



Buckler's Mead Academy

An Inspiring Education for All

Summer Term 1 Newsletter May 2025

As you are aware I am spending less time in Buckler's Mead as we support Pyrland School in Taunton. It is very strange to know that so many wonderful things are happening at Buckler's Mead which I am hearing about and not here to see! I think the strangest thing was when Year 11 headed into their first exam and not being there to wish them luck. They are a really mature year group, who I am confident will get some amazing results. I am really proud of each and every one of them. On my regular visits to Buckler's Mead it is wonderful to see the high standards being maintained, which is echoed by the many Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership Executive staff who have visited to support with capacity while I am in Taunton.

I hope you all enjoy the half term holiday!

Facebook and Instagram



This newsletter is a snapshot of some of the amazing things we get up to at Buckler's Mead Academy. To keep up to

date with news from the Academy please follow us on social media.



100 Club and SKY HIGH Reach Record-Breaking Heights!

As we move through this term, we're proud to shine a spotlight on a record-breaking month for our 100 Club and 100 Club SKY HIGH initiatives. These programmes are designed to recognise and reward students who show exceptional commitment to their learning through consistent attendance and positive behaviour.

We are thrilled to announce that April saw our highest membership numbers to date, with an incredible 60% of our students achieving 100% attendance and securing their place in the 100 Club! This outstanding milestone reflects the growing momentum behind the initiative and highlights the dedication and determination of our students to show up every day and make the most of their education.

The 100 Club SKY HIGH continues to raise the bar by celebrating those students who not only achieve full attendance but also maintain zero negative behaviour points throughout the month. These students are role models within our school community, setting a powerful example of consistency, positivity, and excellence.

What makes this achievement even more impressive is that our school's overall attendance remains well above the national average. This is a testament to the incredible resilience our students demonstrate each day. In the face of challenges, they continue to prioritise their learning, and it is making a real difference.

To all our 100 Club and SKY HIGH students – we are proud of you. Your hard work does not go unnoticed, and you are an inspiration to us all.

Let's continue to build on this success. Aim high, stay focused, and remember – every moment matters!



Buckler's Mead Academy

An Inspiring Education for All

The Flight Club Challenge

The flight challenge is a club lead by Mr. Tofts where students can come together with a love of engineering to make aeroplanes out of materials like cardboard, paper, wood, fabric, plastics and friction joints. However, you get given a certain amount of "money" to build it and most material needs to be bought, for example wood costs 35F per sheet! "F" is a currency we used in this project. There are 50 teams per regional heat, but there are only 30 teams who make the Grand Final. The Grand Final was held on the 16th May at Aerospace Bristol. A team of students, consisting of Year 9s Ben, Alex, Harry, Noah, Dominic and Zach and Year 8 Logan, went to this Grand Final and achieved *3rd place in the entire country!* Well done! Some key skills you *need* to have to participate in something like this are being hardworking, having good communication, teamwork and the ability to criticise your own work in order to improve it. This challenge is a good opportunity for young adults to forge links with local industries and to develop these key skills even further. Once again well done to the winning team!

Empower-Poetry Competition

Our school is participating in the Empower Poetry Competition as a way for our students to discover new, unique styles of writing, talk about their passions and uncover different ways to understand themselves better. Only five people have signed up so take a chance and possibly become a published author! All you have to do to participate is go to Ms Walls in the library and ask for a student planning sheet. This sheet includes stating what your poem is about, sketching something you care about and choosing what type of poem you would like to do. If you win the competition you are awarded a £150 gift voucher and your poem gets published! So please, if you are thinking about entering, just do it!

New Arrivals in the Music Department

Our Music Department has just widened its already significant variety of instruments and opportunities with 30 new ukuleles arriving! This gives any student, who otherwise wouldn't have knowledge of any musical talents, the chance to reach out and try new things. For many students it has made them realise they love playing ukulele or encouraged them towards similar instruments such as bass, electric or acoustic guitar. If they haven't done this, our students have experienced a new way to gain a deeper appreciation and understanding for music. As well as this, the school choir is looking for new members in time for our Summer Concert coming soon. Anyone can join and you can show up to see whether you like it or not. Choir is a great way to de-stress and have some fun with other students so encourage everyone to come along and have a go, open every Tuesday after school from 3-4pm.

April-Month of the Military Child

In April, our school celebrated the Month of the Military Child with many students from different years sharing their experience as military children. Each of the pupils who talked about their life in assembly were part of a club we hold for students with similar experiences to connect and find people they relate to. Some of our students also partook in the 'Never Such Innocence' art and poetry competition with the theme 'memories'.



Buckler's Mead Academy

An Inspiring Education for All

Contemporary Dance Club

Every Wednesday, anyone can take part for an hour after school in a Contemporary Dancing Club lead by Mrs. Newman and Mrs. Tucker-Moon. This club has already got a few people involved but if you and your friends join, you could be showing off your talents in assembly, or even in competitions! Not only is it just an enjoyable activity, it can help you learn more about dance. You get taught choreography and your dance teachers will be helping you make your own dances as well as developing and building your creative skills.

News from the PE Team

Success for Elisha - Athletic Combined Events

Elisha, Year 10, competed in the combined events athletic competition at the end of April. Although this was a Somerset competition the event was an internationally recognised meet which meant the field of athletes were literally world class. It was Elisha's first ever combined events competition. She achieved some fantastic results in the 200 metres sprint and long jump which were her specialities. However she performed superbly in her first hurdles race and gained a Personal Best in the javelin. She was 16th overall but 3rd in Somerset.

She has been asked to compete in a similar championships in June and Mr Crisp and the PE Team are sure she will improve her score again.

Elisha not only did herself proud but also the school. It was an incredible achievement - well done!

Inclusive Football Tournament

The annual inclusive football tournament started in April. The under 14 and under 16 teams were at full strength this year and were hopeful for a good

run. They didn't disappoint with the under 14s remaining unbeaten and the under 16s only losing one game throughout the tournament. The boys played some great football and now have a good chance to lift the trophy in May!

Congratulations boys!

Emily Selected for Somerset Football

Emily, Year 9, was selected for the emerging talent centre for football for Somerset. She has been involved in all the coaching sessions and representative games this season and will be playing for the under 16 squad next year. A fantastic achievement Emily - congratulations!

Year 9 and 10 Artist Workshops

This term we have been lucky enough to take advantage of visiting Somerset Rural Life Museum in Glastonbury to work with a local printmaking artist who's exhibition "Strength and Resilience" focused on the contribution of women in the Second World War. At this time of celebration of the 80th anniversary of VE Day, students had an opportunity to learn more about the Second World War whilst also combining this with learning and using printing skills.

Olivia writes: Today I learnt about four ladies who helped with the war effort in World War 2. One was an American ex model, Lee Miller, who became a wartime photographer. Lee Miller took pictures at Yeovilton Air Base. We also learnt about printing with ink and card which we saw in the temporary exhibition "Strength and Resilience". We made cutouts of pitchforks, horses and items related to the work the women did in the war.





Buckler's Mead Academy

An Inspiring Education for All

Year 10 Work Experience

Year 10 students completed their work experience placements from Monday 12th - Friday 16th May.

We were extremely proud of the work they completed and have shared some of their experiences on our Facebook page.

Sebastian writes this review of his week which saw him flying over Yeovil at one point:

This work experience week has been an amazing opportunity for me to experience life training to become a commercial airline pilot. I have managed to experience multiple different sectors of the company including sitting on two student training flights! There have been times that have pushed me out of my comfort zone however it has been an incredibly insightful and rewarding experience that has proven to me that any opportunity is possible if you put yourself out for it and has helped me decide what career I want to pursue in the future.

