

Easter 2023

Bishop Young C of E Academy

# Newsletter

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In partnership to **Educate, Nurture, Empower**



# Welcome

As we come to the end of Term 2, I would like to thank every member of our community – pupils, staff & parents/carers – for your ongoing support and dedication as we continue with our mission to help our children to aspire. I am delighted to say that it has been a term of considerable successes and I am incredibly grateful to our staff who go above and beyond to make sure our pupils have lots of positive experiences and opportunities.

An important part of our BISHOP ethos is to help our young people to flourish, to become people who reach their full potential and are ready to go into the world to make positive contributions to the common good and social justice. As such our students have been able to participate in a number of sessions with IntoUniversity, who offer an innovative programme that supports young people to attain their chosen goals, including further and higher education, employment and work-based training. Experiences like these guide our pupils so that they can make an informed decision and have clear career aspirations.

As well as exploring future prospects, our pupils

have also had opportunities to explore their current learning outside the classroom: CCF trips, an outing to Elland Road and our continuing affiliation with the Walker Morris Law Firm and their Ahead Partnership. These are just a few of the activities that have taken place and I always get the same message back: Our Pupils Are Amazing!

It's not always about going out either - we have had a number of visitors to school who have been incredibly impressed with our students. We have been lucky enough to host visits from Councillors Pryor and Flint and the Mayor of West Yorkshire, Tracy Brabin. On each occasion our pupils conducted themselves with intelligence and integrity.

School will close on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 2.50pm and we look forward to welcoming pupils back on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 8.20am.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to thank you – parents, carers and families – for your ongoing support and care. It is very much appreciated.

Have a wonderful break and stay safe.

**Miss Cole**  
Head of School





## Mayoral Visit

Bishop Young was lucky enough to host a visit from the Mayor of West Yorkshire, Tracy Brabin in March. The Mayor was here to meet with a number of students who have been involved in the Effective Transitions Project and to talk to them as they delivered their final presentations. The programme has been supporting 180 female students in our region to achieve higher level places in post-16 education, training or apprenticeships. The project concept was inspired by a comment

made by the Mayor, who said: "You can't be, what you can't see". The project has supported pupils to raise their aspirations, increase their confidence and knowledge of what future employment they can achieve, gain skills, and widen their social and professional connections so that they can make informed decisions about their future destinations.

Over the last 2 years our students have been

taken part in a number of activities including coaching sessions by female role models from local employers and visits to growing industries in the Leeds City Region. Rachael Cole, Head of School, commented, "Helping young people find their best next step out of school into work, training or further study is so important. I have seen first hand just how transformative high quality, high impact careers education can be".



### Introducing Mr Bryant

We would like to welcome Mr Bryant to our Academy; he has joined us as our new Attendance and Behaviour Officer in partnership with the Leeds United Foundation.

### A little bit about me:

My favourite hobby is playing and watching football (which I previously played at a semi-professional level when I was younger). I love sport and being part of a team. I think that being part of a team is important and allows people from all kinds of backgrounds to work together towards a common goal.

I joined Bishop Young in February 2023 as an Attendance & Behaviour officer in partnership with Leeds United Foundation. I'm extremely excited to get to know every student in the Academy, to hear about your aspirations and dreams and to help play a small part in helping you to fulfil your ambitions.

I am always here to listen to any of your worries and concerns, or thoughts and feelings that you may want to speak about.

I have many responsibilities as an Attendance and Behaviour Officer and these include:

# Attendance @ BYA

- Making sure that students are aware of the rules, expectations and vision of the Academy.
- Our vision is to provide an environment which is welcoming, caring, calm, disciplined and purposeful and which will stretch our young people academically, support them pastorally and help them develop socially and spiritually.

I will also be checking on your attendance and making sure that you are on time to school every day and attending all lessons.

We are also delighted to welcome Mr Thompson who has joined us as our new Education



Inclusion Mentor. Officially employed by St. Giles Trust, Mr Thompson will be working with those students whose attendance in school is limiting their potential to succeed.



## Look North Comes East

Students and staff from Bishop Young Academy featured on BBC Yorkshire Look North, recognising how we are a Centre of Excellence for Oracy.

We actively invest teaching time into creating "talk rich" classrooms, valuing every single student voice, boosting confidence and preparing our students for their futures.



## St. Giles Trust Assemblies

In partnership with St. Giles Trust, we have run a series of assemblies looking at the serious issues of knife crime and county lines in our city. Whilst we would prefer that our students could remain blissfully unaware of such activities, it is vital that we provide every child in school with the knowledge and understanding of these issues and the tools to make intelligent and informed choices. We were so proud of the mature way that our students engaged with our visitors and the discussions that were had in the Academy and we were once again delighted to have our excellent work highlighted on Look North.



Bishop Young Academy is in partnership with the Grammar School at Leeds to run a joint Combined Cadet Force.

Cadet Lance Corporal Heather of the RAF Section, has recently been awarded her Blue Wings for powered flight. To achieve this Heather has undertaken a number of flights in the Grob Tutor aircraft, taking control and performing a range of manoeuvres including: Barrel Roll, Stall Turn, Looping and Trimming.

As Heather prepares for her GCSEs, she is looking forward to further study with a view to serving in either the Royal Air Force or the Royal Navy.

Well done, Heather, we are very proud of you.

Per Ardua Ad Astra.

Thanks must also go to Flt Lt Gumn, who is leaving teaching at the end of term, for all of his hard work and dedication to all of our students and particularly to the BYA CCF. We will miss you in school every day, but are delighted that you will be continuing to volunteer with and mentor our CCF students.

# Shoutouts



A huge congratulations must also go to Ethan in Year 7 for his fantastic dancing achievements; Ethan was awarded first prize for boys in the age 12-15 category and 1st prize for boys with additional special needs as the recent Ballroom & Latin ERF awards. As Tess and Claudia would say – Keep Dancing!

# Go Dovecote!

It's been a busy time in Dovecote this term, with our students successfully participating in a number of events both in and out of school.

Our Dovecote students were invited to enter a team into the Leeds Panathlon which took place at the John Charles Centre for Sport this month. The Panathlon programme provides sporting opportunities for children with disabilities and special educational needs in a variety of sports and age groups and aims to improve their confidence in participating in sport. The team had a brilliant day out and were delighted to come home with Bronze Medals!

We have also been celebrating Autism Awareness Week in school, the theme of which has been colour. In the spirit of fostering inclusivity, our Dovecote provision has been open to all students to come and visit and to learn more about how it works. We have also enjoyed sensory colouring sessions, colour quizzes and a staff raffle.





## Year 11 Prom Night

We delighted to inform you that on **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023** we will be hosting the Bishop Young Academy Year 11 Prom, which will be taking place at Thorpe Park Hotel & Spa, from 7pm until 11.30pm.

The prom is always such a great way for our students to celebrate their time at BYA and mark the end of their exams. It is also a great excuse to get dressed to impress and have a brilliant time with their friends and fellow students.

We will not be providing transport to the venue and all students **MUST** be able to make their own way there and back home again after the event.

Tickets can be purchased through ParentPay and cost £28 each. This ticket then entitles everyone to drinks on arrival, a fabulous three course dinner, DJ, disco and access to a photo booth. We have been advised by Thorpe Park that there will be a small charge for the photo booth prints, so please ensure that your child has enough money for this, as well as any drinks that they require throughout the evening.

Over the coming weeks, Year 11 students will have the opportunity to win tickets to the prom or to access reduced-price tickets through excellent levels of attendance and behaviour both in school and at GCSE intervention sessions. It would be good to see as many students as possible taking advantage of this. We also reserve the right to remove students from the Prom if their attendance and conduct does not meet our expectations. Tickets are non-refundable.



# Term Dates

Please see below for a quick reminder of when the Academy is open and closing over the Summer Term. Don't forget the extra bank holiday on the 8th May 2023 for the coronation of King Charles III.

Date	Event
31st March 2023	School closes for Easter
17th April 2023	School opens to all students
1st May 2023	May Day Bank Holiday (school closed)
8th May 2023	Coronation Bank Holiday (school closed)
26th May 2023	School closes for Half-Term
5th June 2023	School opens to all students
21st July 2023	School closes to students for summer holidays

We are pleased to announce that we will be offering a number of Period 6 revision sessions in preparation for the Year 11 summer examinations, plus interventions over the Easter holidays. We encourage all Year 11 students to attend these sessions to receive extra support and help to ensure they are able to maximise their full potential this summer.

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