

“Everything is possible for one who believes”

MARK 9:23

Bradford Forster Academy
A Church of England Academy



GES/RMW

14th July 2025

Dear Parents, Carers & families

Firstly, I want to thank you for all your support this academic year. Thank you for sending your child into school and keeping their attendance as high as it can be. We always push attendance as we need children in front of us to be able to educate them, keep them safe and help to prepare them for college life and beyond. Our attendance this year is **90%**, this is 4% higher than it was two years ago and we are very proud of this. We also acknowledge that it still needs to be higher, so please continue for your child to get 100% attendance. There are so many rewards for those who achieve this: the ice cream van comes into school for a free ice-cream, there are film afternoons, and they access more trips than others so there are plenty of rewards for those getting it right.

We have tried to run more trips for students than ever before. We absolutely want to give them the best experience both inside and outside of the classroom and we are committed to running as many trips as we can. We have three international trips lined up for next year: Krakow, Ypres and then Zanzibar the year after that. We are also hoping to run a Spain trip next year. In total we have run **47** trips this year. In addition to this, we have **28** enrichment clubs that have been running every week. They range from Dungeons and Dragons, Crochet Club and a huge range of Sports Clubs. Our Drama Club has a huge number of students who attend every week.

We have a school production that takes place every year and we are incredibly proud of these. Last year, we ran Oliver and this year we have just completed the final night of Grease. Thank you so much to all the parents, carers and families who came to watch. It was a fantastic show, and they have made us so proud of them.

The behaviour of our students has improved hugely as the year has progressed. There have been a 66% reduction in suspensions from the start of the year. The number of students in Seclusion has also dramatically reduced. We have been celebrating this week the top achievers for achievement points across all year groups. We are so proud of how many students have a positive ratio of over 95%.

Principal: Mrs Gemma Earles, MA, NPQH

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Student leadership continues to be a focus for us. We have recently interviewed our Prefects for next year and we are looking forward to welcoming our new Year 10 Prefects into the Student Leadership Team. Our Year 10s who will be Year 11 in September have been a credit to us and to you. They have just undergone their mock exams and the level of focus and care in these exams was great to see. All staff have been exceptionally proud of them.

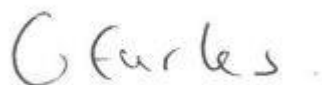
As you will know, we have an annual event where we wear Purple for Paris to commemorate the life of Paris Somma, a student who sadly lost her life. We raise money for Candlelighters, which is a charity who supported the family. This year this will take place on **Thursday 17th July**. We encourage **all students to wear as much purple as they can**, and it is casual dress i.e. they do not need to wear uniform. There will be fun activities all day including tabletop games and sponge the teacher, which we would love them to be involved in so if they can bring some small change with them or a donation to take part in these activities, that would be great. Just a reminder for any non-uniform day, what they wear needs to be **appropriate for school** as we have a safeguarding duty so no low-cut tops (no bellies on show) and no short shorts or short skirts.

To say a thank you for all their hard work and improvement this year, we will also have a **non-uniform day on Friday 18th July**. The school day will finish at 12 noon on this day. They will all have lunch and rewards assemblies before they leave and there will be fun activities. The same rule of appropriate wear also applies on this day so no low-cut tops (no bellies on show) and no short shorts or short skirts.

Finally, just a reminder about the uniform changes next year. We have changed the uniform based on Student Voice. Many students prefer a jumper to a blazer so, from September, there will be **no blazer** but, instead, a **smart black jumper with our logo** on there. The letters outlining the changes are linked here [Letters Home | Bradford Forster Academy](#) for safety, needs to be kept to a minimum so please make sure you read this letter carefully. We expect our uniform policy to be followed at all times.

Finally, all that's left for me to say is that I wish you a safe and restful summer.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Gemma Earles
Principal