



HALF TERM NEWS ROUND UP



Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra

Year 7 and 8 violinists took part in an exciting and inspiring workshop led by Matt Jones from the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra. Using violins and loop pedals, students explored creative new ways to compose and perform music, discovering how layering sounds and rhythms can transform a simple melody into a full musical piece. The session encouraged creativity, collaboration and confidence, giving students a fantastic opportunity to experience music in a completely different way. A huge thank you to SoundStorm Music Education Agency for organising such a brilliant and engaging day for our students.



Jessica Toale, MP

We were delighted to welcome Jessica Toale MP to The Bourne Academy. During the visit, students and staff discussed the exciting opportunities being created through Labour's Pride in Place Programme, which will bring a record £20 million investment to the West Howe community over the next ten years. The funding aims to support improvements to local facilities, create opportunities for young people and enhance the local environment. Importantly, West Howe residents will have the chance to help shape how this funding is used, ensuring it reflects the needs and priorities of the community.



Duke of Edinburgh

Our Year 9 students recently completed both their practice and qualifying Bronze expeditions in the beautiful Purbecks. Throughout the expeditions, students demonstrated determination, resilience and teamwork as they navigated routes, solved challenges and supported one another along the way. The experience provided a valuable opportunity for students to build confidence, develop problem-solving skills and strengthen their independence in an outdoor environment. We are incredibly proud of the positive attitude, perseverance and teamwork shown by all involved, congratulations to Team Bronze on an outstanding achievement!



House Competitions

This half term, students have been enjoying a range of exciting House Competitions. Tutor groups are currently competing to grow the tallest sunflower, with plenty of teamwork and friendly rivalry on display. To celebrate World Bee Day, the Academy is also launching a whole-school Honey Baking Challenge, where students must create a delicious bake using honey instead of sugar. We also recently hosted a photography competition. Congratulations to overall winner Scarlett V (Year 10K), with runners-up Grace B (Year 11), Layla B (9P) and Joseph P (7T) recognised for their exceptional entries.



Bourne Scholars

Our Year 8 Bourne Scholars recently enjoyed an enriching rowing experience at Canford School. Students spent the day developing their rowing technique, teamwork and communication skills while gaining confidence out on the water. It was inspiring to see students challenge themselves, support one another and embrace a completely new experience with such enthusiasm. The session provided a valuable opportunity for students to build resilience and learn more about the importance of coordination and collaboration in sport. As always, we are incredibly grateful to Canford School for continuing to provide our students with such valuable and memorable opportunities.

Exciting Updates

Exciting updates! We are delighted to share that we have received £2,000 in funding to establish a MiSST Choir. We are also incredibly pleased to announce that The Talbot Village Trust has awarded us £9,000 towards a new Music Pod. Further details regarding these significant, generous developments will be shared in due course.



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Careers Update

Careers and enrichment opportunities at The Bourne Academy have been busy this half term, with students taking part in a range of inspiring visits, workshops and experiences. Highlights included trips to University of Oxford, Bournemouth University, Solent University, Parliament and the Science Museum, helping students explore university life, careers and future pathways. Year 9 Scholars also took part in a Sustainable Design workshop with Arts University Bournemouth, while Year 10 Scholars learned about the role of an Operating Department Practitioner through practical activities delivered by Bournemouth University. Our Year 10 Work Experience programme was another huge success, with almost 90% of students securing placements and receiving positive feedback. Students gained valuable workplace experience with employers including Lush, Hilton Bournemouth, the British Army and Redhill Fire Station, as well as meeting their local MP to discuss ideas for improving the community.



Mountain Biking Trip

15 students enjoyed an engaging afternoon riding through the trees at Moors Valley Country Park and Forest. Throughout the session, students focused on developing their speed, balance and control while tackling a variety of trails and obstacles. It was inspiring to see everyone growing in confidence and mastering new techniques, with big smiles all round by the end of the day. A huge thank you to Dorset School Games for supporting and organising such a rewarding experience.



Science in all Years

Science lessons at The Bourne Academy have been full of engaging practical investigations this half term. Year 7 have been learning about reproduction through flower dissections, exploring the different parts of a flower and their roles in the process. In Chemistry, students created a colourful 'rainbow fizz' while studying acids and alkalis. Year 9 have been investigating Infection and Response by culturing bacteria samples and calculating zones of inhibition. Year 10 have been developing their practical skills by producing copper sulphate crystals using different scientific techniques. In Sixth Form, Year 12 Biology students completed a fish dissection focusing on the structure and function of gills, while Year 13 Forensics students worked through a mock crime scene, collecting evidence to uncover what happened and identify the culprit.



Child Development

Year 11 Child Development students recently gained valuable hands-on experience by completing a Basic First Aid course with the British Red Cross. Throughout the interactive session, students developed essential life-saving skills, including CPR, responding to emergencies and treating minor injuries. The course not only supported their classroom learning but also helped build confidence and prepare students with important skills they can use both in school and in the wider community.



Shift Dance (ACE Club)

Students in the SHIFT Dance after-school club have done some incredible work this term, developing confidence, self-expression and resilience through dance and discussion. Reflecting on their experiences, students shared powerful thoughts including, "I have learned all of us have bad days and different reactions to them," and "It helps me to be myself more." The club has created a supportive environment where students have been encouraged to express themselves, build confidence and support one another. We are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved this term.



Hospitality and Catering

Students have been enjoying using our new pizza oven equipment to develop their practical cooking skills and confidence in the kitchen. A huge thank you to Ooni for generously giving the school a discount towards the oven, as well as a free pizza peel and cast iron pan, helping students gain hands-on experience with professional equipment. Catering Club students have also been busy making some exceptional mini cheesecakes, showing great creativity, teamwork and presentation skills. It has been encouraging to see students growing in confidence while producing such impressive results.