



BIDDICK PARENT WEEKLY BULLETIN

Week starting 15th May 2023

A Message from Assistant Headteacher Mr Knowles

This week saw the culmination of the Brilliant Club Scholars Programme where our Year 9 graduates attended a formal graduation ceremony at Newcastle University.

This graduation ceremony celebrated their achievements on this prestigious programme where, over the course of the year, they have attended university-style seminars and tutorials and have researched for and submitted academic pieces of writing focusing upon the doctoral research of a practicing PhD candidate. This year's research focused upon 'Understanding and Preventing Identity-based Violence'.

Students were given a full campus tour of Newcastle University and spoke to a variety of Student Ambassadors. This gave them insights into the life of a university student and the world of Higher Education.

If you would like more information on the Brilliant Club Scholars Programme or have any questions about the provision for 'More Able' students at Biddick Academy, please feel free to contact Mr J Knowles on knowles.j@biddickacademy.com



Online Safety – Omegle

- Omegle is a social networking/chat website that **connects two strangers** together for either a text or a video chat
- Chats are anonymous unless a user provides this information
- Omegle states that “Omegle video chat is moderated. However, moderation is not perfect. You may still encounter people who misbehave”
- Users must be **18+** to use or **13+ with parental permission**
- **What are the concerns?**
- No registration is required to access Omegle (therefore no age verification) and there are no reporting facilities
- Users are given an option to save the chat's log and share the link. It is also possible for other users to take screenshots of text and video chats
- **We recommend that Omegle is not used by children due to the potential imagery shared and language used which can be explicit**
- You can find out more information from Childnet, including ways of keeping your child safe:
- <https://www.childnet.com/blog/what-is-omegle-key-things-parents-and-carers-need-to-know/>
- If you have any concerns regarding online safety or require further information, please contact Mr Morrison: morrison.c@biddickacademy.com

Year 11 Study leave and revision support during exam season

- Students in England are no longer automatically granted Study Leave and, in line with government guidance, this is only to be used in exceptional circumstances
- With this in mind and in order to support students during the exam season, we are making some amendments to the existing timetable from the start of the exam season on **Monday 15th May**
- During this time, there will be a timetable in place for subject specific revision which follows the exam timetable. For example, when students have a Biology exam on **Tuesday 16th May**, they will attend Biology revision on the afternoon of the **Monday 15th May** with their Science teachers instead of following their normal timetable. Please see the timetable below:

Exam Season Revision Support Timetable (until May Half Term)	
Subject	Revision support instead of normal lessons
Biology	P4 and P5 15.5.23
English Lit (P1)	P4 and P5 16.5.23
BTEC Sport	P3 17.5.23
History	P4 and P5 17.5.23
Maths	P4 and P5 18.5.23
Computer Sci	P3 19.5.23
Chemistry	P4 and P5 19.5.23 (excl Comp Sci students)
Geography	P3 22.5.23
French (L+R)	ASL 22.5.23
RE (Islam)	P3 23.5.23
English Lit (P2)	P4 and P5 23.5.23
Sport Science	P3 24.5.23
Physics	P4 and 5 24.5.23
Computer Sci	P3 25.5.23
Enterprise and Marketing	P4 and P5 25.5.23
Students <u>must attend</u> these sessions <u>instead of</u> their normal timetable (with the exception of iMedia, Business and BTEC Sport students)	

May Half Term Revision

- Please see below outline of revision sessions available during February half term
- Students must report via the main reception and the member of staff delivering the session will collect them from there

Tuesday 30 th May	Wednesday 31 st May	Thursday 1 st June	Friday 2 nd June
10am-12pm Mr Ramshaw - Maths	10am-12pm Mrs Hogg - English	10am-1pm Mr Hughff - History (American West)	10am-1pm Mr Hughff - History (Anglosaxons and Normans)
			12pm-3pm Mrs Tufnell – Music

SHREK THE MUSICAL JR

- We are thrilled to announce that we will be staging Shrek the Musical (JR) on the **Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th of July**
- Join Shrek, Donkey and all their friends on a hilarious musical adventure as they rescue Princess Fiona from the fire breathing dragon and deliver her to Lord Farquad - the vertically challenged ruler of Duloc who has big ideas of becoming King
- Auditions for solo singing and speaking parts are currently taking place and will continue next week so if any student would like to audition for a part please come and put your name down with Mrs Tufnell or Mr Todd
- Any student who would like to be involved with the show but doesn't want a solo part **does not** have to audition and should just come and see Mrs Tufnell to register
- All welcome!
- More information about ticket sales will be announced very soon

