



BIDDICK PARENT WEEKLY BULLETIN

Week starting 18th September 2023

A Message from our Headteacher Miss Morris

This year we are really focused on attendance, striving to give our pupils the best chance at success. By attending school every day, this helps our pupils not just academically but also socially, building strong friendships, enjoying the company of their peers and getting support from them and us as a school community.

Thank you for supporting us with this. It is so important for your child to attend school every day, I just wanted to give a gentle reminder that it is usually appropriate for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild illnesses. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat.

Your child's form tutor is a key point of contact. If your child feels anxious about school, or you have any other concerns, please do get in touch

Thank you

Miss Morris
Headteacher

Year 11 Duke of Edinburgh students

- All Year 11 students who have not yet completed their online log for Duke of Edinburgh must attend afternoon sessions on the following dates; **Thursday 21st September & Thursday 28th September 3-4pm** in classroom CO4
- If their evidence and logs are not completed by the final date, **Thursday 28th September 2023** it will unfortunately be classed as a failure, as they have not met the necessary requirements by the deadline. If your child is not sure if they have completed it, please ask them to speak to Miss Blanchard or Miss Robotham

Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh

- Year 10 students will be given the opportunity to attend an introduction event to the Duke of Edinburgh award. They will be given information as to what is required, and will be provided with resources to bring home to discuss with yourselves
- To find out more before the event, please visit www.dofe.org
- If they would like to find out more, please ensure they attend **Thursday 28th September 3-4pm**. classroom CO4

Vaping and E-Cigarettes

- The Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) have produced a leaflet providing information for parents and carers to support conversations about vaping and e-cigarettes
- The leaflet covers social pressures around vaping, its impact, and the effects of nicotine
- Students will learn about vaping and its impact in their Personal Development lessons
- Should you have any questions about this topic or any other areas of the Personal Development programme please do not hesitate to contact Mr Brown at brown.c@biddickacademy.com

World Challenge

- This week, parents/carers of Year 9 and 10 students will have received information on ClassCharts about an exciting, once in a lifetime opportunity to take part in 'World Challenge Morocco' in July 2025.
- Ms Ions from World Challenge delivered an excellent assembly to our students all about the opportunity and she will also be hosting a parent/carer/student Zoom presentation on **Monday 25th September at 6pm**, where you can find out more and ask any questions you may have. Similarly, you can follow this link to read more about what World Challenge involves: <https://weareworldchallenge.com/trips/emcj8st/>

Year 7 GL Progress Tests

- Next week, your child will be completing GL Progress Tests in English, Mathematics and Science
- GL Progress Tests are an excellent way of assessing your child's current ability as well as the progress they make over the course of the academic year in the core subjects (English, Mathematics and Science)
- They also provide their teachers with subject-specific information on areas of strength and areas for development so that they can be best supported in lessons
- These assessments will all be taking place in their normal timetabled lessons
- If you have any questions about these GL Progress Tests, you are welcome to contact Mr J Knowles (Assistant Headteacher - Key Stage 3 Achievement) on knowles.j@biddickacademy.com

Extra-Curricular Clubs

- We are looking forward to launching our extra-curricular clubs and activities in school next week. We would encourage students to be adventurous and to try a club or activity that is a little different or to try something new
- Clubs are a great opportunity for your child to make new friends and get to know others with similar interests. We appreciate the benefits and encourage all students to be a member of at least 1 club in the Academy. On Monday we will also be launching our rewards initiative to recognise the commitment students show in participating and getting involved
- We would appreciate your support in taking a look through the lunchtime and afterschool offer with your child and help them to discover a club to join
- <https://biddickacademy.com/parents-carers/extra-curricular-activities/>
- <https://biddickacademy.com/students/extra-curricular-activities/>
- If your child has any questions, they should contact the club leader in the first instance. Should you have any questions about extra-curricular clubs at the Academy, please contact Mr C Brown: brown.c@biddickacademy.com