



Week Commencing 6th May 2024

As we reflect on the past week at our school, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude for your continued support and engagement in your child's education journey. Your partnership is invaluable, and it contributes significantly to the success and vibrant spirit of our school community.

Here are some notable highlights from the past week:

1. Our Year 8 students had an enriching experience during their careers trip to Bedfordshire University. This excursion provided valuable insights into potential future pathways, helping our students to make informed decisions about their academic and professional pursuits.
2. Our GCSE Geography trip offered students the opportunity to engage in hands-on learning experiences outside the classroom, deepening their understanding of geographical concepts and phenomena. We're grateful for the support of our staff in facilitating these enriching educational opportunities.
3. A special congratulations to our PE team for their outstanding coaching and mentorship of our Year 9 and 11 football teams. It was a joy to see our Year 9 team secure a victory with a score of 5-2. Your dedication to nurturing our students' athletic skills and sportsmanship is truly commendable.

Furthermore, I was delighted to witness the strong sense of community displayed by staff members, students and parents at the recent football matches. Your support and encouragement exemplify the core values of community and unity that we strive to cultivate at our school.

As always, I want to express my thank you for your ongoing support and partnership in your child's education. Together, we are making a difference in shaping bright futures for our students.

Wishing you and your family a wonderful week ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Nathaniel Wilson'.

Nathaniel Wilson

Headteacher

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Geography Field Trip

Here are some images from our GCSE geography fieldwork trip to Amersham 8th May 2024

Students spent the day in the glorious sunshine collecting data on River width, depth, and velocity so they can see how it changed as you move downstream and assess the impact it has on flooding. Students were praised for their hard work and focus by the centre staff at the Field studies centre in Amersham. The river flood levels, and pollution levels meant that the students couldn't get in at one site but had fun wading through the mud from the recent flood and used dog biscuits dropped from a bridge to measure velocity instead. They even found a frog!

Ms K Miles

Teacher of Geography, ECT Manager, Teaching and Learning Lead





Have you just started investigating whether your child has got additional needs?



Are you feeling confused and don't know where to start?



Stronger beginnings are drop-in sessions created to strongly signpost families that are just starting out in the complex world of SEND or those who have some concerns around their child's development.

WELCOME TO STRONGER BEGINNINGS Happening Tomorrow...

Thursday 9th May - 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm
and
Friday 10th May - 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

at CDC in Kempston, MK42 7EB in the Teacch Room

Signpost me

Email us to register your interest:
communications@bbpcf.org.uk

SEND FORUM



TRANSITIONS

TRANSITIONS

INFORMATION SESSION-MONDAY 13TH MAY

We will have presentations from practitioners including;

EAST LONDON NHS FOUNDATION TRUST (ELFT)

EARLY YEARS

CAMHS TRANSITIONS

SCHOOL SUPPORT

BEDFORD BOROUGH ADULT DISABILITY TEAM

BEDFORD HOSPITAL

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT TEAM

JOIN US

9:30 TO 11:30 AM

NO NEED TO BOOK

AT PROJECT 229 IN KEMPSTON
communications@bbpcf.org.uk

One Percent Better
WORKSHOPS AND ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES AND PRACTITIONERS

ADVENTURES AWAIT YOU ON 18TH MAY 2024!
RESERVE YOUR TICKETS TODAY

One Percent Better is a series of workshops and activities for families and practitioners to enhance their skills, knowledge, experience or joy by at least one percent.

We look forward to welcoming you and your children with SEND (aged 0-5 and siblings) but please remember you remain responsible for them throughout the event. Due to parking restrictions, please park considerately and allow extra time before your selected events start to avoid disappointment. The adventures start at 10am at the Child Development Centre, Hill Rise, Kempston MK42 7EB.

Tickets will be bookable on Eventbrite
Family Fun - <https://tinyurl.com/SENDEarlyYearsOnePercentBetter>



BBPCF OUTCOMES REPORT FOCUS GROUPS



Focus Group 1 Monday 10th June 7:0pm-8:30pm (Online Teams Meeting)	What do we need to do to improve the experiences of the 20-25 Age group with SEND?
Focus Group 2 Monday 24th June 7:0pm-8:30 pm (Online Teams Meeting)	How do we improve the experiences of children and young people with EHCP's in mainstream schools?
Focus Group 3 Monday 1st July 7:0pm-8:30 pm (Online Teams Meeting)	How do we improve the inclusion of children and young people with more complex needs in all aspects of life in Bedford Borough?
Focus Group 4 Monday 8th July 7:0pm-8:30 pm (Online Teams Meeting)	How do we better meet the needs of children and young people on SEN support without families feeling they need an EHCP and or access to special schools?

JOIN US AT THESE FOCUS GROUPS TO SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES, INSIGHTS, AND IDEAS ON HOW WE CAN BETTER SUPPORT OUR CHILDREN'S NEEDS.
EMAIL US TO BOOK YOUR PLACE AT COMMUNICATIONS@BBPCF.ORG.UK

This week in assemblies

Assemblies week beginning Tuesday 7th May

Assemblies this week have continued to focus on our value of Respect. We have been addressing behaviours that would be disrespectful and unkind and that could be considered to be bullying. We have also been talking about being a 'bystander' and how this can encourage others to continue with negative disrespectful behaviours.

If we show respect and stand up for one another our whole community will be a better place.

Careers

Year 8 University of Bedfordshire Trip

This week has seen Year 8 attending our annual UOB trip aimed at giving them an insight into life at university. The pupils were treated to a university style lecture on Sociology and underwent tours of the campus as well as experiencing debating and opportunities to learn about student finance through playing the Unigo game. A wonderful time was had by all, and we hope the visit has encouraged some pupils to consider attending university after compulsory schooling.





Careers- Year 10 & 12 Work experience 1st-5th July

A huge thank you to all the families who have not finalised their child's work experience placement. Reminder emails have been sent this week to employers/families who still need to complete admin on the Unifrog website. Please ensure this is completed as soon as possible to secure the placement.

There are still a few pupils who have not yet finalised their placement. All students must attend, so please support your child in reaching out within your family/friend network if they have yet to secure a place.

All placements must be recorded on Unifrog.org
Pupils should use their school email address and select the 'forgotten password' button to create their own password- these are not supplied by the school.

Thank you so much for all your support.

PTA Spring Fayre- Saturday 11th May 12-3pm

Pop down to the Academy this Saturday to support our Spring Fayre which is raising funds to purchase trampolines for the PE department.

We have a number of craft stalls, tómbola, cake stall, sweets and an inflatable slide. We would love to see you there.

If you have any unwanted gifts that you are happy to donate to the tómbola please send them into school (to Mrs Pearson).

Donations of cake also appreciated on Friday 10th May. Homemade items should be sent in with an ingredient list.

We look forward to seeing you.

Mrs L Pearson
Assistant Headteacher

Canteen Update.

We wish to formally thank our students for the manner with which they have adapted to the new till and fob system at the canteen since the turn of the year. Having now also introduced a rotation system for the key stages, we are getting everyone through the indoor canteen queues in record time, with up to fifteen minutes of the lunch break remaining when the last students are getting their hot food. This is testament to the co-operation and patience of our students and the effectiveness of the systems we have now embedded. Thank you to everyone for your patience as we made the necessary changes to our lunch time routines.

Mr A O'Rourke.

Water and Toilet breaks:

As we approach the warmer weather, it is even more important that students stay hydrated throughout the day but without missing any of their learning time. To prevent students asking to leave lessons to go and get water, we will be reminding all students that the **time to get water should only be at break time, lunch time or during the 5-minute transitions in between lessons.** This is to prevent students missing their learning time as we have recently seen an increase in the number of students going to fill up their water bottles directly after lunch time rather than during their lunch time. **Students should ensure that they get water BEFORE the end of break/lunch time.** We hope that parents as well as the assemblies and this newsletter can help to support students remember to get water at the correct time.

To support the above, we recommend that ALL students have a water bottle with them at school.

Similarly to the above, students should be using **break time, lunch time and transition times in between lessons to go to the toilet rather than during lesson time.** This is again to support students' learning by making sure they do not miss lesson time.

Mr Dean Dummett
Associate Assistant Headteacher
Head of PE

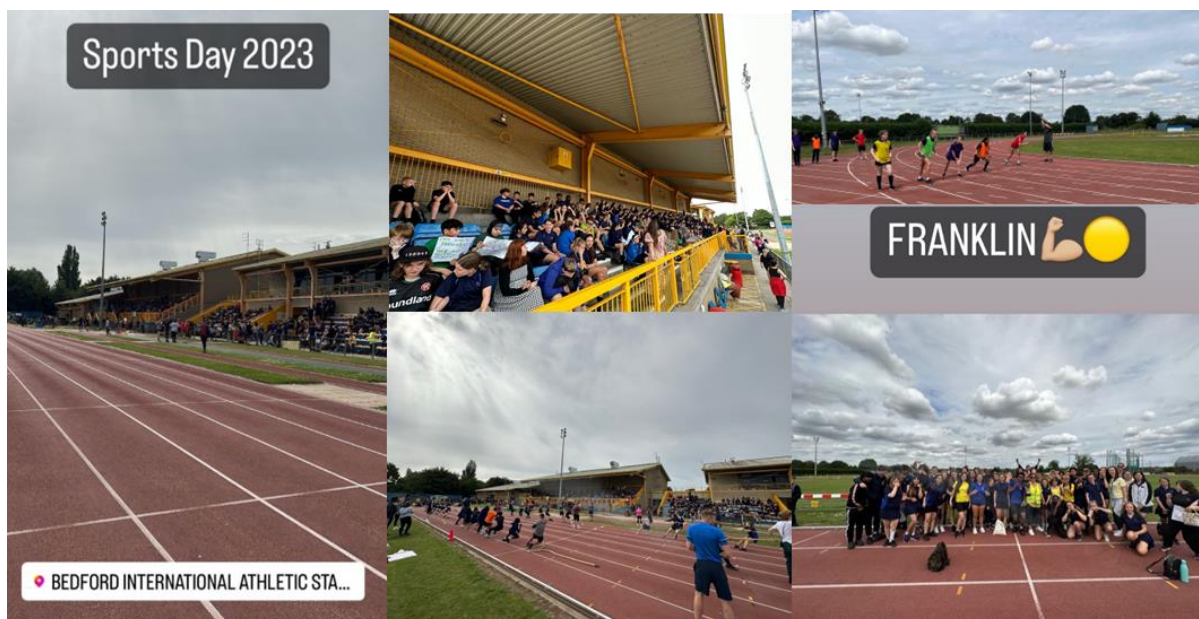
Sports Day

Sports Day 2024 will be taking place at Bedford International Athletics Stadium on Friday 12th July.

As we approach our final half-term, I wanted to share some photos from last year's Sports Day where **Franklin House** were the winners of Sports Day 2023.

Further details will be communicated with students and parents via assemblies and parentmails over the coming weeks about the arrangements of this years Sports Day. We look forward to another amazing event with all students being part of another memorable day.

Which house will be this years Sports Day winners...?



Mr Dean Dummett
Associate Assistant Headteacher
Head of PE

Well done!

Year 8

Isla W, Lissie, Maisie and Callie E all play for Phoenix Football Team.

The team was developed in 2023 the first team in the Phoenix development academy. The girls were entered into the M&S Water Services Chiltern League and are the first ALL girls team to play in an ALL boys league in 70 years, the girls play on a Sunday and train on a Thursday.

Both finals are being held this week, on Thursday 9th May at Bedford Athletic Stadium the girls played Kempton Rovers Youth Academy to win the league, the final score was 5-1! What a fantastic achievement!

On Sunday 12th May they will also be playing for the cup against Luton Panthers.

All four girls have been part of the club since the beginning, this is a fantastic achievement and commitment, well done girls!

Kind regards

Kind regards

Amanda Maddox

Mrs Amanda Maddox

Congratulations to Ruby!!



Ruby has had a very busy few days. She passed her 2nd Dan in Tang Soo Do and achieved Gold and Silver medals at the world TSD tournament in Belfast.

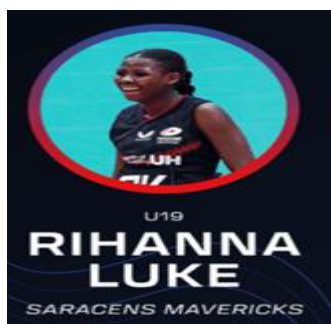
We are very proud, she did amazing.

Mrs N Biddles
Hear of Year 9

Wixams Alumni: Sporting Achievement!

Congratulations to our ex-student Rihanna Luke. Rihanna was a founding member of the school and participated extensively in all of our sporting teams. Rihanna has gone onto play and captain the U19 Saracens Mavericks netball team. As a result Rihanna has been named Player of the Season for the whole of the U19 Netball Performance League.

Rihanna is hoping to go onto university to continue her netball and study Sports Science.
 Well done Rihanna we are so proud of you!
 Miss Goodwin



Dates for your diary:

14 th May	Year 8 Vaccinations assembly
15 th May	Year 12 UCAS Evening 6-7.00pm
16-17 th May	Year 9 Bronze DofE Expedition
21 st May	Year 8 HPV vaccinations
22 nd -24 th May	Silver DofE Practise Expedition
27 th May – 31 st May	Half term
3 rd June	Students return to school Chinese students visiting the Academy 2 weeks
5 th June	Year 12 UCAS evening 5.30-7.00pm
12 th June – 14 th June	Silver DofE expedition for year 10 and 12
18 th June	Year 8 Subject meetings