the boys.

This week saw the return of our student House Bake-Off Competition. This event was more popular than ever with not only a full compliment of students taking part but a group of spectators also came along to cheer on their peers. This year's challenge was to bake either a Summer Fruit or Vegetable Tart. Our students were absolutely fantastic, diligently preparing their fruits and vegetables thinking about complimentary flavours and finishing touches such as garnishes.

- **Warwick House** were commended for their Star Wars theme, drawing inspiration from Warwick Davies himself, however, they did experience some technical issues with their syrup for the fruit tarts.
- **Keller House** providing an excellent fruit infused toffee to top their tart but unfortunately some of the tarts could have done with a little longer in the oven.
- **Mays House's** preparation of their garnishes was second to none with their crowned tomatoes receiving positive praise, however, there were some questions as to where the rest of their pastry had gone as some were a little small!
- **Galileo House** were also thinking about little extras they could include and provided a sauce to accompany their vegetable tarts but the judges felt their fruit tarts were slightly bland.
- **Hereward House** were commended for their nice use of herbs but not all of their tarts were of the same size.
- **Turner House's** work area was kept clean and tidy and produced tarts that were well presented and tasty however there was a question over whether some were parcels rather than tarts.

Overall the judges were blown away with the tremendous efforts of all of our students, but also those who came along to support the event. Overall, in third place was Turner House, second place went to Mays House and our overall winners were Hereward House with a jubilant Ms O'Brien.



We are excited that next week it will be our production of **'Disney's High School Musical on Stage!'**. There are a few tickets available for the evening performances on Wednesday 10th July, Thursday 11th July and Friday 12th July 2024. Further information about the production plus the link for where you can purchase tickets is available here: www.bourneacademy.org/book-tickets-for-high-school-musical

Disney
HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL
ON STAGE!

Wednesday 10th, Thursday 11th and Friday 12th July 2024
Tickets available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/bourneacademy

Last week, our Year 11 students were able to enjoy their Prom which was held at the Springfields Conference Centre in Spalding. This Thursday gave us the opportunity to celebrate the achievements of our Year 13 students and to say a final farewell to our amazing students at their respective Prom. The event was held at Orton Hall in Peterborough which was a beautiful venue for this annual occasion. We are always proud of our students and we are excited that our Year 13 students will start their new journey either continuing their studies, or relishing the world of work. We would like to wish all our Year 13 the very best in their future endeavours. Look out for photos of this event on our website and social media next week.

And finally, we have informed students this week about the Film Festival event we are holding in the last week of term. The students were informed that they all have access to this reward in school. We felt this was a really important message to give, as our students have worked very hard throughout this academic year. However, we did reinforce that any behaviour which is not acceptable during the last two weeks, will result in them missing out on the treat. We are looking forward to seeing students enjoy their in-school cinema treat!

We hope you have a great weekend.

Kindest regards,

Bourne Academy

Bourne Academy

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