

Issue: Spring 2021

## Welcome

Hello everyone. In this bulletin, we will reflect on some of the activities that we, as students of Biddick Academy, have engaged in recently, in the build up to the Easter break.

After several weeks of remote learning and overcoming the challenges we faced together, it was important for us to concentrate on moving forwards when we returned to school in March.

Across the school, there was a real focus on careers and future pathways, with students of all year groups engaging in activities and discussions which encouraged us to reflect on our aspirations and the skills we will need for life beyond Biddick Academy.

## Character Education

Character Education is all about our personal development. We understand the importance of building our personal and technical skills beyond just what we do in the classroom. We can develop our character in a number of ways: IAG lessons, tutor discussions, assemblies, extracurricular activities, Student Leadership and more.

*"Recently I took part in a Character Challenge competition. The theme was 'Creativity in MFL and Culture'. The competition format is great as it means we can help develop our skills in a fun, competitive way. Also, I participated in the Connect 3 challenge competition, where I was developing a range of skills that I can use in class and as evidence for the Character Award at the end of the academic year."*

Emily, year 8



## Career Interviews

Year 9 members of our Student Council had the opportunity one morning to interview two of our students' parents who are highly experienced and knowledgeable in their professions – including the manager of a local marine school and a successful pharmaceutical researcher.

*"A few weeks ago, the student council were able to talk to two parents with very different, but successful careers. We asked them questions such as how they first got into their jobs and what they thought was the best part about it. It was interesting to learn about their unique jobs and career paths. From them, what I took away most that it is often more important and rewarding to have a job you enjoy than a job that earns a lot of money."*

Alex, year 9



## National Careers Week

During National Careers week, students enjoyed spending some time in our lessons across the curriculum discussing career pathways relevant to the subjects we study. Lots of teachers shared their own work experiences which led to them becoming teachers themselves, with some of our teachers having had some peculiar claims to fame in their past jobs!

*"The biggest thing I took from National Careers Week is that it is never too early to plan your future and have an open mind about changing careers later in life. I also previously taken part in sixth form college open evenings to form a clearer idea of where my next steps should be."*

Georgia, year 10



## KS4 Recommended Read – *The Beekeeper of Aleppo* by Christy Lefteri:

Nuri is a beekeeper; his wife, Afra, an artist. They live a simple life, rich in family and friends, in the beautiful Syrian city of Aleppo - until the unthinkable happens. When all they care for is destroyed by war, they are forced to escape. As Nuri and Afra travel through a broken world, they must confront not only the pain of their own unspeakable loss, but dangers that would overwhelm the bravest of souls. Above all - and perhaps this is the hardest thing they face - they must journey to find each other again. Moving, powerful, compassionate and beautifully written, *The Beekeeper of Aleppo* is a testament to the triumph of the human spirit. Told with deceptive simplicity, it is the kind of book that reminds us of the power of storytelling. **Recommended by Georgia, year 10**



