



BIDDICK PARENT WEEKLY BULLETIN

Week starting 6th March 2023

A Note from Acting Headteacher Mr Delf

We have reached the end of a very busy first week following half - term and there are lots of positives to report! It was pleasing to see a few new faces at our Parent Forum, this is a great way for parents to know more about the school and more importantly for us to hear about parent and carer views. One lovely piece of feedback is that parents and carers are enjoying the increased level of communication on social media, as I mentioned in a previous message, if you feel that you would like to see more (or less) of certain types of posts then please let us know.

For those of you not on our social media, highlights have included Biddick Academy students winning yet another maths challenge, our Year 9 boys football team defeating Consett Academy 4 - 1, and Josh in Year 11 winning a regional TV award. Well done to all, we are very proud of you!

This week also witnessed World Book Day, many staff were dressed as characters from well-known novels and it was fantastic to see our students engaging with the day with so much interest. Reading is an essential skill for our students to develop, not just because it supports academic progress, but if you have a good book, it is the passport to allow you to travel anywhere!

Thanks for your parental support this week, as ever it is very much appreciated.

UKMT Intermediate Mathematical Challenge 2023

- 30 of Biddick's top mathematicians from years 9, 10 and 11 took part in the recent Intermediate Mathematical Challenge 2023 set by the UK Mathematics Trust.
- I am delighted to inform you that from the 30 students who participated;
- 6 students achieved a bronze certificate
- 4 students achieved a silver certificate
- I am especially proud to say that we had one student achieve a gold certificate and a place in the next round of the competition.
- I hope that we can replicate these excellent results in the upcoming Junior Mathematical Challenge open to years 7 and 8 that will take place on **Wednesday 26th April 2023**.
- Congratulations to all participating students!

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) Revision

- To support our French/Spanish students with their revision, MFL after school learning will take place at the following times in the MFL faculty area until half term:
- **Wednesday 1st March** (Spanish)
- **Thursday 2nd March** (French)
- **Wednesday 8th March** (French)
- **Friday 10th March** (Spanish)
- **Wednesday 15th March** (Spanish)
- **Thursday 16th March** (French)
- **Wednesday 22nd March** (Spanish)
- **Thursday 23rd March** (French)
- **Wednesday 29th March** (French)
- **Thursday 30th March** (Spanish)
- **All sessions are 3-4pm.** The sessions will be personalised to the needs of the students and will include some revision across all 4 skill areas.

Year 9 Options

- With the Year 9 Options deadline passing by last week, I just wanted to take the opportunity to thank you as a parent/carer in supporting your child to make this important decision regarding their future.
- I will be in touch soon with information on your individual meeting with a member of the Senior Leadership Team where your child's Options will be agreed and confirmed.

Year 10 Parents Evening

- Year 10 parents' evening will take place on **Thursday 9th March from 3.45pm-6.15pm.**
- Booking online appointments will close on **Wednesday 8th March 12.00pm.**
- Please use the link below to make your appointments.
- If you have any issues logging in or are unable to make an appointment, please email Mrs Sparks at sparks.j@biddickacademy.com with the student name and the teacher(s) you wish to speak with.

Year 10 Parents Link: [Year 10 Parent's Evening](#)

Year 11 Homestretch Event

- As an Academy, we want to ensure that parents and carers have received all of the support and guidance needed in order to help your child to achieve their potential in their GCSE examinations this summer.
- With that in mind, we have the intention of hosting an additional event for Year 11 parents/carers to answer any final questions or provide any additional information/support that may be needed.
- The proposed date is **Wednesday 29th March 2023.**
- In order to make this as informative as possible, please use the link below to provide details below of what questions you may have, what support you may need or any other suggestions you have that would make this a useful event?

Year 11 Parent link: [Year 11 Homestretch Event](#)

Year 11 Leavers Hoodies

- Students have the opportunity to purchase a Leavers Hoodie in order to commemorate their time at Biddick Academy. It is essential that their orders are placed in plenty of time so that they don't miss out.
- There will only be one order and students will not be able to place orders after **Thursday 16th March 2023**
- To place an order, please visit the following website (you must place an order **before Thursday 16th March 2023**):

Year 11 Parent link: <https://shop.fizz-group.co.uk/>

Our School Unique ID is: 24819YR11

- All orders will be delivered direct to school for you to collect. We will advise when this will be in due course.

UNIFROG

- All students have been emailed access to their new Unifrog account.
- We have partnered with Unifrog so that we can provide students with the tools to find out more about careers, qualifications, apprenticeships and opportunities available for them in the future.
- There is a personality quiz they can complete to find out about careers that are likely to suit their interests as well as a large range of interactive videos and tools to support your child.
- Unifrog will be used when students are in Year 10 as part of their Work Experience planning and reflection.
- You may wish to browse through the tool with your child to find out more: <https://www.unifrog.org/>