

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT NEWSLETTER | SPRING 2025

OUR AIM: To develop articulate, resilient and ambitious students, regardless of background, with the knowledge, skills, attitudes and habits to excel in modern Britain.

At Bournville School, in addition to a broad academic curriculum, every one of our students has the opportunity to experience a wealth of personal development activities. This newsletter gives you an insight into our plans for this term.

Careers Education/PSHE

Careers and Ambition is the focus of PSHE lessons. We teach a spiral curriculum, with each year group returning to the Careers theme but with an age-appropriate focus eg.

- Year 7 – Self-review and learning from failure
- Year 8 – Labour Market Information
- Year 9 – Employability Skills
- Year 10 – Work Experience prep and study skills
- Year 11 – Post 16 Options & Revision skills

A reminder that '[Unifrog](#)', an online careers platform is available for you to use to access careers information and guidance.

Character Education

We teach our students to STRIVE for success. This half term our work will focus on developing 'Empathy'; encouraging respect for others.

Students are encouraged to do the right thing, without being asked. They should be 'ready' to learn with smart uniform, the correct equipment and attitude and be prepared to challenge themselves to achieve their best. Next half term our focus is 'Self-discipline'.



Extra-curricular programme



We have a wealth of extra-curricular activities on offer to students. This includes, art, drama, music and sport. This year we have also external agencies to come into school to lead sporting activities. Students participate in 'Hansel and Gretel' an opportunity for our talented students to perform in front of the school community at the end of January

Academic support is also provided for Y11 students with period 6 revision sessions in core subjects in preparation for mocks.



Student Leadership

We have elected a range of student leaders in different capacities as we value their contribution to the school community. Our **Y11 prefect team** has designed their programme of activities for the academic year. They are running several fundraising events for Prom and are exemplary role models for our school community. We have a fully functional **school council** who help us to work on school improvement. Recently we have appointed students in Y8 and Y9 to work as **student receptionists**, a valuable work experience opportunity for them.



House Events

All staff and students belong to a house; Boulton, Cadbury, Tolkien or Austin. This provides them a community to belong to. Students are encouraged to earn their positive points each day and to participate in a range of house activities to be in with a chance of winning the house cup at the end of the academic year. So far students have competed in a Black History Month poetry and art competition, to raise funds at the Christmas Fayre and for the Christmas Card competition. Positive points are earned through demonstrating our STRIVE character traits, by going over and above for the school community and crucially for excellent attendance and punctuality.

Educational Visits

Visits are arranged to give students memorable experiences, to engage them in the curriculum they are learning and to develop cultural awareness. Trips arranged in the Spring term include a visit to the Spanish Onatti theatre and for Y8 the immersive Spanish restaurant experience and some Y7 students will visit Birmingham hospital to deliver their findings from the NHS research project. Lots more to come!



Assemblies

Every week students have an assembly delivered by a school leader. Assembly themes this half term are:

- ✓ Week 1: New Year; New Start
- ✓ Week 2: World Religion Day
- ✓ Week 3: Holocaust Memorial Day
- ✓ Week 4: Children's Mental Health Week
- ✓ Week 5: Internet Safety Day
- ✓ Week 6: Celebration and rewards



Tutor time programme

We believe the role of the tutor is key and all students see their tutor first thing in the morning.

Tutors follow a curriculum which includes:

- ✓ **Numeracy Ninjas** – an engaging mental arithmetic programme
- ✓ **Class Read session** – tutors model quality reading with the class enjoying a text together
- ✓ **Votes4Schools** – a discussion and debate session developing cultural awareness
- ✓ **Character Education** – teaching and developing character
- ✓ **Assembly** – a year group assembly taken by a member of SLT

Fundamental British Values & SMSC

It is our responsibility to teach our students British Values and Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural (SMSC) education so that our students understand expected behaviour from British citizens, preparing them for their life in modern British society. Some examples include:

- Students experienced the democratic process by electing school council leaders and form captains
- Black History Month is used as a vehicle to promote diversity and encourage respect and tolerance
- Students are taught the difference between what is right and wrong and are encouraged to be 'Ready, Respectful and Safe' but they also learn through sport where they develop skills of fair play and sportsmanship

Key Dates

- 08.01.25 – Students back at school
- 21.01.25 – Onatti Theatre Trip
- 21.01.25 – NHS Birmingham Hospital Visit
- 21.01.25 – Hansel and Gretel matinee
- 22.01.25 – Hansel and Gretel evening
- 23.01.25 – Y11 Information Evening
- 11.02.25 – Y11 History theatre trip
- 13.02.25 – Y9 Options Evening

Communication

We are regularly posting on social media, celebrating school achievements and keeping you aware of what is happening in school. Please follow us on X (formerly Twitter) and Instagram @BournvilleSch

Our website is also a useful source of information: [Bournville School – Part of Fairfax Multi-Academy Trust.](#)

