



## Important Dates for your Diary

**Thursday 17 December 2020**  
School Christmas Jumper Day

**Friday 18 December 2020**  
Year 10 Gradesheets available  
on MCAS  
School Closes for Christmas at  
Lunchtime

**Monday 4 January 2021**  
School re-opens for Staff and Students

**Friday 15 January 2021**  
Year 11 Reports available on MCAS

**Thursday 21 January 2021**  
Year 9 Progress Evening

**Thursday 28 January 2021**  
Year 9 Options Evening

**Friday 29 January 2021**  
Year 9 Gradesheets available on  
MCAS

**Thursday 4 February 2021**  
Year 10 Progress Evening

**Friday 12 February 2021**  
School Closes for Half Term

**Monday 22 February 2021**  
Inset Day – School Closed to  
Students

**Tuesday 23 February 2021**  
School re-opens for Students

**Please check our school  
website for holiday dates.  
Other sources are not reliable  
as they request the  
information from the Local  
Authority, not directly from  
the school.**

## NEWS

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers,

***"Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love!"***  
**Hamilton Wright Mabie**

Maybe this year, more than any other year with all of the things that are happening in the world, we need to care for one another.

Usually at this point in the Newsletter, I am telling you about the success of the school show and looking forward to our annual Carol Service.

However, as we know, things are a lot different this year. Yet, with that said, despite the difficulties and challenges that everyone is facing, once again the school community shows how kind and generous it really is.

Our non-uniform day earlier in the term raised over £1,200 towards Children in Need. This week we expect to see something similar as students aim for a festive day on Thursday, this time we will be donating the proceeds to the fabulous Green Tree Café in Biddulph.

In addition, I would like to thank all the families who once again donated to the FoodBank.

### PLEASE BE SAFE

We continue to remind all students of their responsibilities as we face the ongoing challenge of COVID-19.

Please be mindful of the impact of this awful virus over the Christmas break, and think of those families in our community who have faced tragedy over the last few months.

### GOODBYE

Normally I would be jotting something down about a member of staff here. This year though, it is my turn.

As I move onto a new challenge, I would like to thank you for your kind messages and support over the past seven and a half years. I leave safe in the knowledge that the school will be in good hands with Mrs Robinson.

Be good to each other and conspire to share some love this Christmas.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and an altogether better 2021.

***Simon Ascroft – December 2020***

## CHILDREN IN NEED

On Friday 13 November 2020 students raised £1242 by holding a non-uniform day for Children in Need. We would like to thank you for your support.



**Has your child ever been in the care of the local authority (Looked after or in Care) but is now adopted or back living with parents?**

If so, you may be eligible for additional educational support. Please email your child's name and Date of Birth to [office@biddulphhigh.co.uk](mailto:office@biddulphhigh.co.uk) and someone will speak to you about this and the extra support which you may qualify for.

## UNIFORM STANDARDS – A REMINDER FOR JANUARY 2021

We understand that over the Christmas break some students may change their hairstyle, have acrylic or gel nails and be tempted to have facial piercings. We would like to remind you of our expectations regarding appearance and uniform which can be viewed in full on the school website at <https://biddulphhigh.co.uk/school-uniform/>.

This extends to PE kit. On the days when your child has PE they should wear full PE kit with no variations away from the school policy. We enforce our uniform guidelines firmly but fairly and we make clear to parents and carers that if students are not meeting our expectation, they will not be able to participate in lessons with their peers and will be educated in the 'Return to Learn' room. We would like to thank you for your support of our policy and the standards that we aim to maintain.

## EXCITING OPPORTUNITY...

We are starting a partnership with the City of Erlangen, in Germany and during January we are going to be making a video to introduce our school and town to our partner school. This is a call for any students who are budding TV presenters or production staff who would like to be involved to speak to Mrs Batzios by Friday 8 January 2021.

## FOODBANK COLLECTION

We would like to thank everyone who donated items to the Foodbank.



## MATHS PUZZLE

Mr Hatch has set the following puzzle. Please email him with your answer and a winner will be announced in January. Good Luck! ([hatch@biddulphhigh.co.uk](mailto:hatch@biddulphhigh.co.uk))

Five presents were bought for Christmas



The red and purple presents together cost £25,

The purple and blue presents together cost £17,

The blue and gold presents together cost £15,

The gold and green presents together cost £21,

The green and red presents together cost £26

What is the total cost of all five presents?



## HOME LEARNING

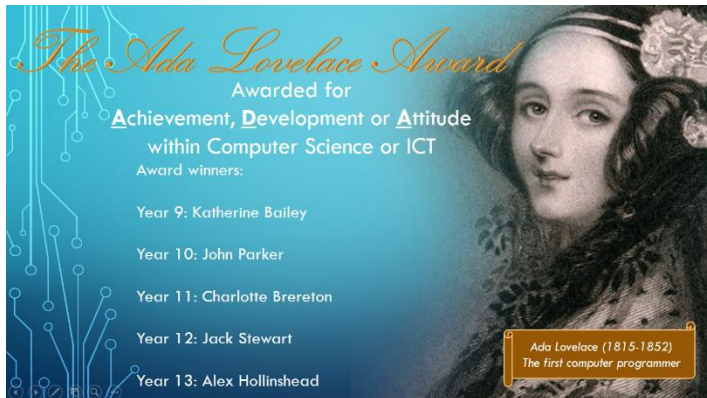
We have a dedicated page to support Home Learning on our school website:

<https://biddulphhigh.co.uk/covid-19-home-learning/>

This page includes important information on how to access live lessons and resources at home.

## THE ADA AWARDEES FOR COMPUTER SCIENCE/ICT

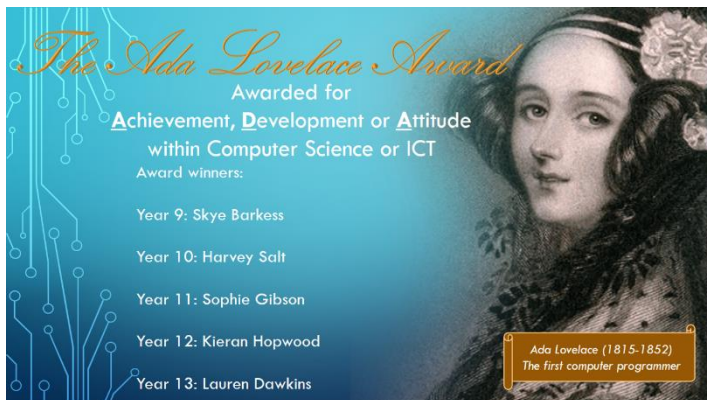
ADA Awardees for this term from Computing. These are students who have excelled in our subject area this term.



*The Ada Lovelace Award*  
Awarded for  
**Achievement, Development or Attitude**  
within Computer Science or ICT  
Award winners:

- Year 9: Katherine Bailey
- Year 10: John Parker
- Year 11: Charlotte Brereton
- Year 12: Jack Stewart
- Year 13: Alex Hollinshead

Ada Lovelace (1815-1852)  
The first computer programmer



*The Ada Lovelace Award*  
Awarded for  
**Achievement, Development or Attitude**  
within Computer Science or ICT  
Award winners:

- Year 9: Skye Barkess
- Year 10: Harvey Salt
- Year 11: Sophie Gibson
- Year 12: Kieran Hopwood
- Year 13: Lauren Dawkins

Ada Lovelace (1815-1852)  
The first computer programmer

### Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge 2020

For the second year running, Year 9 students all entered The Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge in their ICT lessons. We achieved some fantastic results and 13 students have been invited to compete in the additional "Oxford University Computing Challenge." This is a fantastic opportunity as only 10% of all students completing the challenge get an invite. The students are Alex J, Grace W, Isabella L, Adam M, Reuben B, Lauren T, Freya S, Lily O, Lukus M, Ellie P, Millie H, Harley P and Ellen N.

Year 10 Computer Scientists also entered the challenge with a large number receiving a Distinction certificate. Lucy E received the best in her year group.

Year 12 Computer Scientists completed the challenge with Owen B achieving the best in his year group.

The Computing Department are so proud of your achievements.



### YEAR 11 NEWS

Well done to all of our Year 11 students for their high standard of behaviour in their recent mock examinations. Not only were they well prepared and behaved excellently, but their revision materials were of such a high standard - keep this up as it will serve you well in the summer exams! For a number of students, just sitting the exams was a challenge enough and they showed great resilience to complete them all in just one week. We hope that all of our students found the process worthwhile.

We look forward to celebrating with you on the 13 January for mock results day.

#### WHAT IS MOCK RESULTS DAY?

Each student will sit with a member of staff to discuss their results and targets to move forward. Careers advice will also be available to discuss options Post-16.

### LOWER SCHOOL

We would usually take the time to congratulate those with excellent attendance, but in the current climate it is important to recognise how difficult this year has been for all of our students. Whilst many students have had to isolate, it has been humbling to see how seriously students have taken their learning by logging on to online lessons, submitting work and engaging in discussions online.

#### DON'T FORGET YOUR MASK!

The vast majority of students are managing to bring a mask to school each day. Please remember that this is compulsory and should be worn in all communal areas of the school building.

## SIXTH FORM NEWS

As part of their Level-2 Extended Certificate in WorkSkills Programme, students are required to plan and run an enterprise event. This year, the students have carried out some market research and decided a hand sanitiser would sell well in the current climate.

They have successfully made and sold over 50 personalised hand sanitiser bottles. The students may also offer the service of refilling bottles for a small fee after Christmas with an alternative scented sanitiser. Well done!



## A BUSY HALF TERM FOR HOUSE COMPETITIONS

Since returning back to school in September students have all had the opportunity to complete our Weekly Quiz in tutogroup teams. The quiz is always based on current affairs locally, nationally and also international news. The scores are in and the victorious tutor groups are: 9VDE, 10MSC, 12NIR and 13RHE. Members in these tutor groups have all received a small chocolate treat (it is Christmas!) and will be having a rewards breakfast after the holidays.

Well done to everyone who took part. The house totals from the weekly quiz are as follows:

<b>Hercules</b>	50 points
<b>Pegasus</b>	25 points
<b>Draco</b>	10 points
<b>Orion</b>	5 points

Year 9 have also been getting competitive with their House Netball and Football competitions. Matches take place every Monday and Thursday lunchtimes and students have shown real enthusiasm and commitment to the competition. The current standings are as follows:

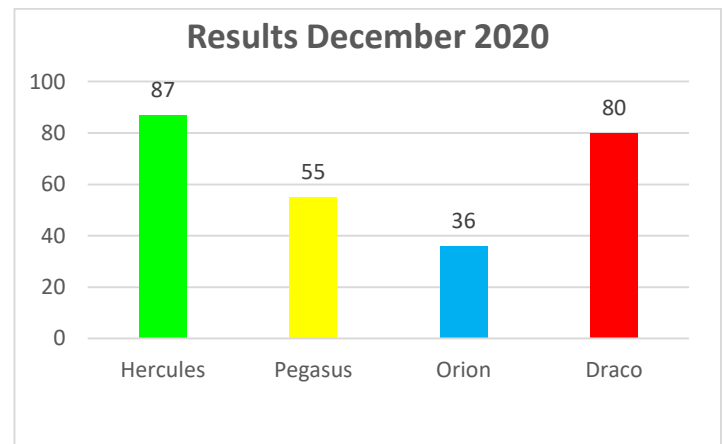
<b>Netball</b>	<b>Pts</b>
<b>Fireballs</b>	25
<b>Dragons</b>	20
<b>Braves</b>	17
<b>Hunters</b>	13
<b>Bears</b>	11
<b>Stars</b>	9
<b>Cosmics</b>	8
<b>Warriors</b>	5

<b>Football</b>	<b>Pts</b>
<b>9JRA</b>	20
<b>9STR</b>	11
<b>9AHA</b>	7
<b>9EGI</b>	6
<b>9VDE</b>	6
<b>9KBU</b>	5
<b>9LSH</b>	3
<b>9SHA</b>	2

### Overall Football & Netball

<b>Draco</b>	70 points
<b>Hercules</b>	37 points
<b>Orion</b>	31 points
<b>Pegasus</b>	30 points

As you can see Draco are running away with it in the Year 9 competition however, if we take the overall totals from the quiz results then the FINAL results are as follows:



The competition is certainly heating up with Draco hot on Hercules tail and a good battle for current third place. To remind you Orion won the House System last year so have some catching up to do to retain the trophy!

### Upcoming competitions:

**Christmas Card** Business design – please speak to Mrs St. Clair for details. This is to be held during Business Studies lessons.

**Christmas Non-Uniform Day** – Thursday 18 December. A winner from each tutor group will go through to the grand final for each year group. Students will be selected based on how Christmassy they are dressed. Please no inappropriate clothing or jewellery such as dangly bauble earrings.

**Public-speaking Competition** – All details can be found on Teams in Students Information>House Competitions. Please read the PowerPoint and speak to Mrs Ireland or Mrs Batzios for more details. Deadline is 22 January 2021.

A huge well done to everyone who has taken part in any house competition this year and those that have helped to organise them.

Thank you, Mrs K Swift, House Leader



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**OPENING TIMES**

Week Commencing 7th December		Week Commencing 28th December	
Monday 21st December	Closed	Monday 28th December	Closed
Tuesday 22nd December	09:30 – 16:30	Tuesday 29th December	Closed
Wednesday 23rd December	Closed	Wednesday 30th December	Closed
Thursday 24th December	09:30 – 16:30	Thursday 31st December	Closed
Friday 25th December	Closed	Friday 1st January	Closed
Saturday 26th December	09:30 – 16:30	Saturday 2nd January	09:30 – 16:30
Sunday 27th December	Closed	Sunday 3rd January	Closed
Week Commencing 14th December		Week Commencing 4th January	
Monday 14th December	Closed	Monday 4th January	09:30 – 16:30
Tuesday 15th December	09:30 – 16:30	Tuesday 5th January	09:30 – 16:30
Wednesday 16th December	Closed	Wednesday 6th January	Closed
Thursday 17th December	09:30 – 16:30	Thursday 7th January	09:30 – 16:30
Friday 18th December	Closed	Friday 8th January	Closed
Saturday 19th December	Closed	Saturday 9th January	09:30 – 16:30
Sunday 20th December	Closed	Sunday 10th January	Closed
Week Commencing 21st December		Week Commencing 11th January	
Monday 21st December	Closed	Monday 11th January	Closed
Tuesday 22nd December	Closed	Tuesday 12th January	09:30 – 16:30
Wednesday 23rd December	Closed	Wednesday 13th January	Closed
Thursday 24th December	Closed	Thursday 14th January	09:30 – 16:30
Friday 25th December	Closed	Friday 15th January	Closed
Saturday 26th December	Closed	Saturday 16th January	09:30 – 16:30
Sunday 27th December	Closed	Sunday 17th January	Closed

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Find us on FACEBOOK, GOOGLE MAPS and at [www.smartacademyuniform.co.uk](http://www.smartacademyuniform.co.uk)

**SMART** school uniform will close on **Saturday 19 December 2020** and we will reopen on **Wednesday 30 December 2020**.

Wednesday 30 December: 10.00 am – 4.30 pm

Thursday 31 December: 10.00 am – 3.30 pm

Friday 1 January: CLOSED

Saturday 2 January: 10.00 am - 4:30pm

Normal opening hours will resume from Monday 4 January 2021.

Monday - Friday: 9.00 am – 5.00 pm

Saturday: 9.00 am – 4.30 pm

Sunday: CLOSED

