

# NEWSLETTER

EASTER 2025

**Bishop  
Young**  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
ACADEMY



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## HIGHLIGHTS

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Useful Reminders and Key Dates



In Partnership to  
Educate, Nurture & Empower

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# PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

As we approach the Easter break, it has once again been a very busy term for our staff and students and we look forward to this chance to relax and reenergise. Work continues however for our Year 11 students who will be focusing on revision for their summer GCSEs and our Year 10 who will sit mock examinations when we return. However, we do want our students to enjoy their holiday and all good revision schedules should include structured rest and activity breaks!

As you will know, we take great pride in our Character Education here at Bishop Young and this term the focus of our PSHE lessons has been perseverance and benevolence. Many students reflected on personal experiences of times when they persevered through difficult situations, whether it was learning a new skill, practicing a sport, or overcoming academic challenges. The class discussions have fostered a supportive environment where students feel encouraged to share their experiences and learn from one another. Our lessons on benevolence focused on the power of kindness, generosity, and empathy. Students were introduced to the concept of benevolence and brainstormed ways they could show kindness within their school and local community. Many are already putting their lessons into practice by performing acts of kindness both inside and outside the classroom. We are proud to share that students have been noticing how their acts of generosity have not only brightened the day of others but also contributed to their own sense of well-being.

I am incredibly proud of how engaged the students have been in these lessons and the positive impact it is having on our school community. It's clear that they are not only learning valuable life skills but are also starting to apply them in meaningful ways.

We are delighted to have been able to welcome a number of visitors into school this term. ITV News filmed a segment on Internet Safety, Councillor David White joined us to observe our work with IVE and Applied Creativity Labs, and the Bishop of Kirkstall, Bishop Arun, visited to lead our Ash Wednesday service marking the first day of Lent. We truly appreciate his continued support.

# PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Our students have once again distinguished themselves at a variety of events, both locally and nationally. We entered teams for the Cranmer Awards and Poetry by Heart competition and students represented the Academy at the ASDA International Women's day celebrations. Additionally, our Science department continues to champion girls in STEM and we are excited to announce that we have been accredited as a NextGenLeaders School in recognition of our work empowering students to become socially responsible leaders.

We take our responsibility to listening to our students very seriously. All sensible suggestions for change are considered. Following a presentation by the Student Council to our Senior Leadership Teams and our Governors, we will be making some changes to our uniform policy. These changes will take effect in September, but we will be trialling them during the Summer Term to gather feedback from students, staff, and parents.

Our partnership with the Leeds United Foundation continues to thrive. We were fortunate to host the Yorke family (owners of LUFC) in school, and they were so impressed by our students and staff that they donated a stocked vending machine for books to support our efforts to promote literacy and a love for reading. It was a shame they missed our wonderful World Book Day celebrations, where our classroom doors were beautifully decorated, and our staff outdid themselves with their costumes!

Finally, we'd like to thank everyone for supporting Comic Relief. It was a fun and successful event, with our students thoroughly enjoying the opportunity to throw custard pies at staff members for a great cause!

School will close on Friday, 4th April at 2.50pm, and we look forward to welcoming students back on Tuesday, 22nd April 2018 at 8.20am.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, our parents, carers, and families, for your continued support. It is very much appreciated. Wishing you all a wonderful break, and please stay safe.

**Ms R Lacey-Cole**  
**Principal**



# CRANMER AWARDS

## A national celebration of Oracy and Prayer

In a fabulous display of eloquence and public speaking, our students once again participated in the prestigious Cranmer Awards, a national competition that celebrates the art of oracy and the timeless words of the Book of Common Prayer.

This year, our school was proud to send a talented group of young orators to the national final, where they competed against the best from across the country. The Cranmer Awards, named after Thomas Cranmer, a key figure in the English Reformation, encourage students to engage with beauty and depth of the Book of Common Prayer. By reciting these prayers and liturgies, students not only practice the power of speech, but they also delve into the history, culture, and faith embedded in these words.

In the competition, each student selected a passage from the Book of Common Prayer to memorise and present. The judges looked for clarity of expression, emotional depth, and the ability to convey the meaning of the words with authenticity and passion. Our students rose to the occasion with remarkable performances, representing our school with pride and dedication. While we did not take home the top prize this year, the experience was invaluable, and our students learned a great deal from the process. They commented on how much they enjoyed the challenge of memorising and presenting their verses and how it helped them build confidence in their speaking abilities.

Congratulations to all who took part, and we are already looking ahead to next year's Cranmer Awards with anticipation!



## SOCIAL MEDIA

Do you follow us on social media? You can keep up to date with all the amazing things that go on by following us on Instagram and Facebook.



[@bishopyoungacad/](https://www.instagram.com/bishopyoungacad/)



[www.facebook.com/bishopyoungce](https://www.facebook.com/bishopyoungce)



# CHARITY IN ACTION

This year, our school celebrated its very first Comic Relief Day, and what an incredible day it was! Students and staff came together to have fun, raise money for a good cause, and show their support for Comic Relief's mission to help children and families in need.

The highlight of the day was the Custard Pie in the Face Challenge, where students had the chance to nominate teachers to take a pie to the face—all for charity, of course! A massive thanks must go to Mr Strongman, who "won" the vote. He took it in good spirits, and his willingness to get messy for a great cause brought smiles to everyone's faces. It was a moment that will go down in school history!

Thanks to the generosity of everyone involved, we raised an amazing amount of money that will make a real difference to those in need. We couldn't have done it without the enthusiasm, teamwork, and compassion of our fantastic school community.

A huge thank you to all the students, teachers, and staff who made our first Comic Relief Day a success. We can't wait to see what next year's event will bring!

**We raised  
£160!!**

**COMIC  
RELIEF**

## Comic Relief



A donation of £160 could help pay for:





# YEAR 7 WAR POETRY

## The Echo of War

by Emmie-Rose Williams

In the silence of dawn,  
Bombs are falling, people gone,  
Soldiers march with heavy feet.  
Marching onward no retreat.

In the dark of the night,  
The skies are bright.  
Bombs are falling like thunder,  
Sharing the light.

In the fields where poppies grew,  
The soldiers march both brave and true.  
The thunder roared; cannons cried.  
Yet through it all some survived.

The guns would roar, the bombs would fall.  
Yet in their hearts, they answered the call.  
In trenches deep the skies are grey.  
With rifles tight and hearts so bold,  
They thought for piece, their stories told.  
Through sleepless nights and endless tears.  
They dreamed of home through endless fears

But in the darkest stormy night,  
A spark of hope, a shining light.  
The war would end,  
The battles cease, and bring the  
World to a time of piece.

So, now we stand, with  
Hearts so true, remembering  
Those who made it through.  
For our country including  
me and you

For after a war a new day came,  
And piece was born in  
God's own flame.

This term, Year 7 students have taken an emotional journey through the world of war poetry, exploring the themes of sacrifice, loss, bravery, and the impact of conflict on individuals and society. The students have studied well-known poets like Wilfred Owen and Rupert Brooke, whose works give a voice to the soldiers who experienced the horrors of war firsthand. Inspired by these powerful poems, Year 7s were tasked with writing their own war-inspired poetry to capture the emotions and experiences of those affected by war.

The students were encouraged to think deeply about the perspectives of soldiers, civilians, and even the objects left behind on the battlefield. Through vivid imagery and poignant language, the Year 7 poets have crafted pieces that explore the devastating effects of war, while also highlighting the strength, hope, and resilience of the human spirit.

Year 7 students have shown tremendous empathy and creativity in their poetry writing, producing pieces that are thought-provoking and moving. Their work has sparked thoughtful discussions in class about the impact of war, both historically and in the present day.

Congratulations to all Year 7 students for their outstanding work, and we look forward to seeing how their understanding of poetry and the human experience continues to grow in future projects!

# WELLBEING WEEK

Wellbeing Week was a fantastic celebration of mental health, resilience, and community spirit at our school. Throughout the week, students and staff came together to participate in a range of events aimed at promoting well-being and fostering a positive mindset.

One of the highlights of the week was the visit from MindMate, who offered valuable information about their services and resources to help students take care of their mental health. This was a great opportunity for our students to learn more about how they can access support and feel empowered to take care of themselves.



Year 7 students kicked off the week with an inspiring assembly on Resilience, where they learned about the importance of bouncing back from challenges and developing a positive mindset. This was followed by a resilience workshop, where students were able to dive deeper into practical strategies for building mental strength.

Our staff also got involved in the week's activities, with a special staff breakfast to promote connection and well-being within our team. Throughout the week, the Games Café was a popular space for staff to come together and relax, with games, conversation, and fun! By far the most popular event was the staff version of Traitors. Who knew that Ms Kempthorne could be so conniving!



Our sports events were another standout feature of Wellbeing Week. Both staff and students participated in friendly competitions that encouraged physical activity, teamwork, and fun. These events were a great reminder of how physical health plays a key role in overall well-being.

Finally, the week featured a series of introductions to positive mental health strategies, including mindfulness sessions, stress-management tips, and ways to stay connected with others. These strategies gave everyone the tools to improve their well-being long after the week had ended.

Wellbeing Week was a resounding success, and we are grateful to everyone who took part. It was a wonderful opportunity to come together, share experiences, and learn how we can all take steps to support our mental health and resilience. We look forward to making Wellbeing Week an even bigger and better event in the future!

# SCHOOL UNIFORM UPDATES

At Bishop Young Academy, we believe that uniform is more than just clothing – it's a reflection of who we are as a community and an important part of fostering pride and unity within our school. It also helps prepare our students for life after school, where dressing smartly is often expected in professional settings.

After listening to feedback from our students and hearing a presentation from the Student Council to our Senior Leadership Team and Academy Governors, we are pleased to announce some updates to our uniform policy. These changes will take effect in September, but we'll be trialling them during the Summer Term to get valuable feedback from students, staff, and parents.

Here's a breakdown of the changes that will be introduced when students return from the Easter break:

- **Jewellery:** Students will now be allowed to wear one stud earring in each earlobe. In addition, the only other permitted jewellery will be a wristwatch and a simple cross and chain. Multiple earrings or nose piercings will not be allowed.
- **Hair Colour:** Students will be permitted to add one extra colour to their hair. For example, students who choose braids may have a natural colour along with one additional colour of their choice.
- **Summer Uniform:** Students will be able to wear the new **pale blue branded BYA polo shirt** as part of their summer uniform (please note, this is different from the polo shirt worn for PE). Starting on 1st May, students will have the option to wear either their regular uniform of jumper/blazer, shirt, and tie, or the new branded summer polo shirt. The polo shirt can be paired with jumpers or blazers if needed, but this will not be mandatory. This option is for the summer term only.

We look forward to hearing your feedback during the trial period and thank you for your continued support as we work to improve our school community!



**Branded items of school uniform can be purchased from:**  
The School Uniform Shop  
369-371 Harehills Lane  
Leeds  
LS9 6AP



# RECYCLING AND ENERGY RECOVERY FACILITY VISITS

Our GCSE Geography students had the exciting opportunity to visit the Leeds Recycling and Energy Recovery Facility (RERF) as part of their studies on resource management and sustainability. This hands-on experience allowed students to deepen their understanding of how waste is managed, recycled, and converted into energy – key concepts they've been exploring in the classroom.

The trip provided a fascinating behind-the-scenes look at one of the most advanced recycling and energy recovery facilities in the region. Students learned about the processes involved in sorting and recycling waste, as well as the technologies used to convert non-recyclable materials into energy. This visit was not only an educational experience but also a chance for students to see how these systems contribute to sustainability efforts and reduce the environmental impact of waste.

Throughout the day, students had the chance to ask questions, observe the machinery in action, and engage with experts who shared their knowledge and insights on waste management practices. The visit was a valuable extension of their classroom learning, bringing real-world applications of geography to life. This trip has no doubt inspired our students to think more critically about the role they can play in creating a more sustainable future.



# ITV VISIT FOR INTERNET SAFETY DAY

On Internet Safety Day, we were thrilled to welcome ITV News to our school, as they filmed a special segment focusing on the importance of staying safe online. The segment aimed to raise awareness about internet safety, a topic that is becoming increasingly important for students in today's digital world.

Throughout the day, ITV News interviewed several of our students, asking them how they stay safe online and what strategies they use to protect their personal information and well-being. It was an insightful opportunity for our students to share their knowledge and experiences, while also reinforcing the importance of making safe choices on the internet.

The segment highlighted key online safety practices, such as being cautious about sharing personal information, understanding privacy settings, and recognising the potential dangers of online interactions. It was fantastic to see our students taking an active role in the conversation, demonstrating their understanding of these crucial issues.

We are proud of our students for speaking so confidently and responsibly about internet safety, and we are grateful to ITV News for taking the time to highlight this important topic. The coverage will serve as a valuable reminder to everyone in the school community about the importance of staying safe online and making informed decisions in the digital age.



## ASH WEDNESDAY

We were honoured to welcome Bishop Arun, the Bishop of Kirkstall, to our school for our Ash Wednesday service. This marks an important occasion in the Christian calendar, as it marks the beginning of the season of Lent, a time for reflection, repentance, and spiritual growth.

Throughout the morning, Bishop Arun spoke about the importance of self-reflection, kindness, and spiritual renewal, encouraging everyone to consider how they can grow in their faith and kindness during Lent. His words were both inspiring and thought-provoking, providing an opportunity for all of us to pause and reflect on the values that matter most.

We would like to thank Bishop Arun for taking the time to visit; his presence was a blessing, and we are grateful for the spiritual guidance he provides to our school community. As we enter the Easter period, we hope that his message continues to inspire our students to reflect, grow, and seek ways to contribute positively to the world around them.



# APPLIED CREATIVITY LAB

We are excited to announce that the Award-Winning Applied Creativity Labs® (ACLs) from IVE recently visited our school to work with our students on developing creative thinking and problem-solving skills. This unique program, designed to foster innovation, gave our students the opportunity to engage in hands-on, collaborative activities that focused on finding solutions to real-world challenges. During their time with us, the ACLs team led a series of interactive sessions, where students were encouraged to think critically and creatively. By tackling problems that could affect their communities or the world, students were able to apply their learning in practical, meaningful ways. The experience not only sparked new ideas but also helped develop key skills like collaboration, communication, and resilience.

The Applied Creativity Labs® program is known for its ability to push students out of their comfort zones and encourage them to think outside the box. The sessions were an exciting way to show our students that creativity isn't just about artistic talent—it's about using imaginative thinking to solve problems and make a real impact in the world.

We look forward to seeing how the creative ideas sparked in these labs will shape the future of our students and the world around them!

## CHARITY ABSEIL

In an exciting and daring fundraiser, three of our staff members took on the challenge of abseiling off the roof at Elland Road to raise money for the school! This thrilling event not only showcased their bravery but also highlighted their commitment to supporting our school community.

Ms Orastean, Ms Nevin and Ms Cross, braved the heights to raise much-needed funds for school resources, activities, and projects that benefit our students. Thanks to the generous donations from family, friends and staff, the abseil raised a significant amount for our school. This money will go towards enhancing our school environment, creating more opportunities for our students, and supporting their overall well-being.

We want to extend a huge thank you to our brave staff members for taking on this daring challenge, and to everyone who donated. Your contributions make a real difference to our school community, and we're grateful for your continued support. Well done to all involved!





# National Junior Indoor Rowing Competition

We are thrilled to celebrate the exceptional achievement of Jakub M, a Year 7 student, who has recently made waves in the National Junior Indoor Rowing Competition. Out of nearly 8,000 pupils from various age groups across the country, Jakub finished an impressive 5th place overall—a remarkable accomplishment by any standard.

In the competition, Jakub rowed for just 2 minutes and covered an incredible 543 meters. To put this into perspective, the level of skill, endurance, and technique required to achieve this is nothing short of phenomenal, especially considering Jakub has only tried indoor rowing a handful of times.

His impressive result shows not only his raw talent but also his potential for future success in the sport. We're excited to see what Jakub will accomplish next in upcoming competitions.

Congratulations, Jakub, on this fantastic achievement! Keep rowing towards greatness!



School/Club	Name	Class	Gender	Year Group	Time	Distance	Split	Verified?
1. River City	Tom Clegg	Individual	Boy	Year 7	02:00.0	550	01:48.2	Yes
2. Redhill Academy Trust	Ray Benjamin (GB)	Individual	Boy	Year 7	02:00.0	553	01:48.5	Yes
3. Rye School with Upper Chine	Thomas Saunders	Individual	Boy	Year 7	02:00.0	549	01:49.3	Yes
4. St Matthew Academy	Mark Awarons	Individual	Boy	Year 7	02:00.0	544	01:50.3	Yes
5. Bishop Young CofE Academy	Jakub Mrazek	Individual	Boy	Year 7	02:00.0	543	01:50.5	Yes
6. Redhill Academy Trust	Oliver Grayson	Individual	Boy	Year 7	02:00.0	540	01:51.7	Yes
7. Redhill Academy Trust	Alfie Parker (GB)	Individual	Boy	Year 7	02:00.0	531	01:53.5	No
8. David Ross Education Trust	Ethan Swain	Individual	Boy	Year 7	02:00.0	528	01:54.7	No
9. St John's Catholic Comprehensive	Arman Kasak	Individual	Boy	Year 7	02:00.0	521	01:55.2	Yes
10. St Andrew's Catholic School	Samuel Edeh-Monro	Individual	Boy	Year 7	02:00.0	518	01:55.8	Yes

## WORLD BOOK DAY

What a fantastic day we had celebrating World Book Day! Staff and students embraced the spirit of the day with enthusiasm and creativity. Our amazing staff members dressed up as iconic book characters, and the classrooms were beautifully decorated, bringing stories and characters to life.

A special mention goes to Mrs. Lacey-Cole, our Principal, who absolutely stunned everyone by dressing as Cruella De'Vil from 101 Dalmatians. Her costume was fabulous, and she certainly brought a touch of drama to the day! It was a day filled with imagination and fun, celebrating the power of books and reading.



# HELLOS AND GOODBYES AT THE ACADEMY

Welcome to Mr. Gardham and Mr. Ternent. We are excited to welcome Mr. Gardham, our new Trust Lead for Design and Technology (DT), and Mr. Ternent, who has joined us as our new Librarian. We're thrilled to have them on board and look forward to the positive impact they will bring to our academy community.

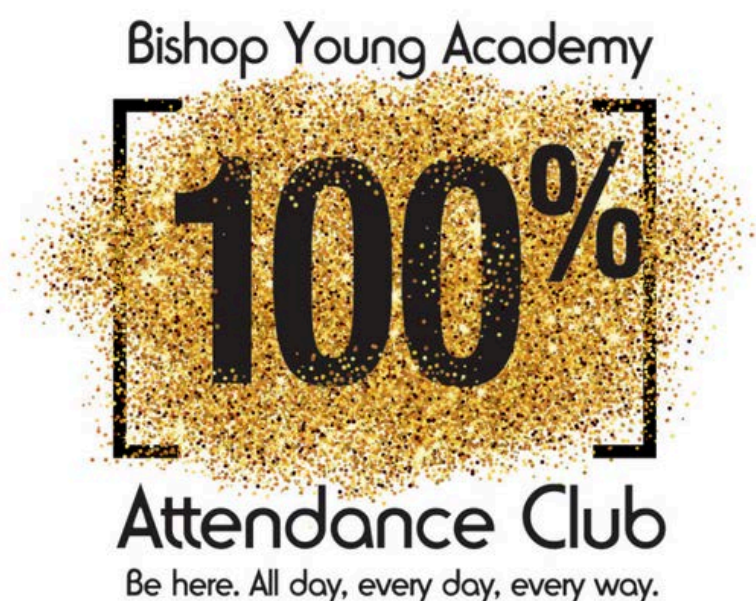
Goodbye to Ms. Field who is leaving us to pursue new opportunities at a new school. We want to thank her for all her hard work and dedication during her time here. We wish her the best of luck in her future endeavours and know she will continue to achieve great things.

## ATTENDANCE - THANK YOU

We would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks for your continued support throughout this term, particularly in helping to ensure high attendance at school. Your commitment plays a vital role in the success of our pupils, and we are incredibly pleased to have been able to reward both our pupils and parents for their outstanding attendance.

As part of our ongoing efforts to recognise and celebrate attendance, we were delighted to present a number of prizes; these included exciting rewards such as Leeds United tickets, Amazon and supermarket vouchers. We hope that the winners enjoyed their rewards.

Looking ahead to the summer term, please keep an eye out for letters and emails that will be sent over the coming weeks. These will provide information about new initiatives and events that we have planned for the remainder of the school year.



## KEY DATES NEXT TERM

Tuesday 22 April 2025

School open to all students

Week commencing 22 April 2025

Y10 Mock Exams begin

Monday 5 May 2025

May Day Bank Holiday  
(school closed to all pupils)

Week commencing 8 May 2025

Y11 Summer GCSEs begin

Week commencing 12 May 2025

Y7 Trust Assessments

Wednesday 21 May 2025

Y8 HPV Vaccination

Friday 23 May 2025

School closes for May Half Term

Monday 2 June 2025

School open to all students

## LS14 TRUST EASTER ACTIVITIES



The LS14 Trust are running exciting activities over the Easter Holidays! You'll have the chance to design, renovate and decorate their new Seacroft Imagination Station - along with sports, dance, crafts and more.

Take a look at their programme on Facebook at:

[www.facebook.com/LS14Trust](https://www.facebook.com/LS14Trust)





## **Bishop Young Academy**

Bishops Way

Seacroft

Leeds

LS14 6NU

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**Bishop  
Young**  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
ACADEMY

A member of

