



BOLDON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2025

Head Teacher Introduction



Dear Parents/Carers,

As we reach the end of the first half of the Autumn Term, can I thank you for your ongoing support. The students have settled well into the new school year, achieving academically and socially.

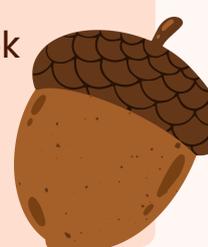
We continue to communicate the importance of excellent attendance. There is a direct correlation between attendance and academic achievement. As such, we remain focussed in encouraging our students to be in school, and on time, in order to ensure they secure the best possible outcomes. We are offering new rewards this academic year. This week students have been involved in Boldon's very first "Deal or No Deal", rewarding students whose attendance has improved and those whose attendance is consistently very good. This has been well received and has been a huge success!

Families may have heard students making reference to some changes to the beginning of all lessons, perhaps mentioning Bold Starts and Echoes, as we embed research-led strategies to both improve and enrich the learning experience of all of our students.

As always, we look to ensure our child-centred decisions maximise the outcomes for our students, whilst ensuring they become the best versions of themselves.

I would like to wish you all an enjoyable and safe Half Term. We look forward to seeing our students returning on Monday 3 November.

Louise Pippin.





Parking

Please be reminded of the importance of safe parking when dropping your children off at school and picking them up. We have received various complaints from local residents and members of the community. The school site is also becoming very unsafe due to the amount of cars. We are working with the local authority and parking attendants to try and improve the car system. Please note, as part of this process, there will be parking inspectors visiting the site and you may receive a fine for parking on yellow lines or in disabled bays without a blue badge.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.



Powburn Dates 2026

6 to 8 March 2026

8 to 10 May 2026 TBC

Please speak to Val for more information.

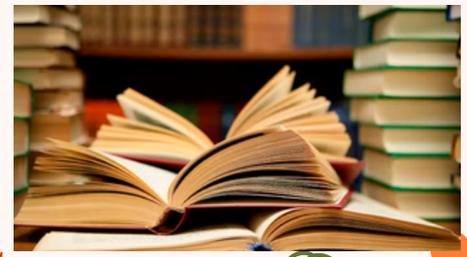
Mental Health Awareness

On Friday 10 October our students celebrated Mental Health Awareness Day. As a school we made a display of positive quotes, focused on growth/fixed mindset and enjoyed an activity with peers.

Where to go for mental health support? Ask your tutor to schedule you an appointment with one of our amazing learning mentors. You can also speak to our lead mental health champions Miss V Hanson and Miss B O'Neill.



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT



PSHE Lessons

In the next Half Term students will be learning about living in the wider world in their PSHE lessons. A more detailed syllabus can be found on the school's website, detailing the curriculum for each year group.

Equipment Packs

As you are aware the school has been supplying students with equipment packs since the start of this academic year. Students are expected to bring a black/ blue pen, green pen, pencil, 15cm ruler and an eraser in their pencil case each day.



Read to Succeed

We shall also be continuing with our Read to Succeed program in order to develop students skills and love of reading. The texts we are currently reading are:

Year 7

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time

Year 8

Chinese Cinderella

Year 9

Refugee Boy

Year 10

Of Mice and Men

Year 11

The Book Thief

If parents would like a copy of the texts we are using so they can talk to their children about the content please contact the school reception.





Safeguarding

Introduction of Child on Child Abuse Policy

This half term has seen the launch of the new Child on Child Abuse policy. We strive to have safer corridors, safer classrooms and safer social times in school. Thank you for your continued support as we continue to implement this new policy.



Kooth

Kooth is an online platform for 11-25 year olds to access mental health support. The team is made up of over 200 trained counsellors and mental health practitioners offering online support to young people. This half term, Kooth delivered assemblies to all year groups showcasing how students can access this support online. Further information about Kooth can be found on their website <https://www.kooth.com/>

Toilet Procedures

We would like to clarify the procedures regarding student access to toilets during the school day. To support both student wellbeing, safeguarding and the smooth running of lessons, the following guidelines are in place:

- Toilet access is available before and after school, as well as during break and lunch times.
- Students with a medical need can be issued a toilet pass. To arrange this, we kindly ask that medical evidence, student name and tutor group is provided to info@boldonschool.org.uk.

We appreciate your support in helping us maintain a focused and respectful learning environment.





MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

LPPA

The school continues to work towards achieving the Leading Parent Partnership Award – thank you for your valued feedback and involvement so far. Further information can be found, on our website, following this link:

[LPPA](#)

Tesco Fruit and Veg

Boldon School is officially the school who is enjoying more fruit and veg than any other school from the scheme for 2025. This has led to an amazing opportunity which means we get to take part in a publicity shoot for Tesco!



TESCO



MacMillan Coffee Morning

Food Technology recently hosted a fundraising event in support of Macmillan Cancer Support, and thanks to the generous contributions from all involved, we raised an incredible £448!

The event featured an Italian feast – prepared by our staff and a cake sale for students that offered a tempting variety of treats.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated and supported the event – your kindness and generosity will make a meaningful difference for those affected by cancer.





Boldon School Maths Homework



“Homework teaches students valuable responsibility for their own educational journey, making them active participants in the learning process!”

Year 7

 Sparx Maths
 Set: Fortnightly
 Due: Thursday

Year 8

 Sparx Maths
 Set: Fortnightly
 Due: Wednesday

Year 9

 Sparx Maths
 Set: Weekly
 Due: Tuesday

Year 10

 Sparx Maths
 Set: Weekly
 Due: Thursday

✔ Finished your homework?

Keep learning! Try the “XP Boost” weekly challenge or explore a topic from Independent Learning on Sparx Maths.

Year 11

 Homework booklet
 Set: Weekly
 Due: Thursday

 Teachers will share extra revision resources to help students prepare for their GCSE's.

★ **Maths Genie!** A great website for extra independent study.

Websites:
www.sparxmaths.com
www.mathsgenie.co.uk

Issues accessing at home?
Homework club is Mon,
Wed and Fri 3:15-3:45pm
every week in The Hub!

Sparx Maths

The Maths department would love your support in encouraging your child to complete their compulsory Maths homework. Homework teaches discipline, responsibility, and improves self confidence. Your belief in their abilities and your encouragement can make all the difference. Together, let's inspire them to reach their full potential!

Need some support with logging in to Sparx Maths?

1. Students can log into Sparx Maths using their Google account:

- Login to realsmart
<https://smartlogin.realsmart.co.uk/smartlogin/launchpad>
- Open Google Mail on your realsmart dashboard
- Open new tab on internet browser
- Select "Student Login"
- Select "Log in to Sparx using Google"

2. If a student does not have access to their google account at home they can create a password:

- Go to Sparx Maths Login Page
- Click "Forgotten login details?"
- Select "Student"
- Enter your details: first name, last name and date of birth, then click "Submit"
- Set your new password
- Remember to write it down for next time

Students can ask their maths teacher at any time for support with logging in, or they can attend "The Hub" homework club on Mondays, Wednesdays or Fridays 3:15pm-3:45pm for additional support.

Students are aware they should be writing down their bookwork codes, workings and answers in their homework booklet in order to pass their "bookwork checks", they can ask for a replacement booklet any time.

Thank you for your ongoing support!



Year 11 Intervention

Year 11 Intervention will commence after Half Term. The purpose of this focused support is to ensure the best possible outcomes for every student. By targeting key knowledge and examination skills, we aim to enable each student to secure the necessary grades to choose their desired path in life, whether that be further education, a vocational apprenticeship, or entering the world of work.

English, Maths, and Science intervention will be incorporated into the afternoon registration period. This approach ensures regular, dedicated revision time for all students in these core subjects.

Specific support will be provided in after-school sessions for students who have been selected by their subject teacher. Selection is based on current progress data and assessments to ensure support is delivered where it is most needed. These sessions will run from 3.15pm to 4.15pm and attendance is compulsory for all students who have been asked to attend.

We recognise that this requires an additional commitment from your child and greatly appreciate your support in ensuring their prompt attendance every day. We are confident that this dedicated approach will significantly enhance your child's prospects and performance. Please contact the school office should you have any queries.

Deal or No Deal

To boost attendance, students who had a full week in school collected tickets each week and were entered into a prize draw to be part of 'Deal or No Deal'. The more full weeks in school, the more entries into the prize draw. 22 students from each year group were drawn at random to take part in our version of the game show. This was a brilliant incentive and the students in the audience were actively involved. Well done to this Year 10 student who won the jackpot.



Attendance

Congratulations to all students where there has been an improvement in their attendance and punctuality across the school. We have record figures of 100% attendance each week. Well done!

Thanks to parents/ carers for supporting our drive to improve punctuality to line up and school- it is important for students to recognise that good punctuality is required for future prospects and employment beyond the school gates.

We will be launching our 'Finish Strong Friday' as part of every day matters in attendance and sharing key information regarding dips in attendance towards the end of the week.

Total Days	98% Attendance	95% Attendance	92% Attendance	90% Attendance	Below 90% Attendance
Oct Hols (38)	1 day ✓	2 days ✓	3 days ●	4 days ●	4+ days ●
Christmas Hols (73)	1-2 days ✓	4 days ✓	6 days ●	7 days ●	8+ days ●
Feb Hols (107)	2 days ✓	5 days ✓	9 days ●	11 days ●	12+ days ●
Easter Hols (131)	3 days ✓	7 days ✓	10 days ●	13 days ●	14+ days ●
May Hols (155)	3 days ✓	8 days ✓	12 days ●	16 days ●	17+ days ●
Summer Hols (190)	4 days ✓	10 days ✓	15 days ●	19 days ●	20+ days ●



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



Sophia, Heidi and Scarlett from Year 9 have all successfully gained a place on the North Durham county under 15s Netball. Great achievement.



Well done to Hannah in Year 10 who performed her song and dance for the first time in a competition and got first.



Robbie in Year 10 competed for Boldon School and won -66 kg in the 10,11,12 and 13 years age groups. He will compete at nationals next year, representing Boldon. Well done!





Whickham Thorns

9AM -
3:30PM

HALF TERM ADVENTURE CLUB

FOR AGES 7-16, ALL
ABILITIES WELCOME
TRY NEW ACTIVITIES
AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS



ACTIVITIES

- Climbing
- Laser Tag
- Snow Tubing
- Orienteering
- Bushcraft
- Crate Stacking
- Archery
- High Ropes - Vertical Challenges
- Assault Course
- Kick Golf

📍 Whickham Thorns, Market Lane
Gateshead, NE11 9NX

www.whickhamthorns.co.uk/book



YOUTH GROUP TIMETABLE

VENUE	DAYS/TIMES	AGE GROUP
FAB/ Jarrow Youth Group Jarrow Focus, 113 Grange Rd, Jarrow NE32 3QW	Tuesday 5:30-7:30pm Wednesday 5:30-7:30pm	SEND Group ages 8-10 SEND Group ages 11-16
The Pavilion Youth Group Valley View Park, Jarrow	Monday 6:00-8:00pm Thursday 5:00-7:00pm	Seniors Year 7 – Year 11 Juniors Ages 8-end of Year 6
Hartleyburn Youth Group Hartleyburn Community Centre, Crawley Square, Hebburn NE31 2LW	Monday 6:30-8:30pm Thursday 5:00-7:00pm	Juniors Ages 8- End of year 6 Seniors Year 7- Year 11
The Hut Youth Group Chuter-Ede, Galsworthy Road, South Shields, Tyne & Wear NE34 9UG	Monday 6:00-8:30pm Wednesday 6:00-8:00pm Friday 6:00-8:30pm	Seniors Year 7-Year 11 Juniors Ages 8-end of Year 6 Seniors Year 7-Year 11
Ocean Road Youth Group Ocean Road Centre, Ocean Road, South Shields NE33 2DW	Monday 6:00-7:30pm Thursday 6:00-7:30pm	Juniors Ages 8-end of Year 6 Seniors Year 7- Year 11
Horsley Hill Youth Group Marsden Road Health & Wellbeing Centre, Marsden Road South Shields NE34 6RE	Monday, Wednesday and Friday 5:15-6:30pm (Juniors) 6:45-8:00pm (Seniors)	Juniors Ages 8- end of Year 6 Seniors Year 7-11
Simonside Youth Project Simonside Climbing Wall	Tuesday 5:30-7:00pm	Seniors Year 7-Year 11

0191 424 0118

youthservice@southtyneside.gov.uk

South Tyneside Youth Service

[Stc_youthservice](https://www.facebook.com/stc_youthservice)

**SOUTH TYNESIDE
YOUTH
SERVICE**
INVESTING IN YOUNG PEOPLE



South Tyneside Council

ACTIVITY	DATE/TIME	AGES
Karaoke and Bonkaz Bingo Night (Halloween dress up optional)	22nd October 6:00-8:00pm Simonside Climbing Wall	8+
Football Tournament - Clegwell/Hebburn	24th October 7:00-9:00pm Clegwell 3g pitches	11+
Halloween themed Polymer Clay Session with Polymorph sculptures plus, Halloween crafts	28th October 11:00am-2:00pm Simonside Climbing Wall	8+
Board Games Competition Night (organised by the Youth Voice Group)	28th October 5:30-7:30pm Simonside Climbing Wall	11+
Youth Service Annual Bake-Off	29th October 1:00-3:00pm Simonside Climbing Wall	8+
Halloween Roller Disco With Power Through Sport	30th October 6:00-8:00pm Ocean Road Community Centre	8+
South Tyneside Youth Service Annual Youth Festival	7th November 5:30-9:00pm Simonside Climbing Wall	8+
Football Tournament - Temple Park	14th November 7:00-9:00pm Temple Park 3g pitches	11+

More activities to be confirmed!

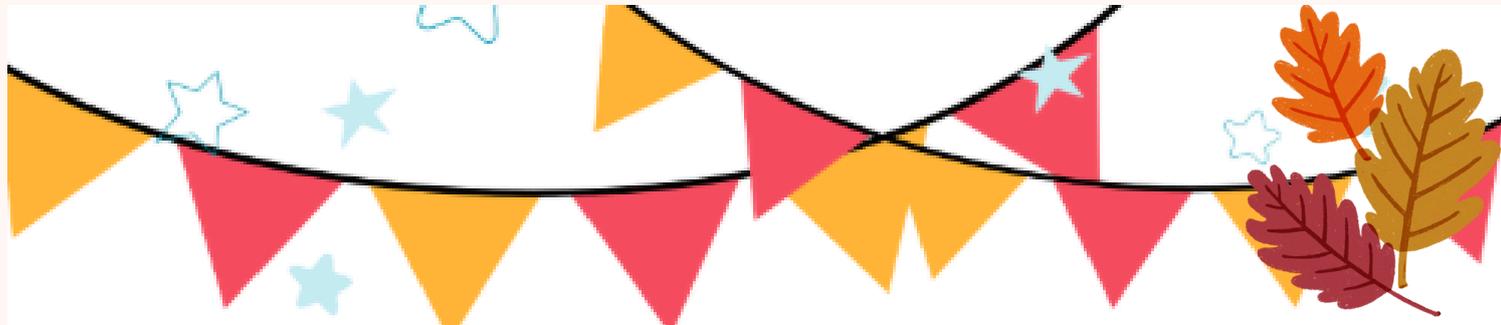
ALL ACTIVITIES ARE FREE TO ATTEND.

To book, email: youthservice@southtyneside.gov.uk
 Follow [@southtynesideyouthservice](https://www.facebook.com/southtynesideyouthservice) on Facebook to keep up to date with details, times and more.

0191 424 0118

youthservice@southtyneside.gov.uk





CHRISTMAS ADVENTURES



EVERY
WEEKEND
NOV 28 -
DEC 24



SNOW TUBING, CHRISTMAS
CRAFTS, ELF HUNT,
MARSHMALLOW TOASTING AND
MORE!



FESTIVE FAMILY FUN FOR
AGES 4+!

BOOKINGS NOW OPEN



Whickham
Thorns

www.whickhamthorns/book-activities@whickhamthorns.co.uk