



Sapere Aude

# TBOWA News

## Lent 2025

### Message from the Principal



As we reach the end of another vibrant and purposeful term at The Bishop of Winchester Academy, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the many achievements and moments of celebration across our community.

This Lent term has been marked by commitment and creativity from both students and staff. Our school production of *Six* was an outstanding showcase of talent and teamwork—captivating audiences with energy and professionalism. My sincere thanks go to Ms Faramus, Miss Pelling and Mr Short in making it such a memorable experience.

Learning beyond the classroom has remained a priority. Year 11 students carried out important fieldwork as part of their Geography GCSE, while students in Years 10 and 12 explored future pathways at the Careers and Apprenticeship Show. Our Sixth Form also participated in the YMCA Sleep Easy event, raising over £1,200 and showing great empathy and social awareness.

World Book Day brought characters and creativity into our corridors, with competitions, costumes, and a fantastic response to our Readathon campaign supporting books for children in hospital. Our students have also represented the Academy with pride in sports and through academic competitions such as the Anthea Bell Translation Prize.

As ever, I am deeply thankful for your continued support and prayers. We gathered for our Ash Wednesday service—a time for reflection and spiritual renewal - for the first time since Covid. We are grateful for the leadership and guidance of our Chaplain, Revd Jenny Nightingale, who continues to support students of all faiths and none on their spiritual journey. In particular, students observing Ramadan were supported with a quiet space for reflection during fasting over break times.

I wish you and your families a joyful, peaceful and blessed Easter break.

Paul McKeown  
Principal

Sapere Aude

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- E-safety & Safeguarding Event
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Students return after Easter on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2025 to a Monday timetable

Year 10 Parents Evening: 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025, 4-7pm

Year 12 UCAS event: 20<sup>th</sup> May 2025, 5-6pm

Year 12 Parents Evening: 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025, 4-7pm

Year 12 Induction Day: 4<sup>th</sup> July 2025, 8-3.30pm

## Year 7, Mrs Green

As we come to the end of another busy and successful term, we wanted to take a moment to reflect on all that has been achieved.

Students have worked incredibly hard, particularly through assessments and set changes, demonstrating their resilience and dedication. We also came together as a school community for meaningful services, marking Ash Wednesday at school and celebrating Easter at church.

Many of our students took part in the fantastic performance of Six, showcasing their incredible talent and enthusiasm for the arts. We also had the pleasure of meeting so many of you at Parents' Evening, where we shared hundreds of positive conversations about students' progress and achievements.

World Book Day was another highlight, with staff and students celebrating their love of reading in creative and engaging ways.

Thank you for your continued support. We wish you all a restful and enjoyable break. I look forward to seeing all the students again on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

## Year 8 Options and Choices Performance, Mr Abel

Towards the end of January Year 8 students received a presentation regarding Options and Choices. This is a performance from student actors at Bournemouth Arts University who visit schools to encourage students to start to think about what they want to do in the future. It was a fun filled and engaging afternoon to encourage students to start to think about what they want to do in the future and how they could be shaping this now.



In school we have a strong and stable Careers department where students can receive help and support throughout their time with us. We also subscribe to Unifrog a comprehensive online package of careers paths and opportunities. Further details are in your child's planner.

## Year 8, Mr White

Congratulations to all Year 9 students for a fantastic Lent Term! Hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm have truly shone through, whether in the classroom, sports activities, on stage, or through acts of kindness and service. This term has been filled with challenges and achievements, and students have embraced every opportunity.

It was so great to see many of the year group up on stage for the school's production of Six. Year 9 took part in their Easter Eucharist Service at St Francis Church, where their behaviour was outstanding – I was a very proud Head of Year!

Over 100 students have achieved their bronze or silver house points award this term – hopefully, some golds will be achieved before the end of Year 9!

Next term students will find out option subjects for Key Stage 4 – an exciting step in their secondary school journey with us. I hope all year 9 students enjoy the break and return ready for the final term of the year with focus and determination.

In January, Year 9 parents and students gathered at the Academy for the exciting launch of the eagerly awaited Options Process! The Main Hall was full as Mrs Peddle and Miss Pelling delivered the main talk, guiding everyone through the journey of selecting options. Each subject area showcased displays, with KS4 students on hand to share their insights and help the year group make confident, informed choices.

A huge congratulations to all Year 9 students for hitting the deadline and submitting their Options forms on time! We can't wait to reveal the final subject allocations soon.



## Year 10, Mr Tiley

I am very proud of the effort made by Year 10 this term. It has been hugely challenging for them with a fast-paced exam schedule on top of their usual workload. There have been some amazing outcomes had with multiple grade 8's and 9's occurring within the core subjects.

Our students are looking forward to their work experience with a positive mindset. Many have gained placements at high-quality businesses that will offer them a great introduction to the working world of adults.

This half term we had a very successful visit to the BIC where our students had an excellent opportunity to engage with businesses offering apprenticeships and schemes for further education. It was eye opening for many and has given them a target to aim for in their GCSE's.

Thank you for your ongoing support, it is greatly appreciated by myself and our team of mentors in year 10.

I am incredibly proud of the dedication and hard work our students have shown in their latest round of mock exams. It's clear that they've been making the most of the intervention sessions offered, demonstrating a real commitment to improving and preparing for the final push towards their GCSEs. With the real exams just around the corner, we are now at the final hurdle and I know that each student is determined to give their best.

While there's still plenty of focus required, we have some exciting events ahead to look forward to, including Prom and the Leavers Assembly, which will be a fitting celebration of all their efforts and achievements.

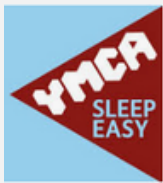
## Year 12, Mrs Whalen

The Lent term has been another eventful one for 6<sup>th</sup> Form. We have welcomed various speakers to our weekly Beyond the Classroom sessions, including a talk on student life at university from Bournemouth University and a gambling awareness workshop.

Twelve students complete the Emergency at Work First Aid course and twelve more will do so following the Easter holiday.

Year 12 students attended the Careers and Apprenticeship fair at the BIC. Additionally, we hosted a student finance event for Year 13 parents with students heading off to university in the autumn. Forty-four of our Year 13 students made university applications, received their offers and are making their final choices. A large number of students took external exams in January and were pleased with the results. We wish all of our students the very best in their upcoming exams.

A highlight of Lent term for twenty-six 6th Form students and five staff was the night we slept under the shelter of the Art block. The purpose of this 'sleepless night' was to raise funds to support the work of the Bournemouth YMCA with the local homeless community. Students and staff built their own shelters from cardboard boxes donated by local businesses, ate pizza donated by Domino's, had a sing-song around the karaoke machine and played Twister until the early hours. The team spirit and resilience shown throughout the event was commendable and we are looking forward to repeating again next year. Not only did we develop a greater understanding of homelessness and enjoy the teambuilding fun aspect of the event, but we also raised over £2,345. Fundraising continues and we will happily share the link should anyone wish to donate.





The Expressive Arts department would like to express their thanks to the students, staff and parents of TBOWA following the 2025 production of 'Six: Teen Edition.'

After seven months of rehearsals, we opened on Tuesday 25th March and ran until Friday 28th March with some sell out evenings.

The students wowed the audience with numbers such as 'Ex Wives,' 'Haus of Holbein' and 'MegaSix.' Our 6 Queens were absolutely incredible—they led the full cast with maturity and passion.

We were also honoured to be joined by choirs from both Muscliff Primary and Queens Park Academy. Their voices filled the auditorium with electricity and enthusiasm. Our cast were outstanding; each and every one should be proud of the commitment and talent that they brought to the stage.

We couldn't be more proud of the students—it has been a pleasure and privilege to see them grow as a family.

We are excited to announce our production for 2026 will be "High School Musical" - auditions to be held in the Summer term....watch this space!



#### *Review from a Governor*

"TBOWA have produced a fantastic show for everyone to enjoy. It was great to hear everything was produced in-house, right from the eye catching programme through staging, costumes, choreography, lighting and on the cast. What a great idea too, to involve the two primary schools and give them a taste for drama. It was so encouraging to see the Queens from Years 9-11 which will encourage others lower down the school to audition for future productions. It was a treat to be in the audience and see the joy and enthusiasm of the students.

We recently held a successful event focused on E-Safety and Safeguarding, where parents had the opportunity to learn about the latest trends and concerns regarding online safety and safeguarding in BCP and nationally. The session provided valuable insights into the challenges children may face both inside and outside of school, along with practical technology solutions to help support their safety. It was an engaging and informative evening, empowering parents with the knowledge to better protect their children in the community and digital world.

## Geography Trip to Castlepoint

### Year 11 Geography field visit

As part of their exam process GCSE students have to complete 2 pieces of fieldwork. After the mock exams the class spent a session visiting Castle Point and Mallard Road retail parks to compare what they offer in terms of shopping experiences. Both parks were mapped in terms of the types of shop available and also students gave consideration to why people visited each location and how they spent their time there. On returning to school the groups then spent time analysing their data reflecting on what they had investigated. This is in preparation for the paper 3 exam on Thursday June 12th.

## Careers and Apprenticeship Show

On Tuesday 18th March Year 10 and 12 spent a morning at the recent Careers and Enterprise show, held at the BIC. There were over 100 exhibitors there ranging from the NHS and uniformed services through to solicitors and financial companies. This was a great opportunity to see what career paths are available in the local economy for our students at all levels. Local colleges and universities along with other training providers were also represented.

Upon returning to school students then used the Unifrog platform to further investigate their career paths. Unifrog can be used at any time and has frequent updates to its package to keep up to date with changing courses and apprenticeship offerings. Students currently in year 10 will soon be given a careers interview to help them to think about their post 16 choices.

Further information can be found on our website or by emailing [careers@tbowa.org](mailto:careers@tbowa.org)



# Events

## Trip to Hamilton, Ms Faramus



Our students had the incredible opportunity to see Hamilton at The Mayflower Theatre in Southampton. The show captivated everyone with its powerful performance, dynamic music and compelling storytelling. It was an inspiring and unforgettable experience, sparking great conversations about history and the arts. It was truly an evening to remember!



## World Book Day, Mrs Power

To celebrate **World Book Day 2025**, staff dressed up as a range of famous literary characters. The English department came as characters from William Shakespeare's plays, including 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', 'Macbeth' and 'Romeo and Juliet'.



The winners of the English department 'World Book Day' 2025 Competitions are as follows:

The **TBOWA Bookmark competition** is May.

Runners up: Ella, Christina and Abbie.

The **Book Front Cover and Back Page Blurb competition** winner is Isabelle.

Runner up: Amelia.

The **National Book Token Design winner** is Beth.

Runners Up: Grace and Ronan.

Years 7, 8 and 9 were given the opportunity to take part in the 2025 'Read for Good' - Readathon during L2. All the sponsor money raised helps the 'Read for Good' charity to buy new books for children that have to spend time in hospital and for readers who help to cheer them up.

At TBOWA we are encouraging all our students to read more for pleasure and inspire them to foster a love of books.

A massive thanks to the students that have been bringing sponsor money into school and to you parents/guardians that have contributed online to the charity.

Three fantastic students that have made the most effort to read and raise sponsor money are: Mika who collected £20, Layla who collected £15, and Ellie who collected £12.



# Sports and PE

## PE Extra Curricular Update

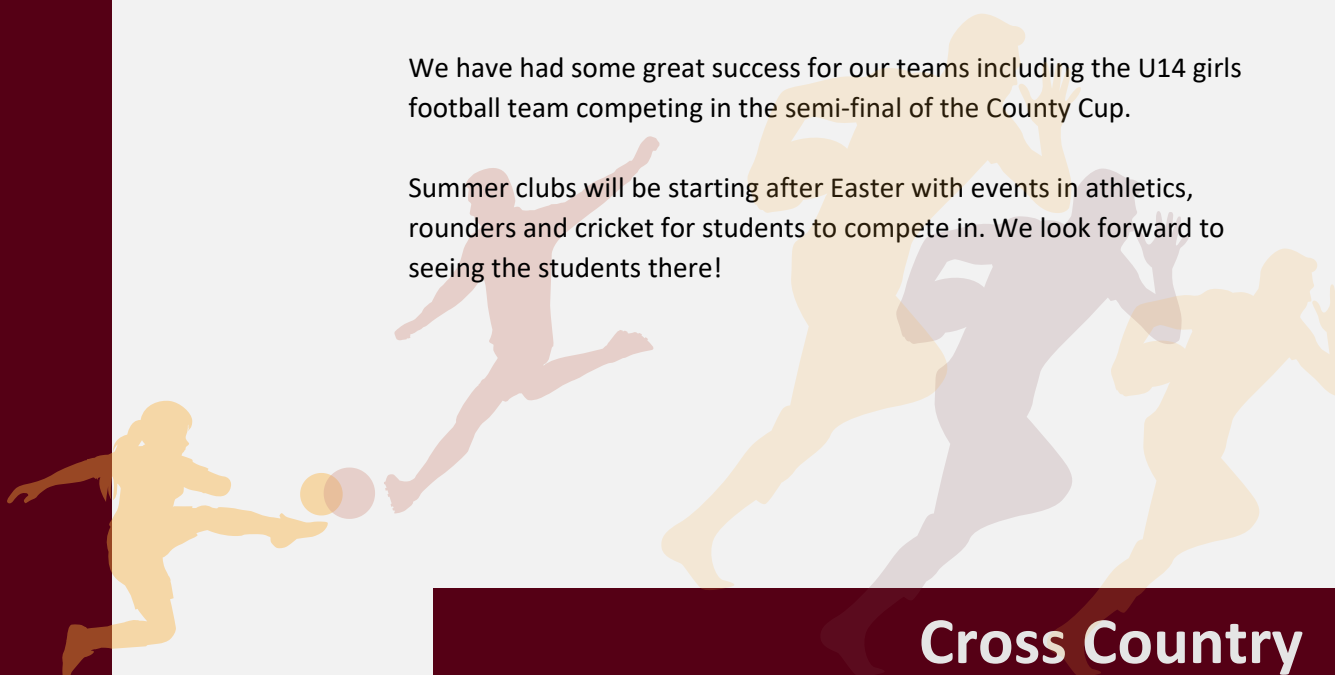
This term has seen our school teams complete their league and cup matches as well as continue to attend our variety of extra-curricular activities. Our PE teachers and the Bournemouth University coaches have been working with our students to develop their skills and tactical awareness as well as increasing participation.

Our Sports Leaders have nearly finished their Level 1 qualification and have been teaching lessons and supporting students at the extra-curricular clubs.

Our Year 7 rugby team also competed in the 7s tournament this year, well done to all students involved.

We have had some great success for our teams including the U14 girls football team competing in the semi-final of the County Cup.

Summer clubs will be starting after Easter with events in athletics, rounders and cricket for students to compete in. We look forward to seeing the students there!



## Cross Country

The Dorset County cross country event was held in January 2025 and included races for all years' boys and girls. Students involved were running against other schools in the County. It was a cold day but spirits were high.

Students said 'running around the field was brilliant having to work hard uphill towards the end but getting the breeze downhill. The day was a memorable one!'



Head of PE, Mrs Copp

## **BCS narrowly edge past TBOWA in a competitive opener!**

The opening match of the tournament saw BCS claim a 4-2 victory over TBOWA in a quick and changing encounter between the sides. Both teams displayed moments of brilliance, but it was BCS who made the most of their opportunities to secure the win.

The game began with TBOWA immediately applying pressure, forcing the ball to fall out of the court, after BCS' WD was caught out. However, BCS quickly won a free pass and looked to capitalise on this opportunity. Their early build-up play seemed promising, yet they failed to score as their GS sent the first shot wide.

TBOWA responded to this with a rapid counterattack, working the ball through the WA, GA and C to GS, but they too failed to score. BCS took advantage of this missed opportunity, moving swiftly from GA to WA to C before finding their GS, who calmly scored the first goal of the match (TBOWA 0 – 1 BCS).

With BCS leading 1-0, TBOWA came back strong from their centre pass, only to be denied by a brilliant interception from BCS' Goal Defence. BCS attempted to double their lead from a long-range effort from the edge of the D, but fell short.

TBOWA then found a breakthrough. After their initial attack was intercepted, they recovered well, with the WA and GS working together before the GA finished the play to level the score. (TBOWA 1-1 BCS).

Momentum then swung in favour of TBOWA as they pressed high up in the court, which forced an interception from BCS' centre pass. A slick series of passes was the WD, WA, GS, C and GA combine before TBOWA took the lead at 2-1. (TBOWA 2-1 BCS).

BCS needed a response and almost found it, only for their shot to be missed, keeping TBOWA ahead. However, the game began to turn scrappy, and TBOWA struggled to maintain possession, handing BCS multiple chances. After a strong defensive play from BCS, the ball worked its way to the GA, who made no mistake to level the score. (TBOWA 2-2 BCS).

The game became end-to-end from here, with TBOWA desperately attempting to regain their lead, yet they seemingly could not finish it off. BCS, on the other hand remained composed. Another interception in the midfield allowed them to push forward, and after several missed attempts, their persistence paid off as the GA converted to put them ahead at 3-2. (TBOWA 2-3 BCS).

TBOWA had a final chance to respond, but missed narrowly, which proved costly. BCS then sealed the win with their final goal, finishing off a well-worked move from defence to attack to make it 4-2 at the final whistle. (TBOWA 2-4 BCS).

It was a spirited performance from both sides, with TBOWA displaying flashes of brilliance, yet struggling to find the net. BCS take an early lead in the tournament resulting in a 4-2 finish.

Wishing the Year 9 'Anthea Bell Translation for Young Translators' prize entrants the best of luck!

Each year, we offer the opportunity to enter this competition to our budding linguists from Year 9. Some students enjoy exploring language more beyond the classroom. It was a pleasure to give two Year 9 boys, Alfie and Brajan, their participation certificates along with their teacher Mr Costa.

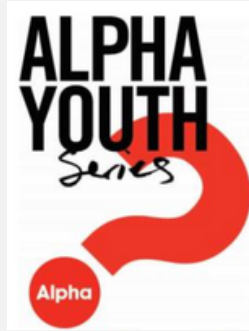
We asked Alfie and Brajan to share their experiences of translating a short teenage fiction text by Guillermo Moracia from Spanish into English for this competition.

How did you both find entering the Anthea Bell Translation prize?

Brajan: We had some information given to help with the context of the passage we had to translate, like what had just happened in the story before. This helped. I broke the text down and did a couple of sentences each day over half term. Lots of the words in the text that weren't in the glossary that I had; I knew from learning Spanish at school. It didn't have any future tense in the text, but we had done the present and a lot of past tense in class, so I recognised and understood a lot of the grammar and verbs. I learned some unusual Spanish words that I had never seen in class which I liked.

Alfie: Once I started translating the text, I really wanted to translate it all, so I knew what it was about! It was a bit tricky not to have more information about the characters as one of them was a pet talking bird! The vocabulary glossary provided helped a lot. It was interesting to translate dialogue in the story as this is something we don't do so much of in class. This has widened my vocabulary and in a different way to in class as it is a different type of text.





Last Wednesday saw the end of our 10-week Alpha Course. Around 16 students attended after school to question members of the PACE team about the Christian faith.

Topics included: What does real love look like? What does a relationship with God look like and who is the Holy Spirit? It was good to hear experiences and stories from the students as well as the adults about their church life and spiritual experiences.

Over the 10 weeks friendships were made across all year groups and a generous quantity of pepperoni pizza was consumed! This was definitely a success, and we will repeat it next year. In the meantime, most students decided they had such a good time they want to continue to meet. After the Easter holidays on Wednesdays after school, we will continue to meet (Christian Union). Sign up to come along if you'd like to join us. All students are welcome 15:30-16:30.

## Ash Wednesday



After many years of being unable to celebrate Ash Wednesday, the day after pancake day, the start of Lent, we celebrated with years 7-9.

This is an old Christian tradition marking the beginning of Lent, remembering to say sorry to God for things we've done wrong and looking forward to celebrating the joy of Easter.

I unpacked a box of objects explaining how each related to the theme, can be found in the Bible and how God's love for each of us means that we can be forgiven. Recognising that each day is unique and that we all have limited time to make the most of every moment and opportunity was something that every student could think about.

## Easter Service

Thank you to all the students who participated in the Easter services this week and thank you to Dave Pegg (PACE) who encouraged everyone to become detectives. His question was, "Who killed Jesus?" He gave lots of suggestions from Jesus' own family to a disciple, teachers of the law, Judas and Pilate. Ask your son or daughter what the answer was (John 10.17-18).

We wish every student and parent a joyful and peaceful holiday this Easter.

