

Head of School

Friday 5th December 2025

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

What a wonderful week it has been at Bourne Academy as we embrace the festive season!

On Wednesday, we kicked off our Christmas celebrations with the first of our three Christmas Dinner Days. Students enjoyed a lovely traditional Christmas dinner, complete with all the festive trimmings – including a cracker, thanks to our fantastic catering team. The next chance for students to enjoy a festive lunch will be on Wednesday, 10th December 2025. Our Christmas trees, proudly displayed in both the main reception and Sixth Form, have been beautifully decorated, adding a warm and festive touch to the Academy.

To celebrate Mrs Conley's incredible 35 years in education ahead of her retirement at the end of this year, we held a special one-off Sparkle & Bright non-uniform day on Wednesday. Across the Trust, this event raised over £4,200 for Young Minds, a leading UK charity supporting children and young people's mental health. Thank you for your generosity.

As well as the non-uniform day - staff, parents/carers, current and former students can also donate to a Just Giving page (www.justgiving.com/page/young-minds-mrs-conley), to raise additional monies for Young Minds. As Mrs Conley has requested for no retirement gifts (no even one!) ... please donate instead and help ensure no young person feels alone with their mental health. So far, over £7,800 has been raised for Young Minds and any further donations over the next few weeks is greatly appreciated.



Next week, we are proud to support our local Butterfield Centre and Food Pantry through our Tutor Group Christmas Hampers initiative. The local community truly values this support at such an important time of year, and we warmly welcome any donations of non-perishable items. Please note, the deadline for contributions is Friday 12th December 2025, ready for delivery on Tuesday 15th December 2025. Thank you for helping us spread kindness and festive cheer!

Thank you to everyone who has already bought tickets for our Winter Concert that will take place on Thursday 18th December 2025. If you are planning on attending, don't leave it too late to buy your tickets as there are now only 7 tickets left at the time of sending out this update! Tickets are £5 each and can be purchased online from www.ticketsource.co.uk/bourneacademy and there are no ticket booking fees.

A promotional graphic for the Winter Concert 2025. On the left is a poster for the event, featuring a blue background with white snowflakes and evergreen trees. The text on the poster reads 'WINTER CONCERT 2025' in large, stylized letters, with 'THURSDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2025' and '7PM START (doors open 6.30pm)' below. The Bourne Academy logo is in the bottom right corner of the poster. To the right of the poster is a QR code. Below the QR code, the text reads: 'Join us for our annual Winter Concert where there will be a mixture of bands, soloists, as well as the Bourne Academy vocal and drama groups. Tickets are £5 in advance and available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/bourneacademy'. The background of the graphic is dark red with white stars and faint silhouettes of Christmas trees.

Year 11 students are about to begin their Pre-Public Examinations, and we couldn't be prouder of the effort they've shown through interventions and independent revision. We are confident they will approach these exams with determination and give their very best. A gentle reminder to keep using GCSEPod, an excellent resource to support revision and boost confidence.

For Year 11 students wanting to apply to the SLAT Sixth Form at Bourne Academy, the first application deadline is Monday 15th December 2025. Applying by this date ensures students can choose their preferred subject options. Applications after this date are still welcome, but subject choices may be limited. Please visit www.bourneacademy.org/sixthform/apply to apply online.

This past week has been packed with achievement and teamwork across various sporting events.

Last Friday, KS4 students competed in the Superzone Trampoline Competition across the novice, intermediate, advanced and elite categories. Overall, Bourne Academy finished in fourth place and a special mention goes to Eva Godderidge who impressed the judges with her confident routine as she finished third place in the novice category.

On Tuesday, we proudly hosted an Inclusive Panathlon Event for local primary schools in partnership with Lincolnshire School Games. Our Year 9 Sports Leaders were outstanding - organising activities, supporting participants, and creating a welcoming atmosphere that truly embodied the spirit of inclusion.

Earlier in the week, our Year 7 football teams braved challenging weather for their first major tournament. Their resilience and determination shone through, with Team 1 crowned champions after an incredible run of performances. Team 2 showed fantastic grit and teamwork throughout, making us proud with their commitment and effort.

Finally, in the Lincolnshire County Cup, our Year 7 squad secured a dramatic victory against Queen Elizabeth Grammar School after a tense penalty shootout, booking their place in the next round. Their perseverance and team spirit were exceptional from start to finish.

Well done to all our sporting students who represented Bourne Academy - you've shown skill, resilience, and sportsmanship in every event!

As part of our commitment to developing leadership skills, a group of Year 9 Language Ambassadors recently worked with 30 pupils from Bourne Westfield Primary Academy in a festive French vocabulary workshop, led by our talented Language Department. A huge well done to everyone involved for making learning fun and memorable!

Finally, today we introduced our very first SALAD Day (Speaking And Listening Activity Day). Instead of written tasks, students immersed themselves in activities designed to strengthen oracy and listening skills - through debates, role-plays, and presentations. This initiative helps build confidence in communication, an essential skill for future careers and everyday life. We also encourage students to “speak like a specialist” across all subjects, using accurate vocabulary, full sentences, and standard English.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kindest regards,

James Hind.

Mr James Hind

Deputy Chief Executive Officer and Head of School, Bourne Academy

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