

NEWSLETTER



December 2025



Message from The Headteacher, Mrs Day



Dear Parents, Carers, and students,

As we approach the end of the term, I would like to take a moment to celebrate what has been a truly successful academic year so far. Our students have shown remarkable dedication, resilience, and enthusiasm in their learning, and their achievements; both inside and outside the classroom, they have been a source of great pride for us all.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our parents and carers. Your continued support, encouragement, and trust make an enormous difference to the life of our school and to the success of every child. Our staff, too, deserve special recognition for their hard work, commitment, and unwavering belief in the potential of every student.

As we enter the festive season, I hope you all find time to relax, reflect, and enjoy the simple joys that Christmas brings. May this holiday be filled with peace, happiness, and moments shared with loved ones. On behalf of the entire school community, I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a joyful New Year. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in January, refreshed and ready for the exciting term ahead.



Sports round-up

Football

All of our teams have competed this term in the Enfield Borough leagues and cup and are progressing well! As a school, we offer equality of sports competing with both boys and girls teams. Stand out performances so far have been the Year 7 boys and girls' teams, who were selected to compete in the Tottenham Hotspur tournament, alongside the much improved team displays of our Year 9 team led by Mr Matata. We have top Year 7 students who have great defensive skills. In the girls teams we have outstanding goalkeeping from two of our Year 7 girl students.

Our links with Tottenham Hotspur have grown again, with a regular enrichment club, taken by our Year 7-9 boys and girls every Thursday from our visiting Tottenham coaches. Our students have additional skill development led by high quality coaches and opportunities to develop their social skills.

Basketball

Basketball club is well attended every day in the sports hall with large numbers of students developing their skills. After school sessions for Year 7 and 8 are on Wednesdays with Coach Afonso and Coach Junior.

Volleyball

Volleyball is actively growing, and we now have a thriving community of players in every year group. This activity is led by Mr Whorms, who has helped to develop a number of confident 6th formers who have shown excellent leadership skills. This, in turn, will help other students with their skill set in volleyball.



Year 11 Geography Field Trip



Our students were embracing the great outdoors this autumn on their two geography fieldtrips. The first one was the Physical Geography trip to Walton-on-the-Naze on the Essex coast where we undertook a field study to investigate further the coastal processes in the area. The students independently carried out their investigation using state of the art Geographical equipment provided by the Field Council. They worked through some difficult conditions to measure, sketch and track their findings in an attempt to prove their hypothesis.

In the second Human Geography trip to Stratford in London, our students were looking at new developments and the impacts of gentrification. We were integrated into the area buzzing with life within the UCL campus, West Ham United FC and Westfield Shopping Centre first. This allowed the students to gain insight into the areas that had not yet been developed and what sort of conditions and outlook the inhabitants may have on nearby expensive development.

Our students were a credit to the school, and we anticipate they will progress and this will be reflected in their exam results.



Trip to see Oliver Twist The Musical

The English Department organised an educational visit for 30 students to attend a performance of Oliver! — a West End adaptation of the Charles Dickens' novel Oliver Twist. This was a valuable opportunity for students to experience a live theatrical interpretation of a key text studied in Key Stage 3 English. It also enhanced their understanding of Victorian London, a topic that forms an important part of the contextual knowledge required for the GCSE English Literature course.

Testimonials from students:

- In my opinion the Oliver Twist musical was actually good because the acting was good. I really enjoyed it and would love to watch it again.
- The Oliver Twist musical was amazing! I would surely rate this trip 10/10.
- The Oliver Twist musical was fantastic! I would love to go on a trip like this again. I loved it!
- The Oliver Twist musical was amazing. I loved the music!
- The musical was really good! I loved the writing and the story telling. I would 100% go on a trip like this again.





Bishop Stopford's School Choir



The Bishop Stopford's Gospel Choir visited Berkeley Square House in Mayfair to spread festive cheer by singing Christmas carols for the tenants. It was a memorable and uplifting experience for everyone involved. Students were amazed by the beautiful Christmas decorations that welcomed them on arrival.

The CEO of Berkeley Square House described the performance as deeply emotional, praising the choir for their exceptional voices and the joy they brought to the building. The choir were also joined by Abigail, a member of the Berkeley Square House team, who sang alongside them, making the occasion even more special.

The visit ended on a high note, with the choir returning home with special personalised goodie bags as a heartfelt thank you for their performance. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Berkeley Square House for hosting us in such a special and generous way and we are also extremely grateful to them for their generous donation to the school.



Christmas Carol CONCERT



The Christmas school carol service for staff and students at Bishop Stopford's School was a joyful and memorable occasion. On entry to the school, families were welcomed by selected students performing Christmas songs in the foyer, led by Ms Pavlou, Head of Year. The students were accompanied by three talented student musicians playing the keyboard, creating a warm and festive atmosphere. This was an exciting and enjoyable start to the evening for everyone.

Mrs Day, the Headteacher, introduced the main event in the school hall and warmly spread Christmas joy to all who attended.

The wonderful school choir, led by our talented choir mistress, Deborah Frimpong, delivered beautiful carols that truly captured the spirit of Christmas. The service was further enlivened by comedy sketches performed by other students, and members of staff Mr Keating & Ms Sathish, bringing laughter and cheer to everyone present. Overall, the programme was highly entertaining and reflected the creativity, confidence, and festive spirit of our school community.



YEAR 12 & 13 NEWS

On 7th November, Year 12 and 13 students with a keen interest in maths, engineering, IT, and computer science visited Middlesex University in Hendon. Using the Niryo Ned2 robotic arm, Sixth Form students had the opportunity to program, debug, and control a real robot, gaining first-hand experience of how code translates directly into action.

Working in pairs, students progressed through a series of increasingly complex challenges, strengthening their computational thinking, coding, and problem-solving skills. The visit also showcased Middlesex University's Engineering and Robotics courses, and the experience was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who took part.





Year 11 Sixth Form Taster Day



We were delighted to welcome our Year 11 students to our Sixth Form Taster Day, giving them an exciting insight into life beyond GCSEs and the opportunities available to them as future Sixth Formers.

Throughout the day, students experienced a range of taster lessons across different subjects, allowing them to explore new areas of study, understand the expectations of post-16 learning and engage with teaching styles that promote independence, critical thinking and academic ambition. These sessions were designed to challenge students, spark curiosity and help them make informed choices about their next steps.

In addition to subject tasters, students had the opportunity to learn more about Sixth Form life, including the increased responsibility, study facilities, enrichment opportunities and the strong pastoral support that underpins student success. Staff were impressed by the maturity, enthusiasm and engagement shown by students throughout the day.

The Taster Day was a valuable opportunity for students to begin to see themselves as Sixth Form learners and to reflect on their aspirations for the future. We are very much looking forward to welcoming them back in September and supporting them as they begin the next exciting stage of their educational journey.



Reading Plus Poem Competition

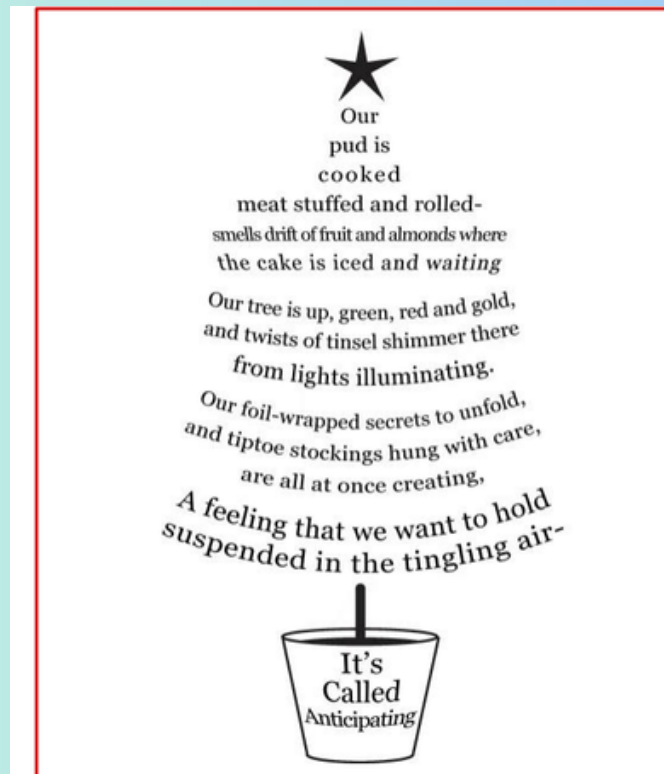
Some of our pupils entered poems around the theme of Festive Feelings as part of a DreamBox Reading Plus competition.



In school, we use Reading Plus, an online reading development programme, to help students with their reading skills and confidence.

We have received a message from the competition organisers:

“Thank you to all students who participated; your poems were wonderful to read. We are delighted to share that Year 7 student Kwame’s entry has been shortlisted. Congratulations, Kwame!”



We need your support to help Kwame win:

Competition organisers Daisy Education UK will share all six shortlisted poems on their social media channels. Every like, comment or share of Kwame’s poem is worth one vote. The pupil whose poem has the most votes will win.

You can find Kwame’s poem posted on:

Facebook - Daisy Education UK

Instagram - @daisyeducationuk

X (Twitter) - @DaisyEduUK

Prizes are awarded as follows:

First place will win a £200 voucher and a certificate.

Second place will win a £150 voucher and a certificate.

Third place will win a £100 voucher and a certificate.

Voting will open on 16th December and closes at midnight on 4th January 2026!

*Terms and conditions apply. Visit the Daisy Education UK website at

<https://www.daisyeducationuk.com/impact/events/article/reading-plus-festive-poem-competition-2025>

Thank you for your support,

London School and College Leavers Festival at Excel



As part of our careers programme, students attended The London School & College Leaver Festival, an event that brings together employers, universities, colleges, and training providers in one place.

The festival gives students the opportunity to explore the full range of options available to them after ages 16–18, including higher education, apprenticeships, and further training pathways.

With a busy and lively atmosphere, the event offers access to a wide variety of exhibitors and provides students with valuable information, guidance, and inspiration to support their future choices.



Year 10 visit to



On 27th November, a group of Year 10 students visited ITV White City to take part in a full day of engaging and interactive activities. The experience included:

- A welcome and introduction from the ITV Early Careers and ITV Academy team
- Opportunities to meet ITV staff and learn about a wide range of industry roles
- A creative programme-making session, working collaboratively in groups
- A pitch presentation delivered to ITV professionals
- A careers talk titled “Getting a Job in TV”
- The announcement of the winning group pitch



This visit provided a fantastic opportunity for students to gain first-hand insight into the television industry, while also developing key skills such as teamwork, communication, creativity, and confidence.



STEM Club

We are starting a STEM CLUB on Wednesday's from 3:15-4:00pm in Science BLOCK Room JW2. There is a possibility for club members to get the STEMKART Experience. It's a one day experience on designing and developing STEMKART, with student able to have a go racing them. Experience is one of the best lessons students at STEM Club. **Please see the following link <https://sway.cloud.microsoft/XGSCrLWelDQ7bzzW?ref=email>** to The STEMKART Experience which should answer all your questions.

Experiences to cover:

- Team work
- Aerodynamics
- Forces and their impact on objects.
- Design Challenges
- Product Development
- Understanding modern technology developments
- Building resilience
- Design and Development
- F1 Technology
- Ergonomics & Anthropometrics
- Mechanisms and Linkages
- Data analysis and measuring averages
- Information gathering
- Self-evaluation
- Racing lines and angles
- Electric vehicle technology
- The impact of STEM on society
- Environmental impact of vehicles
- Improve individual and group performance
- Building individuals self-esteem
- Setting targets and building on strengths



This is the first project of its kind. Go-karts are the perfect tool to engage young people in their education allowing them to learn and have fun in a stimulating environment.

A practical experience where pupils get to drive the go-karts.

Pupils work together in teams to understand the importance of STEM and the impact it has on our lifestyle, the environment and everyone's future.



*Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and
a Very Happy New Year from Everyone
at Bishop Stopford's School*

