Parents' Bulletin

9th October '26

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'Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated every day in and out' - Robert Collier

Key Dates

Coming Up:

- Y8 Open Evening (for perspective students 27/28) - 15th Oct
- Inset Day (School closed to students) - 16th Oct
- School closes for half term – 23rd Oct
- School reopens for Autumn 2 - 2nd Nov
- SEND Coffee Morning - 5th Nov

Potteries Educational Trust

Headteacher's Message

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This week, we have visited both Woodhouse and James Bateman middle schools as we continue to strengthen our relationships with families. We had some really positive feedback following our presentation to parents at Woodhouse, and I was particularly proud of Erin and Isaac, who did a fantastic job presenting to parents and representing our school. I am looking forward to presenting at James Bateman on 21st October.

Our focus on teaching and learning continues to be around making sure every student makes the best possible progress. We are placing particular emphasis on the use of hinge questions, which help teachers check understanding during lessons. The key is identifying any gaps in learning and addressing them there and then, adapting teaching so that students get the support or challenge they need to move forward.

Have a good and restful weekend

Potteries Educational Trust

Mr D Robinson

Executive Headteacher

Family Forum

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Click the image to sign up.

Celebrations

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Celebrations

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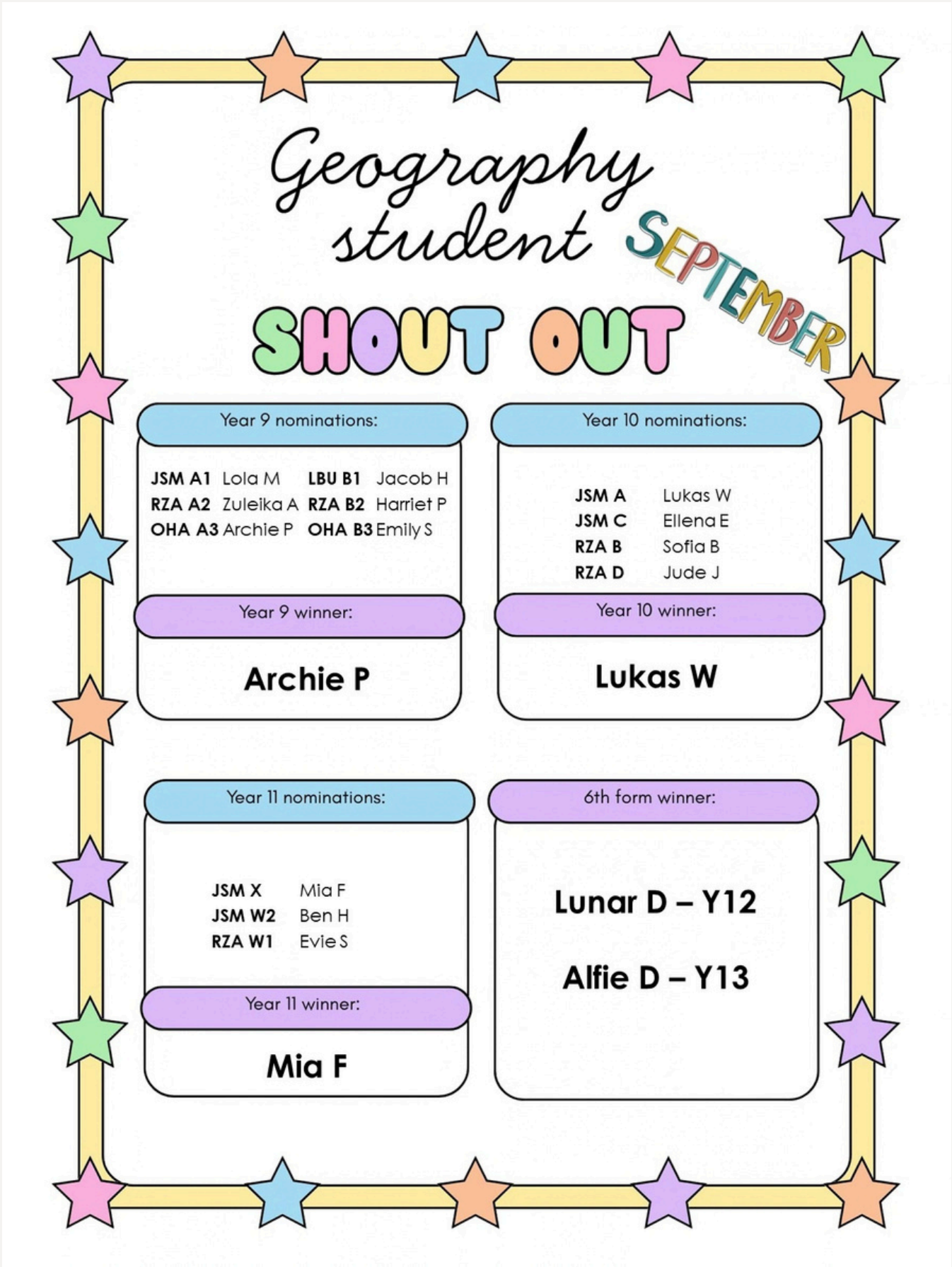

Celebrations

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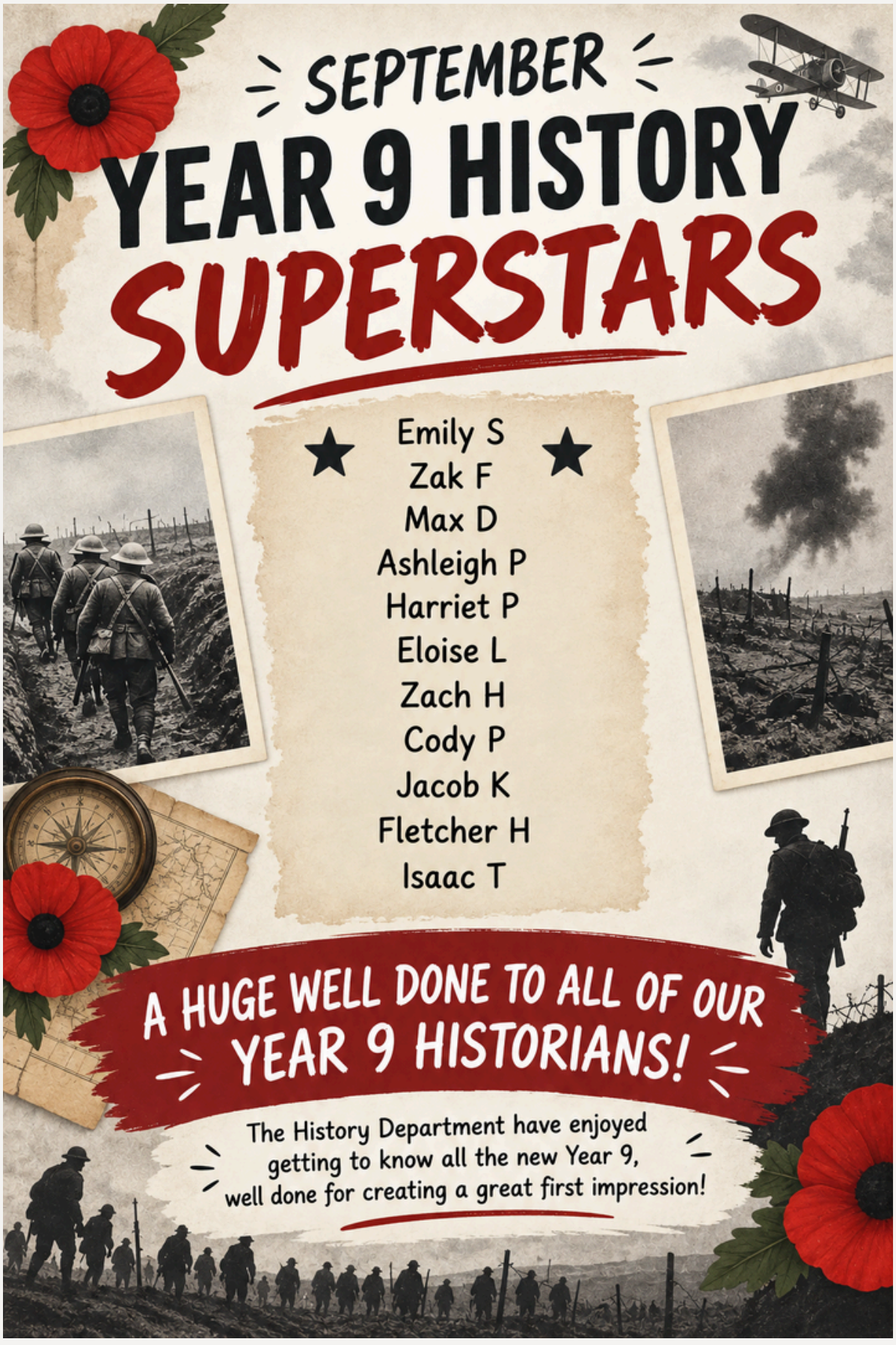

Celebrations

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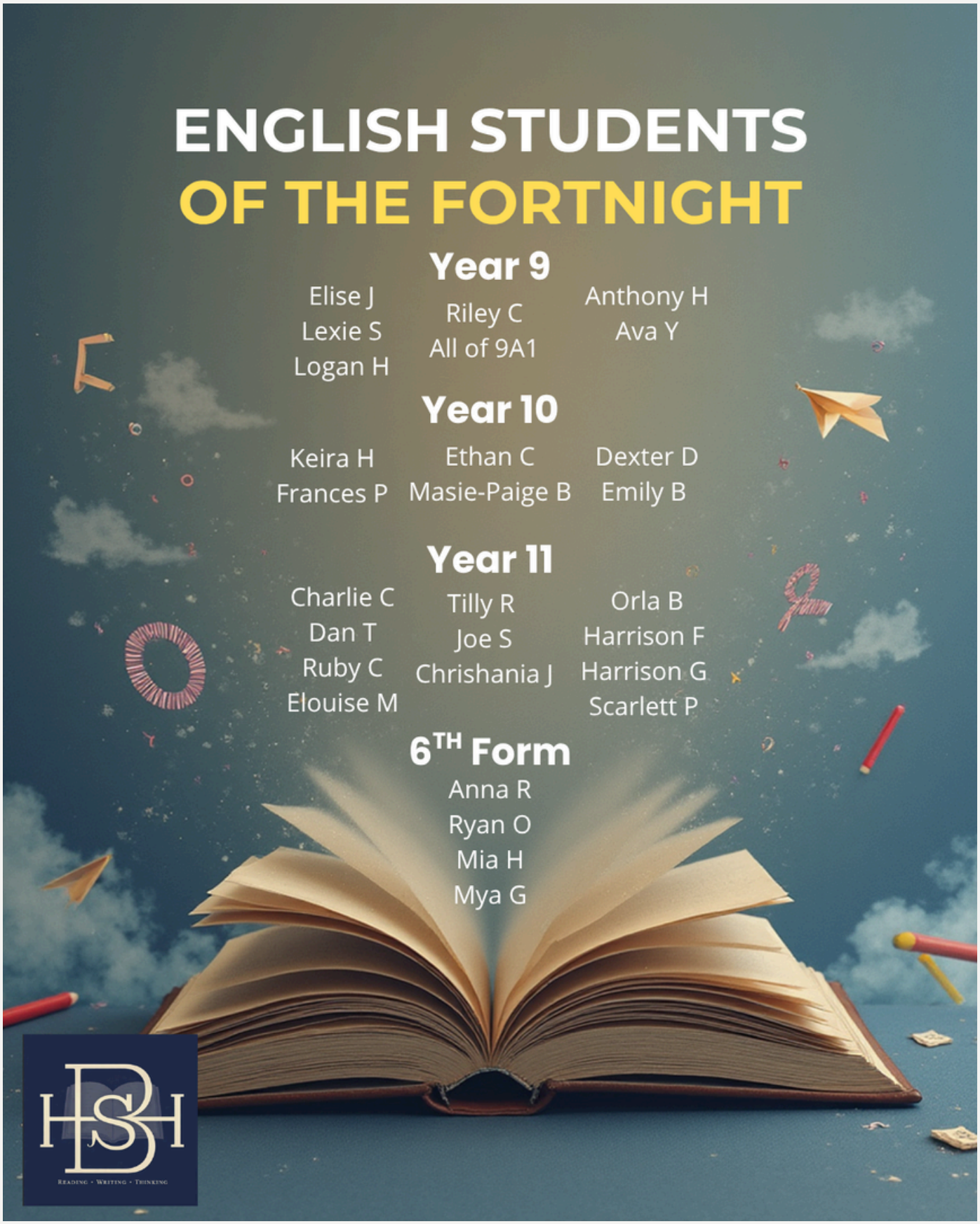

Celebrations

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Business Excellence Award

2ND OCTOBER 2026

GJO	MSC	SST	RSC
Y10 Jacob W	Y10 Millie B	Y10 Jude J	Y10 Ellouise B
Y11 Joel B	Y11 Connor C & James C	Y11 Owin F	Y11 Oscar T
BH6 Bryony B & Libby W	BH6 Izzy A & Jasper R	BH6 Finlay C & Ethan E	BH6 Olly N & Libby W

We're so proud of you all!

The Business Team

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Scientist of the Fortnight

September 28th to October 9th

Year	Student and Reason	Teacher
9	Zac H - Excellent attitude in Science	Mr Williams
10	Ethan C - Excellent answers and work ethic in Physics	Mr Woolhouse
10	Beau G - Fantastic effort in Biology	Mrs Woolhouse
11	Jack J - Enthusiasm in Science lessons and excellent answers	Dr Spicer
11	Lola W - Excellent atitude and effort in Biology	Mr Abbas
11	Ewan H - Great practical skills and lovely manners	Ms Edwards
10	Adeline G - Constantly showing our CARE values in lessons, being polite and doing her best	Miss Castro

Curriculum: Maths

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IThe Maths department would firstly love to celebrate our best results in GCSE and A Level for a number of years. 50% of our students gained a GCSE maths results of a grade 5 or above and over 70% a grade 4 or above. This is a wonderful reflection on the effort and engagement Year 11 students put into their studies last year and we wish to congratulate every one of them. We are very excited to see what this year's GCSE results bring! In lessons, we are studying the last topics of both Higher or Foundation work with a focus on grade 7 to 9 in Higher and grade 4 to 5 in Foundation. Mocks are being sat next month and we will provide a question level analysis sheet that will give clear gaps to help structure revision at home.

We are currently starting our GCSE course with Year 10 students, focusing on the number and algebra skills needed to move through the GCSE content. Year 9 have started well from September and are currently working on probablity trees and standard form calculations.

This year we welcome some new team members to the maths department - Miss Hornsby, Mr Foxall and Mr Amison, Second in Maths and Year 9 Manager.

We are running Maths Surgery every Wednesday lunchtime in 215, where we offer homework support or revision to all students. If your child would like to attend, they need to collect a Maths Surgery pass from either Miss Hughes or Mr Amison.

I also would like to remind you of our online platform for homework and revision, Dr Frost Maths: https://www.drfrost.org/

When logging on, please use the Single Sign On with Microsoft button as the account is linked to your child's school email. If there are still problems, please speak to your child's maths teacher.

Pastoral: Sixth Form

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Year 13 Information Evening – Supporting Success in the Final Year

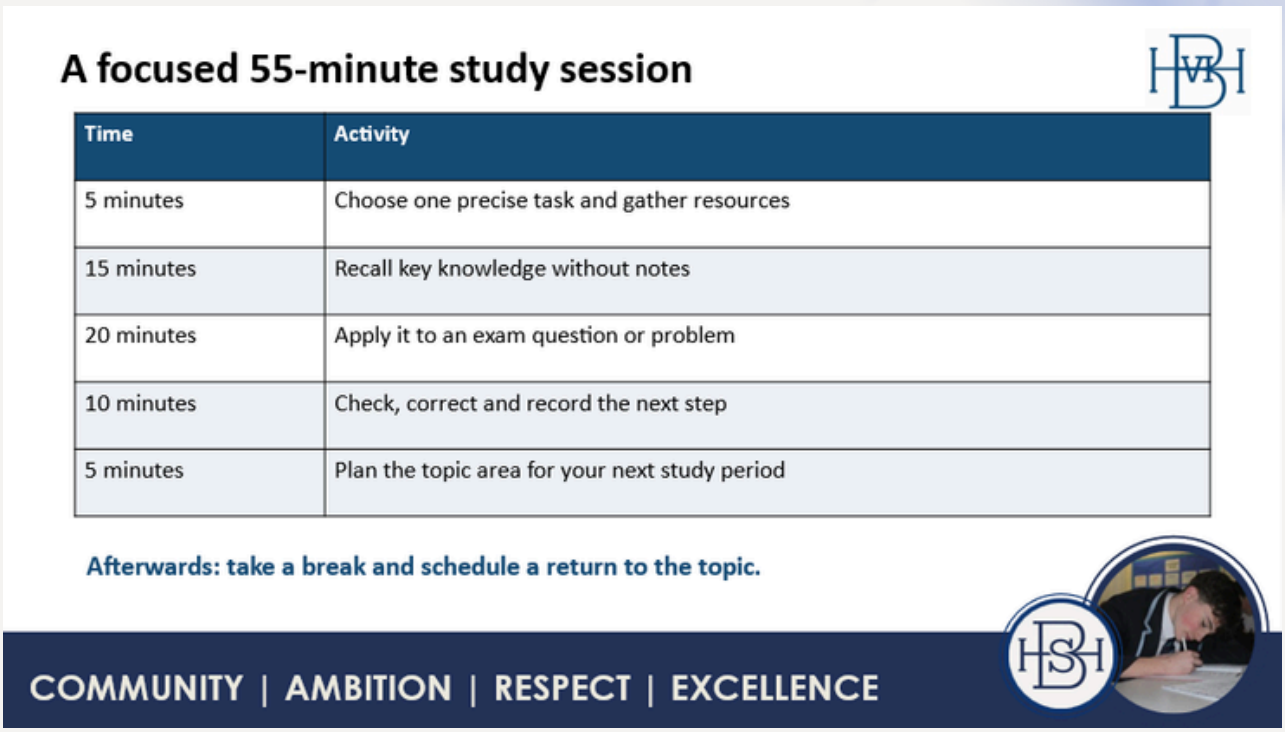
Last Thursday, we were delighted to welcome Year 13 parents and carers to Biddulph High Sixth Form for our Year 13 Information Evening. The event was designed to give families a clearer understanding of the skills, expectations and support that will be particularly important as students navigate this crucial final year of Sixth Form.

A key message throughout the evening was that success in Year 13 is about much more than simply working harder. Students need to develop effective routines, make purposeful use of their independent study time, attend consistently and communicate early when they are experiencing difficulties.

Making independent study count

We discussed what effective independent study actually looks like and encouraged students to move beyond simply reading or highlighting notes. Effective study should involve recalling information from memory, revisiting topics over time, practising exam-style questions and using feedback to identify and correct mistakes.

Families were also shown an example of how a focused 55-minute study session could be structured:



A focused 55-minute study session

Time	Activity
5 minutes	Choose one precise task and gather resources
15 minutes	Recall key knowledge without notes
20 minutes	Apply it to an exam question or problem
10 minutes	Check, correct and record the next step
5 minutes	Plan the topic area for your next study period

Afterwards: take a break and schedule a return to the topic.

COMMUNITY | AMBITION | RESPECT | EXCELLENCE

Pastoral: Sixth Form

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Preparing for university, apprenticeships and next steps

For students applying to university, we looked at the next stages of the UCAS process, including researching courses and universities carefully, checking entry requirements and beginning personal statement responses early.

Our fortnightly Tutor Coaching sessions will continue to provide an important opportunity for students to discuss their plans, priorities and progress. These meetings can also be used to seek support with UCAS or apprenticeship applications, raise subject concerns and discuss any other issues that may be affecting progress.

Preparing for assessments

With mock assessments and examinations approaching, we also discussed the importance of beginning preparation well in advance.

Students were encouraged to identify strengths and weaknesses, understand the format and content of their papers and practise under timed conditions. Just as importantly, mock examinations should be used afterwards to identify gaps in knowledge or exam technique, discuss feedback with teachers and set specific targets for improvement.

Support is available

One of the most important messages of the evening was that students should ask for support early.

Subject teachers are the first point of contact for difficulties with subject knowledge or exam technique, while the Sixth Form team can provide support with organisation, workload and wider concerns.

We also explained our Study Plus provision, which provides a structured six-week period of additional study support for students who would benefit from developing a more sustained study routine. Alongside this, referred study periods can be added to a student's timetable on a one-off basis when there is a specific piece of work or area requiring attention.

Pastoral: Sixth Form

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How parents and carers can help

Parents and carers continue to play an important role during Year 13. Support does not need to mean monitoring every piece of work. Instead, regular conversations about upcoming deadlines and priorities can make a real difference.

Questions such as “What is coming up?”, “Which task needs your attention first?” and “What is one thing you can now explain or do?” can help students reflect on their learning while encouraging greater independence.

Thank you to all of the parents and carers who attended and engaged with the evening. We hope it provided a useful overview of what Year 13 will involve and, most importantly, how students, families and the Sixth Form team can work together to support success.

For anyone who was unable to attend, the Year 13 Information Evening handout has now been emailed to all Year 13 parents and carers, providing a summary of the key information and guidance shared during the evening.

Following the Year 13 event, we are also looking forward to holding a similar information evening for our Year 12 parents and carers next month, with further details to follow.

Mr Scarratt



Spotlight

Pastoral: Year 11

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As the Autumn half term holiday week rapidly approaches, we are assisting our students with their preparation to sit the first mock examinations of year 11. There are two weeks left of this half term and then a few weeks upon our return in November before the mocks start. We our all looking forward to Halloween activities and to some rest and recuperation during half term and would hope all our students do too. At this stage we are advising students to plan weekly revision and ensure they have rest periods and social events included as it important for their well-being. I have enclosed a copy of a weekly revision timetable and details of revision that is on in school. Please have a read through this months revision tips and advice and have a great weekend.

Revision tips

To support effective preparation, we recommend that students use their revision timetables to plan their study in manageable chunks. A clear schedule helps balance subjects, avoid last minute stress and build confidence through regular practice. Planning and preparing effectively helps students to stay on track and make steady progress in the lead up to their mock examinations.

REMEMBER : DON'T BE HASTY

H	**Never revise in hurry or rush. Plan a set time and stick to it.**
A	**Never revise when you feel angry about something. Talk to someone, control what you can, have a go-to friend or adult you trust that can help you calm down.**
S	**Stressed. Some worry or stress is natural and can even be a good sign. If it is becoming too much, find space, breathe and try to talk calmly to a trusted adult or friend. Problems can be sorted and solutions found.**
T	**Revising when you are tired or feeling unwell rarely works. So, alter your plan and rearrange a time you can revise when you feel well rested.**
E	**Excited – If you are distracted and are receiving messages or notifications, put your revision slot back a bit, Turn the phone/TV or screen off and ensure that nothing is going stop you giving your revision your full concentration.**

BIDDULPH HIGH SCHOOL

WEEKLY REVISION TIMETABLE

Take regular breaks to recharge, refuel and maintain momentum!

Break

Key areas of revision to focus on this week:

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

BIDDULPH HIGH SCHOOL

Year 11
Revision and Support Sessions
Autumn 2026

Potteries Educational Trust

Week A & Week B

Lunch Sessions

REFUEL
REVISE
SUCCEED

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mr Wynn Strive Support 135	**Graphics 121** Mr Halfpenny **216 Independent homework / revision club** (any subject) Mr Moody	**Maths – Miss Hughes & Mr Amison** **Product Design 122** AHA/SHA **Art & Textiles LPR 127** **German Room 201**	**Computer Science** Mr Moody 216 **Graphics 121** Mr Halfpenny **Mr Wynn** Strive Support 135 2nd half lunch	**Mr Wynn** Strive Support 135 2nd half lunch

After School Sessions (3.15 – 4.00pm)

EXTRA SUPPORT
HIGHER PROGRESS
BRIGHTER FUTURES

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
English- Class Teacher Along the English corridor **Science** Physics week A in 218 with DWO DWO trilogy Physics Monday B in 218 JWO separates Biology Monday B in 219 SWI/GSP/ZBA Biology/ chemistry on rotation each week in 209	No after school session listed.	**History** Medicine Through Time 103 Miss Harkin **Geography** Closing Gaps Mrs Horton-Smart/Mrs Zacune 101 (starting 4th November) **Maths Revision/Independent Study** Library Mr Wynn **BTEC Digital IT** Miss Clee 133	**Monthly Business Studies Masterclass** 1 hour – Mrs St Clair in 117 2nd Thursday of each month starting in October (08/10, 12/11, 10/12 etc.) **Product Design 122 / Graphics 121 / Art & Textiles 127** AHA, SHA & LPR Week A&B **Independent Study** Library Mr Wynn	No after school session listed.

Achieve Excellence

Safeguarding

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Please find a safeguarding message from Ms Burgess, our Designated Safeguarding Lead.World Mental Health Day – Creating a Culture of Belonging

This week, students will take part in a special assembly ahead of World Mental Health Day on Friday 9 October, focusing on the importance of creating a culture of belonging across our school community.

The assembly encourages students to think about what it really means to belong: to feel accepted, understood, valued and safe to be yourself. It also reminds us that belonging does not simply happen automatically — it is something that we all have a part in creating.

Students will explore how everyone brings different experiences, strengths, challenges and identities to our school, and how these differences can make our community stronger. We will also consider the important distinction between equality and equity: sometimes fairness does not mean everybody receiving exactly the same thing, but instead making sure people receive the support they need to succeed.

A key message throughout the assembly is that seemingly small actions can have a significant impact. Including somebody, listening without judging, using respectful language, checking in with someone who seems upset or simply making the effort to say somebody's name correctly can all help people to feel safer, happier and more connected.

Students will also be reminded of the importance of looking after their own wellbeing and supporting others. Asking for help is a strength, and there are many people available in school — including tutors, teachers, Heads of Year and our pastoral team — alongside trusted adults at home.

At the end of the assembly, every student will be challenged to choose one positive action they can take that day: include somebody, use kind language, check in on someone, ask for help themselves or simply think more carefully about how their actions affect others.

On Friday 9 October, students are invited to wear one item of yellow to show their support for World Mental Health Day. Students can also make an optional £1 donation, and there will be a #HelloYellow photo booth in the Main Hall at lunchtime, complete with props and an opportunity to get involved. PSHE lessons will also focus on World Mental Health Day, helping students to further develop their awareness and understanding of mental health and wellbeing.

Our message to students is simple:

Your actions matter. Your voice matters. Your wellbeing matters.

Need Advice or Support?

If you have any concerns about your child's wellbeing, relationships or online safety, please contact the school safeguarding team. We're here to help.

Notices and Reminders

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Current Vacancies

To find out more please visit our recruitment website
https://recruit.sampeople.co.uk/Jobboard/Trust/potterieseducationaltrust

Thank You to Our Year 9 SEND Parents and Carers

A big thank you to all of the Year 9 parents and carers who joined us for our recent SEND Coffee Morning.

It was lovely to welcome families into school and have the opportunity to talk informally, answer questions and discuss how we can continue to support students as they settle into life at Biddulph High School.

These mornings are also a valuable opportunity for parents and carers to meet members of staff, share experiences and connect with other families in a relaxed and welcoming environment.

We really appreciate everyone who gave up their time to attend and contribute to the conversations. Strong partnerships between home and school make a real difference, and we look forward to continuing to work closely with our families throughout the year.

Our next SEND Coffee Morning will take place on Thursday 5 November, 9–11am.



HSH
Achieve Excellence

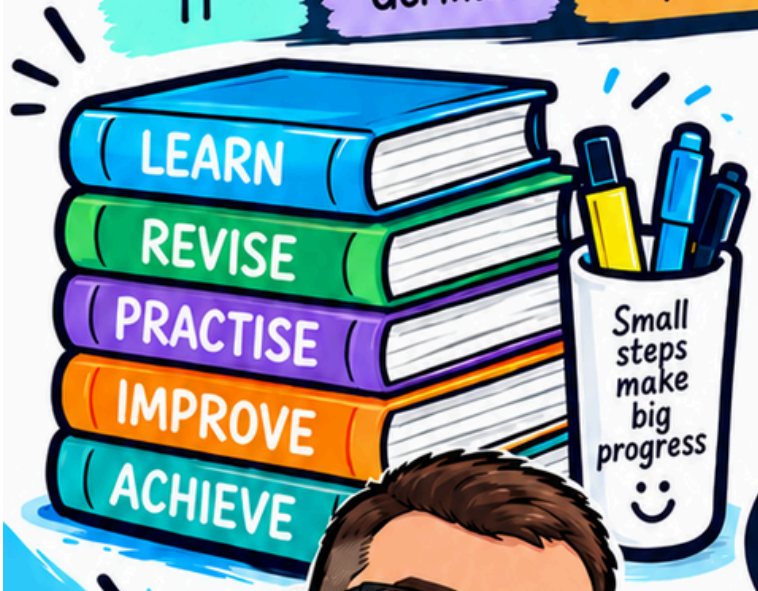
INDEPENDENT HOMEWORK / REVISION CLUB

Need a quiet space to work?

Make progress on your terms!

ANY SUBJECT

Maths | English | Science | History | Geography
IT | German | Computer Science | Business | ...and more!



WHEN? TUESDAY LUNCH TIME

WHERE? ROOM 216

YOU NEED TO COLLECT A PASS TO GAIN ACCESS

WITH MR MOODY



- GET SUPPORT
- BUILD CONFIDENCE
- MAKE PROGRESS
- WORK INDEPENDENTLY
- ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS

ALL WELCOME!

Community • Ambition • Respect • Excellence

BTEC Digital IT

EXAMINATION is in January!

40% of the course

EXAM DATE
Wednesday 13th January

AM
1 hour 30 minutes

Be prepared



HOSTED BY ZAC SQUARED

CHESS CLUB

FIRST MEETING
Tuesday 13th October in 215
Lunchtime

Come for the challenge, stay for the friendships, and make every game a memorable experience

BIDDULPH TOWN HALL COMMUNITY

Help Us Build Something Amazing

NATURE
ART
WELLBEING
COMMUNITY

TOGETHER WE CAN CREATE SOMETHING WONDERFUL

WE NEED PARENTS & VOLUNTEERS

Our students are creating a large community art exhibition for Biddulph Town Hall, opening on the

8th May

We now need your practical help to build, create and prepare the exhibition!

YOU CAN HELP WITH...

- CONSTRUCTING DISPLAY CUBES & PLINTHS
- BUILDING EXHIBITION FEATURES
- PRIMING & PAINTING
- CREATING DECORATIONS & INSTALLATIONS
- TRANSPORTING & SETTING UP
- GENERAL HELP

VOLUNTEER SESSIONS

Wednesdays (after school)
3.20pm – 4.20pm

Biddulph High School
Art Department

Stay for however long you like – every bit of help makes a difference!

SKILLS & SUPPORT WE NEED

- Painting boxes
- Making plinths and display stands
- Collecting upcycled materials (e.g. artificial plants, lighting, square lampshades)
- Printing fabric
- Donating supplies (paint, brushes, wood, fixings, etc.)
- General practical help



THE EXHIBITION

The finished exhibition will be at Biddulph Town Hall on the **8th May.**

Help us create something our whole community can be proud of!

GET IN TOUCH

SHargreaves@bhs.potteries.ac.uk

Ask for Ms Hargreaves on 01782 523977

If you have any questions or would like to get involved, please contact me.

SUPPORT YOUNG PEOPLE | CREATE SOMETHING UNIQUE | BRING OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER | MAKE A LASTING IMPACT

NATURE | CREATIVITY | WELLBEING | COMMUNITY

Achieve Excellence

GCSE BUSINESS STUDIES MASTERCLASS

FOR YEAR 11

Targeted GCSE Business Studies masterclasses to help you with:

TRICKY TOPICS

Clear explanations and practical tips for the areas that challenge you most.

EXAM TECHNIQUE

Learn how to approach questions, manage your time and get the marks you deserve.

GENERAL SUPPORT

Ask questions, get guidance and build your confidence in Business Studies.

WHEN?
2nd Thursday of the month

3.15 – 4pm

WHERE?
117

WHO?
Mrs St Clair & Mrs Jones

Starting Thursday 8th October

SMALL STEPS. BIG IMPROVEMENTS.

BIDDULPH HIGH SCHOOL & BIDDULPH TOWN HALL

Partner With Us

NATURE
ART
WELLBEING
COMMUNITY

LOCAL BUSINESSES MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE

SUPPORT CREATIVITY • WELLBEING • COMMUNITY

A COMMUNITY ART EXHIBITION AT BIDDULPH TOWN HALL

OPENING AT THE END OF APRIL

Our students are creating a large community art exhibition celebrating nature, creativity and mental wellbeing, and we are looking for local businesses to support this exciting project.

TOGETHER WE CAN CREATE A BRIGHTER, HEALTHIER COMMUNITY

- SUPPORT YOUNG PEOPLE
- INVEST IN YOUR COMMUNITY
- PROMOTE WELLBEING
- BE PART OF SOMETHING MEANINGFUL

HOW YOUR BUSINESS CAN SUPPORT

DONATE MATERIALS
(e.g. paint, wood, cardboard, plants, fabric, lighting, etc.)

OFFER SERVICES OR EXPERTISE
(e.g. lighting, sound, transport, printing, construction, design)

SUPPORT WELLBEING EXPERIENCES
(e.g. sound baths, meditation sessions, nature-based activities)

GET INVOLVED
Share ideas, resources or help in ways that suit your business.

WE ARE ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN SUPPORT WITH:

- Lighting and sound for the exhibition
- Sound baths and natural healing sounds to complement the exhibition
- Recycled and upcycled materials
- Plants, planters and natural decorative features
- Art materials and tools
- Printing services (fabric, signage, etc.)
- Transport or storage support
- Any ideas or services that promote mental health, wellbeing or spiritual growth through nature and art.

YOUR SUPPORT HELPS US:

- Create an inspiring exhibition for our community
- Give young people real opportunities to be creative
- Promote positive mental health and wellbeing
- Bring people together through nature and art
- Showcase the amazing support from local businesses
- Help make Biddulph an even stronger, more connected community.



GET IN TOUCH

If your business can donate, offer assistance or would like to discuss how you can support this project, we'd love to hear from you.

SHargreaves@bhs.potteries.ac.uk
or
Ask for Ms Hargreaves
01782 523977

NATURE | CREATIVITY | WELLBEING | COMMUNITY

Family Hub Staffordshire

BEST START IN LIFE

Staffordshire County Council

ARE YOU IN NEED OF ITEMS OF SCHOOL UNIFORM?

WE CAN HELP!



At the Family Hub, we have a stock of **NON-NAMED** school uniform items available.

These include T-shirts, shirts, trousers and skirts.

GOOD QUALITY PRE-LOVED UNIFORMS available **FREE OF CHARGE** to families.

NEED SOMETHING?

We're here to help!

If you are in need of any school uniform items, please contact us:

01782 297970

familyhubadminmoorlands@staffordshire.gov.uk

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY AND HELPING FAMILIES *TOGETHER*

Pop in and see us!

SUPPORTING FAMILIES

BUILDING CONFIDENCE

SUPPORTING HOUSEHOLD BUDGETS

STRONGER COMMUNITIES