



Easter 2026

**BENTON PARK SCHOOL
& SIXTH FORM**

NEWSLETTER

WELCOME

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

As we reach the end of the spring term, I would like to wish all our families a very Happy Easter. This has been a term full of momentum and pride, with High School Musical providing a real highlight and showcasing the dedication, teamwork and confidence of a huge cast and crew.

Alongside this, we have continued to celebrate the many everyday successes that matter most: strong attendance, positive conduct and the small acts of kindness and responsibility that make our school such a special place to learn. Our rewards programme has remained a key part of this, recognising students who consistently meet expectations and contribute positively to our community, including reward events and celebrations for those who have sustained excellent attitudes over time.

Throughout the term, students have also benefited from a rich range of experiences beyond the classroom—through visits, opportunities and wider activities, including abroad trips and skiing, that help to broaden horizons and build confidence.

As we look ahead to the summer term, our focus sharpens further for students preparing for external examinations. We will continue to combine high expectations with the right encouragement and support, so that every young person is ready to finish strongly.

We look forward to welcoming students back after the break, refreshed and ready to build on what has been a very successful term. As ever, please do not hesitate to get in touch if there is anything we can help with.



Nicholas Skilton
Headteacher

GENERAL SCHOOL NEWS



REWARDS

We have had plenty of rewards happening both in the last week of term and in the first week back. We had an amazing rewards assembly in which many students picked up the awards for subjects for both excellence and progress.



SILENT DISCO

We also had a silent disco event for students with zero negative comments in the first term. Well done!



GENERAL SCHOOL NEWS

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

We are incredibly proud of our Year 11 Anne Frank Trust Ambassador, Nuraniya, who was invited to attend the official Holocaust Memorial Day event at Buckingham Palace on Tuesday.

As a representative of school and the trust she met with both the King and Queen and took part in a national ceremony to mark the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau.



GENERAL SCHOOL NEWS

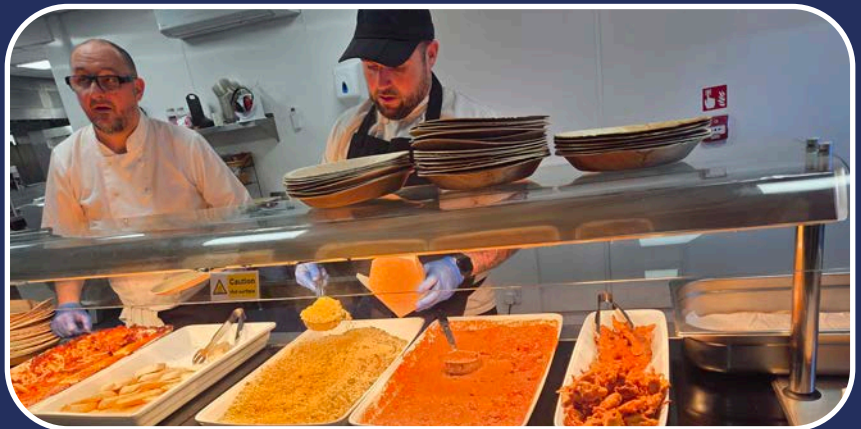
CAREERS FAIR

Students took part in the Benton Park 2026 Careers Fair. This was an opportunity to engage with a wide range of further education providers, universities, apprenticeship providers and employers to find out more about the options in the future.



COMMUNITY IFTAR

Thank you to everyone who joined our first Community Iftar on 25th February. A brilliant evening of belonging, unity and celebration during Ramadan. Huge thanks to all who donated or prepared food — and to staff who joined students in a solidarity fast.



GENERAL SCHOOL NEWS



HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

We are super-proud of the cast, crew and band that performed in our recent sell-out production of High School Musical. We were blown away by the commitment and enthusiasm from our students this year. We loved every second (even the long weekend setups!).

With 150 students involved across the cast and crew, this production showcased the largest team we've ever had on stage! The show ran for seven performances, selling out all but one. It included two special performances for primary schools and, for the first time, a matinee - wonderful to see so many families in the audience. There was so much to celebrate throughout the entire production – congratulations to everyone who took part.

This week, the cast and crew enjoyed an exclusive screening of the show's recording, where they were also teased with an exciting announcement... stay tuned!

YEAR 7

SONGS OF PRAISE!

Congratulations to Grace P in Year 7 who performed on Songs of Praise over Christmas. Grace has also recorded a CD with the Black Dyke Band. Grace has the most amazing voice and we are very proud of her achievements.



ICE SKATING SUCCESS

Nikola S has been competing in numerous ice skating competitions, achieving an excellent 2nd, 3rd and 4th place. Nikola received strong scores and positive feedback from the judges. Well done on these fantastic achievements!



YEAR 7

RUGBY CLASH!

A number of students in Year 7 recently took part in a Rugby Union North Yorkshire clash gaining a wonderful victory. Beating Ripon 10-2 in awful conditions but showed some amazing grit and team work, so much so it made it into the Yorkshire Evening Post. Well done to Oliver S, Zach J, Declan D, Ellis S, Ellis B and Oliver C.



PANTO PERFORMANCE

Olivia F was part of the chorus for the local St James Players panto, Sinbad the Sailor and completed show week. Great to see such amazing performances, well done!



YEAR 7



TILLY IS BEAMING!

Well done Tilly who has completed her Elite Excel 3 grade in Yorkshire where she was crowned the Yorkshire Champion. She will now go compete this grade at a National level in May which she hopes to pass to achieve a place at the British Championships 2027.

BIKEABILITY

Students have been working towards their next level Bikeability award. They started by recapping Level 1 and 2 and then went out onto the roads to put their new skills to the test.



YEAR 8



THEATRE PERFORMANCE AND WORKSHOP

Year 8 took part in a performance and workshop from theatre company Smashed Live. They were brilliantly engaged throughout the performance which tracked the impact of underage drinking on three teenagers. They also asked great questions and engaged really well in the workshop after!

SAFER INTERNET DAY 2026

Students took part in morning meeting assemblies for Safer Internet Day, with key input and advice from the Computer Science team on staying safe online and the potential dangers of AI. Students were advised to be wary of misinformation online and potentially using AI in an unsafe way!



YEAR 8



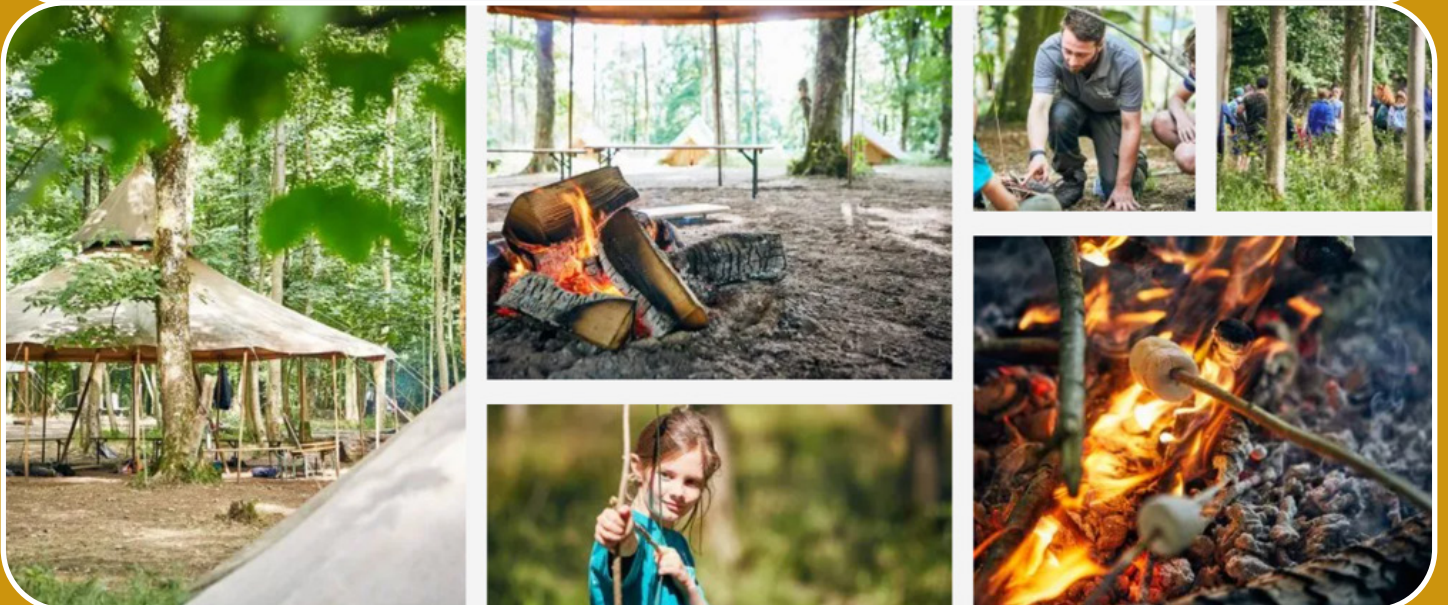
RUFFORD PRIMARY

Some of the cast of High School Musical were delighted to return to Rufford Primary School to watch their production of *The Wizard of Oz*—and to cheer on the future stars lighting up the stage!

BUSHCRAFT RESIDENTIAL - COMING SOON!

We are excited that the Bushcraft residential is getting closer! Students will take part in a wide range of hands on activities such as fire lighting, shelter construction, basic first aid skills, foraging challenges, outdoor problem solving scenarios and more. It promises to be an unforgettable adventure and a brilliant chance to learn new skills in a completely different setting.

More details will follow shortly, including a full kit list and a day by day itinerary.



YEAR 9

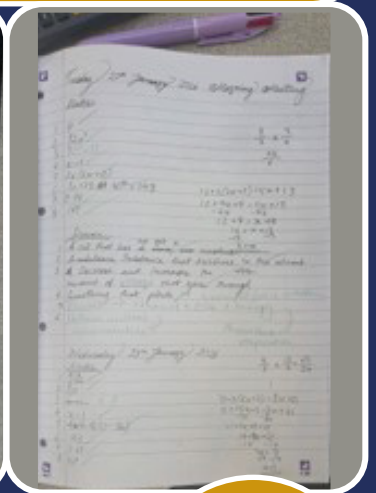
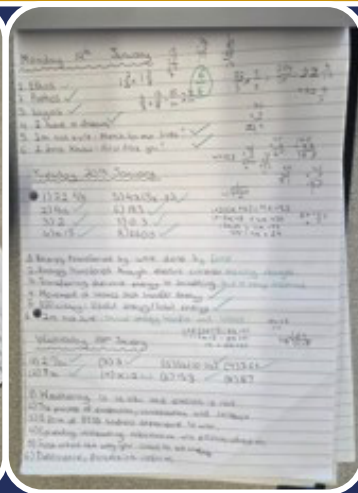
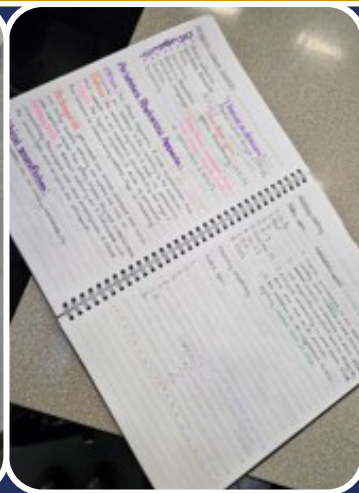
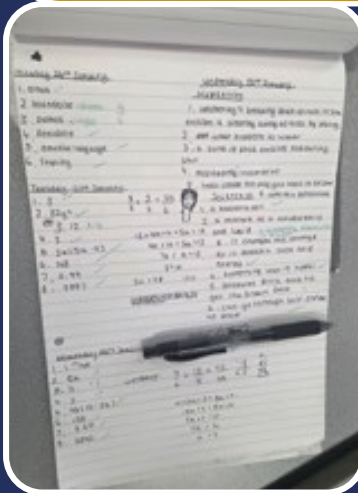
STOP HATE UK

We were delighted to welcome back to Benton Park the charity Stop Hate UK, who gave presentations on the importance of free speech vs hate speech and how to ensure that students stay safe online and can recognise discriminatory behaviours and misinformation. The presentation included guidance on Freedom of Expression – what can we say?, the impact of our words and language, the definitions of Hate Crime, hate Speech and online hate, and its consequences, and how to be digitally responsible citizens.



MORNING MEETINGS

Mrs Howard was so impressed with all the hard work she has seen from Year 9 in morning meetings this half term! Fantastic effort, resilience, and retrieval - keep it up everyone!



SINGING DAY

Students enjoying the Leeds Secondary Singing Development Day today.



YEAR 9

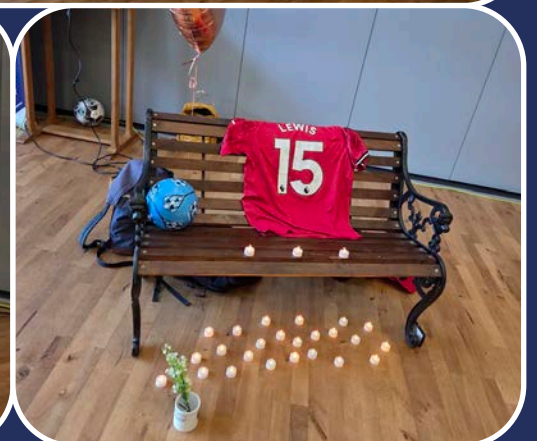


SKI TRIP ITALY

Our Year 9's had an incredible time on the slopes in Italy. Their confidence grew throughout the trip and many challenged themselves with more difficult slopes. Weather brought a mix of sunshine and fresh snowfall adding to the experience. The fun continued off the slopes with fantastic team building activities and students enjoyed some lively Apres-Ski entertainment, including a live DJ after lessons. It was an outstanding trip, with students impressing staff and creating unforgettable memories!

FOREVER 15

We were joined by the amazing RedBobble Arts group who showcased their new Alfie Forever 15 performance for our Year 9 students! An incredibly moving and important personal development input on the story of Alfie Lewis highlighting the dangers of carrying a knife and being upstanders in their community.



YEAR 10



BERLIN TRIP

Students set off for Berlin with a mission to explore the history, the culture, the cuisine and speak as much German as possible! Students experienced sight-seeing, shopping and historic museums. A perfect end to the trip was a panoramic view from the “Fernsehturm”, looking down over the city in the snow – a winter wonderland! Bis nächstes Jahr!



POSITIVE CHOICES DAY

We welcomed the Leeds United Foundation to run a number of sessions in our Positive Choices day. This included sessions from on exploitation, money management, suicide prevention and staff from a local youth offenders institute. The sessions were interactive and informative and our Year 10 cohort were exemplary in their behaviour and attitude throughout the day.



YEAR 10



BLADES OF GLORY!

Ellie M recently took part in an ice skating competition in Nottingham, where her synchronised ice skating team won gold! Congratulations on this wonderful achievement!



MEDIA TRIP - DISNEYLAND PARIS

Students had a great time in Paris! Lots of fun was had in the parks with students enjoying the rides, parades and shows. Students attended the conference, listening to professionals and asking them questions about careers. They also got to see a spectacular firework display during the evening!



YEAR 10



EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

A big well done to Amelia W who was a part of the European Championships, she took part in the opening ceremony and was also chosen to help hand out medals, meeting some Olympic stars along the way.



CADIZ TRIP

A group of Year 10 students recently returned from a culture filled trip to Cádiz in the Southwest of Spain. The whole group were fantastic, not only using their linguistic skills every day but absorbing knowledge of Spanish culture at the same time. As well as sight-seeing, students took part in a carousel of activities which included a Spanish lesson, an immersive cooking experience, followed by a flamenco lesson with music and costumes.



YEAR 11



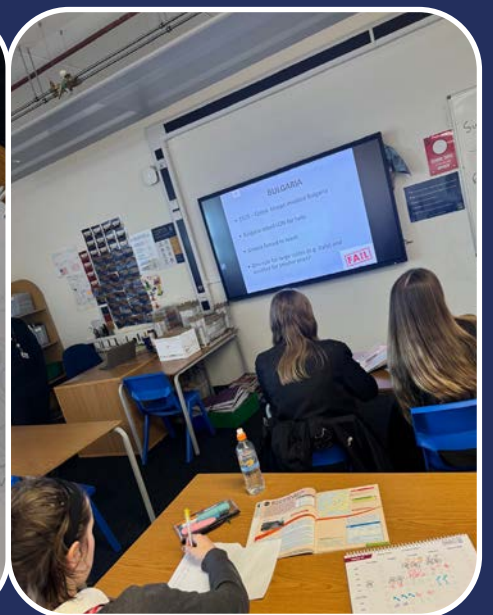
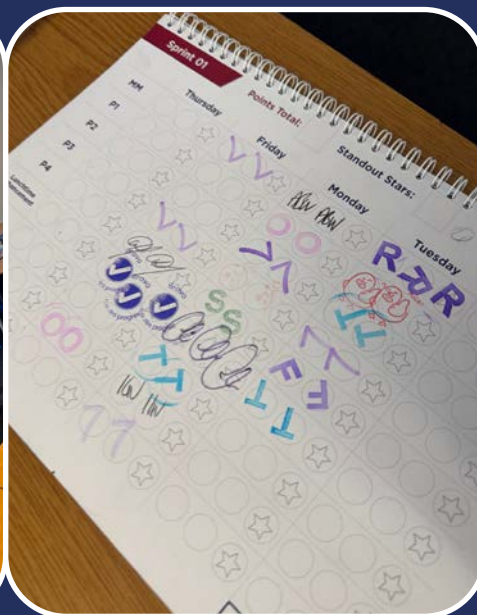
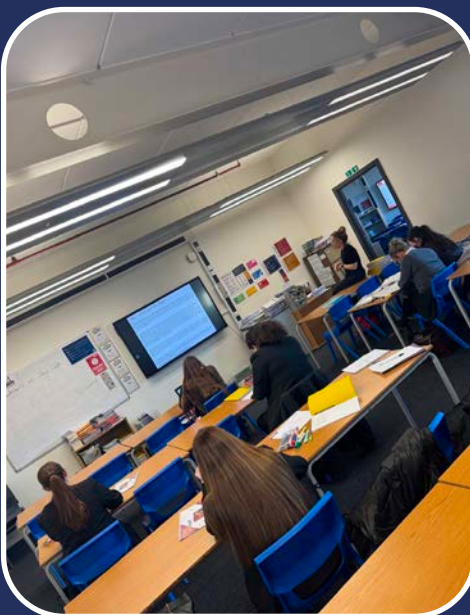
CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

As part of Children's Mental Health Week with Place 2 Be our Key Stage 3 morning meetings have had sessions delivered by our amazing Year 11 Mindmate Ambassador Imogen B! She was been amazing and really emphasised to students how important it is to talk and support each other's mental health!



ENHANCEMENT SESSIONS

Fantastic work from our Year 11 History and RS students in enhancement sessions - keep up the hard work and get those Sprint stamps everyone!



YEAR 11

THE SPRINT

Year 11's The SPRINT started! It has been fantastic to see students really engaged and supporting each other -amazing energy! There were great all round team performances and some real standout individual performances which meant we saw lots of students winning prizes. Next, we look to celebrate students by recognising those making the biggest gains.

In the league, Red team went ahead in the early stages but Blue team have now jumped ahead with a narrow lead. As we approach the halfway mark, the SPRINT is wide open!



YEAR 11



HEADINGLEY RUGBY

We were delighted to have been invited by our local MP Katie White to take a group of our students to Headingley Rugby stadium to meet with former Leeds Rhinos player Jamie Jones-Buchanan! The boys had a tour, played some rugby on the pitch alongside inspirational input from Jamie! They were all incredibly thankful for the opportunity.



SIXTH FORM



STUDENT EXPERIENCES

Our Sixth Form students have enjoyed a huge array of activities this year, including supporting the Elf Run at Rawdon St.Peters, our trip to York Christmas market, The Big Christmas Quiz and supporting the local food bank.

SIXTH FORM

CHARITY GROUP

Our Sixth Form Charity group ran their first in school fundraiser to raise funds for Leeds Children's Heart Surgery Fund and Comic Relief. Amelia, Chloe, Holly and Scarlett organised a wear something red day and bake sale raising over £400 for charity. Great work girls, we can't wait for your next event!



YEAR 12 DANCE TEACHERS

Well done to Mya F and Erin B, who led dance sessions with a group of Year 8 girls as part of their Sport course. They demonstrated fantastic leadership, confidence and encouragement throughout, and the Year 8 group really benefited from their support.



SIXTH FORM



CAREERS IN SPORT DAY

We were delighted to take our Key Stage 5 Sport and A Level students to the Careers in Sport Day hosted at Leeds Beckett University. Throughout the day, students attended a range of inspiring lectures led by professionals from across the sporting industry, exploring career pathways and opportunities within sport, coaching, performance, rehabilitation, and more.

Alongside the talks, students took part in sports science workshops, engaged in a Q&A session, and visited a careers fair, gaining valuable insight into future study and employment options. It was a highly informative and motivating experience for all involved.

A special congratulations goes to Year 12 student Dylan, who won a performance-based competition measuring vertical jump height. Dylan achieved the highest jump of the day, with 52.8cm, and based on his data, he ranks within the top 10% of athletes—an exceptional achievement.



BENTON PARK

A MOORLANDS LEARNING TRUST ACADEMY

PROM

DONATIONS APPEAL 2026

Please can you support?

We are looking for donations of the following items in good condition:
dresses (prom, bridesmaid, formal)
suits, shoes, jewellery,
accessories (bags, ties, etc).

All donations will go towards supporting future prom events and helping support students & families with smaller budgets.

All donations to be dropped off at main reception.



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Follow us on social media



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BENTON PARK NEWSLETTER