

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 17 February 2022 School Closes

Friday 18 February 2022 PET Inset day

Monday 28 February 2022 School Opens to students

Monday 28 February – Friday 11 March 2022 Year 11/Year 11 Mock <u>Exams</u>

Friday 18 March 2022 Year 10 Grade sheets available

Monday 28 March 2022 Inspire Dance Show

Friday 1 April 2022 Year 11/Year 13 Mock Results

> Wednesday 6 April BH6 Progress Evening

Thursday 7 April 2022 School Closes

Friday 8 April 2022 BHS Holiday for Queens Jubilee

> Monday 25 April 2022 School Opens

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.

NEWSLETTER Issue No: 13 – February 2022

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers,

As I am sure that you are all aware, Ofsted came in on Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th February. Thank you to all of those who took the time to respond to the parent and student surveys. I look forward to the publishing of the report which is likely to be a couple of weeks after the half-term break. A special thank you to all those students who participated in student panels, were seen during lessons, engaged in discussion with the inspectors or just simply did their best over the two days. One of the greatest moments for me was when the inspectors spoke of the way that we know and value each individual within our community.

The testing for Covid-19, following the Christmas break, enabled us to feel more confident in bringing students back into the building, and we have only had one week this half-term where staffing issues were severe enough to have to ask one Year group to finish at the end of period 4. I am so proud of the way that we have worked together to keep our school going and deliver a high-quality education. We are not out of the woods, but we continue to do all that we can to keep the school open and running effectively.

We have now received the topics lists for A-Level and GCSE examinations this summer and a letter has gone out to parents/carers and students regarding these and the arrangements for the summer. We know that students have had significant disruption, but I also know how hard they have worked with their teachers, and I am hopeful that they will reap the rewards of this in the summer.

Year 9 students and their parents/carers have had their Options Presentation Evening and, again, this was well attended. Year 9 students can seek advice and support from staff in school: Miss Bradley (Assistant Headteacher responsible for the options process), Miss Goodwin (Careers Advisor), form tutors or the pastoral team. Subject staff are also available to discuss individual subject requirements. If a student wishes to speak with our careers advisor, they can simply ask their form tutor, or you can email a request to office@biddulphhigh.co.uk marked FAO Miss K Goodwin.

It has been a pleasure this year to run enrichment and extra-curricular activities again. I had the good fortune to be able to join a trip to the Birmingham Hippodrome to watch the contemporary dance/circus company 'Motionhouse'. It was a joy to see the enthusiasm of the students and a reminder of why this type of activity is so important. You will find out about many of our other activities below.

I know that times may be difficult, and may become increasingly difficult, this year. I want you to know that we are always here to help and, if we can't help, we can put you in touch with people who can. Please do not struggle in silence. We are a community, and we work with schools and organisations across the town to support you and your child. Please contact the school by email or telephone. If nothing else, we can offer a nice cup of tea and a friendly face.

Have a lovely half-term and take good care.

Mrs E Robinson

YEAR 9

ENRICHMENT AFTERNOON

Well done to Year 9 for handling the Relationships and Sex Education topics covered on Enrichment Day with maturity. The Year 9 Progress Tutor Team were very impressed by the level of sophistication demonstrated in your discussions; keep up the good work!

YEAR 10

ENRICHMENT AFTERNOON

Year 10 Students spent the afternoon looking at the ethical and religious considerations surrounding organ donation, as well as ethical consumerism with a focus on child labour and exploitation. We have been very impressed with the mature way in which they handled these serious topics.

YEAR 11

ENRICHMENT AFTERNOON

Year 11 spent their Enrichment afternoon covering Relationships and Sex Education. We were greatly impressed with the mature manner in which they handled these important discussions.

YEAR 9 OPTIONS

Year 9 students are currently in the process of selecting their Key Stage 4 Options. The deadline for completion of this is Tuesday 1st March 12.00pm. Students will then only be contacted if we are unable to give them their first choices. At this stage we will look at their reserve choice. If anybody has any issues with the option software please email bradley@biddulphhigh.co.uk and I will be pleased to assist you.

YEAR 11 APPLICATIONS

We are extremely pleased to see such a large number of students who have applied to join us in BH6. We are looking forward to seeing you again and supporting you in September.

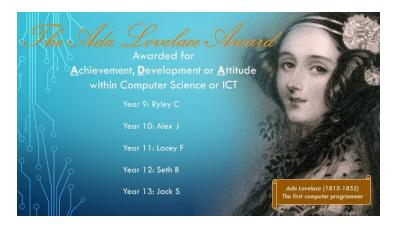
HONOURS PROGRAMME

Mrs Homer's honours programme has been very successful this half-term. Upcoming speakers from Staffordshire University will be speaking on a variety of topics such as Psychology, Biomedical Sciences and being a Paramedic.

MUSIC

Congratulations to Emily Sanderson on achieving a Distinction in her Grade 8 Singing. She intends to study Performing Arts next year and has received offers from Goldsmiths, Wolverhampton University and York St. John.

THE ADA LOVELACE AWARD



P.E

Congratulations to Ryan Roberts in Year 11 who has been selected for the ECB England Indoor Cricket Team. The team will travel to Dubai at the end of March for a 6-day tour. The team will be playing against international squads from South Africa and the United Arab Emirates. This is a fantastic achievement and one that Ryan should be immensely proud of.

SCHOOL DOG

Bertha always has a fabulous time with our students and they really appreciate a visit from her with her busy schedule! She is a very clever and well behaved dog.



A MUSICAL INVITATION TO ALL PUPILS

Dear Parents/Carers of Young Musicians and Singers,

I'm Mr Hollingshurst, the Centre Manager for the Moorlands Music Centre. I'm writing to invite your child to join one or more of our FREE music groups/bands.

For beginners and younger musicians (from Year 3 and above), we currently run STRINGSTERS (our Training String Orchestra for any violin, viola, cello and bass players) and the Training Wind Band (for all wind and brass instruments and drummers). Both groups are perfect for young beginner musicians. For all those who love to sing (Y3 and older) we also have our Centre Choir.

Membership of all our groups is completely FREE. We meet once or twice a month on Saturday mornings, at Blythe Bridge High School, ST11 9PW. Rehearsals for the instrumental groups are from 9.30am-11.30am, with the choir following from 11.30am-12.15pm... instrumentalists are very welcome to stay on for choir and non-instrumentalists are welcome to join the choir too of course! All groups are led by very experienced instrumental/vocal teachers. Once pupils have played with us for a while, it is also possible for all our musicians to progress to our senior level groups. We usually hold two concerts a year, and occasionally perform at other local events when we are invited to.

In order to join, pupils will need to bring their instrument, but we do have some available to loan too. During the morning rehearsals we have a Tuck Shop break, so pupils might like to bring a small amount of money to spend (snack prices range from 20p to £1). Parents/carers then collect their children at the end of the rehearsal, at 11.30am. (or 12.15pm if they are in the choir).

Music-making is such a social activity – Moorlands Music Centre gives your child the chance to meet and perform with other like-minded young musicians from across North Staffordshire, in an inclusive and nurturing environment, but one which seeks and achieves high quality musical outcomes for all pupils and groups. Put simply, playing music with others is not only a great way to become a better musician, it's also much more fun!

I really hope to see your child soon at Moorlands Music Centre, our next rehearsal will be on Saturday 5th March. If you have any questions about the Centre or our rehearsals, please don't hesitate to contact me via email (contact details below) or see the attached music centre information leaflet.

Kind regards

Dan Hollingshurst

Centre Manager – Moorlands Music Centre Entrust Music Service Staffordshire The Music Partnership

Riverway Centre, Riverway Stafford, ST16 3TH

E: <u>dan.hollingshurst@entrust-music.co.uk</u> <u>dan.hollingshurst@entrust-ed.co.uk</u>

www.entrust-ed.co.uk www.themusicpartnership.org.uk







HEADTEACHERS' AWARD

Every week we present a student in the Sixth Form and a student in lower school with the Headteacher's Award, to recognise their contribution towards our vision and values. All students who have been nominated have their names read out and, in lower school, receive 10 house points. All winners receive a certificate, small prize and, in lower school, 25 house points.

LOWER SCHOOL WINNERS THIS HALF TERM:

- Leo Martin
- Mackenzie Clifford
- Holly Wilshaw
- Lucy Eardley
- Kara Black
- Daniel Hilditch
- Lilly Allen
- Eve Ecclestone

SIXTH FORM WINNERS THIS HALF TERM:

- Charlie Meir
- Elise Fowell
- Liam Whitehurst
- Ross Davies
- Cameron Barkess



HOUSE AND REWARDS

Students continue to be rewarded for 'Doing the Right Thing, Being Excellent, Being Exemplary or Going Above and Beyond'. The early lunch passes are proving very popular with many students being able to beat the rush to lunch first. The top earners for House Points currently are:

- Year 9 Maisy Cotterell
- Year 10 Lucy Berry
- Year 11 Honey Finley
- Year 12 Connor Perkins
- Year 13 Tyler Brown

OVERALL THE CURRENT STANDINGS ARE:

Total House Points this School Year From 29(08/2021 until 15/02/2022 08:38				
Pegasus House of the Loyal	Hercules House of the Brave	Orion House of the Sharp	Draco House of the Protectors	
Total House Points 31,158	29,101 2nd	Total House Points 3rd 29,092	28,354 4th	



COMMUNITY FACILITIES AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

Opening Hours (term-time):

Saturday: on request

Monday to Friday: 5.30 pm - 9.30 pm

Welcome to Biddulph High School's community hire facilities We offer a range of first class facilities available for hire during the evenings, weekends and school holidays, including:

 3G Pitch (Floodlit) 	Lecture Theatre
Dance Studio	Conference Room
 Sports Hall 	 Main Hall

Please note there is limited availability on the Astro Turf



- We can offer:
- ✓ Facilities all year round, including holidays
- ✓ Equipment set out and ready for your sessions
- ✓ Friendly and dedicated staff to help monitor
- your bookings and invoices ✓ Free parking onsite

For further information or to make a booking, please contact our dedicated facilities team: email: <u>lettings@biddulphhigh.co.uk</u> or call us direct: 01782 521828

Biddulph High School, Conway Road, Knypersley, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, ST8 7AR Main switchboard: 01782 523977

	HOOL 2021	- 2022 Potteries Educations Trust		
Term 1	Thursday 2 nd September 2021	INSET - school closed to students		
	Friday 3 rd September 2021	INSET – school closed to students		
	Monday 6 th September 2021	Year 9 students return		
	Tuesday 7th September 2021	All students return		
	Friday 22 nd October 2021	School closes		
	Half Term Monday 25 th October – Friday 29 th October			
	Monday 1 st November 2021	INSET - school closed to students		
	Tuesday 2 nd November 2021	School opens to all students		
	Friday 10th December 2021	CPD INSET - school closed to students		
	Friday 17th December 2021	School closes at lunchtime (12.35pm)		
	Christmas Holidays Monday 20th December – Monday 3rd January			
Term 2 Spring 2022	Tuesday 4 th January 2022	School opens to all students		
	Friday 18 th February 2022	INSET - School closed to students		
	Half Term Monday 21st February – Friday 25th February			
	Monday 28 th February 2022	School opens to all students		
	Friday 8th April 2022	School closes		
	Easter Holidays Monday 11 th April – Friday 22 nd April			
Term 3 Summer 2022	Monday 25 th April 2022	School opens to all students		
	Monday 2 nd May 2022	School closed for Bank Holiday		
	Friday 27th May 2022	School closes		
	Half Term Monday 30 th May – Friday 3 rd June			
	Monday 6 th June 2022	School opens to all students		
	Friday 22 nd July 2022	School closes at lunchtime (12.35pm)		
	Summer Holiday Monday 25 th July – Friday 2 nd September			

"Working together to achieve our personal best"

