

The Boswells School

Weekly Bulletin



Friday 14th July 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you so much for your support and understanding you have shown in light of the challenges we had at the start of the week and will continue to have until the end of term. Whenever emergencies like these occur, we always look to minimise the disruption to the students' education where we can and I hope that the work that staff have been setting the students to complete remotely has kept them busy. Although the damage caused by the flood at the weekend is significant, we are confident that the block will be able to be re-opened by the time we start back in September.

There have been some fantastic events taking place over the past week that are worthy of a mention. On Saturday, we welcomed Boswells Alumni back to the school to celebrate our 60th anniversary. It was great to see so many faces from the past that I remember, but worthy of a special mention are those that attended who were here as students in 1963 when the school first opened. For those that are unaware, I joined the school at Easter 2000, so although I was able to share some common memories, it was great to hear some from those that were here well before my time!

It was a huge shame that we had to postpone the Celebration of Dance on Monday and Tuesday, but I'd like to thank the staff involved for their hard work and flexibility in rescheduling for Thursday next week. On Wednesday I attended our Sports Awards Evening. It was fantastic to see so many students recognised for their sporting achievements over the past year. Also worthy of a big mention are Miss Heaton and Mrs Burton, who will both be retiring at the end of this term after 38 and 37 years respectively working at The Boswells School. I am sure there are parents/carers out there who the ladies taught during their time here. Both have made an incredible contribution to the school and I know have impacted many students in such a positive way. I am sure you will join me in thanking them for everything they have done.

On Thursday evening, we held a disco for all of the Year 6 students joining Boswells next year. The disco acts as an ice-breaker, hopefully making the students feel less daunted by the prospect of starting at a big secondary school. I think it is fair to say that the students had a great time and we look forward to seeing them in September.

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Next week is the final week of term. The arrangements as explained previously are:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday - Years 7, 9 and 12 in school. Years 8 and 10 on remote learning.

Tuesday & Thursday – Years 7, 8 and 10 in school. Years 9 and 12 on remote learning.

Finally, a reminder that the term will finish at 12.20pm on Friday 21st July for our students, whether they are in school on this day or studying remotely.

Have a great weekend.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Mansell', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Stephen Mansell
Headteacher

Attendance

ABSENCE LINE: 01245 264451 Press 1 or, use the Absence Reporting function in the Edulink App or via email: attendance@boswells-school.com

Please remember you are required to call The Boswells School absence line **each and every day** your child is absent by 8.00am, unless a pre-authorized absence or COVID related AND you have informed us you are self-isolating following a positive test.

The following examples are **not** reasons for absence: headache; stomachache; feeling tired; runny nose; sneezing; sore throat; period pains – please visit NHS Guide to School Absence for more details.

As of 24th February 2022, there is no legal requirement to test for COVID or self-isolate unless you are unwell and wish to do so.

Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline

The Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline is available to answer questions about coronavirus (COVID-19) relating to education and children's social care. Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline by calling:

Phone: **0800 046 8687**

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm





Saturday to Sunday from 10am to 4pm

Updated Government Guidelines on Student Attendance

- If a child or young person has a positive COVID-19 test result they should try to stay at home and where possible, avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test. The risk of passing the infection on to others is much lower after 3 days if they feel well and do not have a high temperature.
- Children and young people who live with someone who has a positive COVID-19 test result should continue to attend as normal.

Information and Notices

Upcoming Events

-  **Tuesday 18th July - Celebration of Music**
-  **Wednesday 19th July – PA Awards Evening**
-  **Thursday 20th July - Celebration of Dance**
-  **Friday 21st July - Last day of Term (12.20pm finish for students)**

Safeguarding Information

The school has a great deal of information on the website in relation to safeguarding. The school's safeguarding team have their contacts on there, plus there is a reminder about the email address students or parents can use if they have a concern about a safeguarding matter which is letusknow@boswells-school.com.

If you feel your child needs support to learn about self-harm, Young Minds have a useful guide for parents as well as a parent helpline. Also, the calm harm app is a good resource for young people struggling with self-harm.

Young Minds self-harm guide can be found [here](#)

Helpline: 0808 802 5544 (9.30am to 4pm)

To view our safeguarding page on our website please click [here](#).

Free Breakfast in school

We offer ALL of our students FREE toast and porridge EVERY morning. Students can access this before school between 8.00 - 8.30am via main reception. It is served in the main survery.



Student Catering Accounts

Please can we ask parents/carers to check their child's catering balance and add funds to put the account in credit. Please be aware that it can take up to 24 hours for funds to reach the catering system from ParentPay.

In addition, can we remind parents/carers that the Free School Meal daily allowance is £2.40 and unused funds are not rolled over to future dates. Students cannot spend over the £2.40 limit unless additional funds are added.

Free School Meals

Everyone is encouraged to check their eligibility for Free School Meals if you believe you may be entitled to them. The school has subscribed to a secure website which you will need to use to apply. Please click on the following link <https://pps.lqfl.org.uk/>

The system is simple and clear to use with a step-by-step process and an immediate answer as to eligibility, with the school being informed automatically.

The amount allocated for a free school meal is currently £2.40 and covers the provision of a two-course meal. Water is always available from water fountains which are located around the school.

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Keeping up to speed

As well as our website, you can keep up to speed with everything that is happening at the school by following us on Twitter (@BoswellsSchool) or on our Facebook page (The Boswells School Official). You can also sign up to receive our press and media releases direct to your email address. This service is free of charge and can be accessed by emailing boswellsnews@gmail.com and asking to be added to the distribution list.



Keeping us up to Date

It is important that we have the most up to date information for you and your child.

If any of your contact details, or those of your child, have changed, please let us know by using the **Update Information** option in the Edulink App or by e-mailing admin@boswells-school.com.

Useful Guides

We have guides on our **website under the Parent tab**, including Edulink, E-Mails, ParentPay, Teams, Parents Evening, SatchelOne, Office 365 and Folder and a copy of the IT usage agreement. All can be found by clicking [here](#).

SatchelOne have excellent help guides for all aspects of the system including troubleshooting.

<https://help.satchelone.com/en/>

Contacting Us

Main Reception is open from 8.00am to 4.00pm. Staff contact details can be found on our website – [Our Staff](#)

If you wish to contact us, you can call on 01245 264451 between the hours above, but in most cases the best way to contact us is via the school email account (admin@boswells-school.com). You should expect to receive a response within 2 school days, but if your queries are urgent, we will endeavour to deal with them as soon as practicable.

Please remind your child that there are multiple forms of support accessible to them at school. If they have a concern with a subject, they should communicate with the subject teacher directly or additional help can be sought from the subject Head of Department. Their tutor who they see daily is the best person to inform about any concerns or ask any questions which are not related to a subject. They may also wish to access support in their relevant student services – year 7 and 8 is located in the C block corridor near the front office and Year 9,10 and 11 is based in B Block by the staffroom. Here students will find their Head of Year and members of the Pastoral team. They may also wish to report any safeguarding and wellbeing concerns through the email address letusknow@boswells-school.com.

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Miss Noble (Deputy Headteacher) is the safeguarding lead and students are welcome to see her to access support. Her office is in B block on route to the Drama and Music departments. There are lots of support and information websites and helplines accessible on the Safeguarding page of the website following the link below:

<https://www.boswells-school.com/safeguarding.htm>

As a school we aim to respond to communication from parents within 48 hours. To ensure you get the best support please ensure you direct your communication to the most relevant member of staff. Subject queries should in the first instance go to the subject teacher and then the Head of Department of Faculty. Pastoral concerns should go via tutors and then the Head of year. A list of staff details can be found on the link below:

<https://www.boswells-school.com/about-us/our-staff.htm>

The Boswells School Current Vacancies



Please click [here](#) to view current Staff Vacancies



For CLP Vacancies please click [here](#)

House Tables

	150 Points
	150 Points
	100 Points
	90 Points
	40 Points
	120 Points

Congrats!



Last Week

	2956 Points
	3490 Points
	3176 Points
	3160 Points
	2426 Points
	3298 Points

Congrats!



Overall

Celebrating Success

Diversity Week

Last week saw our school community celebrate Diversity Week and Pride month with various activities and displays across the school. Students took time to reflect on what it means to be a diverse community and some of their work has been placed on display around the school.



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Celebrating Success



PA Induction Week 'Cabaret'

Students from years 11, 12 and 13 presented a production last Friday based on the hit musical 'Cabaret', the two performances were enjoyed by staff, parents and students. Well done to everyone involved.

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KS3 Summer Reading List

All of these books are an enjoyable and challenging read for any KS3 student.

Half a King-by Joe Abercrombie

From the first page, Yarvi's story, set in a vividly imagined fantasy world, is gripping, fast-paced and hard to put down. Explores complex questions of morality, loyalty and obligation.

Love Hurts-by Malorie Blackman

This anthology depicts a very wide range of romantic relationships, and a diverse set of characters, showing love in all its forms.

Red Leaves-by Sita Brahmachari

Sita Brahmachari has created a beautiful tale of modern multicultural Britain. Her characters come from diverse backgrounds but are brought together by the common theme - they all feel they have been abandoned by someone they love.

Apple and Rain-by Sarah Crossan

Engrossing and uplifting, challenging and charming, Apple and Rain brings fiction and poetry together in a well-crafted story about growing up and learning to love.

This Book is Gay-by James Dawson

A fantastic book for classrooms and school libraries, This Book is Gay is a must-read for teachers and parents, as well as teens themselves.

The Lie Tree-by Frances Hardinge

This dark, exciting novel delves into the world of religion versus science in the late 1800s, and twists towards a thrilling climax.

The Great War-by Jim Kay

Each story is inspired by a different object from World War I, from a soldier's writing case to the nose of a Zeppelin bomb.

Flirty Dancing-by Jenny McLachlan

First of four books, this is smart, funny writing, engagingly balancing the serious stuff - bullying, first love, friendship - with the joy of lindy hop and aerial moves.

The Apple Tart of Hope-by Sarah Moore Fitzgerald

Oscar's apple tarts bring hope to the sad or desperate. He is loved and appreciated for this special gift. Meg is his best friend, but just as their friendship is about to blossom into love she has to go to...

Jasmine Skies-by Sita Brahmachari

Following from Brahmachari's debut novel, Artichoke Hearts, this a thoughtful, tender and uplifting novel, which continues the story of Mira, now two years older, as she negotiates challenging new experiences, the complexities of family and friendship, and the uncertainty of...

I get sad every time I hear a person say, "I don't read." It's like saying "I don't learn," or "I don't laugh," or "I don't live."

Infinite Sky-by C J Flood

Iris's mum has gone, leaving her to look after her older brother and dad. When a family of Irish Travellers park up on the farm, the summer becomes even more eventful.

Why We Took the Car-by Wolfgang Herrndorf

Mike and Tschik take off in a 'borrowed' Lada for a summer road trip.

Nobody's Girl-by Sarra Manning

Bea's journey through the sundrenched boulevards of Paris will transport teenagers to another world in this astute and imaginative tale about identity and truth.

A Beautiful Lie-by Irfan Master

Set in India during the summer of 1947, A Beautiful Lie follows the tumultuous events of the Partition of India through the eyes of Bilal who is looking after his ill father.

All My Secrets-by Sophie McKenzie

Fast paced and easy to read, this exciting mystery with unexpected plot twists, new friendships and a touch of teenage romance is a great summer teen read.

How I Live Now-by Meg Rosoff

Fifteen-year-old New Yorker Daisy is sent to England to spend a summer with her unconventional cousins

The Cardturner-by Louis Sachar

Alton has been unwillingly forced by his parents into being his irascible, blind, bridge-mad uncle's cardturner, in the hope that the family will be beneficiaries of the old man's will.

Tiger Wars-by Steve Backshall

Saker and Sinter live utterly different lives - until they find themselves unlikely companions on the run. A breathlessly exciting adventure set in India.

Stories of WW1-by Tony Bradman

Poignantly bringing the First World War alive for teenagers, this anthology reminds us that many of those in the trenches were themselves no older.

The Great Ice Cream Heist-by Elen Caldecott

Shy Eva lives a quiet life with her protective Dad - until the noisy McIntyre family move in next door.

Ruby Redfort: Look Into My Eyes-by Lauren Child

Blessed with an extraordinary talent for spotting things which others seldom notice, 13-year-old Ruby lands an undercover job as a code-breaker for secret-spy organisation, Spectrum.

Whale Boy-by Nicola Davies

In this short novel, Nicola Davies paints a rich and vibrant picture of island life, which feels as fresh as the sea air.

101 Poems for Children chosen by Carol Ann Duffy-by Carol Ann Duffy

Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy has created a spirited, enriching and exquisite anthology of poems for children.





Extra Time-by Morris Gleitzman

Imagine being filmed using your football skills to avoid being trampled by a herd of stampeding cattle. That's what happens to 14 year old Matt and it changes his life forever.

Wild Boy-by Rob Lloyd-Jones

In 1840s London, Wild Boy leads a miserable life in a travelling freak show. Treated as a monster and excluded from society, he develops an unusual talent for observation.

Boffin Boy Goes to Hollywood-by David Orme

Rick Shaw might seem like an ordinary teenager, but when danger strikes Ricky becomes... Boffin Boy!

Ghost Stadium-by Tom Palmer

Tom Palmer's Ghost Stadium is a fast-paced and properly spooky ghost story. The book suits reluctant readers and is also dyslexia friendly.

Super Animals-by Anne Rooney

Have you ever wondered how a clever crow can crack a hard nut, or how a wild cat can trap a baby monkey? Super Animals can tell you!

Geek Girl-by Holly Smale

Everyone at school knows Harriet Manners is a geek.

Operation Ouch!-by Dr Chris and Dr Xand van Tulleken

Have you ever wondered how long you'll spend on the toilet in your lifetime, or how many skin cells you shed in one day? Operation Ouch! Your Brilliant Body explains everything you've ever wanted to know about your body, including...

A Boy Called Hope-by Lara Williamson

A Boy Called Hope is a moving story about a boy's search for his dad. Dan Hope is a funny and likeable boy who tackles the questions he has in his life head on. His determination to find answers is...

Winnie's Dinosaur Day-by Valerie Thomas

When Winne the Witch discovers that the local museum is holding a competition, she comes up with a good idea.

Croc and Bird-by Alexis Deacon

Two eggs lie side-by-side on a sandy beach: one hatches to reveal a crocodile and the other a bird.

Off to the Park!-by Stephen Cheetham

We're off to the park - what will we find? Which way shall we go? The swings or the slide? Take a look inside!