



Summer 2025



BENTON PARK NEWSLETTER

WELCOME

Dear Parents, Carers and Members of the Benton Park Community,

As we reach the end of another vibrant academic year, I want to take a moment to reflect on what has been an energising and inspiring summer term at Benton Park.

Our students continue to showcase excellence on a daily basis. This term has been filled with memorable moments: from the Year 8 residential in Edale to RED Day celebrations, from Greek dancing and science competitions to sporting triumphs and creative showcases. These events, alongside highlights from earlier in the year such as our sold-out production of *We Will Rock You*, the LS19 Live community event, and the Red Kite Battle of the Bands, have truly captured the spirit of Benton Park.

We've also celebrated the achievements of our Year 11 and Year 13 students as they concluded their time with us. Their final weeks were filled with pride and joy—from heartfelt leavers' assemblies to two fantastic proms. We are incredibly proud of all they have accomplished and wish them every success in the next stage of their journeys.

Across the school, we've recognised effort and excellence through rewards assemblies, cinema trips, pizza parties, and our ever-popular end-of-year events like Sports Day and Enterprise Day. These celebrations remind us of the importance of recognising success in all its forms.

This term also marked a key milestone in our school's journey. We've worked closely with students, staff, parents and governors to redefine our vision and values. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this process—your feedback has been invaluable. We look forward to launching our refreshed identity in the new academic year, one that reflects our ambition, inclusivity and commitment to excellence.

Our improvement journey has been recognised in recent external reviews. The Red Kite Alliance Review highlighted our strong self-evaluation, inclusive Sixth Form, and significant improvements in behaviour and support for all learners, especially those with SEND and from disadvantaged backgrounds.

We're equally proud of the feedback we've received from you, our families. One parent shared, "Every time I visit Benton Park, I feel the warmth and support from the staff." Another commented on our LS19 Live event, describing it as "a fantastic afternoon that gave students a great opportunity to show off their amazing talents." These reflections speak to the heart of our mission—to support every student to thrive.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I wish you and your families a restful and enjoyable summer break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September, ready for the next chapter in our Benton Park story.



Mr Skilton
Headteacher

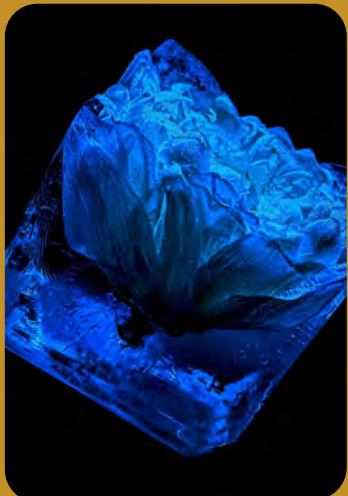
GENERAL SCHOOL NEWS

ANNE FRANK AMBASSADORS

We are delighted to announce that following the Anne Frank Trust Voices of Equality workshop with Year 9 in April we now have 2 Anne Frank Ambassadors representing Benton Park nationally. In this role our students will be mentored to support their anti-discrimination work both in school and around the country. They will also have opportunities to work with students both in the UK and internationally, and take part in potential visits to Amsterdam and Poland. We are incredibly proud of all of them and can't wait to see what they achieve!

BENTON PARK YOUTH COUNSELLORS

Our amazing KS3 Benton Park Youth Counsellors attended the Leeds Youth Summit before the holidays, at Leeds Civic Hall! We are incredibly proud of the inspiring contributions our students made to discussions on our local community, climate change and the issues important to them.



WINNERS OF PHOTO OF THE MONTH

A big congratulations to our incredibly talented winners of Photo of the Month!
<- Jack Milner, Year 11
Freya Keighley, Year 11 ->



MATHS SUCCESS

Well done to the following students who received a certificate for completing the Junior UK Maths challenge. A special mention to Kai, who had the best score across the whole school – fantastic achievement!



Bronze: Rajan B, Amelia B, Joseph F, Sophia-Lily H, Lola I, Maxwell J, Ellena K, Brooke K, Tom S, Tilly S, Sakina M, Imogen P, Ehan R

Silver: Kaiyan L, William S, Noah S, Saveyra A, Aaron A, Olivia G, Charlie W

Gold: George N, Euan R, Kai G, Dylan C, Eddie C, Joseph B

All go to the next round. Based on their qualifying score in the Junior Maths Challenge, five students from Year 7 and 8 were invited to take part in the Junior Kangaroo. All five performed very well and were awarded either Bronze, Silver or Gold certificates. The stand out mathematicians on this occasion were Eddie with an impressive score of 119/135 which placed him in the top 10% of UK participants and Euan who with a score of 112 was a mark away from achieving the Gold award.



ANTHEA BELL TRANSLATION COMPETITION REWARD EVENT

Students were invited to a reward breakfast last week, to celebrate their work on translating poems and other pieces in French, Spanish, and German. Students from across the school had submitted entries to the Anthea Bell translation competition run by Queens College, Oxford. Well done to all entrants, your work was fantastic!

JUNIOR ATHLETICS ROUND-UP: LEEDS BECKETT MEET

On Thursday 12th, our junior team brought energy and determination to the final Leeds School Athletics Meet at Leeds Beckett.

FIELD EVENTS:

Fran jumped 3.09m for 5th in long jump. Elisha P, with minimal practice, placed 7th in shot put. Eloise M threw 11.20m for 5th in javelin, Charlie W threw 5.90m for 7th in shot put, and Zach D's 23.1m javelin throw earned him 2nd place.

The meet was a showcase of courage, teamwork, and fun. Thanks to all supporters—parents, teachers, and teammates. Athletes, keep running, jumping, and throwing like champions!



SPRINTS:

Fran G and Lola L made impressive 100m debuts, while Zach D switched from 1500m to sprinting with flair. Isabelle D and Charlie W showed strong performances in the 200m, and Edie R impressed in her first 1500m. The girls' relay team overcame lane drama to finish 7th.



CELEBRATIONS FOR ALL

Students were invited to enjoy our Eid celebration lunchtime party before half term to celebrate and to come together at the end of Ramadan! A lovely chance to come together and mark such an important part of the calendar!

LIVE IN LS19!



Our first-ever Live in LS19 community festival on Saturday 5th July 2025, transformed the school's playing fields into a lively hub of music, food and family fun. The event welcomed hundreds of attendees from across the LS19 area, with live performances from talented students and local musicians taking centre stage. The festival stage, generously provided by R & C Cooper Transport Ltd, set the scene for an afternoon of entertainment and celebration. Festivalgoers enjoyed a wide range of attractions, including food vans, face painting, funfair-style games, and interactive experiences with both the Rawdon Red Watch Fire Service and West Yorkshire Police, who brought along a fire engine and police van for children to explore.

Proceeds from the event supported Zarach, a Leeds-based charity committed to ending child bed poverty—highlighting the school's commitment to giving back to the community.



YEAR 7

GETTING TO GRIPS

Year 7 have demonstrated their Bridge hold and Claw grip in Food Technology to create a Pasta Salad. They were very delicious and really colourful. Well done!



CULINARY SKILLS

Year 7 has used their cultural knowledge to create menus for Tropical Worlds' multi-cultural week. They have also been designing Pizza toast to link to the theme. Here are some examples of their hard work during the practical this week.



BECOMING AN AMBASSADOR

Well done to Danielle, we are incredibly proud to announce they are now a National Anne Frank Ambassador! The programme is for students who are ready to commit to challenging prejudice.

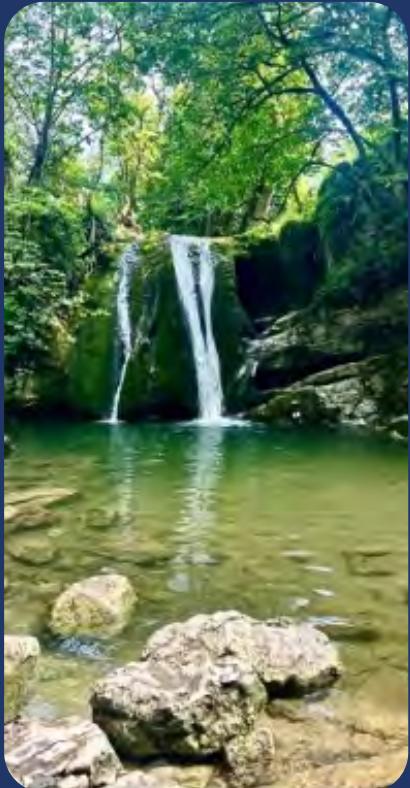
SCIENCE COMPETITION

We took some Year 7 students to Lawnswood School to compete against 13 other schools in a science competition organised by Red Kite. Team Benton showed amazing teamwork, creativity, and knowledge.



A TRIP TO MALHAM

Students thoroughly engaged on their trip to Malham putting into place everything they had learnt in their Geography lessons. They visited, Malham cove, Janets Foss and Gordale Scar. They were a credit to the school and made us very proud!



YEAR 8

GETTING CREATIVE

Year 8 has been developing their textile skills over the last couple of weeks: tie dye, Batik and Heat transfer paint. As you can see, they have really excelled.



YEAR 8, SOPHIE B, CROWNED UNDER-14 CRYSTAL LEVEL CHAMPION

Yesterday, Sophie proudly claimed the Yorkshire General Under-14 Crystal Level Champion title. She delivered an outstanding performance, securing 1st place on Bars, 1st on Floor, 2nd on Beam, and 1st Overall, bringing home the coveted trophy.

Looking ahead, Sophie is set to change her gymnastics pathway next month as she begins training for national-level competitions. A bright future awaits this talented young athlete! Well done, Sophie—such an impressive achievement!



GOLFING WINNER!

Congratulations to Emma M- following her winning performance at Leeds Gold Centre tournament, with 43 stableford points earlier this month. Emma received her Leeds and District Golf Union Championship Trophy. Along with the individual prize, Emma was also part of the all-girl winning team at the same event. As the winners of the team competition, Emma, Phoebe and their friend will now take part in the year end 'Ken Romaine Trophy' competition at a venue to be arranged. We wish you the best of luck and can't wait to hear how you get on!

OUR YEAR 8 RESIDENTIAL TO EDALE



YEAR 9

TACKLING DISCRIMINATION

It was a fantastic end to our @annefranktrust Voices of Equality workshop! Our exceptional Year 9 students created presentations on tackling different areas of discrimination, including ableism, racism, Islamophobia, antisemitism and sexism! We are beyond excited to see what these students will achieve in the future.



SPORTING SUCCESS

Well done to Anya and her rugby union team, Yarnbury/Selby, who won the U14S Yorkshire cup. A hard-fought battle against Cleckheaton, winning 12-10. The season has now ended, and she was awarded the coach's player of the year at the end-of-season awards presentation. Fantastic accomplishment, well done!

The Yarnbury under-14s won the Yorkshire plate final in very warm conditions. Eight players from Benton Park represented Yarnbury RFC. An amazing achievement!

Y9 FOOTBALL SUCCESS!

Our Y9 footballers won the Cup of Champions last night at Leeds Beckett Uni. A superb game played in a superb spirit ended with Benton beating Woodkirk High 4-1. Well done, boys, you did yourselves and the school proud!



INTER ATHLETICS ROUND-UP: LEEDS

SPEED, SPIRIT & SUCCESS!

Lexi G debuted in the 100m with calm confidence. Charlie P won the 100m in 11.8s, Evan M took the 200m in 25.2s, and Lauren W dominated the 200m for another win. Frankie L narrowly missed 1st in the 300m by 0.03s. Lucas W bravely ran 6th in the 400m, showing true grit.

Maddy C led the 1500m to victory in 5:04.7, with Ben S third at 5:17.2. The boys' relay placed 5th; the girls' relay team secured their third consecutive win.

In field events, Lexi jumped 3.30m (5th), Megan S won high jump with 1.20m, Eva C threw 7.80m for 3rd in shot put, Frankie L was 2nd in javelin (16.95m), Josh W and Isaac, both new, claimed 2nd in high jump and javelin respectively, and George S placed 7th in shot put.

FINAL STANDINGS

Boys 4th on the day, 6th overall.

Girls 1st on the day and overall—heading to the final on July 1st!

From newbies to stars, the team showed fire, flair, and fierce determination. Ready for the final!



NINJA WARRIOR

Year 9 had a fantastic time at Ninja Warrior!

The students were exceptionally well-behaved, enthusiastic, and a real credit to the school. Even when the bus was delayed, they remained patient and positive, showing great maturity. They all had so much fun and represented the school brilliantly.



YEAR 10

WORK PLACEMENT TRIPS

Our Year 10 students took part in some fantastic work placements:

- **Hope Sanctuary** - Students visited Hope Sanctuary to explore careers in animal care.
- **Academy of Live Technology** - in which students learnt how the professionals run the biggest stage and arena tours.
- **Spellman Care Home** - Some of our lovely students who are interested in this sector went out and helped at the care home.
- **Bradford City** - Included a tour behind the scenes and an insight into further education and careers on offer in football.
- **Headingley Stadium** - Students were able to see how a major stadium runs hospitality events, with some students enquiring about part time jobs they may do.



DofE ADVENTURES



We have had the start of the DofE groups going out on their practice walks. This is an amazing opportunity for students to gain valuable skills such as organisation, team-work and determination. The behaviour of the students has been fantastic and the members of staff have been impressed with their work ethic.

BARCELONA SPORTS TRIP – CHAOS, CULTURE & CHLORINE

Barcelona didn't know what hit it. Four days of full-on action, accidental tanning, and a lot of confused map reading made for a trip none of us will forget—no matter how hard we try. Let's start with the real challenge: the metro. We battled coloured lines, rogue escalators, and enough wrong turns to qualify for a maze-running competition. Navigating the underground felt like an extreme sport in itself. Google Maps gave up. We didn't. Sporty stuff? We nailed it. Lifeguard training had us channelling our inner Baywatch, even if some of us still float like bricks. Then came water polo—an underwater wrestling match disguised as a game. Everyone survived, just about. We got cultural too. The Olympic Museum convinced us we could've been elite athletes in another life (or maybe just collected medals for effort). We cruised through the city on a three-hour bike tour—some might say it was leisurely, others still can't feel their legs. Park Güell gave us Gaudí, mosaics, and some pretty solid Instagram content. Camp Nou turned football fans into wide-eyed children. Those who didn't care about football got swept up in the "this is sacred ground" vibes. We also walked. A lot. The kind of walking that makes your feet consider mutiny. But all the exploring was worth it—especially when it ended at the beach, where we strategically collapsed in the sun and hit the water.

Overall, it was a perfect mix of sport, sightseeing, sand, and slight sunburn. Barcelona tested our legs, lungs, and metro navigation skills—but we made memories, laughed, and totally crushed it (even if we got lost... a lot).





LEEDS BOOK AWARDS



Students from the Year 10 Book Club attended the Leeds Book Awards at Leeds Central Library. A great opportunity that promotes and encourages reading for pleasure. The students have been reading all the shortlisted books chosen by Leeds Books Awards over the last few months. In the morning, there was a panel session with the authors and a Q&A session. The awards ceremony was in the afternoon, followed by an opportunity to purchase books and meet the authors for an author signing. Benton Park students were chosen to present the Teen Graphic Fiction Award and went on stage to announce the authors and books in this category. Students opened the Gold winner's envelope, announced the winner and presented her with her award. It was a great day enjoyed by all the students.

COMPETITIVE ACHIEVEMENTS

Charlie Robson recently attended the 2025 European Aikido and Ju-Jitsu Championships in Jaroslaw, Poland and achieved two Golds, a silver and a bronze medal. We are incredibly proud of Charlie and all his achievements.



STEPPING INTO NATURE



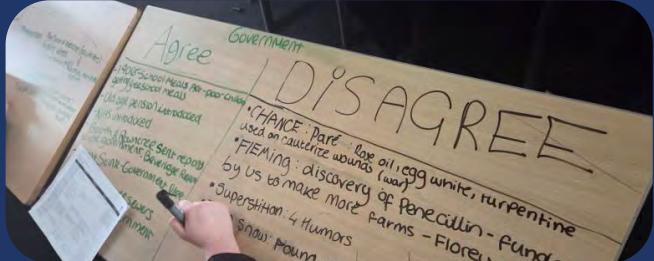
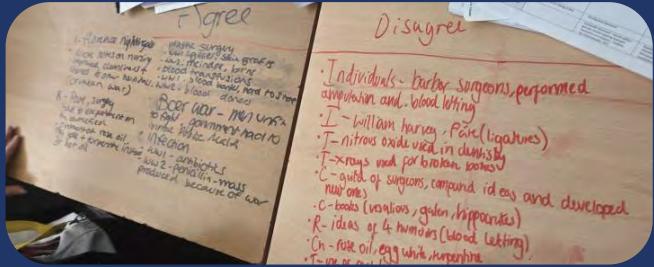
Our Year 10 Geographers had a day out on the Holderness Coast recently to complete their physical fieldwork. As well as some excellent coastal landforms, we saw seals chasing a trawler boat at Flamborough Head for their lunch! At Hornsea, all groups completed environmental quality surveys and groyne drop measurements to try and work out if the coastal defences were fit for purpose.

Everyone got stuck in with completing the fieldwork and all had a wonderful day!

YEAR 11

GETTING EXAM READY

Year 11 students are working hard and ensuring they use their time wisely, gearing up for the summer exams. It's been fantastic to see their work rate.



YEAR 11 LEAVERS' CELEBRATIONS

It was amazing to celebrate one last time with Year 11 in the leavers' assembly.



SPRINT TO THE FINISH



We had our final SPRINT assembly on Friday, just before the exam season properly began. Year 11 have worked so hard for the past couple of months, striving to boost their chances of success in exams, and we are so proud of them!

YEAR 11 PROM

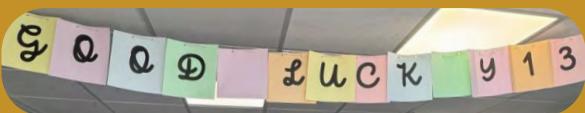


SIXTH FORM

YEAR 13 SPRINT



We're incredibly proud of our Year 13 students for embracing their revision and rising to the Sprint Challenge. Their dedication now will not only pay off on results day but also build the resilience and perseverance they'll need for the demands of future study and careers. A big congratulations to Ellis R and Sam M for earning the top cash prizes in recognition of their outstanding dedication and commitment to revision—they logged the most hours and truly led by example.



SPORTING SUCCESS

We're proud to share that Mallarie S recently competed in the English Schools Qualification Championship Games at Leeds Beckett University, taking part in both the Discus and Pole Vault events. We're delighted to announce that she qualified in the pole vault and will go on to represent at the English Schools Games on 11th and 12th July. We wish Mallarie the very best of luck and look forward to celebrating her achievements.

Joseph V dazzled at his first international competition, representing Great Britain with pride. Competing on both the 1-metre and 3-metre diving boards, he secured an impressive 13th place in both events out of a competitive field of 45 divers. Traveling to Rijeka, Croatia, Joseph's dedication and talent shone on the international stage. We are incredibly proud of his remarkable performance and can't wait to see him dive into his next challenge in Ireland this November.



Y12 FEMALE ENGINEERING PROGRAMME

We are incredibly proud of Mallerie, Belle, Caitlin, Saba, and Fatiha, who have successfully completed a four-part programme with Parker Engineering. Throughout the experience, they demonstrated exceptional resilience, passion, and ability, highlighting women's vital role in the STEM industries. We are especially pleased to share that Mallerie has secured a summer work experience placement with Parker Engineering, where she will continue to build on her skills and pursue her passion for engineering.



CATALYST LEADERS

A group of our Year 12 students have now successfully completed their Catalyst Leaders Course in partnership with Ralph Thoresby School. We welcomed Ralph Thoresby students into our Sixth Form to complete the second half of the programme, where our students collaborated on a media project exploring the cost of living crisis. The students had thoughtful discussions around social action and the changes they would like to see in their local community. They worked in small groups to design their own community initiative; it was fantastic to see our students work together and communicate effectively with one another when showcasing their projects.

All participants have now received their Catalyst Leaders Certificates – they have completed the course not only with increased confidence and leadership skills, but also having built meaningful connections with students from Ralph Thoresby School. A huge well done to everyone.





Y12 GEOGRAPHY TRIP



Y12 Geographers travelled to the north-east coast over two days to complete data collection as part of their NEA fieldwork. Students trialled a range of data collection methods, ranging from groyne measurements and beach sediment analysis to disability access audits and pedestrian counts. Students then designed their own data collection methods to complete independently. Students showed outstanding endeavour and resilience, working both independently and supporting each other, making the day a pleasure for staff.

YEAR 13 PROM





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