

Newsletter

Autumn 2

individuals matter.

Message from Co-Headteachers, Aileen Hosty and Laura Rzepinski



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of term, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all of you for attending our wonderful Christmas shows. Your support and enthusiasm truly made these events special for our students and staff alike.

At our Ringinglow site, we have enjoyed a variety of enriching experiences this term. One of the highlights was our Christmas story in the Wonderdome, which brought joy and excitement to our students. Additionally, during our RS Day, we explored the rich traditions of Hinduism and celebrated Diwali, fostering a deeper understanding of diverse cultures among our pupils. Our tutor groups have also been incredibly busy preparing for the Christmas Fayre, where they worked hard to create and sell various items. Their creativity and teamwork were commendable, and we are proud of their efforts to contribute to our school community.

At Gleadless we have had a very busy term. This cumulated with Christmas week where our Expressive Arts Day focused on Drama and Religion. We worked on promoting individual liberty and self-expression through a drama workshop with a drama student from Kingston University, a group singing session with Hollinsend Choir and a guest speaker from Sheffield University that shared and discussed ghost stories. We also visited Hollinsend Church to see the nativity, advent and Christmas tree and had a Q&A session with the Rev Cliff Kay. The day ended with students enjoying the staff panto Aladdin!

Westfield Hub students have enjoyed a fantastic trip to Sheffield Cathedral as part of Preparation for Adulthood. Students were able to develop their skills in the community, purchasing their own tram tickets and reading tram timetables and maps. Our Year 7 students also had a fantastic opportunity to join the Gleadless Expressive Arts and RS dropdown day. Students visited Hollinsend Church, sang carols, completed a session on ghost stories and greatly enjoyed watching the Gleadless staff pantomime. Our Year 11 students have also recently sat their mock exams and will receive their results in January - well done to all of the hub students for a fantastic term!

At Enterprise Works this term all our students have been busy. They have been visiting further provisions within Sheffield to consider which college or educational provider will be the right choice for them after leaving Bents Green. They have visited Landmarks, City College, Art Space, and others. In addition to this they have been busy creating items for their Christmas Fayre, which was held earlier this week. It was a great success, so much so the students have been talking about opening a "pop-up" shop next year.

As we look forward to the festive season, we wish all our families a wonderful Christmas break filled with joy and relaxation. We eagerly anticipate welcoming our students back in 2025, ready for another exciting term of learning and growth.

Finally, a huge thank you to our dedicated staff, whose hard work and commitment ensure that we continue to provide a kind and nurturing environment for all our students.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Warm regard

Aiileen and Laura



Message from the Governors

How the time has flown by...here we are at Christmas break, the festive season is well and truly upon us!

We began the school year this past September, when Governors joined returning and new staff members back to the school community of Bents Green. The changes and updates to policies we have been working on, alongside Laura and Aileen, as well as updates to the Keeping Children Safe in Education Act from the Department for Education, were detailed to all, and you can find those updated policies, as well as the KCSiE, on our website.

It's been heads down and working through since those fresh-faced first days back in September! We have focused on Teaching & Learning, Safeguarding, and Resources meetings, with Budget and our upcoming academisation plans always at the forefront. We have approved school improvements, with plans for sensory room construction at Ringinglow going forward, and we have been in school over the past weeks doing Governor surgeries with staff members. As we move closer to academisation in the spring months, we are dedicated to the improvement of our student and staff wellbeing in all ways, including looking at our buildings, infrastructures, and finding best ways forward.

Speaking of moving forward, we are once again seeking parents who are interested in serving as Parent Governors. I've sang the praises of this role before, I won't go into my full song and dance again...I shall instead share with you a little profile of our Chair of Governors, Laura Gillespie, and each newsletter going forward, we'll get to know another Governor.

We hope you will consider joining our Governing Board, it's an amazing chance to be of service and quite an illuminating look into how things work in the lives of our children at Bents Green School. And it is, of course, good educational times. And, occasionally, as I have mentioned...there is cake and biscuits...the nice ones! It's a great time to join us, there's so much happening with the move into Nexus. Your voice as a parent is absolutely essential to what we do as Governors, especially now, with our school growing and expanding. If you have an interest, please get in touch with Laura and have a chat, it could be a bridge into quite an exciting area, and we are looking forward to hearing from you.

Laura Gillespie



I have been a Governor at Bents Green School since 2012 and have been Chair of Governors for 8 years. I have a son who is 24 years old this year, and he was a student at Bents Green School. He is now accessing adult social care provision four days a week.

Message from the Govenors continued

I came into Governance because I wanted to help ensure that all our students receive the best education possible, preparing them for life after school and helping them to become respected and valued members of our society.

In my spare time I like walking in the Peak District, and as a family we are season ticket holders at the Sheffield Steelers Ice Hockey Club.

Laura is the person to contact when you decide you would like to join us and become a Parent Governor, her email is ljillespie@bentsgreen.sheffield.sch.uk

Thank you to all of our brilliant staff...every single bright and shining one of you makes our school so special, and our students could not thrive without the hard work, love, and dedication you all put into your days at Bents Green. You are all appreciated so very much! And big thanks to all parents, carers, grandparents, aunties, uncles, friends of, PA's...it takes a lot of families to keep this ship running, and we celebrate each and every one of you, and wish you all a safe and happy holiday season, and the happiest of New Years.

All the very best and kindest regards,
Shannon O'Donnell Provatas, on behalf of the Governing Body



Upcoming Dates

Sat 21st Dec-Sun 5th Jan — Christmas Break

Mon 6th Jan—All Sites back to school

Wed 8th Jan—RS Day - Ringinglow

Wed 15th Jan—Expressive arts Day—Gleadless

Thurs 16th Jan—Immunisation Team - Year 8

Fri 17th Jan—School Photographer—All Sites

Mon 20th—Fri 24th Jan—GCSE Mock Exams
Week Gleadless

Mon 20th—Fri 24th Jan Func Skills Mock Exam Week Enterprise
Works

Thurs 23rd Jan—Westfield Y11 Parents Evening subject teachers

Thurs 23rd Jan—Ringinglow Prospective Parental Tour

Mon 27th Jan—Fri 31st Jan GCSE Mock Exams 2 week 2 Gleadless

Tues 28th Jan—Governors Meeting (Resources)

Wed 29th Jan— Westfield Y11 Parents Evening

Thurs 30th Jan—Westfield Y9 Options and Parents Evening

Thurs 30th Jan—Prospective Parent Tours Gleadless

Tues 11th— Feb Safer Internet Day

Tues 11th Feb—Governors Meeting (Teaching & Learning)

Mon 17th—Fri 22nd Feb—Half Term

Mon 24th Feb—All Sites return to school



News from Holly Class

"We've had a very busy half term in Holly Class. As well as all the hard work we've been putting into learning over the last 7 weeks we've also been celebrating Diwali, Hanukkah and of course getting ready for Christmas.

The students did great work creating snowman ornaments to sell at the Christmas fair and made 5 pounds which they have chosen to donate to Cancer Research.

After the air was the Christmas show where they brought the house down with their hilarious Christmas jokes.



In the spirit of the season, we'd like to wish all the Bents Green family a very happy Christmas and all the very best wishes for the New Year.



All the Best

Dave and Holly Class



Sheffield Healthy Holidays- Winter Holiday Activities with Food (HAF) 2024/2025
Friday 20th December to Friday 3rd January 2025

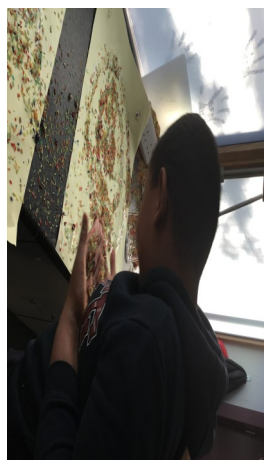
Dear Parents/Carers/Guardians,

There are lots of fun free activities for children and young people who receive benefits-related/ income-based free school meals, from Reception to Y11, to access during the Winter break as part of the Sheffield Healthy Holidays programme.

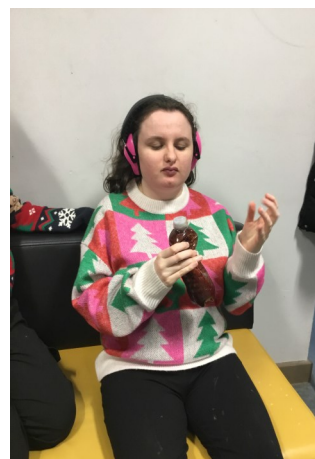
Places are available to book from Friday 6th December from 3:00pm by visiting www.sheffieldhealthyholidays.org

News From Cherry Class

This term in Cherry class we have been looking at a sensory story called 'Special days around the world@ and basing our learning off this theme. We have looked at: Dia de Muertos, Kidomo No Hi, Spring Festival, Divali, Carnival, Matariki and Christmas! During this time, we tried many different foods from diverse cultures and danced in many different and interesting dance styles. One of our favourites was Dia de Muertos, we really enjoyed salsa music and



We performed our Christmas performance to our parents on the 10th of December and made beautiful Christmas Baubles to sell at our enterprise fair. We sold all our baubles and felt immensely proud.



News From Wentworth Class

During this half term student at Enterprise Works have been busy. They have been visiting further provisions within Sheffield. Considering which college or educational provider will be the right choice for them. They have visited Landmarks, City College, Art Space, and others.

In addition to this they have been busy creating items for their Christmas Fayre. Which was held earlier this week. It was a great success, so much so the students have been talking about opening a "pop up" shop next year.

We would like to thank all their family and friends who made the journey to come and support this event



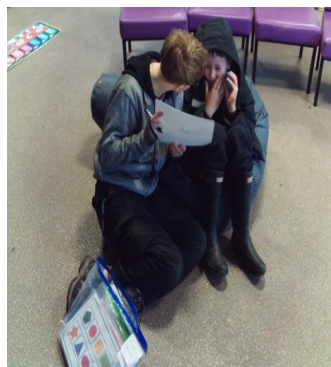
News from Apple Class

The students of Apple Class have settled in so well during their first term at Bents Green. We have had an exciting term of topics such as 'All About Me' and 'Celebrations'.

During these topics, we have explored art resources and a variety of foods during food tech, linked to things we like and also, different foods used throughout celebrations across the world.

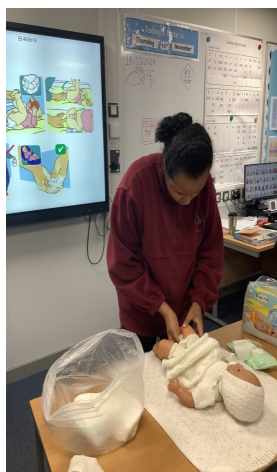
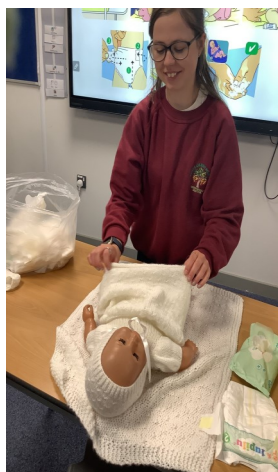
We have now started our Christmas topic, which includes lots of music and crafts. Just a few weeks ago, we had an amazing science dome visit Bents Green. We listened to a story about Santa whilst watching an amazing, sensory light show.

What a great start to your time at Bents Green. Well done Apple Class!



News from Kelham Class

Kelham have had a busy and exciting half-term. We have received visitors to talk about Maths in the work environment, visited Graves gallery and Weston Park Museum, taken part in the Expressive Arts drop down day as well as preparing the Christmas concert! During our Independent Skills lessons, we have been working on Parenting Awareness and finding out what challenges parents and carers face every day. We have been looking at sources of support for new parents and how to keep babies and young children safe. We practiced how to hold a baby and change their nappies!





Congratulations to Jamie from Elm Class at Ringinglow who won AMEY's Competition to name a gritter lorry . The Little Gritter

