

Friday 6th January 2023

Dear Parents

Happy New Year!

It was lovely to see students back in school this week, looking all refreshed and pleased to be back.

BDAT

As of 1st January 2023, Bradford Girls' Grammar, has officially joined Bradford Diocesan Academies Trust. This is one of the largest Academy Trusts in Bradford, which has been operating for ten years, and we will join fourteen primary schools and four secondary schools and will be its first all-through Academy.

We all share a common ambition of school improvement and a genuine desire to work together, and so this marks the start of an exciting phase for BGGs.

Please note that there is a further event for parents to meet with BDAT on **Wednesday 18th January 2023 from 3pm to 4 pm**. We look forward to seeing you there.

In this letter you will find:

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1. The Week Ahead

Weekly Assembly Theme: This week: New Year Resolutions/Aspire Values				
Next week: World Religion Day				
Day	Session	For	Time	Location
Monday				
Tuesday				
Wednesday				
Thursday				
Friday	Reception & Year 1 Stay & Learn	Reception & Year 1 Parents & Carers	<u>Reception</u> 8.30am to 8.50am <u>Year 1</u> 2.50pm to 3.15pm	Lady Royd Classrooms

2. Students who are Unwell

You may have seen in the news this week, that the UK (United Kingdom) Health Security Agency (UKHSA) is advising parents to keep children off school if they are unwell and have a fever, amid high levels of flu and Covid-19 cases. Advice given by its Chief Medical Adviser is “if your child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay home from school until they feel better, and the fever has resolved.” She also stressed the importance of washing hands and catching coughs and sneezes in tissues.

Please ensure you contact school to advise us if your child is unwell with these symptoms.

3. Flu Vaccinations

As previously communicated, the School Immunisation Team will be visiting school on Monday 20th February to administer flu vaccinations to pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9.

To date, there has been a low level of sign up for these vaccinations. As you are aware, and given the information above, flu can be an unpleasant and sometimes serious illness and the school vaccination team would encourage families to take up the vaccination.

If you wish for your child to be vaccinated, parental consent **must be given online via the following link:** [Flu Vaccinations 20th February](#), using the Bradford Girls' Grammar School code which is: **BF140204**

Please note, that even if you do not wish your child to receive the vaccination, it is important to complete the refusal section of the form so that the school immunisation team are aware of your wishes.

If you have any questions or queries regarding the flu immunisation programme, please contact the school immunisation team directly on **01274 221269**.

4. Extra-Curricular Clubs



The start of a new term brings a whole host of new extra-curricular clubs and activities that all pupils can become involved in. The options are varied, and we encourage each pupil to take up at least one extra-curricular activity. Clubs will start from week commencing 9th January 2023 and Senior School students will have received details of the clubs available, together with the link for sign up, from Ms Sutcliffe. Please do take time to look at these options and register accordingly. In Primary, all clubs have been allocated and texts have been sent to parents/carers to confirm they have a place. All pupils who expressed interest have been allocated at least one club. Clubs finish at 4pm and any pupil left after this time will be

taken to Aftercare and there will be a charge.

5. Applying for a Reception place 2023

For children starting Reception in September 2023, just a reminder that you need to apply for a place with Bradford Admissions by January 15th. Please see the link for further information: [Primary Place Application](#)

6. School Council Update – Whole School



It was a pleasure to attend the first meeting of the whole school council today, to learn about the fantastic initiatives they have been working on since the start of the Autumn term and their plans for the forthcoming year ahead.

Presentations were given by pupils from both the Senior and Primary phases. For the Senior Phase, we have committees for Anti-Bullying, Charities, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and Teaching and Learning and they have been working on several initiatives which include developing a student led approach to anti-bullying, raising our charitable profile, developing activities and events to engage the wider community with BGGs and looking at student led approaches to embedding high expectations for every student into school life.

Not to be outdone, the Primary Phase committees have been working on developing a reward and recognition programme, securing training as anti-bullying ambassadors as part of the Diana award and, like their Senior School counterparts, working on charity events and initiatives.

I must comment on how amazed and proud I was of all the work which has taken place and the initiative and enthusiasm which has been shown by all School Council members. Plans for the rest of the year are just as exciting and I look forward to sharing updates.

7. Forthcoming Author Visit

On Tuesday 10th January, we are delighted to be welcoming author Jennifer Burkinshaw to BGGs. Jennifer is a former teacher who taught English, Drama and Classics for twenty years in several schools (including BGGs), and for 4 years in Paris. She later completed an MA in Creative Writing for Children at Manchester Metropolitan University.

Jennifer will be working with students in Year 7, looking at her debut novel, Igloo. Further information about Jennifer and her work can be found here: [Jennifer Burkinshaw](#).

8. Medical Appointments

As it is the start of a new term, could I please just remind parents of the procedures for medical appointments. We encourage parents to make such appointments outside of school time if possible so that there is no missed learning. However, if appointments are necessary during the school day, please try to arrange them for the start or end of the day. Please ensure that the reception team are informed beforehand and provided with evidence of the appointment in either a letter or digital format. If collecting your child during the school day, please arrive to allow enough time for reception staff to collect your child from lessons. This is to ensure that you make your appointment on time and that disruption to your child is minimised.

Wishing you all a pleasant weekend

Yours sincerely

Handwritten signature of Clare Martin.

Clare Martin

Principal