



Buckler's Mead Academy

An Inspiring Education for All

Summer Term 2 Newsletter July 2025

I can't quite believe we have reached the end of another school year, and once again it has been a year to be proud of for the whole Buckler's Mead community. I have found it challenging spending so much time out of the Academy as we support another school, but I am very lucky the staff and students at Buckler's have stepped up and, as we always do, risen to the challenge! Buckler's Mead really is a school we can all be proud of and this is proven once again by the growing number on roll. We have more Year 7 joining in September than we have had in many many years, which just goes to show the positivity about Buckler's in the community.

Thank you, as always, for all your support. I hope you have a great summer holiday and I look forward to going from strength to strength next year! *Mr Lawrence, Headteacher*



The Academic Year 2024/25 has been another exceptional year for the academy. Over the course of this academic year we have been spoiled with some amazing achievements and events. The highlights of the year have been those occasions where we have come together as a community to celebrate the wealth of talent amongst our young students. The Musical 'We Will Rock You' was a triumph and long-standing records were broken in the heat of sports day last week. Our music concerts and inaugural carol service yet again showcased the depth of talent we have at Buckler's Mead. Our students have excelled themselves in all disciplines which have included Mathematics challenges, Reading and Rotary club competitions, Dance

workshops and Sports championships. It was a pleasure and privilege to formally congratulate our students during our celebration assembly today.

Enjoy the summer break and I look forward to seeing you in September for what will be another incredible year. *Mr Yeates, Acting Headteacher*

Canteen price change

From 1st September the cost of the Meal Deal will be **£3.40**.

This price rise will be covered for students in receipt of Free School Meals.

If you think you would be eligible for Free School Meals you can apply through this link:
<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/school-life/free-school-meals/>

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.

Coming Soon... Events to look forward to in the Autumn Term

Friday 26th September - Multicultural Day

Thursday 1st October - Open Day and Evening

Friday 2nd October - The Second Buckler's Mead Colour Run

Tuesday 4th - Thursday 6th November - *Treasure Island* Production



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A Year of 100 Club Success: Celebrating Commitment and Consistency!

As we wrap up another incredible school year, it's time to celebrate the success of our **100 Club** and 100 Club **SKY HIGH** initiatives, which have had a powerful impact on our school community. These programmes were launched to recognise students who show exemplary commitment to their education through consistent attendance and positive behaviour.

Over the course of the year, the **100 Club** has gone from strength to strength, with hundreds of students being recognised for achieving 100% attendance month after month. The introduction of 100 Club **SKY HIGH** added another exciting layer, rewarding students who not only attended every day but also maintained zero negative behaviour points. These students have consistently shown what it means to lead by example, demonstrating responsibility, resilience, and respect.

The results have been nothing short of inspiring. Our overall school attendance has remained well above the national average, a clear indicator of how the **100 Club** has motivated students to prioritise their learning. The ripple effect has been felt throughout the school, with improved punctuality, stronger classroom engagement, and a more positive school culture.

We are incredibly proud of every student who has been part of the **100 Club** journey this year. Whether you earned a place once or every month, your effort and dedication have made a difference.

Thank you to everyone – students, staff, and families – who supported the **100 Club** and helped make it a success. Let's carry this momentum forward into the new academic year.

Remember: moments matter, and every day counts!

Year 10 Tate St Ives Trip

We had a wonderful day at Tate St Ives where we saw many different pieces of art using various techniques. These also included some interactive moving pieces. We visited the art gallery on



the seafront and the Barbara Hepworth sculpture garden where we learnt more about the artist and saw her pieces in situ in the garden of the

house she lived and worked in. We were all encouraged to take photos that we have since used to inspire our art work both in content and techniques used.



Year 8 Lyme Regis Trips

Year 8 Geographers have been very lucky with both the trips happening during the heatwave this term. They had great fun looking at coastal processes and the local geology of the area, which included finding lots of fossils.



On Friday 11th July I went to Lyme Regis with the M side of Year 8. Mr Hawkins showed us the sedimentary rocks and limestone. We got to explore the beach. As I walked on to the beach I saw large rocks by the cliff. There also wasn't much of an overhang on the cliffs; this tells



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us that there was a recent fall or erosion. In order to keep safe we stayed at least five metres away from the cliffs at all times and we also didn't go in the sea. Despite this I still had a really good time!

We each sketched a drawing of the cliffs to our left with the sea. It was a nice view! Did you know that Lyme Regis is a crucial place for finding fossils? This is because of its unique geological makeup and the abundant and well preserved specimens that are found there.

We also found seaglass, which is glass that the sea has smoothed and shaped! The way we recycle now is different to what we used to do, our recycling has improved over time, but sea glass can still be found. Mr Hawkins explained that Lyme Regis had built some walls to protect itself, and its coastline.

Lyme Regis has a curved coastline. This is due to a combination of geological factors and coastal processes. We then had lunch and were able to go off in groups of three and were given a school number in order to stay safe. We were able to buy fish and chips and ice cream if we wished, although there were lots of seagulls around, so we had to be careful with our food. One even swooped down and grabbed my sandwich from my hand! The Lyme Regis trip was fascinating! I highly recommend going if you have the chance to in Year 8. - Ella Shortland

Year 10 Geography Fieldwork at Swanage

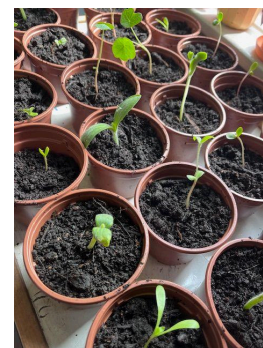
Year 10 Geography Fieldwork Trip to Swanage- both days we were very lucky to be down at the coast in the heatwave. Students worked well to collect their data for the Physical Fieldwork enquiry which is linked to their Paper 3 exam. They also



had a chance to grab an ice cream or some chips. It was also lovely to be complimented on how well behaved our students were by members of the public.

Learning Support Classroom - Mini Garden Project

Some of the students have turned a piece of scrapland behind the Learning Support Base into a small garden. They grew a small variety of vegetables from seed and planted them out, carefully weeding and watering daily. Alfie picked the first courgette this morning and zoomed it to Food Technology where it is now being used in a spanish omelette!



Forest School Survival Days 2025

After a year of Forest School sessions the students celebrated by taking part in several survival days. These all day sessions allowed the opportunity to practice the skills that have been learnt over the year and have the time to really enjoy themselves.

"We built a shelter out of pallets and then had a campfire where we cooked pancakes and noodles. The pancakes were great! I love Forest School and hope I



can do it again!!" - Alfie

"We did cooking on a fire and climbed trees. We built a den which was really good. Thankyou Sowena for Forest School this year, it's been brilliant." - Olivia





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Performing Arts Opportunities through the Westlands and Octagon partnership

This year a number of students at Buckler's Mead Academy were fortunate enough to participate in the phenomenal Octagon/Westlands 2025/26 Creative Learning and Education Programme, 'Elevate'.

Students participated in two workshops with 'Motion House Theatre Company', whose sell-out productions integrate athletic physicality, powerful narrative, incredible digital imagery and emotive sound scores.

With a selection of other local primary and secondary schools, the programme culminated with the stunning and awe-inspiring 'This Is Me' performance at Westlands Entertainment Complex on 2nd July.

Made up of four Year 7s, three Year 8s, and three Year 9s, their piece called 'Embrace', mixed dance, physical theatre, poetry and an incredible soundtrack.

"I thought that being able to take part in this event was such a privilege and a very memorable experience due to the amount of fun I had and the confidence I gained.

A lot of people told me that they had enjoyed the show and would definitely go again" (Darcy - Year 9)



Two of the students also compered the show.

"The two presenters were brilliant last night – not only great onstage but a real pleasure to have in the wings with us during the show too. They were really supportive of every other act and nothing was too much trouble. They were just a joy and definitely did their school proud." (Westlands staff member)

Key Stage 3 Rewards Trips

We have celebrated the effort and hard work of our students by organising rewards trips at the end of this term.

Year 7 Rewards Trip - Crealy

140 Year 7 students went on the end of term rewards trip to Crealy on Friday 4 July. It was a great trip with all students thoroughly enjoying the opportunity to cool off on the log flume or ride the Maximus rollercoaster. Students had the opportunity to go following excellent behaviour and attendance throughout the year.



Year 8 Paultons Park Rewards Trip

138 students attended the Year 8 rewards trip to Paultons Park on 7 July. The students had a fantastic time riding the roller coasters (some were even spotted in Peppa Pig World!). It was a great day out to reward all of the students within the



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year group for their hard work this year, good behaviour and attendance. Some of the highlights of the day were the rides within the Lost Kingdom and testing the nerves on the Cyclonator.

Year 9 Chessington Rewards Trip

110 Year 9 students attended the Year 9 rewards trip to Chessington World of Adventures on 3 July. The trip was to reward the students within the year group that have had good behaviour and attendance throughout the year and have worked hard to prepare for Year 10. Chessington did not disappoint with exhilarating rides such as Vampire and Mandrill Mayhem. The students had a really enjoyable day and their behaviour was exemplary. The staff enjoyed themselves too.



A year in Year 7 - what Year 7 students have enjoyed this year

Students in Ms Goorun's and Mr Janes' tutor groups reflected on their first year at Buckler's Mead. Here are some of the highlights of their first year:

When I first started at Buckler's I was so scared but it has been fun and all the lovely teachers are nice. I have enjoyed Forest School where I have learnt how to make a fire and work with tents. I have taken part in cross country and got medals for this. - Emily 7WMG

I went on a Robin Hood theatre trip which was really good because it was a fascinating story to watch. - Eve 7WMG

I liked the War Horse theatre trip. The theatre was really nice. The show was creative and had many characters. Our school behaved very respectfully. - Bethany 7WMG

The reward trip was really fun when we went to Creaky. I enjoyed going on the rides with my friends. - Seren 7WMG

I enjoyed the trip to Bristol High Ropes the most. In the activities we had to have teamwork skills which helped us bond and gain trust in our friends. We got to climb trees and go on thrilling ziplines. - Chloe 7WMG

Sports Day was amazing as we could celebrate others and work as a team. - Sam 7WMG

Corfe Castle was a fun experience where we also learnt something. We learnt about the History of the castle and about the Geography of the area. - Bobbi 7HRJ

I liked taking part in the Colour Run because it was good fun. - Lexie 7HRJ

I have really enjoyed the chances I had to do cricket in another school and visits to the athletics track. I really enjoyed being a bit competitive and cheering others on. - Julian 7HRJ



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Sports Day 2025

Sports Day took place on Thursday 10th July on one of the hottest days of the year! In 22 years of organising Sports Day, I have to say it was the hottest ever!

Despite the heat all those who took part did incredibly well and those in the stands supporting and cheering each other on were also fantastic particularly in the afternoon when the temperature rose into the low 30s.

Congratulations to **Lynx** for winning in Year 7 and 10, **Harrier** winning in Year 8 and **Vixen** winning in Year 9. **Vixen** House were also the winners of the overall competition when all 4 year groups totals were combined.

This year, we had 6 school records broken. This was a phenomenal achievement by the students and bodes well for the future of Athletics at BMA. Congratulations to the following students on their achievement.

Year 7

Logan Nicholls-Hardacre 300m 47.53 secs

Year 8

Ruby Hughes 100m 13.19 secs

Ruby Plumley 300m 46.34 secs

Year 9

Finn Turner 100m 11.98 secs

Year 10

Elisha Guppy 300m 49.18 secs

Jessie-Lee Jessop Javelin 25.09 metres

Mrs Thomas

Sports Awards Evening 2025

Our annual Sports Awards Evening took place on Thursday 3rd July with Kieran Hill - Bristol Bears RFC contracted player - as this year's guest speaker. The evening was a great success celebrating our students' sporting successes. Trophies were awarded to all sports, sportsman and sportswoman of the year as well as special awards for outstanding contributions and achievement. Our sporting calendar could not be as successful as it is without the commitment, effort, determination and performances of our young people. Thank you from the PE Department.



... and a parting word from Mrs Morrison

After 13 years I say goodbye and start a new adventure! It has been an amazing journey here at Buckler's Mead Academy. Good luck to you all in whatever you choose to do. Continue to be the best you can be on and off the sports field! I will miss you all. Thank You, Mrs Morrison x



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Duke of Edinburgh Award

We have had another successful year of students completing their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award getting involved in various activities in school and the local community. Seb in Year 10 reviews his experience below:

Completing the Duke of Edinburgh Award was a very interesting experience for me as it incorporated many aspects of areas that I was already active in. This made doing the challenge easier as I simply recorded my hobbies, however, it also pushed me to try new things such as volunteering which has further opened new doors to me.

Also an aspect that many dread (the well-known Duke of Edinburgh Expedition) was actually an amazing opportunity for me to spend time with friends and get to know the area around Yeovil better and was the aspect of the award that I enjoyed the most. The Duke of Edinburgh Award is definitely something I recommend for anyone contemplating doing it.

If you are interested in completing this Award next year please speak to Mr Hawkins or Mrs Gale who can tell you more about what is involved.

Careers News

Year 10 Interview Day

In June we once again welcomed employers from local companies and businesses to come and give our Year 10 students an experience of a formal interview. Students were able to answer questions based on their experiences in their work experience week affirming how valuable this time in the workplace was for them all.

Year 10 University Visits to UWE

Thanks to our contact at Numatic in Chard this year's university visit was arranged to the University of the West of England (UWE) in Bristol where students got to learn more about the

technology degree courses on offer. Students worked to design masks and learn about university life.

Year 8 Yeovil College Experience Day

In early July Year 8 visited Yeovil College to get a taste of the courses on offer and what they could study in a few years time. They returned to school with smiling faces and some covered in stage make up and fake wounds! It was certainly an experience!

Year 10 Yeovil College Experience Day

Year 10 got to experience a number of different courses that the college offer on their Experience Day and also got to find out a bit more about what college life is like. This was a great opportunity for them to really start thinking about the next step.

Work Experience 2026

Work Experience Week 2026 for Year 10 will be Monday 18th - Friday 22nd May 2026. If you or your employer would be able to facilitate a student completing their work experience please get in touch via the email address

workexperience@bucklersmeadacademy.com

... and farewell to Ms Kitchen

Ms Kitchen, our Careers Coordinator, is moving on at the end of this term. You can still get in touch regarding anything to do with careers by emailing careers@bucklersmeadacademy.com.