



ACADEMY NEWSLETTER



A message from the Headteacher...

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we reach the end of another successful academic year at Belvoir, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the many achievements and experiences that have made this term so memorable. Across the school, our students have continued to demonstrate the values that make our community so strong: ambition, resilience, kindness and pride.

The summer newsletter is a wonderful celebration of the rich variety of opportunities our students have enjoyed. From outstanding academic achievements and enriching curriculum experiences to sporting success, educational visits, performances, competitions and wider personal development opportunities, there is much to be proud of. Whether representing the school in STEM competitions, participating in residential visits to Iceland and France, performing in our Summer Showcase, or demonstrating exceptional commitment in lessons and examinations, our students have continually risen to new challenges and embraced every opportunity available to them.

I would like to pay particular tribute to our Year 11 students, who have now completed their journey with us. Throughout the examination period they showed maturity, determination and resilience, and we were delighted to celebrate their time at Belvoir through the Leavers' Afternoon and Prom. They leave us with our very best wishes and we look forward to welcoming them back on Results Day in August.

At the same time, it has been exciting to see our younger students stepping forward. Year 10 have begun preparing for the important year ahead, Year 9 have made key decisions about their GCSE pathways, and our newest students have continued to flourish as valued members of our school community. The enthusiasm and commitment shown by students in every year group give us great confidence for the future.

None of this would be possible without the dedication and hard work of our staff, the support of parents and carers, and the positive partnerships we continue to build together. On behalf of the school, I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to another fantastic year.

I hope you enjoy reading about the many successes featured in this edition of the newsletter. As we move into the summer break, I wish all our students, families and staff a restful, enjoyable and well-deserved holiday. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year at Belvoir.

Mr L S Newton
Headteacher

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook for up-to-date news and events!

Facebook: Priory Belvoir Academy



English & Library

This term, we have been tandem reading *The Boy I Love* and *Wolf Siren* during our Library Book Club. Students have particularly enjoyed the freedom to choose the books they would most like to read and discuss.

Ms Turton, our Librarian, recently completed a full audit of the library. This is the first time such an audit has been undertaken in 19 years, bringing our records fully up to date. This has enabled us to remove outdated stock and create space for more than 100 new fiction books, many of which were requested by students. We love being able to purchase the books that our children want to read!

The Library and English Department are also delighted to report that our lending figures show we are bucking the national trend of teenage boys becoming "stuck" reading primary-level fiction

Our boys' Top 10 most borrowed books this academic year are:

1. *The Hunger Games*
2. *King of Nothing*
3. *Like a Brother*
4. *Diddly Squat: The Farmer's Dog*
5. *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*
6. *Diddly Squat*
7. *The Hobbit*
8. *Becoming Muhammad Ali*
9. *The Enemy*
10. *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers* (Joint). *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*

Two weeks ago, Ms Turton welcomed Bottesford Primary School to the library as part of the National Year of Reading. Together, we honed our detective skills and explored the murder mystery genre by transforming the library into a life-sized game of Cluedo.



On Friday 3rd July, we hosted our *Heartstopper* launch event, which was a huge success and generated a fantastic buzz around reading. Students thoroughly enjoyed the activities, particularly the badge making, bookmark crafting and, of course, the cake!

A select group of Year 9 students has spent the last term reading books from the Carnegie Medal Shortlist and thoroughly enjoyed discovering a range of new authors and titles.

The English Department also recently ran National Writing Day lessons to celebrate and promote a love of writing. Students showcased their incredible creativity and talent, using book covers as inspiration for their own imaginative writing.



Sparx Maths

This year, there has been 761,652 individual questions answered on the Sparx homework system and that has taken 10,904 hours to complete. This is an astonishing amount of questions and shows the dedication students are prepared to put in to their maths studies.

UK Maths Challenge

After successfully qualifying for the next round of the Intermediate Maths Challenge, called the Pink Kangaroo, two year 11 students, Edward and Sam gained a bronze certificate in this competition. The top 7000 students across the nation were competing so this is a fantastic achievement. A further year 11 student, Elijah who had qualified for the Maclaurin Olympiad gained a Certificate of Distinction. This is where

the top 500 students compete against each other.

In April this year, 120 students in years 7 and 8 were entered for the Junior Maths Challenge. This is a national competition across the four nations. We had a lot of success in this with 31 students gaining a bronze certificate, 8 gaining a silver certificate and 2 gaining a gold certificate.

George in year 7 did particularly well as he qualified for the next round called the Junior Kangaroo, which is similar to the Pink Kangaroo for the older years.



Geography

Our fantastic Geographers have been working hard to develop their skills and supercharge their powerful subject knowledge!

We've bid farewell to our amazing year 11 pupils following their third and final Geography exam. Fieldwork in Nottingham city centre has been a recent highlight for this year group. Pupils collected a range of data to evaluate key aspects of the UK's largest regeneration scheme today!

We are delighted that so many of our year 11s are going on to study Geography A-level. We wish them all every success for the future!

Year 10

Geographers have been tackling challenging GCSE topics such as the Changing Economic World and have approached these with great enthusiasm, in addition to sitting their first round of mock exams! Pupils have responded brilliantly to detailed feedback and completed improve-

ment work. Pupils are looking forward to completing two full days of exciting fieldwork following the summer holiday – a hugely important and enjoyable feature of the GCSE course!

Year 9

Pupils have been evaluating the impacts and responses to natural hazards. They have been developing exam technique, with a focus on decoding exam style questions. Year 9 have also completed an issue evaluation focusing on the opportunities and challenges of deforestation in the Amazon rainforest. Pupils have made great strides in developing their evaluation skills this year – they are proud of their achievements – rightly so! We are delighted so many are continuing with Geography at GCSE level!

Geography

Year 8

pupils have recently been applying their developing geographical skills to 'real-world' issues in the news. Pupils particularly enjoyed learning about the importance of landmarks, with a focus on the felling of the Sycamore Gap tree. They reviewed key evidence that led to the conviction of the individuals responsible and discovered why it was more than 'just a tree' to so many people. We ended the year with our fascinating Geography of Crime unit. Pupils investigated crime hotspots, explored the reasons behind spatial patterns of crime, and evaluated the effectiveness of different crime prevention strategies.

Year 7

Students continued to engage enthusiastically with our exciting Geography curriculum. This term, pupils have been learning about earthquakes and volcanoes, exploring the powerful tectonic processes that shape our planet. They investigated how and why these hazards occur, as well as their impacts on people and the environment. Pupils also showcased key geographical skills in creating annotated diagrams to bring complex tectonic processes to life.

In our Geography of Sport unit, pupils have explored the global impact of major sporting events, with a particular focus on the 2026 FIFA World Cup. They investigated the tournament's unique format, spanning Canada, Mexico and the USA, and evaluated its sustainability, considering both the environmental challenges of increased travel and the opportunities to make sporting events more sustainable in the future.

In the final weeks of the summer term, pupils considered previous proposals for the relocation of the Nottingham Forest football ground. They thoroughly enjoyed assuming the roles of various stakeholders and presenting their viewpoints at a lively public meeting. This activity encouraged pupils to weigh up social, economic and environmental impacts while developing their decision-making and geographical enquiry skills.

Art

Year 7 have finished the year with an exciting exploration of the Pop Art movement. Throughout the project, pupils developed their observational drawing skills by using the grid technique to create detailed tonal studies of drinks cans. Inspired by the work of Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein, they produced vibrant final pieces celebrating modern-day consumerism through bold primary colours, striking outlines and iconic decorative patterns, including Ben-Day dots. During the summer heatwave, the colourful paintings of Wayne Thiebaud provided the perfect inspiration for a series of imaginative artworks featuring delicious melting ice creams.



Year 8 have successfully completed an engaging project exploring Cubism. Over the course of the project, pupils strengthened their drawing skills by creating overlapping and fragmented compositions inspired by the pioneering artists Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque. They confidently selected their own vibrant colour palettes and experimented with collage techniques, producing imaginative and highly individual final outcomes that showcased both creativity and growing artistic confidence.

Year 9 have concluded their Key Stage 3 Art journey with an impressive project centred on portraiture. Beginning with the foundations of portrait drawing, pupils developed their understanding of facial features and proportions before taking inspiration from Marion Bolognesi to explore colour, emotion and expression through watercolour. They then created thoughtful personal responses inspired by the theme of modern-day propaganda, combining portraits of contemporary icons with carefully chosen words and phrases to communicate ideas, beliefs and values. The project provided a fitting celebration of the creativity, skill and artistic growth they have demonstrated throughout Key Stage 3.



Food Technology

This term, Year 9 and 10 Food students have enjoyed two fantastic enrichment trips to Sheffield and the NEC in Birmingham.

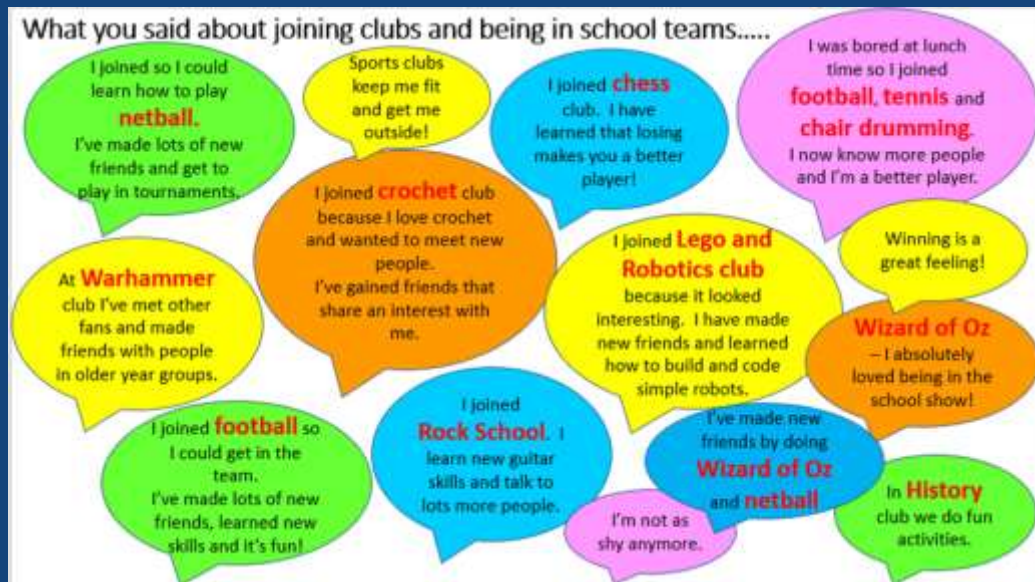
In April, students took part in a guided exploration of several of Sheffield's vibrant food halls, discovering a mix of local street food and international cuisines. They also enjoyed a talk and tasting session with Bullion, a local craft chocolate maker. The Sheffield Food Tour brilliantly connected food, culture, business, and real world hospitality in one exciting experience.

In June, students attended the BBC Good Food Show Summer, where they sampled their way around a huge variety of exhibition stands and watched a live cooking demonstration by Marcus Bean and Joanna Page.

The department is also buzzing with excitement as work is about to begin on the Food Studies room extension and refurbishment. The project will include a brand new kitchen and a dedicated computer suite within the classroom. Lessons will look a little different at the start of the new academic year while construction is underway, but we hope to resume practical sessions after Christmas.

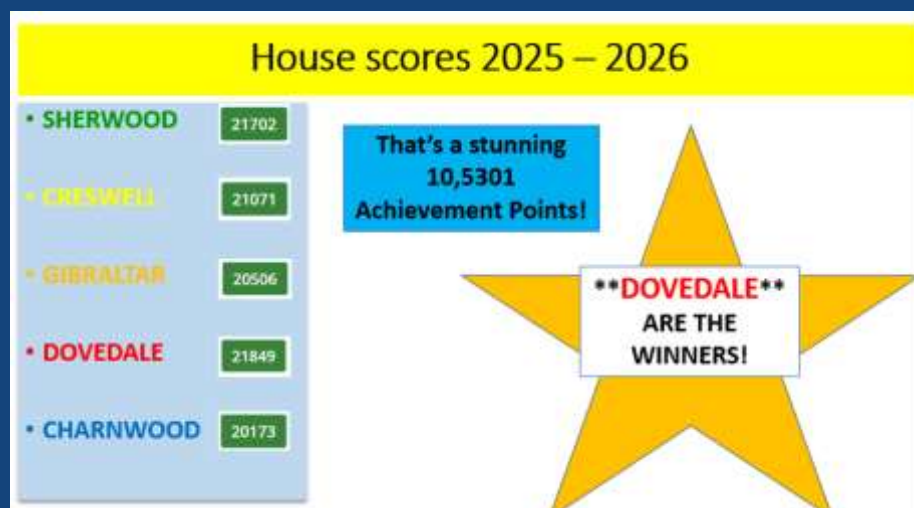
Peacock Pride

Over this Summer Term we have celebrated students' extra-curricular involvement in school in our Peacock Pride assemblies. Those who participate shared what they get out of being involved in wider opportunities put on over lunch times and after school and the answer is, so much! In particular clubs clearly build confidence, help students make friends and are fun. Here's a summary:



Our final assemblies have recognised 'Great Performance' in each of classes and it has been an absolute pleasure to see so many students recognised for working so hard, engaging in lessons and reaping the benefits of this in their results. Narrowing down the selection to the required two in each class has been agonising for teachers as we are so lucky to have so many pupils we could have chosen for this award. Each subject rewards hard work and engagement throughout the year in their chosen way e.g through star of the lesson, star of the week etc. Keep up the good work, it could be you next time!

Through accumulation of achievement points over the course of the year, it has proved a tighter race to the finish line this year for our houses. Dovedale have pipped Creswell to the post though with a stunning 21,849 points. Well done Dovedale!



Careers

Careers Mark

This term saw the successful reaccreditation of our Quality in Careers Mark. A selection of students from across all year groups were interviewed by the assessor, who explored how the Academy meets national guidelines within our Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) programme and ensures full alignment with the Gatsby Benchmarks. The assessor also met in depth with Mrs Suschitzky and Mrs Curry to provide feedback and outline recommended future development areas to benefit our students further. This reaccreditation is a fantastic recognition of the hard work and commitment shown by the Careers Department, our staff, and our students over recent years.

Work Experience Launch

June marked the launch of Work Experience 2027 for our Year 9 students. During Mrs Suschitzky's assembly, students learned about the importance of work experience in preparing them for the world of work, along with practical ideas about the types of placements they might consider and where they could go. A number of students who completed their placements last year also joined the assembly to share their experiences and offer advice, helping to inspire the next cohort as they begin their journey. We hope our Year 9s will use their summer break wisely to secure their five day placement for next March.

'Guess the Job' event

In July, Year 7 students took part in our annual 'Guess the Job' event. Students enjoyed questioning our volunteers about the nature of their work and collaborating in teams to figure out what each volunteer's real job might be. They then heard from the presenters themselves, who revealed their actual roles and explained the qualifications required, the skills involved, and their day to day responsibilities. Volunteers included the Ambulance service, Female Firefighter, Property Developer, Squash Coach, Artist, Zoo Keeper, IT Development Support, TUI Airline Crew Member, Law Firm Managing Director, Police Officer, and Senior Data Management. It was a fun and insightful way for students to broaden their understanding of the world of work.



Year 6 transition

Year 6 Transition Day had a successful Transition day. During the day, several of our students took part; many of Year 10 spent period 2 with a tutor group and took them on a tour of the school, and the Rock School gave a mini concert at the end of breaktime. The whole school community very much look forward to them joining us in September.

Key stage 3

Year 7

It is unbelievable that Year 7 have been here a year, it has gone by in a flash! They have had a busy term. We were really impressed with how Year 7 approached their exam week. They took on board the revision strategies, followed a revision timetable and then seen the success this then had on their results.

Other activities of note were:

- 'Guess the Job' organised by the Careers Department. Several visitors gave up their time voluntarily to give this opportunity and we are very grateful.
- Several of the year group auditioned for the next school production, which just goes to show how confident and settled they felt at the end of their first year.
- For the final Thursday of term, Year 7 spent the last half term organising, planning and preparing for the very successful Year 7 Fayre. All money raised will go to the Friends of Belvoir. Well done Year 7.
- For the final Thursday of term, Year 7 spent the last half term organising, planning and preparing for an absolutely amazing Year 7 Fayre. A massive thankyou to all parents/carers/grandparents who supported with the event. In the afternoon, Year 10 also joined in with the fun and had a wonderful time playing the games, 'Soak a student/teacher' was a particular favourite. Year 7 raised an impressive £840.86 which will go to the Friends of Belvoir. Well done Year 7.
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Well done to those 14 students who have been in every day since the beginning of the year, this

Year 8

What a fantastic year it has been for Year 8! Sports Day was a huge success, with students showing great determination, teamwork and school spirit while enjoying a fun-filled day of competition. We also had an amazing trip to Twycross Zoo, where 70 students learned about evolution, extinction and conservation while getting up close to a variety of fascinating animals.

Another highlight was our Go Ape adventure, where 100 students tackled the challenging high ropes course with enthusiasm and resilience – even if Mr Williams chose to keep his feet firmly on the ground! Finally, our Cultural Diversity Drop-Down Day was a wonderful celebration of different traditions, with henna art and tasting foods from around the world proving especially popular. Well done, Year 8!

Key Stage 3

Year 9

As we come to the end of another successful academic year, I would like to congratulate our Year 9 students on everything they have achieved. They have had a fantastic year, demonstrating resilience, maturity and determination, and should be incredibly proud of all they have accomplished.

Throughout the summer term, students have embraced the many reward opportunities available to them. From our weekly Freddo Fridays to earning the Village Pass, and the long-awaited Meadowhall Reward Trip, it has been wonderful to see so many students recognised for their excellent attendance, positive behaviour and commitment to school life. Their enthusiasm and willingness to engage with these incentives has helped create a positive and supportive year group culture.

This year has also marked an important milestone, as students have made their GCSE option choices and are now preparing to begin the next stage of their educational journey. This is an exciting time, and I have every confidence that they will approach the challenges and opportunities of Key Stage 4 with the same determination they have shown throughout Year 9.

It has been an absolute pleasure to lead this year group over the past two years. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know and working with each and every one of our students, watching them grow both academically and personally. I am incredibly proud of everything they have achieved and look forward to seeing what the future holds as they begin this exciting new chapter as they head into Key Stage 4.

I wish all of our Year 9 students a safe, relaxing and well-deserved summer break.

Miss Clegg

Key Stage 4

Year 10

Year 10 have embraced becoming the oldest year group in school, settling into their new social space and stepping up as excellent role models.

This term, they completed their mock examinations and experienced their first mock results morning, giving them valuable experience as they prepare for Year 11. Tutor time has focused on exploring post-16 pathways, helping students to think ahead to their next steps. They have also shown fantastic school spirit during their final Belvoir Sports Day, leading the way with colourful house outfits, enthusiasm and support for the younger students.

They finish the year with their trip to Alton Towers, a well-deserved opportunity to enjoy time with friends before returning in September ready for the exciting challenges of Year 11.

Year 11

Year 11 have now reached the end of their journey at Belvoir, and what a fantastic group they have been.

Following a busy exam period, they conducted themselves with maturity, resilience and determination, working incredibly hard and remaining focused throughout. It was a pleasure to celebrate with them at their Leavers' Afternoon, where the fantastic fancy dress, inflatables and great attendance made for a memorable afternoon, before rounding off their time with a wonderful Prom 2026. They looked amazing and were, as always, a real credit to the school.

We look forward to welcoming them back for Results Day in August and are excited to see what the future holds for each of them. They will always be welcome back at Belvoir, and we look forward to hearing about all they go on to achieve.

Trips

Iceland

On Saturday 20th June we set off for Heathrow with 60 students from Years 9, 10 and 11. The ultimate destination was Iceland – the land of fire and ice. We were there for five days, during which we hiked on a glacier; took a stunning ferry ride to the Westman Islands (unscheduled whales were spotted!); hiked up volcano; viewed a puffin colony; visited a geothermal power station; soaked in the natural hot springs; experienced 6 amazing waterfalls and an active geyser; walked through the rift valley between the Eurasian and the North American tectonic plates; and visited a black volcanic beach with basalt columns. Our pupils gave it 10/10 and described it as a trip of lifetime! Here's a review:

"Iceland has been one of the best experiences ever! It was so nice to talk to new people that you would never normally speak to and make new friends. There were so many amazing things to see and every day was full of a new excitement. I loved spending time with my friends and getting to see things that were incredible. We are so grateful to Mrs Mapletoft for organising it and putting so much effort into making it happen!"

We departed the hotel most days by 8.30am and usually returned by 8pm after a packed agenda each day. Our down time was on the coach journeys and in the pool.

Hopefully you have seen photos of and heard about our excursions. Which ones were highlights is a personal thing. On talking to them, for some, a stand out was the glacier walk, or the ferry ride to the Westman Islands (whales were spotted!), or the volcano hike, or viewing the puffin colony, or the soak in the natural hot springs, or one of the 6 amazing waterfalls, or the geyser, or the rift valley or the black beach and basalt columns. I could

go on. For many, the Flyover Iceland simulation at the very end was the cherry on the cake which hopefully whetted their appetite to see more of this truly awe inspiring country. Please encourage them to choose a couple of photos to get printed and pop them in a cheap frame from a supermarket. A little bit of that Icelandic inspiration can then filter into every day.

As I said on our arrival home, our students, your children, were praised wherever they went for their politeness, consideration for others, and positive behaviour. It was a pleasure to have their company for five days and nurture or develop a new love of the great outdoors and a desire to experience it first hand.



Trips

SEND

Thursday 18th of June, we took a trip to the National space Centre in Leicester for a rip-roaring experience in promotion of STEM skills .

On arrival we sat back and enjoyed an award-winning show in the UK's largest planetarium which is a full dome show in the Sir Patrick Moore Planetarium and experienced a rocket launch from inside the body of an astronaut, we also explored the amazing worlds of inner and outer Space, from floating around the International Space Station to manoeuvring through microscopic regions of the human body.

Following the planetarium we visited the 42m high rocket tower. The afternoon was spent exploring and learning all things space related.

As a mixed year trip, this day out offered collaborative spirit across the year groups and an opportunity to relate to pupils outside of year groups.



Year 8 French residential trip

Our Year 8 students and four staff members recently returned from a fantastic five-day residential trip to France, staying at the beautiful Château de la Baudonnière. After an exciting six-hour Portsmouth–Caen ferry crossing, we arrived at the château just before midnight, ready for an unforgettable adventure.

The following morning, we were immediately immersed in the French language as we toured the château and began a programme of activities in smaller groups. Throughout the week, everyone embraced the challenge of speaking French as much as possible while taking part in a wide variety of activities including archery, fencing, climbing wall, aeroball and breadmaking. The fun didn't stop there, with energetic evening activities keeping everyone active until 9pm each day!

Our final day featured an excursion to the historic market in Bayeux, where we put our language skills to the test by finding and purchasing ingredients for our own picnic – entirely in French. We also visited a chocolate factory to learn about the origins and production of chocolate, before enjoying the opportunity to buy some delicious gifts to bring home.

The food throughout the trip was excellent, and the staff were delighted to hear students regularly asking for more – in French, of course! Blessed with wonderful weather, the trip provided an outstanding opportunity to experience French language and culture first-hand. The students were a credit to the school, and the visit was undoubtedly one of the most enjoyable and effective ways to bring language learning to life.



Trips

STEM higher ability challenge day

We recently took a group of year 9 students to Gateway College in Leicestershire to take part in a higher ability STEM challenge competition day. Students were selected to represent us due to their strong ability in STEM subjects, particularly science, and for their overall engagement. The competition saw students put into mixed school teams, ranging from Comprehensive, Grammar and private schools, where they had to quickly learn how to work alongside new people in order to compete in each round. The challenges included medical diagnostics with junior doctors supporting, programming robots to navigate courses and using Forensic technologies used by Police forces to create an E-Fit picture of their teachers.

When it came to the awards presentation, the Deputy Lieutenant of Leicestershire arrived to present the winners of each competition round with a plaque and then the winning team of the whole day with a trophy and an invitation to the National finals in Manchester next year.

We are extremely proud of all of our students for representing us so well at the event and for our many winning teams – our best year ever! Congratulations to Fraya and Ophelia for winning the E-Fit round, Dylan and Alex for winning the Robotics round (and coming second in another round). Finally, and most impressively, Poppy-Belle and Sofia won the entire event, following a speech about the key characteristics needed for STEM careers that they had shown across the day. Well done to all of our winners and we look forward to attending the finals next year – watch this space!



Research project at Nottingham Trent

We received an invitation from a research team at Nottingham Trent University, in conjunction with epic games (the team behind Fortnite) for three of our students to take part in a research project around facial recognition and brain patterns when observing game characters. We chose 3 students that have shown a key interest in careers around computing or gaming, as it was an unbelievable opportunity to gain insight into these roles. All students started with a facial scan, using new facial recognition software, before this was uploaded into a character model which they could adapt and have a play with on screens. Next came the brain scanning virtual reality headsets, which looked quite painful to wear for along time with many sensors and electrodes. Students were asked to repeat instructions, follow bodily actions and report the emotions expressed within the game.

All students were active participants and provided the researchers with ample data to be used towards future game design. The researchers were so impressed with our students that they intend to involve us in future projects. Well done to Kai, George and Milly and we will keep an eye out for future games that may have your footprint.



Performing Arts

SIX 2027

The Music and Drama departments were thrilled with the reaction to our announcement that our school production for 2026-2027 is Six the Musical!

The show itself is a hit musical that reimagines the six wives of Henry VIII as a modern girl band. Framed as a pop concert, the women compete to see who suffered the most under Henry's rule, transforming 500 years of historical heartbreak into an empowering celebration of 21st-century girl power. For the school version, each Queen has a team of backing singers and dancers made up of the members of the Ensemble.



Due to increasing numbers, and ever increasing standards, all students wanting to be involved in our school productions were required to audition – even members of the Ensemble. Two after school auditions took place, one for singing and the other for dancing, and we were blown away by not only the talent on show, but also the students who pushed themselves to do a solo singing audition.

We know it is very nerve-wracking doing this, so well done to all involved!

The Cast List has now been released, and our Six Queens and their entourages will begin rehearsing in September, and tickets will go on sale in January 2027. We can't wait to see you there!

Music

National Youth Jazz Orchestra

Way back in March, GCSE music students, along with members of Rock School were treated to an improvisation workshop with two members of the National Youth Jazz Orchestra. It was fantastic! Students learnt a Jazz Standard - a musical composition widely known, performed, and recorded by jazz musicians, serving as a foundational repertoire for the genre. Jazz relies heavily on spontaneous improvisation, so these songs act as a shared, universal framework that allows musicians who have never played together to perform in sync. Students were a little reluctant to give the improvisation a try themselves initially (it can be quite daunting just making stuff up on the spot in front of everyone!) but after some warm up games, and some fantastic examples and encouragement from the working musicians, I was really impressed that everyone gave it ago – including the vocalists!

Having the guts to improvise is a great starting point for composition, often the most difficult component in Music, so the session was great not only for the students, but also for me as a music teacher. Well done to all involved.



Summer Showcase 2026

The annual Music Summer Showcase took place in the evening of Wednesday 1st July. The event acts as an exhibition of the work of our instrumental students from their private lesson held within school, and the work of our extra-curricular group Rock School. As ever, the students did a fantastic job! It is always so great to see the progress being made by all students, and it allows them to be inspired by each other. Seeing the mix of different ages working together is so rewarding. It's often these experiences that stick in the memories of students long after they leave education, so being part of facilitating that is a privilege. Thank you to all parents for their constant support of the Music department at Belvoir. Your commitment does not go unnoticed!

Duke of Edinburgh

This term Year 10 students completed their expedition section of D of E.

Training sessions complete, route planning done the groups were excited to get out in the country and hike to their campsite. This year the groups walked through Nottingham villages (Cropwell Butler, Cropwell Bishop, Cotgrave, Radcliffe on Trent) close to Holme Pier Pont.

Lovely scenery, beautiful walks and with their friends, the groups set off from different locations looking out for checkpoints and staff along the way. The weather was just right for walking, not too cold, not too hot. After being out on their feet with little picnic breaks, all teams made it to camp just before tea time. Firstly, the tents were erected before cooking their food. Most enjoying some form of pasta with a sauce, one group made burgers having carried a frying pan and spatula all day! The group also enjoyed s'mores that they had planned to make and this was lovely to see them come together sat around group 1's tent. Just before we settled down for the night, there was a firework display that we all stood and watched.

Early Saturday morning everyone was woken by the rain on the tents. Resilience shone through the groups, helping each other pack away the tents even though they were soggy and a little cold. The teams made some porridge or ate a delicious pastry before heading off for their last day. Having set off earlier and the rain continuing, the groups seemed to have a sense of urgency to get on their way. They were all waterproofed up and off they set on a new route to get to the finish line.

I would like to say a huge THANK YOU to all the students that made this year's D of E expedition. They were amazing, sensible, courteous and respectful at all times. I would also like to thank all the staff that gave up their time to help make the trip successful with a special Thank you to Miss Jones!



THE SPORTS PAGE

FEATURE OF THE TERM:

Sports Day 2026

The Summer Term has been another fantastic one for the PE Department, with students enjoying a wide range of sporting fixtures including rounders, cricket, athletics and softball.

Although the heatwaves meant some events had to be adapted or rearranged, our pupils across all year groups still celebrated victories against local schools, with many students embracing the opportunity to try new sports and develop new skills.

A particular highlight was Mr Haffenden, Mr Waddingham and Mr Quinn joining a group of Year 10 students for an enjoyable evening of golf at Belton Woods, where some impressive talent was on display.

Our netball club also rounded off a successful year with a trip to watch Nottingham Forest Netball take on AO Manchester Thunder at the Motorpoint Arena, before enjoying a final coaching session led by Nottingham Forest captain Niamh Cooper.

Sports Day

The term concluded with our much-anticipated Sports Day, which, following a rearrangement due to the heatwaves, proved to be a brilliant celebration of sport and school spirit.

It was wonderful to welcome back several Year 11 students to help officiate events, while staff and students alike embraced the occasion with incredible enthusiasm.

The sea of vibrant House colours transformed the school, and pupils gave their all in a programme of competitive athletics alongside inclusive mass-participation events.

Several school records were broken, including one that had stood since 1989, with the overall results to be announced on the final afternoon of term.

As always, we are incredibly proud of the commitment, determination and positive attitudes shown by our students throughout the year. We wish everyone a wonderful summer and look forward to another exciting year of sport in September!



Friends of Belvoir

The Friends of Belvoir PTA has had another fabulous year raising money and supporting the academy in a variety of ways.

The sale of pre-loved uniform provides much needed help to families across the year groups, including new Year 7s. Many donations are new or hardly worn and these can be sold at a fraction of the normal cost. Over £750 has been raised this year, so thank you for all the donations and for your purchases. We always need more so keep those donations coming, please!

The new year 7s had a very successful disco, lead by Mr Waddingham and it was a great opportunity to make new friends.

The PTA stall at Bottesford Bonfire Night firework display was well supported, with £1000 coming back to the academy after a contribution to profits was made by the The Belvoir Lions. This allowed the PTA to continue to fund new books for the library and pay for the visit by Carnegie Award winning author, Nathanael Lessore in December. Some of his books were also bought as prizes for students.

The Wizard of Oz school production provided an opportunity for the sale of refreshments, leading to a £1500 donation to the drama department for much needed equipment.

The sale of ice pops, drinks and sweets at sports day, made another £500 profit and the next project is to purchase and replace sports equipment for students to use at break and lunch, particularly for the SEND children over at Vale Court.

Throughout the year, the PTA is also able to support rewards for attendance, the photo booth at Prom and other items that all students benefit from.

PLEASE keep supporting the PTA and if you can offer any time to help with our work, please email katebeardmore50@outlook.com

KEY DIARY DATES FOR AUTUMN TERM

3rd and 4th September 2026: Inset days

7th September 2026: Return to school

8th September 2026: School Photos year 7 and 10