



## PBA WEEKLY BULLETIN

### A message from Mrs Linehan

What a truly wonderful week of Christmas spirit PBA have shared together! The Academy has been filled with festive cheer, highlighted by the fantastic Year 5 pantomime trip, Christmas assemblies across all year groups and today's Christmas jumper day and lunch, complete with festive music, great food, and plenty of Christmas crackers! Seeing the community come together like this is always a highlight of the Autumn term.

Our festive events continue next week with PBA's first ever KS2 Winter Disco and KS2 Carols on the Playground performance, as well as final celebration and reward events for all year groups to acknowledge the incredible achievements of this term.

Thank you to all Year 6 and Year 8 families who attended our Progress Events this week. These meetings are invaluable in discussing your child's achievements, reviewing progress, and setting clear next steps for the rest of the academic year. Next week, we welcome our Year 11 families following the recent release of mock examination results. This is a crucial opportunity to review performance and plan the final stages of preparation for the Summer exams. Your continued support for our first GCSE cohort is greatly appreciated.

Please be reminded of the following arrangements for next week:

1. **Non-Uniform Day, Tuesday, 16th December**
2. **PE Kit Requirement (Years 7-11):** Our changing rooms are having a 'glow up' and receiving some new branding next week! Therefore, students in Years 7-11 will need to attend school in their full PE kit on their timetabled PE days. Please refer to yesterday's message for further details and thank you for helping us with this improvement work.

We are so proud of the resilience and enthusiasm shown by our students this term, and we are now heading into an exciting final week.

## Water Superstar

Congratulations to Cian M from Year 9, who made the East regional team after trials last month. The team won silver at the Swim England Waterpolo inter regionals earlier this month. A full write up of the match is available here:

<https://www.eastswimming.org/water-polo-inter-regional-u14s-boys/>



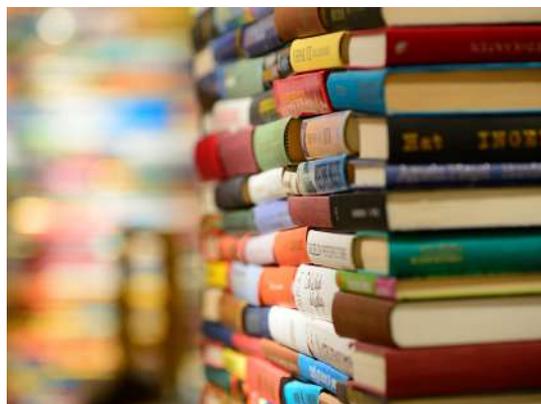
## Music Debut for Tommy

Congratulations to Tommy W, from Year 6, who played his first gig last weekend! He played his electric guitar at Baldock Christmas Fair, and (despite some nerves) did a great job. Well done, Tommy!

## Book Amnesty

The Library is missing large numbers of books this term, some of which are overdue and some of which have simply wandered out of the building.

If you have books that belong to the school library, please can you pop them back. No questions asked: Mrs Coulthard will be delighted to have them back on the shelves!



## Winter Safety Letter from Bedfordshire Fire & Rescue Service

Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service have issued this letter regarding water safety during the winter months.



[bedsfire.gov.uk](http://bedsfire.gov.uk)  
 Southfields Road  
 Kempston, Bedford  
 MK42 7NR  
[bedsfire@bedsfire.gov.uk](mailto:bedsfire@bedsfire.gov.uk)  
 @bedsfire

For the attention of Parents and Guardians

### Children/Young People's safety around lakes, rivers and bodies of open water

Dear Parents,

**We want to alert parents and young people of the potential dangers and risk to life of playing near and on frozen bodies of water in Bedfordshire.**

**We would ask all parents and carers to talk to their children and remind them of the dangers of ice and water and why they must keep away from it.**

Frozen lakes, ponds, canals and reservoirs can look picturesque, but they can be lethal. There can be no greater warning of this than last year's awful event.

The cold weather can lead to bodies of water freezing over and creating hazardous conditions. We understand the temptation to walk across or play on the frozen water, but we would like to urge everyone to see the dangers are associated with frozen water.

Our advice is to never go on to the ice under any circumstances. The ice may appear thicker than it is but please be aware that ice can be weak, especially as you move further from the edge. If you were to fall in it can be extremely dangerous due to the cold temperatures of the water and the possibility of currents pushing you under unbroken ice.

RLSS UK offer safety advice for winter water safety, with simple steps to keep safe during the winter:

1. Never go onto the ice to play, to retrieve an object, or a pet.
2. Never enter the ice to rescue somebody, call 999 and ask for the Fire and Rescue Service

### What to do if YOU accidentally fall through the ice:

- Stay calm and shout for help
- Spread your arms out across the surface of the ice in front of you
- Lie flat and use your arms to pull yourself over the ice towards the shore
- If the ice on the water breaks, try to make your way to the bank or shore, breaking ice in front of you as you go
- If you find yourself stuck and unable to escape, wait for help. Stay as still as possible to conserve your energy. Bring your arms close to your sides and keep your legs together, while keeping your head out of the water
- When you're safely out of the water it's important to go to hospital for a check-up



[bedsfire.gov.uk](http://bedsfire.gov.uk)  
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[bedsfire@bedsfire.gov.uk](mailto:bedsfire@bedsfire.gov.uk)  
 @bedsfire

### What to do if you see SOMEONE ELSE fall through the ice:

- Shout for help, call 999 and – if the incident involves inland water – ask for the fire service. At the coast, ask for the coastguard.
- Do not go on to ice to attempt a rescue.
- Call out to the casualty and encourage them to stay calm.
- To try to reach the person from the bank, use a rope, pole, tree branch, clothes tied together or anything else that can extend your reach.
- Lie down flat on the bank, to avoid slipping or being pulled in.
- If you can't reach them, try sliding something that floats – like a football or large plastic bottle – to them, to help them float.
- If the casualty is too far away, DO NOT try to rescue them yourself. Wait for the emergency services to arrive. Continue to remain calm and reassure the person.

Please also see the attached Factsheet: [The Dangers of Frozen Water Factsheet](#) | [StayWise](#)

Visit [WWW.Staywise.co.uk](http://WWW.Staywise.co.uk) for more learning resources that you can use at home provided by the Emergency Services



We are encouraging everyone to download what3ords as this helps us to identify a location when it isn't addressable e.g. by a lake or a rural country road. The App can be downloaded for free onto a mobile phone. More information can be found at [www.what3ords.com](http://www.what3ords.com)

- If you are in a rural area and are unsure of the exact location, try using what3ords.
- This will give you 3 keywords to give to the 999 call operator. This gives us an exact location, enabling emergency services to know your exact location and the best access point to send help.

Despite the obvious safety risks, Fire service have no authority to stop people being near open water, but if you have concerns of safety or anti-social behavior, we would ask you to report this through to the Police non-emergency number on 101

If someone is in trouble and needs help in an emergency, please call 999

Kind Regards

Stacey Moore  
Community Safety Officer  
Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service



EVERY CONTACT COUNTS |
 WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK |
 WE DARE TO BE DIFFERENT |
 WE ARE ACCOUNTABLE

## EdShed Results

Well done to everyone who completed their EdShed homework this week!

Here are the ten highest-scoring classes!

### Top Spelling Shed Groups

#	Group	Score
1.	Morpurgo	75,649,268
2.	Blackman	73,735,451
3.	Austen	71,788,121
4.	Attenborough	64,669,747
5.	Pankhurst	56,130,745
6.	Tolkien	51,099,580
7.	Shakespeare	38,891,042
8.	Turing	33,096,688
9.	Zephaniah	28,421,854
10.	Angelou	25,410,515

### Top MathShed Groups

#	Group	Score
1.	Pankhurst	4,807,727
2.	Shakespeare	2,561,810
3.	Zephaniah	598,503
4.	Churchill	189,483
5.	Austen	122,672
6.	Blackman	92,004
7.	Angelou	62,133
8.	Turing	0
9.	Nightingale	0
10.	Attenborough	0

## The Art of Folding Paper

Attenborough Class learned how to make Origami Insects in class this week. Here are some of the results!



## Homework - Years 7 & 8

### Year 7 Homework Timetable

Subject	Teachers	Set	Due	Homework Tasks	Duration
English	MCL, CCN, SCS, HHE, LMN, NLE	Monday	Monday	Various - pre reading and research on topics which we are studying. Some SENeca tasks.	1 hour PW
Maths	SPL, CSN, OCE, DMN, JMN, NRA, RJN	Friday	Friday	Sparx maths	30 mins - 1hour
Science	EAS, JHL, FCK, SHS, HCK, CAY, JSK	Monday	Monday	Various tasks - Knowledge organiser, creative task or google form revision quiz for each topic	30 minutes - 1hour
History	EBE, CBN, SBS	Once a fortnight	1 week to complete	tasks set on google classroom based on the topic they have been learning in the classroom	30 mins
Geography	IPE, EIP, SBS	Once a fortnight	1 week to complete	Various tasks set on google classroom based on the topic they have been learning in the classroom	30 mins
French	DSD, IPS	Once per week	1 week to complete	Various tasks: eg. Quizlet, learning vocabulary, answering questions, worksheets, quizzes	30-40 mins
DT/Food Rotation	Miss Kinnear	Any lesson on the rotation	1 week to complete	Food- Sensory evaluation	20 minutes
Art	Mrs Poxson Mrs Young Mrs White	Once per half term	1 week to complete	Practical art tasks connected to the current project.	30 minutes
Computing	Mrs Brant & Miss McGuigan	All	1 week to complete	Two mandatory homeworks per unit in Computing (6 units per year) Optional homeworks for challenge.	20 minutes
Drama	Mrs Jones	Once per half term	1 week to complete	Key term quizzes	10 minutes

### Year 8 Homework Timetable

Subject	Teachers	Set	Due	Homework Tasks	Duration
English	SRS, MCL, RSN, CCN, LMN, SCS, HHE	Monday	Monday	Pre- reading & research into topics which we will be studying. Some SENeca tasks. Consolidation of learning.	1 hour
Maths	SPL, CSN, OCE, DMN, JMN, NRA	Friday	Friday	Sparx maths	30 mins - 1hour
Science	EAS, JHL, FCK, SHS, HCK, CAY, JSK	Monday	Monday	Various tasks - Knowledge organiser, creative task or google form revision quiz for each topic.	30 minutes - 1hour
History	EBE, CBN, SBS	Once a fortnight	1 week to complete	tasks set on google classroom based on the topic they have been learning in the classroom.	30 mins
Geography	IPE, EIP	Once a fortnight	1 week to complete	Various tasks set on google classroom based on the topic they have been learning in the classroom.	30 mins to an hour
French	DSD, IPS	Once per week	1 week to complete	Various tasks eg: Quizlet, learning vocabulary, answering questions, worksheets, quizzes.	30-40 mins
DT/Food Rotation	Miss Kinnear	Food rotation	1 week to complete	Food- Sensory evaluation.	20 minutes
Art	Mrs Poxson Mrs Young Mrs White	Once per half term	1 week to complete	Practical art tasks connected to the current project.	30 minutes
Computing	Mrs Brant	All	1 week to complete	Two mandatory homeworks per unit in Computing (6 units per year) Optional homeworks for challenge.	20 minutes
Drama	Mrs Jones	Once per half term	1 week to complete	Key term quizzes	10 minutes

## Homework - Years 9 & 10

### Year 9 Homework Timetable

Subject	Teachers	Set	Due	Homework Tasks	Duration
English	SRS, MCL, SCS, RSN, CCN, HHE	Monday	Monday	Pre-reading & research into topics which we will be studying. Some SENeca tasks. Consolidation of learning.	1 hour
Maths	SPL, CSN, OCE, DMN, JMN, NRA	Friday	Friday	Sparx maths	30 mins - 1 hour
Science	EAS, JHL, FCK, SHS, HCK, CAY	Monday	Monday	Various tasks - Knowledge organiser, h/w sheet, exam questions, revision cards, Seneca.	30 minutes - 1 hour
History	EBE, CBN, SBS	Once a fortnight	1 week to complete	Tasks set on google classroom based on the topic they have been learning in the classroom.	30 mins
Geography	IPE, EIP	Once a fortnight	1 week to complete	Various tasks set on google classroom based on the topic they have been learning in the classroom.	30 mins to an hour
French	DSD, IPS	Once per week	1 week to complete	Various tasks: Quizlet, learning vocabulary, answering questions, worksheets, quizzes.	45 mins
DT/Food Rotation	Miss Kinnear	Food Rotation	1 week to complete	Food- Sensory evaluation.	20 minutes
Art	Mrs Poxson Mrs Young	Once per half term	1 week to complete	Practical art tasks connected to the current project.	30 minutes
Computing	Mrs Brant	All	1 week to complete	Two mandatory homeworks per unit in Computing (6 units per year) Optional homeworks for challenge.	20 minutes
Drama	Mrs Jones	Once per half term	1 week to complete	Key term quizzes.	10 minutes

### Year 10 Homework Timetable

Subject	Teachers	Set	Due	Homework Tasks	Duration
English	SRS, MCL, RSN, SCS, CCN, EDN	Monday	Monday	Researching topics which we will be learning about. Revision tasks to prepare for mock exams and consolidate learning.	1 hour
Maths	SPL, CSN, OCE, DMN, JMN, NRA	Friday	Friday	Sparx maths	30 mins - 1 hour
Science	EAS, JHL, FCK, SHS, HCK, CAY	Monday	Monday	Various tasks - Knowledge organiser, h/w sheet, exam questions, revision cards Seneca.	30 minutes - 1 hour
History	EBE, CBN, SBS	Weekly	1 week to complete	Tasks set on google classroom based on the topic they have been learning in the classroom.	30 mins - 1hr
Geography	IPE, EIP	Once a fortnight	1 week to complete	Various tasks set on google classroom based on the topic they have been learning in the classroom. Including revision and practice exam questions.	1-2 hours
French	DSD, IPS, VLS	Once per week	1 week to complete	Various tasks: Quizlet, learning vocabulary, answering questions, worksheets, quizzes, revision, exam practice.	1 hour
DT	Mr Fleckney	When required	1 week after setting	Tasks to support the learning in class. Exam question practice. Research and design tasks for practical lessons.	30-60 mins
Art	Mrs Poxson Mrs Young	Every week	1 week to complete	Tasks to support the development of the students' coursework portfolios, for example preparing for lessons e.g. taking photos, artist research etc., working on artworks that have been started in class and presenting work into sketchbooks.	1-2 hours
Business	Miss McGuigan	10B- Thurs 10C- Tues	10B- Thurs 10C- Tues	Business context research task building a bank of mini case studies of businesses of their choice).	20mins
Philosophy	Mr Collins	Monday	Monday	Propello task + similar revision activity.	30 Mins
BTEC IT	Mrs Brant	10A/IT	1 week to complete	Weekly Know It All Ninja learning and quiz.	20 mins
Food	Miss Kinnear	10A Mon/Thurs 10B Weds/Thurs	1 week to complete	Food- Sensory evaluation for practical. Theory based exam style questions.	20 minutes 30 minutes
GCSE PE	Mr Dawson	Friday	1 week to complete	AQ1 content - recap of learning within class, 6-9 mark exam style questions, case studies linked to current issues in sport.	30 minutes - 1 hour
Drama	Mrs Jones	When required	1 week to complete	Learning lines, key term quizzes, set text knowledge tasks, group rehearsals.	10 minutes to 1 hour
Music	Tim Weed	Monday	Monday	Practice Journal, Listening questions.	

## Homework - Year 11

### Year 11 Homework

Subject	Teachers	Set	Due	Homework Tasks	Duration
English	SRS, MCL, RSN, EDN, CCN	Monday	Monday	Revision and consolidation tasks to prepare for mocks and GCSEs.	2 Hours
Maths	SPL, CSN, DMN, JMN	Friday	Friday	Sparx Maths	1hour
Science	EAS, JHL, FCK, SHS, HCK, CAY	Monday	Monday	Various tasks - Knowledge organiser, h/w sheet, exam questions, revision cards, seneca.	30 minutes - 1hour
History	EBE CBN, SBS	weekly	1 week to complete	Tasks set on google classroom based on the topic they have been learning in the classroom.	30 mins -1hr
Geography	IPE, EIP	Once a fortnight	1 week to complete	Various tasks set on google classroom based on the topic they have been learning in the classroom. Including revision and practice exam questions.	1-2 hours
French	IPS, VLS	Once per week	1 week to complete	Various tasks eg: Quizlet, learning vocabulary, answering questions, worksheets, quizzes, revision, exam practice	1 hour
DT	Mr Fleckney	Every Week	1 week after setting	To continue with the NEA design folder. Completing pages from the lessons and acting on teacher feedback to support the work. GCSE Mock paper practice prior to scheduled mock exams.	1-2 hours
Art	Mrs Poxson	Every week	1 week to complete	Tasks to support the development of the students' coursework/exam portfolios, for example preparing for lessons e.g. taking photos, artist research etc., working on artworks that have been started in class and presenting work into sketchbooks.	1-2 hours
Drama	Mrs Jones	When required	1 week	Learning lines, key term quizzes, set text knowledge tasks, group rehearsals.	10 minutes to 1 hour
Business	Miss McGuigan	11A / 11D Weds	11A / 11D Weds	Business context research task (building a bank of mini case studies of businesses of their choice).	20mins
BTEC IT	Mrs Brant	11B/IT	1 week to complete	Weekly <b>Know it All Ninja</b> learning and quiz. Revision tasks.	20-40 mins
Food	Miss Kinnear	11C Mon/ Thurs 11D Tues/ Weds	1 week to complete	Food- Sensory evaluation for practicals Theory based exam style questions COURSEWORK also will have homework attached to it.	20 minutes 30 minutes Time limit will be set in lesson
GCSE PE	Mr Nicholl	Friday	1 week to complete	AO1 content - recap of learning within class, 6-9 mark exam style questions, case studies linked to current issues in sport.	30 minutes - 1 hour



## Year 11 GCSE Subject Interventions

To support our Year 11 pupils with their ongoing examination preparation, subject interventions will be running as per the timetable below.

We greatly value your support and encourage you to speak with your child about the importance of attending their intervention sessions and positively engaging with the reward card initiatives.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Prep (8.00-8.40)</b>	English (SRS) 216 Geography (IPE) 231 Science (FCK) 251	English (SRS) 216 Maths (SPL) 233	English (SRS) 216 Geography (IPE) 231	Science (EAS) 250 Science (JHL) 201 Science (SHS) 224	Year 11 Assembly
<b>Lunch (1.30-2.00)</b>	Business Studies (NMN) 141 Maths (CSN) 239	French (VLS) 157 French (IPS) 039	History (CBN) 106	BTEC DIT (EBT) 140 Maths FSMQ (SPL) 233 Maths (DMN) 238	
<b>Period 7 (3.05-4.00)</b>	Art, Craft and Design (KPN) 126 PE (RNL) 204	Geography (EIP) 230	Compulsory triple science lesson (SHS) DT (WFY) 052 Food (HKR) 204	Staff Training	Drama (LJS) Drama Studio

## Year 7 Art

Mrs Poxson would like to invite students from Year 7 to come and make their own Christmas cards. Pop along to Room 126 on Friday lunchtimes to find out more!

**YEAR 7 ART CLUB  
FESTIVE  
GREETING CARDS**

**STARTS  
ON FRIDAY  
25/11 IN  
ROOM 126  
AT 1:30PM**

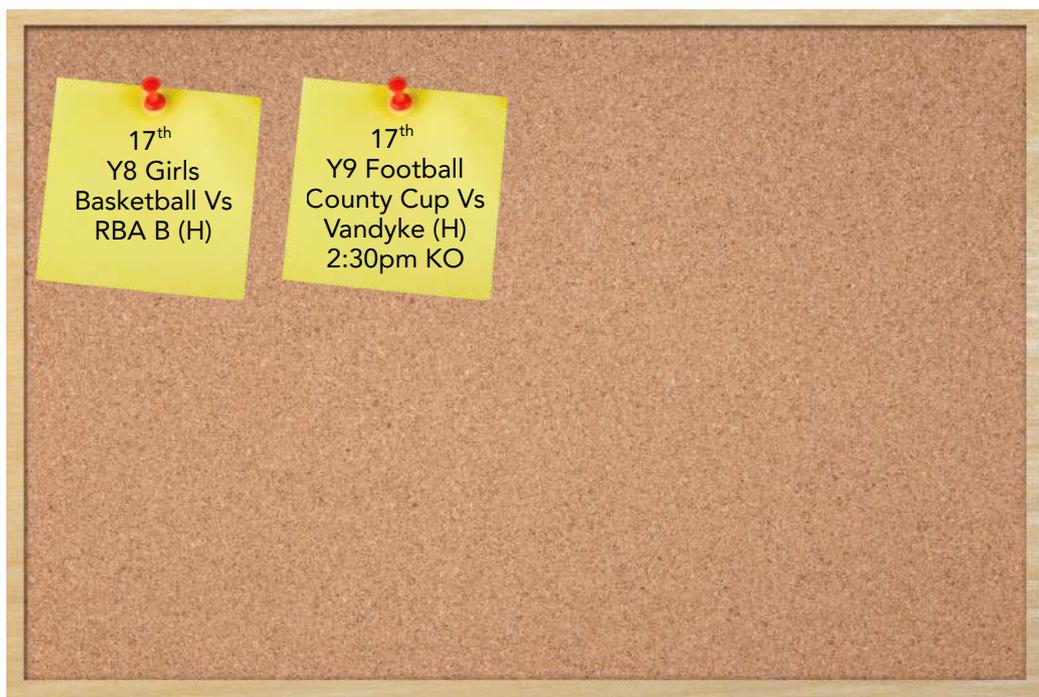
**COME AND DESIGN A FESTIVE  
BLOCK PRINT AND CREATE  
YOUR OWN SET OF CARDS!**

Please note: all long hair should be tied back for PE lessons, and piercings should be covered or removed

## No Sports Clubs This Week

Please note: for the final week of term our before, lunch and afterschool Clubs are not running

## Sports Report



A quick reminder that when lessons are timetabled to be outside, we will head outdoors unless the weather is unsafe or extremely poor. With this in mind, please ensure students are fully prepared with the correct PE kit, even if they are injured but able to change — this helps avoid students getting wet in their uniform before returning to class.

As the weather continues to change, students should have a Pix Brook PE jumper and bring both football boots and trainers so we can adapt to indoor or outdoor sessions as needed. Shin pads are essential for anyone taking part in football or hockey.

You can find the full PE kit list here: [Pix Brook Academy PE Kit List \(page 5\)](#).

## Y8 Basketball

The Y8 Girls Basketball team has completed two challenging fixtures, demonstrating both resilience and an improved clinical edge in front of the basket. The first game was against Alameda and the team displayed great resilience throughout the match, particularly in defence, holding their ground against a strong attacking side. However, the scoreline does not truly reflect the effort put in, as the girls were unlucky not to have converted more of their opportunities. Several close shots either rimmed out or were narrowly missed, preventing them from posting a higher score. Opponents player of the match was Evie.

The second match - against Woodland - saw a notable shift in the team's offensive efficiency. The girls were more clinical with their shooting, successfully converting opportunities that had been missed in the previous game. Equally impressive was the team's commitment to defence, demonstrating excellent coordination and pressure on the Woodland players. Better shot selection and accuracy led to more points on the board. Consistent defensive pressure helped secure the draw. This result is a fantastic reflection of the team's ability to learn and adapt quickly. Opponents player of the match was Maddie.

## Drum Lessons

Drum Lessons are available every Monday and Tuesday to students of all ages and abilities! Whether you would like to pursue grades or achieve your own personal goals.

Becca Robinson – [beccadrums@gmail.com](mailto:beccadrums@gmail.com)



## Singing Lessons



I have more than 15 years experience teaching children of all ages in a wide range of musical styles. My style is fun and friendly with many of my pupils taking public exams and successfully auditioning for singing courses at a range of reputable post-school institutions. For further details, please speak to Mr Weed via school or contact me direct on 07905 225825 or [eleanorpugsley@gmail.com](mailto:eleanorpugsley@gmail.com)

## Piano Lessons

### Piano Lessons

Boris Peck is a classically-trained conductor, violinist and pianist offering in-school piano lessons.

Spaces are currently available for new students. Weekly lessons (20 or 30 minute sessions) will be taught on one of the keyboards in school.

Please contact Boris via email at [boris\\_peck@hotmail.com](mailto:boris_peck@hotmail.com), or phone 07884 057278 for more information.



## Brass and Wind Lessons

### BRASS & WIND LESSONS

Learning to play an instrument opens up a world of musical-expression and creativity. It offers a unique way to develop musical skills while improving focus, discipline, and teamwork.

At Pix Brook, we currently offer lessons on Drums, guitar, piano, violin, and voice. In our efforts to expand this provision, we would like to start offering brass and woodwind lessons. At this point we are looking to see if there is enough interest within the school to facilitate a teacher coming in.

**The instruments to choose from would be:**

- Brass:
  - horn,
  - trombone,
  - trumpet,
  - tuba.

- Woodwind:
  - bassoon,
  - clarinet,
  - flute,
  - oboe,
  - saxophone.

The cost of the lessons ranges from **£11 per lesson to £24** depending on the length of lesson and whether it is taught individually or as part of a group.

**If your child is interested in starting lessons, please let me know by email** ([tweed@bestacademies.org.uk](mailto:tweed@bestacademies.org.uk))

If there is enough interest, we will look to set this up in the near future.

Thank you for considering this exciting opportunity.

We are excited to be looking at offering lessons in brass and wind instruments in school. If you would be interested in signing your child up for lessons, please contact Mr Weed: [tweed@bestacademies.org.uk](mailto:tweed@bestacademies.org.uk)

## Pix Brook Academy Safeguarding Team

We are here to keep you safe

Who can you speak to if you feel worried?

You can speak to **any adult** that works in our school about **anything** that is worrying you or making you feel upset at any time.

The **Designated Safeguarding Lead** and **Deputy Safeguarding Leads** are teachers who have the really special job of keeping you safe.

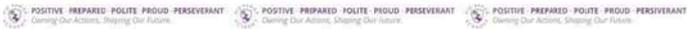
Their special job is to listen, support and help you at any time of the school day.

**If you feel unsafe or you have any worries/concerns that you feel you cannot speak to a member of staff about, you can send an email to [pba-safe@bestacademies.org.uk](mailto:pba-safe@bestacademies.org.uk).**

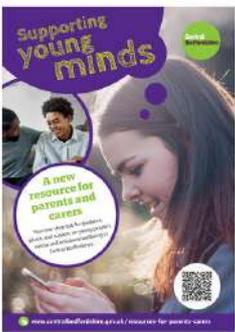
You can speak to us:

- If you feel upset or worried about anything at all (even if you think it's not important)
- If someone has hurt you physically, emotionally or mentally
- If you are being threatened or forced to do things
- If someone has done something to you without your permission
- If you feel unsafe in school, at home or when you are out and about
- If you feel uncomfortable in any way
- If you know of another pupil who is worried, upset or being hurt (even if they have told you to keep it secret)
- If you are scared or worried about going home

If you are concerned about the safety and well-being of a young person, please contact Central Bedfordshire Council on 0300 3008585



## Mental Health Information



## Christmas Holiday Offer from the Children's Centre

**What's on at your local Children's Centre**

For families and children 0-12 years

Christmas Sessions: Sheffield, Stortford, Arlesey & Villages

Christmas Open Hour - Monday 8th Dec 8.30-4.30pm (9.30-10.30am, 11.30am-12.30pm, 2.30-4.30pm) in the main hall. Free entry. All welcome. No booking required.

SEND Stay & Play in your own way: Monday 22nd December and 29th January 10.30-11.30am @ Stortford CC SC17 5EA. 2.30-4.30pm stay sessions for children with SEND. Free entry.

Woodland Walk: Tuesday 10th December 10am-11am @ Arlesey Pavilion. Free entry. Winter walk for families with children 7-12 years.

Little Explorers (Parent led group) Tuesday 10th December 9.30-10.30am @ Stortford Children's Centre SC17 5EA. Meet for tables & chairs. Children's Centre & 1st World War Museum. Free entry. No booking required.

Baby Group: Tuesday 10th Dec 1.30-3.00pm @ Stortford Children's Centre SC17 5EA. Self-weigh scales available. Feeding support & toilet training by the 1st World War Museum.

Tea and Toast Crayons welcome 1.30-3.00pm: Wednesday 24th and 25th December @ Stortford Children's Centre SC17 5EA. 100p per child. Support information and play for the end of term.

Feeding & social support group: 4pm welcome Friday 2nd January 12.30-1pm @ Stortford Children's Centre SC17 5EA. A friendly, self-help group for the understanding in mixed feeding groups. 123 feeding support.

Family Information Service: Central Bedfordshire Information & Support. What's on at your local Children's Centre. Children's Early Years Centre. Family Support. Local authority for Central Bedfordshire. Local Job Network organisations offering support and advice. See QR code for more info.

Sheffield and Stortford Children's Centre 0300 300 8512 Stortford Maturity Hub 0300 300 8585

### Talking to Your Teenager

Getting teenagers to talk openly about what's bothering them can be hard. Get them to help get them talking to you about their worries.

**Try and be a good listener and avoid:**

- "You're overreacting"
- "It's not a big deal"
- "You're being silly"
- "You're being dramatic"
- "You're being selfish"
- "You're being lazy"
- "You're being stupid"
- "You're being annoying"
- "You're being selfish"
- "You're being lazy"
- "You're being stupid"
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- "You're being stupid"
- "You're being annoying"

**NHS**

## Online Safeguarding

### 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators USING TECHNOLOGY TO BOOST READING SKILLS

1. CHOOSING THE RIGHT TYPE OF TEXT
2. SUBTILES AND CLOSED CAPTIONING
3. READING ON SCREEN
4. USING AUDIOBOOKS
5. ACCESSIBILITY TOOLS
6. TEXT-TO-VOICE TECHNOLOGY
7. INTERACTIVE READING PROGRAMMES
8. VOICE-FEEDBACK FOR WRITING AND READING
9. VIDEO GAMES AND READING SKILLS
10. SOCIAL MEDIA AND PARENTAL CONTROLS

Meet Our Expert: Mrs Theobald

Wakeup Wednesday

The National College

Please be aware...

## OFF ROAD OFF LIMITS E-SCOOTERS & E-BIKES

Bedfordshire Police is taking firm action against the illegal use of e-scooters and other e-vehicles in public places.

### THINK BEFORE YOU BUY

These vehicles are not road legal unless part of an approved rental scheme - there is currently no such scheme active in Bedfordshire.

Privately owned e-scooters and e-bikes cannot be insured, making their use in public spaces illegal.

If you are caught riding an e-scooter, e-bike or any other offroad vehicle in a public road or any other public space, your vehicle may be seized and destroyed.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO REPORT NUISANCE VEHICLES, VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [WWW.BEDS.POLICE.UK](http://WWW.BEDS.POLICE.UK)

## 2025

### December

Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Non Uniform Day for All Years
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Winter Disco for Years 5 & 6
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Careers Fair/ Subject Progress Event for Year 11
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>End of Term for All Years</b> School closes at 1.10pm. No PBA Extra

## 2026

### January

Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Inset Day for All Years
<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Back to School for All Years</b>
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Vaccinations for Year 9
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Young Voices for Years 5 & 6
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Dr Bike - Cycle Maintenance Checks for All Years

### February

Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Options and Progress Evening for Year 9
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Non Uniform Day for All Years
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Vaccinations for Year 8

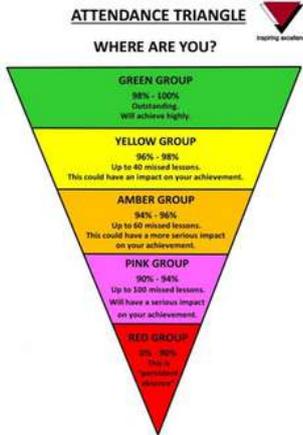
### March

Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> to Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Mock SATs for Year 6
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Planetarium Visit (Y5)
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Year 7 Progress Event (early finish years 7-11)
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	DofE Silver Award
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> and Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Progress Evening

### May

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> - Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 SATs
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# Reporting an Absence



Absences need to be reported daily by **8am** either by phone or email. If you have an appointment booked, please send supporting evidence to [PBA-Absence@bestacademies.org.uk](mailto:PBA-Absence@bestacademies.org.uk) and confirm the time of collection. On the day of the appointment you will need to provide your child with a signed letter in order for them to leave the class to meet you in reception. **We will no longer be issuing collection passes.** Children need to be collected by a nominated adult from reception.

## Contacting School

A reminder that **all queries** with regard to Pix Brook Academy students should be emailed to [pixbrook@bestacademies.org.uk](mailto:pixbrook@bestacademies.org.uk) or call the office on **01462 416243**.

**Please do not use** our Social Media platforms to request information about or contribute to conversations with regard to our students.



If you need to get a message to your child/children during the school day, please contact Reception. Teachers are unable to pass on messages during the school day. Our Reception team will take the message and deliver it to the pupil(s) involved. **Please call or email the office on 01462 416243 or [pixbrook@bestacademies.org.uk](mailto:pixbrook@bestacademies.org.uk)**

## NHS Guide to childhood illness

### Should I keep my child off school?

Yes	Until...
Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No	but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...
Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek

SCAN ME

**Advice and guidance**  
To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.

## Medication in School



If your child needs to have medication in school please ensure that you bring it to the main office and fill out the required forms. **Children are not permitted to carry medication around the school.**

Medication may include: Calpol, Paracetamol, Antihistamine

## Menus



Our lunchtime menus are available to view on our website:

<https://www.pixbrookacademy.co.uk/page/?title=Our+Food+Provision&pid=40>

## Drop Off and Collection Time Parking

We ask parents to avoid **parking next to the carpark entrance or on the road junction near the football club** during morning drop off and afternoon collection time.

This junction is particularly busy during school pick-up, and parked cars create hazards for both children and drivers. We would also remind you **not to use the Staff Car Park** when dropping off or collecting children.

Thank you for your understanding.



## No Nuts, Please!

Please be reminded that we are a **nut free school**: please do not include nut products in your child/children's snack or packed lunch. This includes Nutella. Thank you.

## Body Sprays and Perfumes

We would like to remind you that **body sprays and perfumes are not permitted** in school, as the use of the sprays can affect people suffering with asthma. Please send your child/children in with roll on deodorant **only**.



## Use of the Cycle Paths

The foot- and cycle-paths near the school get very busy before and after school. Please remind your children that the paths are shared with members of the public, and that the children should be courteous towards others when travelling to and from school.

## Road Safety

Please be aware that the new bus stop, Etonbury and Pix Brook, is on a narrow stretch of pavement which is often busy during the school run. Please remind your children **not to sit with their feet in the road**, when waiting at the bus stop, as this is a safety issue.



