

# Bents Green Learning Community

# Newsletter

## Autumn Term Two



**Amanda Costello**  
Headteacher



Hello and welcome to our **2nd newsletter** of the year! We are approaching the end of a **very busy term** which has been full of **exciting experiences** for all students, both inside and outside of the classroom. The last week of Autumn term always seems to be one of the **busiest** and this year is no exception! All students have been **fully involved** in our annual **Christmas performances** and the atmosphere was one of **togetherness** which was thoroughly **enjoyed** by all. Please enjoy reading our 2nd Autumn term newsletter and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a **merry Christmas** whilst **thanking you** for your **ongoing support** to our young people and **school community**, as well as saying a huge thank you and goodbye to **Bridie Reidy** and **Tricia Bennett** who leave us at the end of this term.

### Music At Bents Green

As ever, the music department has been **busy** this term with **lots** going on. We have had an interactive **concert** from **Live Music Now** based around folk music played by a talented group called the '**Alias Trio**'. We also had our annual **Christmas performances** where nearly every pupil take part and this was a great **success**. We also took part in a very **special performance** of a newly composed piece by **Bents Green pupils** and pupils from two other schools also, together with the **professional** composer Andrew Smith. This culminated in a **performance** at **Sheffield Cathedral** in December.



### Staff News

We would like to wish **Bridie Reidy** our Assistant Head a **wonderful** and enjoyable **retirement** whilst exploring Europe in her camper van, and would like to take this opportunity to **thank** her for **dedication, creativity** and **hard work** at Bents Green Specialist School. She will be **dearly missed** by both students and staff.

A massive **thank you** goes out to **Tricia Bennett** for all her **hard work** and **dedication** as our interim Deputy Head.

Finally, a huge **congratulations** to **Helen Philiskirk** on the birth of her **baby boy** this month!

### Bents Green School Featured on BBC Look North



Young people at Bents Green Specialist School are getting extra help.

Recently **Stagecoach** were in school working with class **4E** and the story was shown on **BBC Look North!** The video is currently available on the **iplayer** & we have **published** a version ourselves on **social media** so don't worry if you missed it!



Stagecoach has supplied a uniform, steering wheel and tickets...

“Pupils at a school for children with autistic spectrum conditions and interaction difficulties have taken part in a class to help them learn how to travel by bus. The students at Bents Green Specialist Secondary School, Sheffield, took part in a role play session where a "bus" was set up in their classroom. They were then given the opportunity to try out what they had learned on a Stagecoach Yorkshire bus outside.”



And then we say thank you.

## Children In Need



Bents Green School did its own version of the **Countryfile Rumble** for **Children in Need** this year! We set ourselves a target of walking **500 miles** and each class plotted a route that was appropriate for them. Thankfully the **rain kept away** and we were able to **complete** the 500 miles **between us**. Staff worked **busily** to sell hot sandwiches providing **valuable sustenance** for the walk, with the proceeds going to the **fundraising**. We also raised money through **sponsorship** with **friends and parents** generously **contributing** to the cause. Some students also took **collection boxes** out with them, getting **donations** as they walked to the various destinations.



Overall Bents Green School raised a **MASSIVE £2008.27** – an **amazing** amount considering our student count is much lower than that of the average school. It was a **fantastic effort** from everyone at Bents Green and a **big thank you** goes out to all those who gave **generously** to this worthy cause!



## Enterprise Fayre

Students, staff, parents, carers, siblings and **everyone** in between had a **wonderful time** at our Christmas **Enterprise Fayre!** Thank you to everyone who was **involved** in making such a **great afternoon** and for the continued **support** from all parents and carers of **Bents Green** students.



## Bag Books

Shuna from Bag Books told us a story about **Christmas** and a story about **animals**. They were **sensory stories** and we absolutely **loved** them! There were **lots of things** to touch, smell, listen to and see. We liked turning the **Christmas tree lights** on and opening the windows to see the **snow** outside. Thank you Shuna and Bag Books!



## Bents Green @ Sheaf Training Children In Need & Enterprise

For this year's **Children in Need**, students and staff from Post 16 decided to undertake a sponsored **Danceathon**. This involved students and staff **dancing continuously** from 9am until 3pm including breaks and lunch-time. Although there were quite a few **tired legs** at the end of the day, the students have raised an **amazing £279.43** for worthy causes.

On 29th November, Post 16 held its **3rd Christmas Fayre** at Sheaf Training. **Students** had been **working hard** to produce a variety of cards, decorations, mince-pies, bird feeders, gift-tags and stocking fillers to sell to **family, friends** and other users of **Sheaf Training**. There was also a **raffle** and **competitions** for people to take part in. The final amount raised was a fantastic **£380** towards resources in Post 16. **Many thanks** to all the **parents and carers** who supported this event, and all the students who **contributed** through making and selling items on the day.



## Bents Green @ Westfield Hub The Christmas Spirit

The **Christmas spirit** is taking over the Discovery Hub! Our students recently participated in a **Christmas tree festival** at a local church. We **made** all the decorations ourselves and the trees are auctioned off for charity. It was an event that **everyone** really enjoyed.

We are **so proud** of all our students and their many **achievements** this term. Every single student is accessing some **mainstream learning** and showing **determination** and **perseverance** even when things are difficult for them. Our Year 11 students are currently taking their **mock exams** and are **excelling all round**.

In order to celebrate these **achievements** all the families of our students are invited to our '**Christmas Celebration Party**' on the final day of term.

