Parents' Bulletin

25th September '26

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'Building Stronger Connections Across Our Community'

Key Dates

Coming Up:

- SEND Coffee morning (Y9 only) - 1st Oct
- Y11 & Y13 Information Evening (Exams) – 1st Oct
- Y9 Open Evening (for perspective students 27/28) - 15th Oct
- Inset Day (School closed to students) - 16th Oct
- Y10 & Y12 Information Evening (Exams) – 22nd Oct
- School closes for half term – 23rd October

Headteacher's Message

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We have had another positive week in school, with plenty happening both within school and across our community.

The Sixth Form Open Evening was a real highlight. It was great to see so many students and parents engaging with staff and taking an interest in what we are working to achieve. We had strong sign-up across many of our courses on the evening, which gives us a really positive starting point as we look ahead to next September.

As a reminder we have out year 11 and 13 information evenings this Thursday where parents and students will get key information about the GCSE process, what they can expect in the final exams and support in preparation for them.

I also had the opportunity this week to visit Woodhouse Middle School, where we began planning how we can work more closely together on transition and create more opportunities for students across our schools. I also have a visit planned to James Bateman Middle School as we continue to strengthen these links.

I believe that a strong local community of schools is really important for Biddulph. Our schools are all part of the same wider community and, by continuing to work more closely together, we can make transition stronger, share opportunities and help our young people feel connected to the schools and community they grow up in.

It has also been encouraging to hear more positive feedback about the school from parents and across the community. We will continue to listen, and to build on that. The pride and confidence that families and the wider community have in their school helps to create the sense of belonging and aspiration that we want our students to experience every day.

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.

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Freddo Friday - Year 9

This week's Freddo Friday winners in Year 9 are as follows:

9SMO – Rohan R
9GSP – Rosie W
9LPR – Ryan G
9RSC - Kobe C
9DSA – Scarlet R
9ALA – Riley C

A huge well done to all for showing the CARE values this week!

Mr Bailey-Rigby



Celebrations

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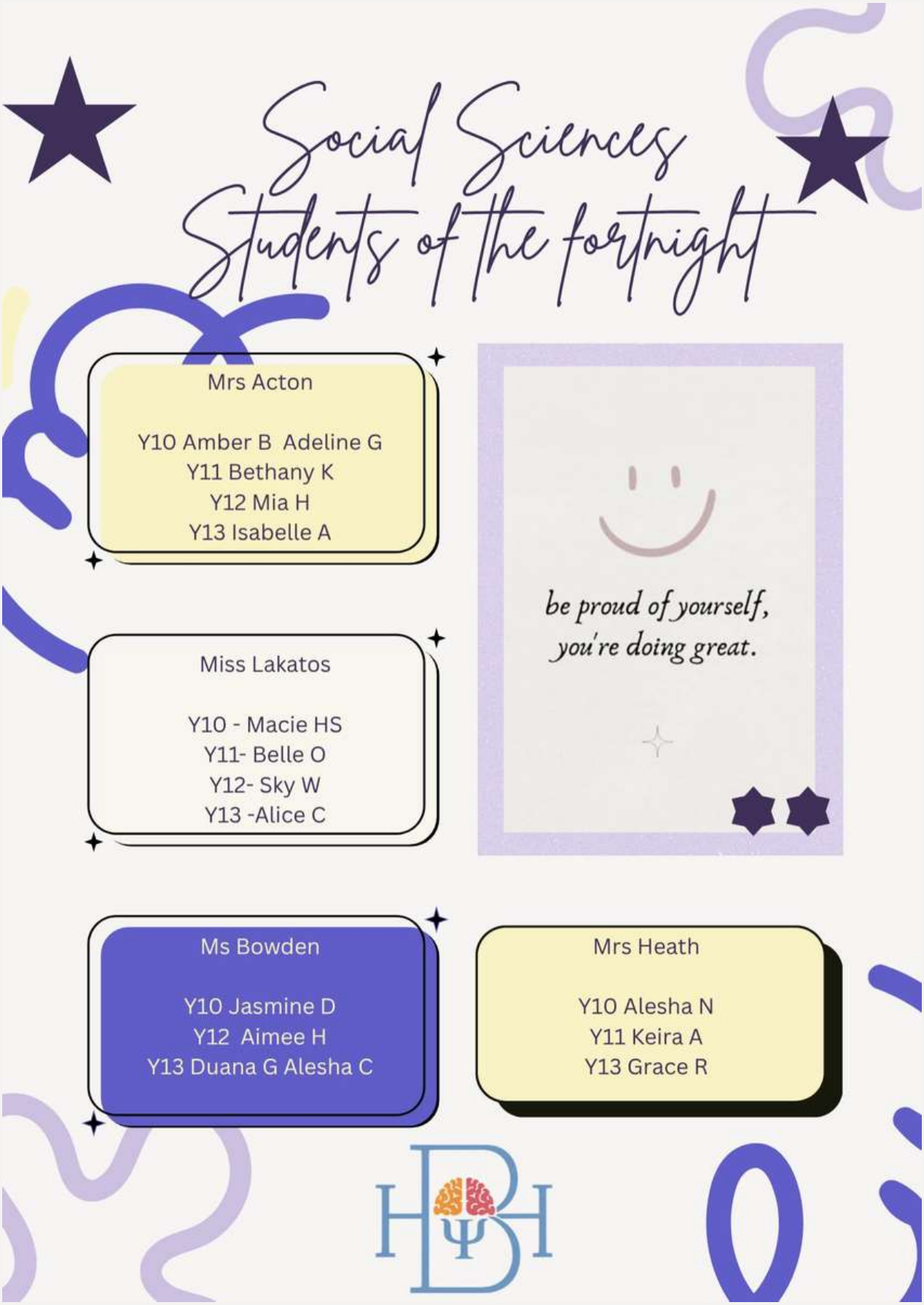

Celebrations

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Scientist of the Week

September 7th to 11th

Year	Student and Reason	Teacher
10	Lizzie R-P excellent effort in lessons	Mr Williams
11	Max D-E excellent engagement and ansers in physics	Mr Wooolhouse
g	Harvey W excellent effort in science very polite and helpful	Mrs Woolhouse
10	Lizzie R-P amazing contributions in chemistry lessons	DR Spicer
10	Harry D for perseverance, application of new learning and kindness	Mr Callow
10	Josh K good start to the year and positive contributions	Mr Abbas
11	Aston L Positive start to the year	Ms Edwards
10	Emily B great participation in lessons	Miss Castro

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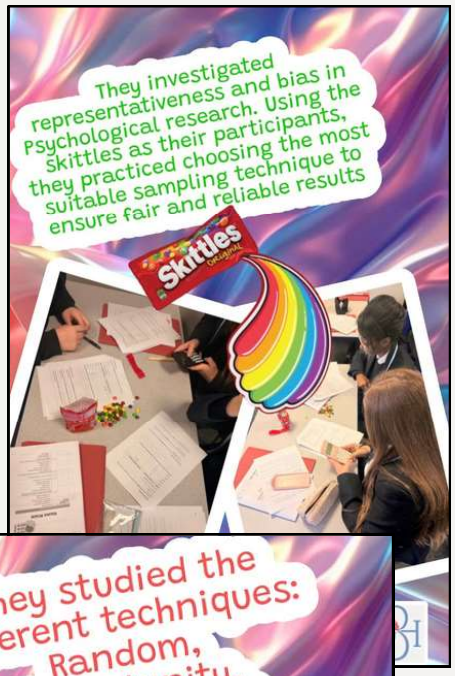
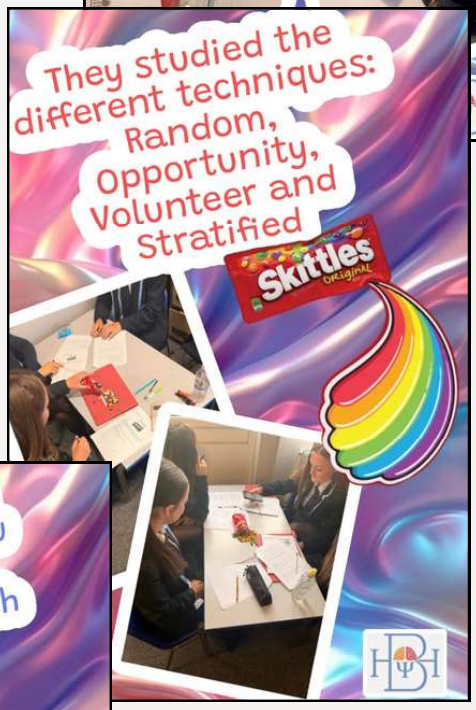
🍬 Psychology gets practical! 🧠

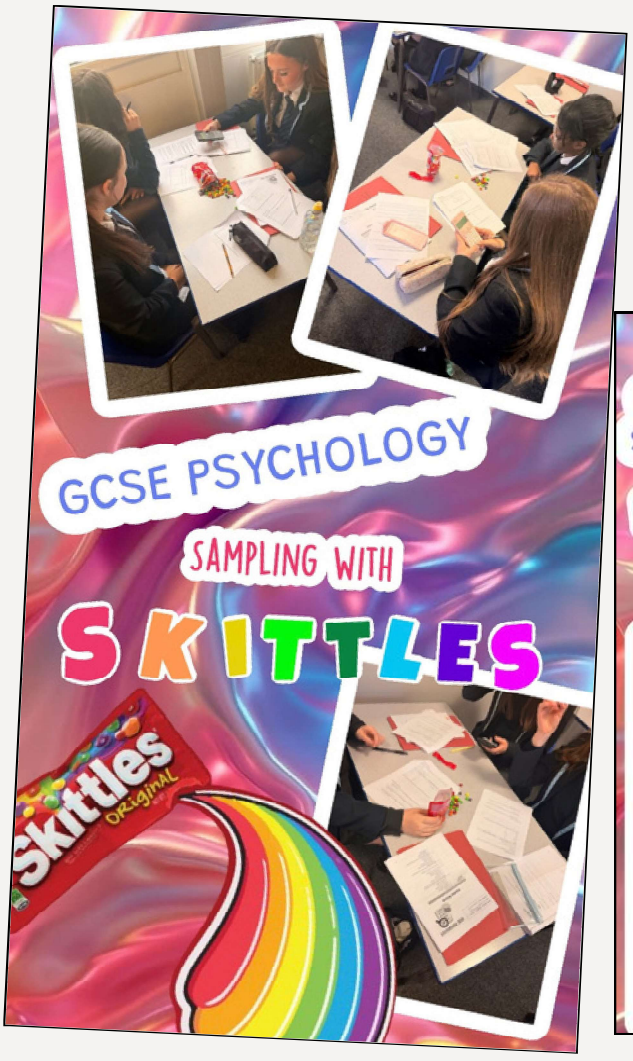
Our Year 10 GCSE Psychology students have been exploring sampling techniques in psychological research — using Skittles as their participants! 🌈

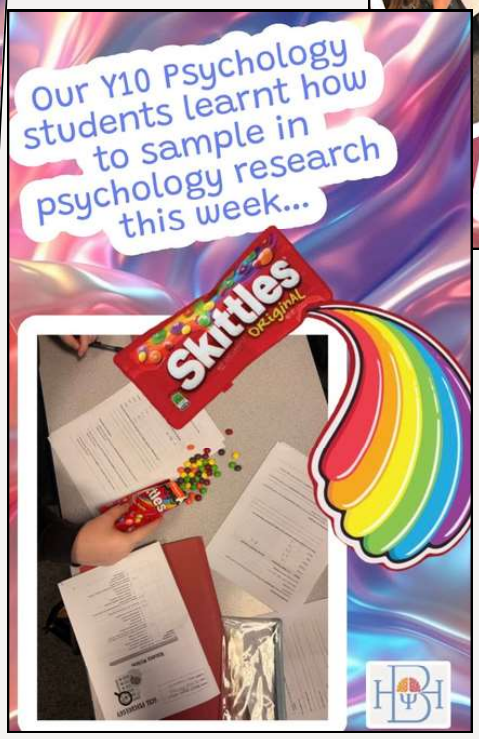
Students investigated random, opportunity, volunteer and stratified sampling, considering how the way we select participants can affect the representativeness, bias and reliability of research.

A colourful (and hopefully memorable!) way to bring research methods to life. 👏









Celebrations

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📣 MyFUTURE Employer Talks are officially underway! 📣



Today we welcomed Matty Cummings, who travelled from Sheffield to share his journey with our students. 🙌

From being a Year 10 student, sitting his GCSEs, and securing an apprenticeship, Matty spoke about how he discovered his passion for barbering. Through hard work and dedication, he completed his apprenticeship, opened his own barbershop, and has since expanded into the world of content creation. 🎥✨



One of the key messages Matty shared was the importance of setting goals and having them where he could see them every day. He explained how having clear goals helped him stay focused, motivated, and ultimately achieve what he set out to do. 🎯

Students gained a real insight into how following your interests, taking opportunities, and staying committed can lead to a successful and rewarding career.

His talk linked perfectly with our gateways:

Creative & Culture

Digital Technology,

Business & Finance

A huge thank you to Matty for giving up his time, sharing his experiences, and inspiring our students to think about their own futures. 🌟



Curriculum: MFL

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It has been a busy and positive start to the year in the MFL department, with students across Years 9–11 developing their confidence, vocabulary and understanding of German language and culture.

Year 9 students are currently completing their transition module, learning how to introduce themselves and talk about their families. Alongside this, they are developing greater confidence with German phonics and key sentence structures, building the foundations they will need as they move on to more challenging grammar later in the year.

Year 10 have made a strong start to their GCSE German course. Students have been consolidating some of the essential building blocks of the language, including noun gender and present-tense weak verbs. They have also been introduced to Quizlet, a fantastic tool for practising and retaining the vocabulary that will become increasingly important throughout the GCSE course.

Meanwhile, Year 11 are now halfway through their Celebrity Culture module. As part of the topic, students have explored the lives of a range of famous German-speaking figures, including mountaineer Reinhold Messner, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Angela Merkel. This has also led to some fascinating discussions about life in East and West Germany and the impact of the Berlin Wall.

One particularly memorable moment came when Scarlett P. Brough brought in a genuine piece of the Berlin Wall from home to show us! It was fantastic to be able to connect what we have been learning in lessons with a real piece of German history.



A brilliant start to the year from our German students — viel Erfolg for the term ahead! 🇩🇪✨

Pastoral: Year 10

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Year 10 have made a positive start to the new academic year and are continuing to settle well into the expectations and routines of Key Stage 4. We have already seen many students demonstrating our CARE values of Community, Ambition, Respect and Excellence through their attitude to learning, positive relationships with staff and peers, and contributions to the wider life of the school.

This half term, our pastoral focus has been on attendance, positive behaviour and building strong routines. We have introduced targeted support through initiatives such as Mission 90 and C.A.R.E. Forward, which are designed to help students set personal goals, reflect on their progress and celebrate improvement. Alongside this, students continue to be recognised through praise, rewards and positive contact home, and it has been great to see so many students responding positively to these opportunities.

As Year 10 progress through Key Stage 4, we are also encouraging students to begin thinking seriously about their future. Students should now be actively looking for work experience opportunities and considering placements that will help them explore possible career pathways, develop confidence and gain an understanding of the world of work. We would really appreciate the support of parents and carers in discussing possible placements, helping students make initial enquiries and encouraging them to think carefully about areas that may interest them.

We will continue to support students with their academic progress, wellbeing and future aspirations throughout the year. Thank you to parents and carers for your continued support in encouraging excellent attendance, punctuality, positive behaviour and engagement with learning. These habits will make a real difference as students move through Year 10 and prepare for the important milestones ahead.

Miss Rushton

Head of Year 10

Safeguarding

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Please find a safeguarding message from Ms Burgess, our Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Safeguarding: Speaking Up and Asking for Help

Keeping our students safe is one of the most important things we do at Biddulph High School. As part of our ongoing safeguarding work, students have been reminded of the different ways they can ask for help if something is worrying them.

A key message is that students do not have to find a particular member of staff before speaking up. They can talk to any trusted adult in school, including their form tutor, a teacher, teaching assistant, member of the pastoral team or one of our safeguarding team. Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Ms Burgess, supported by our team of Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads.

We have also talked to students about what happens when they share a concern. They will be listened to, their worry will be taken seriously and we will help them access the right support. Where there is a concern that somebody may be unsafe, staff have a responsibility to take appropriate action, which means that safeguarding concerns cannot always be kept confidential.

Importantly, asking for help does not always have to mean having a face-to-face conversation straight away. Students can speak to an adult, write a note or message, show a member of staff something that has happened online, or simply say, “I need to talk to someone.” We want every student to know that there is a way to ask for help that feels manageable for them.

Students have also been reminded about sources of support outside school, including Childline on 0800 1111, the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000, and 999 or 112 if they or somebody else is in immediate danger.

Our message to students is simple: tell someone, choose a trusted adult, and keep telling if you still need help. Their safety and wellbeing matter, and there will always be someone in school ready to listen.

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

Upcoming SEND Coffee Mornings

We are pleased to continue our programme of SEND Coffee Mornings throughout the year, offering parents and carers the opportunity to come together in an informal and welcoming setting for coffee, conversation and support.

These sessions are a valuable chance to meet with school staff, connect with other parents and carers, share experiences, ask questions and find out more about the support available for students with SEND at Biddulph High School.

We would like to particularly highlight our upcoming New Intake SEND Coffee Morning on Thursday 1st October, 9–11am, which is for Year 9 parents only. This will be a great opportunity for families of our new intake to meet staff, ask questions and discuss the transition into high school.

Further SEND Coffee Mornings will take place on the following dates:

- Thursday 5th November, 9–11am
- Thursday 11th February, 9–11am
- Thursday 15th April, 9–11am

We will also be holding another New Intake SEND Coffee Morning on Thursday 1st July, 9–11am, for Year 8 parents only, to support families preparing for transition to Biddulph High School.

We look forward to welcoming parents and carers to these sessions and hope they will provide a supportive space to build relationships, share ideas and strengthen our partnership with families.



Extras

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Additional messages and news from the local community that we think you'll find interesting and informative.

Autism Awareness for Practitioners/School Staff

DATE	TIME	PRICE	LOCATION
06.10.26	12:00 - 13:30	FREE	MS Teams
06.10.26	15:00 - 16:30	FREE	MS Teams

EYFS Autism Awareness for Practitioners/School Staff

DATE	TIME	PRICE	LOCATION
05.10.26	13:30 - 15:00	FREE	MS Teams

Delivered by the Specialist Teaching Support Service
Autism Inclusion Team

Autism Awareness training FREE. 1.5hrs

Raising awareness and understanding of Autism; the key areas of difference; and strategies to implement good practice and create enabling environments. Appropriate for all staff.

Maximum of 3 attendees per setting.

Potteries Educational Trust

Let us know if you have anything you'd like to share with our school community!

Family Hub Staffordshire

BEST START IN LIFE

Staffordshire County Council

ARE YOU IN NEED OF ITEMS OF SCHOOL UNIFORM?



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