



BIDDICK PARENT WEEKLY

Week starting 17th April 2023

A Note from Acting Headteacher Mr Delf

As the term draws to an end, I write to you with a sense of pride. This week we hosted our Search for a Star event. We received a number of subsequent emails from those who attended, and I have chosen to share two with you:

"I just wanted to send a message to say what an absolutely phenomenal night of budding superstars I had the pleasure of watching this evening. The students were incredibly inspiring and fantastically brave and it made me very, very proud to be part of such a brilliant school.

Please could you pass on my congratulations to the staff who worked so hard to support the young people in putting on such a great show.

Thank you so much and I look forward to seeing these young people grow as performers in future shows."

"I just wanted to send a message to say how absolutely wonderful Mr Hughff was last night! He was fantastic! So entertaining, energetic and funny. No wonder my daughter loves his classes so much. Thanks for a great show night. It was amazing to see so much talent"

I was delighted to read the above. The reason being because it shows that we all have a shared vision of what an excellent school looks like. The evening itself, showcasing the many opportunities available to our students, in this case performing art and music. The fact that so many parents/carers and family members supported their loved ones and the school. The staff who dedicated countless hours into ensuring the students were successful and, most importantly, our wonderfully talented students, who were absolutely excellent. To me, this displays all the elements of a strong community coming together to celebrate its riches. This is why I am so proud.

Thank you for your support this term, it means a great deal to us all.

Happy Holidays

Mr Delf

Event

- Please see below a leaflet for a SEND event taking place **Wednesday 12th April 10:00am** at the Beacon of Light

**SUNDERLAND**
PARENT CARER FORUM

Independence Day 2
Family fund day for SEND families in Sunderland.
April 12th 2023 10:00am-2:30pm; Beacon of Light, Sunderland

Following on from the huge success of last years event, we are bringing you another family fun day (free!) for children with special/additional needs, and/or disabilities, both physical and hidden.



Come for part of the day, or stay for all of it - lots of activities for all the children and young people, plus information stalls for the parents and of course the ever popular Harley Davidson Gateshead team. The Mayor of Sunderland will be stopping by, plus one or two surprise visitors.

Harley Davidson • Smile Thru Sport • Foundation of Light • Danceversity • Circorama • Gateshead Wheelers • Emma's Animal Encounters • The Face Paint Saint • Storytime with 2 local authors • Craft table • Sunderland's assistive technology team • and much, much more!

To book your place, click the QR code or visit <https://SPCFIndependenceDay2.eventbrite.co.uk>



No food is allowed inside the sport courts, but vending machines are available in the large hall outside of the courts (plenty of seating), and a café on the first floor. We know that some of our children are very particular about what they like to eat, so please feel free to bring along their fave snacks/ packed lunch.

Government Emergency Alert

- As you may be aware from all the media publications the government are planning on sending an 'emergency alert' test on the evening of **Sunday 23rd April 2023**
- We are conscious that you may know parents or colleagues who are subject to Domestic Abuse and may have a secret phone that they hide
- They need to be reminded where possible to remember to 'switch off' or put in 'airplane mode' etc. as described below, or the phone will be activated on the **Sunday 23rd April 2023**
- The alert will say:
***"This is a test of Emergency Alerts, a new UK government service that will warn you if there's a life-threatening emergency nearby
In an actual emergency, follow the instructions in the alert to keep yourself and others safe.
Visit gov.uk/alerts for more information
This is a test. You do not need to take any action"***
- Mobile phone masts in the surrounding area will broadcast an alert. Every compatible mobile phone or tablet in range of a mast will receive the alert
- Your mobile phone or tablet **does not** have to be connected to mobile data or Wi-Fi to get alerts.
- You can opt out of emergency alerts, but the government advises you should keep them switched on for your own safety
- To opt out:
 - Search your settings for 'emergency alerts'
 - Turn off 'severe alerts' and 'extreme alerts'
 - If you still get alerts, contact your device manufacturer for help

Work Experience

- Are you able to offer a work experience placement for a Year 10 student in during the week **Monday 17th-Friday 20th July**?
- If the answer is yes, we'd be really interested to hear from you
- Please contact Mr Brown at brown.c@biddickacademy.com if you would be happy to provide your contact details and offer a placement opportunity

Easter Free School Meal Vouchers

- All parents and carers who are entitled to Free School Meal Vouchers over the Easter break will receive these via email Week beginning **Monday 27th March 2023**

Durham Sixth Form Open Evening

- For entry September 2023 the Open Evening is **Thursday 20th April 4:30pm – 7:30pm**
- This will be the final chance for applications
- On the night they will have;
 - Subject specialists
 - Student helpers to guide and advise
 - The Head Teachers presentations
 - Local university representatives so that students can gain insight into degree programmes and accompanying entry requirements and course info.
 - Local and national employers
 - Degree apprenticeship providers
 - Support on travel to DSFC
 - Our award winning careers team
 - Student and Pastoral support
 - The application support desk
 - Refreshments!

Year 10 Mock Exams

➤ Please find below the mock examination timetable which will take place between **Monday 17th April - Friday 28th April**

Y10 Mock Exams - April 2023

Day	Date	AM/PM	Time	Subject	Duration	Year	No. of students	Venue
Monday	17th April	AM	9.00am	Biology Trilogy (F)	1h 15m	10	76	Watson Hall
				Biology Trilogy (H)	1h 15m	10	115	
				Biology Triple (H)	1h 45m	10	34	
		PM	1.00pm	English Language (paper 1)	1h 45m	10	225	
Tuesday	18th April	AM	9.00am	Dance	3hr 00m	10	6	Sports Hall
		AM	10.00am	BTEC Sport	1hr 00m	10		Sports Hall
		AM	9.00pm	English Literature (paper 1)	1h 40m	10	225	Watson Hall
		PM	1.00pm	Maths (paper 1) (F)	1h 30m	10		Watson Hall
				Maths (paper 1) (H)	1h 30m	10		
Wednesday	19th April	AM	9.00am	Maths (paper 2) (F)	1h 30m	10		Watson Hall
		AM	9.00am	Maths (paper 2) (H)	1h 30m	10		
		AM	11.20am	BTEC Sport	1hr 00m	10		Sports Hall
		PM	1.00pm	History (paper 1 Crime & Punishment)	1hr 20m	10	146	Watson Hall
Thursday	20th April	AM	9.00am	Chemistry Trilogy (F)	1h 15m	10	76	Watson Hall
				Chemistry Trilogy (H)	1h 15m	10	115	
				Chemistry Triple (H)	1h 45m	10	34	
Friday	21st April	AM	10.00am	BTEC Sport	2hr 20m	10		Sports Hall
		PM	1.00pm	BTEC Sport	1hr 00m	10		
Monday	24th April	AM	9.00am	Drama - Performance	2h 00m	10	12	Watson Hall
		AM	11.20am	BTEC Sport	1h 00m	10		Sports Hall
		AM	11.20pm	Drama - Evaluation	1h 00m	10	12	U058
Tuesday	25th April	AM	9.00am	French Reading/Writing (F)	1h 45m	10	24	Watson Hall

				Spanish Reading/Writing (F)	1h 45m	10	41	
				Computer Science (paper 1)	0hr 25m	10	19	
		PM	1.00pm	Physics Trilogy (F)	1h 15m	10	76	
				Physics Trilogy (H)	1h 15m	10	115	
				Physics Triple (H)	1h 45m	10	34	
Wednesday	26th April	AM	9.00am	Maths (paper 3) (F)	1hr 30m	10		Watson Hall
		AM	9.00am	Maths (paper 3) (H)	1hr 30m	10		
		PM	1.00pm	French Listening (F)	0h 45m	10	24	
Thursday	27th April	AM	9.00am	Geography	1hr 15m	10	95	Watson Hall
		PM	1.00pm	Hair & Beauty	1hr 00m	10	38	Watson Hall
				Music	1hr 30m	10	16	Drama
Friday	28th April	AM	9.00am	Computer Science (paper 2)	0hr 25m	10	22	Watson Hall
		PM	1.00pm	Spanish Listening (F)	0h 45m	10	41	

Year 11 Homestretch!

- As the GCSE exams are fast approaching, I wanted to invite all Year 11 parents and carers to email me at moore.g@biddickacademy.com if you have any final queries or questions that would support your child in achieving their potential this summer
- This may be revision advice, exam anxiety support, subject specific questions or anything else related to GCSE exams. Please do not hesitate to get in touch!

Easter Reading

- Reading is a great way to unwind over the Easter break
- We have a range of reading lists on our website to support your child
- Please find some lists which are grouped by values
- Book levels are on the lists so that students can select a book at their own ZPD level
- Their ZPD level is determined from their most recent reading test

<https://biddickacademy.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Reading-Lists-exploring-British-Values.pdf>

Year 11 Easter revision sessions


Please see below the timetable of revision sessions which are on offer over the Easter holidays. Students must sign in via reception and will be collected by their teacher

Monday 3 rd April	Tuesday 4 th April	Wednesday 5 th April	Thursday 6 th April
Mr Brown – English (10am-2pm)	Mr Dodds – Spanish (F) (10am-11.30am)	Mr Dodds – French (F) (10am-11.30am)	Mr Hughff – History W&N Germany (9am-12pm)
Mrs Henry – English (10am-2pm)	Mr Dodds – Spanish (H) (12pm-1.30pm)	Mr Dodds – French (H) (12pm-1.30pm)	Mr Hughff – History American West (12.30pm-3pm)
Mrs Nicholson – English (9am-11am)	Miss Robotham – Textiles (9am-2pm)	Mr Hughff – History Crime and Punishment (9am-12pm)	
Mrs Hogg – English (11am-2pm)	Mrs Teasdale – Art and Design (9am-2pm)	Mr Hughff – History AS and Norman (12.30pm-3pm)	
	Mr Morrison – iMedia (10am-3pm)		
Monday 10 th April	Tuesday 11 th April	Wednesday 12 th April	Thursday 13 th April
		Mrs Tufnell – Music (10am-2pm)	Mrs Tufnell – Music (10am-2pm)

Modern Foreign Languages, Other Tongue Competition

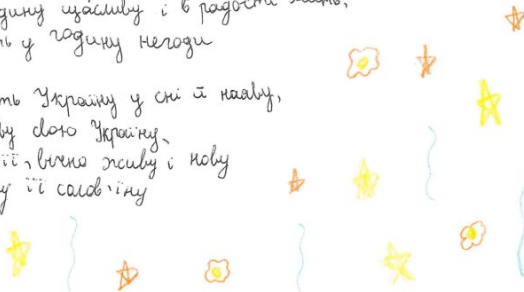
- Thank you and congratulations to Nastia Myronova and Daniela Scott-Chávez for entering the Mother Tongue, Other Tongue competition as part of the celebrations for the North East Festival of Languages
- Fingers crossed the girls' favourite Ukranian and Spanish poems will be selected to appear in the upcoming online anthology of poetry for 2023 which celebrates our multilingual communities

Діри "Любіть Україну" написав український поет
Володимир Сосюра




Любіть Україну, як сонце любіть,
Як вогонь, і траву, і воду...
В радощі щасливу і в радощі мить,
Любіть у радощі негода

Любіть Україну у сні й наяву,
Винику долю Україну.
Край її, вічно живу і нову
і мову її славну



'Como tú' by Roque Dalton

Yo, como tú,
amo el amor, la vida, el dulce encanto
de las cosas, el paisaje
de los días de enero.
También mi sangre bulle
y río por los ojos
que han conocido el brote de las lágrimas.
Creo que el mundo es bello,
que la poesía es como el pan, de todos.
Y que mis venas no terminan en mí
sino en la sangre unánime
de los que luchan por la vida,
el amor,
las cosas,
el paisaje y el pan,
la poesía de todos.



'Like you'

I, like you,
love the love, the life, the sweet charm

GCSE Textile Trip

- TICE, This Is Creative Enterprise, at Northumbria University organised a visit for our GCSE Textile students, to allow them the chance to explore the three different fashion degree options the university offer
- The students got to meet current degree students, and have a look around the facilities



Online Safety

- **Tik Tok**
 - You must be over 13 years of age to use TikTok
- 60-minute screen time notification
- TikTok are introducing a 60-minute screentime notification for teen accounts (accounts with users under 18 years of age). When the time limit is reached, the user will be asked to enter their passcode to continue watching
- Family Pairing: new features
 - This allows you to link your own account to your child's account. TikTok have now added three new features:
- Custom daily screen time limits: this option includes choosing different time limits depending on the day of the week as well
- Screen time dashboard: this provides a summary of time spent on the app, the number of times TikTok was opened, and a breakdown of total time spent during the day and night
- Mute notifications: this setting will enable you to mute notifications at set times. Accounts aged 13-15 already do not receive push notifications from 9pm and for accounts aged 16-17, notifications are disabled from 10pm
- You can find out more here: <https://newsroom.tiktok.com/en-us/new-features-for-teens-and-families-on-tiktok-us>

What should I do if my child is being bullied online?

- Ensure that your child understands that if they receive unkind messages or see something that worries them, they should not reply or engage in conversation with the perpetrator
- Instead, they should tell a trusted adult. You can use the tools within an app to report any offensive or hurtful content as well as block people so they cannot contact you again in the future
- Further information is available at:
- <https://www.esafety.gov.au/kids/i-want-help-with/how-do-i-know-if-im-being-mean-online>
- If you have any concerns regarding online safety or require further information, please contact Mr Morrison: morrison.c@biddickacademy.com

Aspiring to Cambridge University.

**Gonville & Caius**
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

EVENTS AND RESOURCES

WHO ARE WE?

The University of Cambridge is a renowned, competitive university located in the east of England. The university is split into 31 "colleges", which are where students live and study. We are Gonville & Caius College, one of those colleges! We offer events for students interested in coming to study at the University of Cambridge.

YEAR 9/S2 - YEAR 11/S4

WEBINAR: THINKING ABOUT CAMBRIDGE? INTRODUCTION AND ADVICE



25 APRIL
4:30 - 5:30 PM
ONLINE

If you are in year 9/S2, you might think that the end of secondary school is a long way away, but by year 11/S4, it might feel a bit closer! One of the options for after you leave school is going to university. If you're curious about what university, especially Cambridge, might be like, sign up for our webinar [here](#).

YEAR 12/S5

SUBJECT TASTER EVENINGS



19 APRIL - 10 MAY
5:00 - 6:30 PM
ONLINE

Our Subject Taster Evenings give you a chance to experience a university subject at Cambridge! There is sample teaching, a chance to meet college lecturers, and a Q&A with current students. You can sign up for as many subjects as you like [here](#).

CAIUS EXPLORE



23 MARCH - 31 JULY
ONLINE AND IN CAMBRIDGE

This is a creative competition where you can show your skills and try your hand at a university subject! Each subject has its own unique task: you might be asked to write an essay, record a podcast, or design a presentation. The authors of our favourite entries can attend a celebration day in Cambridge! It's designed for year 12/S5, but younger years can also submit entries. Find out more [here](#).

SOCIAL MEDIA

We also have social media with advice, tips, and behind-the-scenes looks at university life! You can find us @CaiusSchools on these platforms:

 YouTube  Instagram  TikTok  Twitter

GET IN TOUCH

If you have any questions about our programmes, applying to university, or anything at all, please feel free to get in touch!

☎ 01223 769345  www.cai.cam.ac.uk
✉ schools@cai.cam.ac.uk  www.cam.ac.uk

Music Lessons

➤ Students who have shown outstanding commitment to their instrumental lessons this week are:

Lily
Harry
Ebony
Jasmine
Lewie
Ella-Lousie
Mollie
Thomas
Grace
Maddie
Louis
Oliver

All students nominated by an instrumental teacher for showing commitment to practising will receive an edible prize!

Search for a Star

- In total, 50 students took part in our 'Search for a Star' show on Wednesday evening, compared by the wonderful Mr Hughff
- All the students were just incredible and took the whole process in their stride. The guest judges had the very tough decision of picking a winner and were torn between such a high standard of acts!
- In the end, it was Warren from year 10 who was the overall winner performing 'My House' from Matilda the musical with the Biddick Choir coming in 2nd place with their rendition of 'Skid Row' from The little Shop of Horrors and the Biddick Band in 3rd place with their version of the Earth, Wind and Fire classic 'September'
- Warren will now represent the Academy in the grand final at Sunderland College on Tuesday the 25th April.
- Guest judge Laura Tindall, Head of Creative Arts at Kingsmeadow School, asked me to pass on the following:

'We had the nearly impossible job of picking only 3 acts and an overall winner. In the end, it came down to the act which had the most technical proficiency and overall story telling but it was extremely close. We were so impressed with the standard of all the performances and the wealth of talent at Biddick Academy is clear to see. The technical proficiency showed by many students, especially the instrumentalists is to be applauded and it was great to see dance included as well. Please pass on my thanks to all the students for a wonderful evening of entertainment.'

- My thanks to all parents, carers and students who supported the event. As well as a being a fantastic audience you have also helped to raise £488.98 for the Teenage Cancer Trust. A brilliant achievement

