

theBCS Press



Taken by: Olivia Bell - Y7

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The Counselling Service

The School offers a school time counselling service to all students. It is provided by our counsellor, Debra. It gives you a chance to talk or open up about what bothers you with someone who is not connected with family, friends or school.

She won't tell you what to do, but will help you make your own decisions. Sometimes it is good to be able to talk to someone, you may feel anxious and down but not know why. Even if you're not sure whether counselling can help, come and try anyway!

Whatever you discuss with Debra is confidential, unless she believes that you or someone else is being or is at risk of being harmed.

Y7s also have the advantage of Wellbeing Champions being assigned to their form, if you are Y7 you can request help from them with anything from locker keys to getting lost. They wear Yellow and Blue ties.

To book an appointment or change an appointment, email Debra at:

ehelp@buxton.derbyshire.sch.uk

(this can only be used during term time)

Or go and see her in B6

KS4 School Council

By: Minette Warrillow-Ward

Student Council is a place for discussion; we can give our views on topics regarding the school environment and suggest ways of improvement and change. Some of the topics that have arisen this term are the problems concerning the toilets; the lack of privacy and availability is a big concern for many students. Also, a regular cleaning rota for the toilets is high on our priority list.

Another issue that has been raised is the return of breakfast at break. Before Covid, students were able to go to the Large Dining Hall to buy food, such as toast, bagels, and fruit. This improved student's ability to concentrate in lesson, and many were unable to have breakfast before school. We are trying to reintroduce this.

In each form, a student is elected to represent their class in our weekly meetings. If you have any issues regarding the school, or suggestions for improvement, speak to your representative and they will bring it up in the next meeting.

An Interview With...

By: Finlay Jones

Q&A With Mrs Austin (Associate Assistant Head)

Why did you decide to create a House System at BCS?

After the pandemic, we noticed that students had become very insular to their year groups and had lost a lot of time interacting with their peers so we felt if we created a house system it would help bring better social cohesion (people working together), build a sense of camaraderie and have healthy competition!

When you leave BCS we want you to not only to have academic success but also have a set of skills that will prepare you for life. The activities within the house system work on those skills.

Was your initial idea at all influenced by Harry Potter?!

I can't deny, I'm a huge Harry Potter fan, any students that I teach will know that about me! I'm sure in part some of the influence has come from there. If you know the story you can see what a core part of school life the house system plays through the books. However, it wasn't just that, as a staff base we have seen in previous schools we've worked in how it well it can work but it did exist as BCS not that long ago...

Have there ever been House at the school before?

Yes, a few years ago BCS used to have team sports. The names of the houses North, South, East & West.

When you first thought of making them what were your plans and ambitions to one day achieve with them?

I would like to see an established house system that has lots of healthy competition and a school that really has a team ethos running through it. I want the houses to be seen as a mini community within our whole school community, somewhere that you can always get any kind of help or advice you need.

Were other members of staff interested in the idea and did they help with the initial design?

Staff that were part of the team sports a few years earlier have been invaluable in helping me set up the house system and offering their input. Since I met with the whole staff team I have had lots of ideas sent to me, I'm looking forward to working my through them! Our staff team cannot wait to

get started – I think they may be even more competitive than the students!

How did you choose the names?

I invited members of staff to vote on a selection of names. The winners were Devonshire, Grinlow, Corbar and Solomon

How did you start recruiting the House Captains?

I did an assembly with them in Y10 and invited them to apply, then we interviewed all the applicants and the successful candidates were chosen.

From what you've seen already can you describe each house in one word?

Well our Y11 leadership have now confirmed the House mottos:

Devonshire – Inspiring, Creative, Fearless

Solomon – Strength, Support, Synergy

Corbar – Thoughtful, Loyal, Calm

Grinlow – Victorious, Invincible, Magnanimous

What's the first competition/event planned for the Houses to compete in?

We've already had a few, the house logo competition and European day of languages competition. We have lots more planned this year too!

Will the winning house of a competition be awarded anything?

Yes we will award a house cup for the most R points for the house at the end of the year.

What do you hope the Houses will achieve in the long term?

I hope it will enable our students to see school not only as a place that teaches them in an academic way through the subjects you learn but also can teach you many life skills so that when you leave us you feel ready to handle life's challenges.

How do you think this will affect students' everyday lives?

I'm hoping it will bring a sense of belonging and team spirit. Dare I say it but also a sense of fun to school life?!

How excited are you about the House Teams?

I can't wait to see all the great ideas and initiatives our house teams are going to come up with over the next few years. Having interviewed all our House Captains and Ambassadors, I know there's going to be lots of positive changes happening at BCS led by our fabulous students!

By: Heath Koontz-Garboden

Illustrated and written by Heath.
Edited by

Pom Pom

Pom Pom Comics®

A New Chapter

Police®



Hello we are the pom pom Police® we are some of the main characters of the comic I hope you don't mind.

coming now
Hey guys the robber poms have escaped.
Chief
K²

Pom Pom Police®
out now





ok cop-ter
20, coming
in short minutes!

Nice job
e'?

Yeah
chief

cop: Police (cop-ter)



mwooo
hoo hoo
hoo hoo™

Hands
up!



now now,
you go in
jail today for 3 years

Sorry not
feeling it
ya' know that
feeling?



Hey this isn't
a shoo you know
you like
stop
stop!

meh! I'm
leaving.

hope
you don't
mind if
I take
the loot.

That is the end of
the first strip see
ya - next time in,

The second
chapter!

Pom pom
Police

Written and Illustrated by Heath Koontz - Carlsden 7PRS

An Interview With...

By: Luke Adkins

Q&A With Mrs Warrington (Assistant Head)

What made you go into teaching?

"During my 20s I was working in London and not really enjoying my work. At the same time lots of people were encouraging me to go into teaching, including my mum who used to teach English to overseas students. I applied to university to do my PGCE to see what would happen and was accepted so it all started from there."

What jobs did you have before you became a teacher?

"I had a few small jobs while I was a teenager from waitressing to serving coffee at Costa. Before I became a teacher, I was a runner on the tv show 'This Morning'."

When did you join the staff here?

"I joined in 2004 when I was 24 years old."

What do you enjoy about being a teacher?

"I enjoy working with students and while teenagers get a negative portray in the press, I think that they are actually brilliant. I enjoy the day to day variety and helping students make their next steps in life when they go off to university. I loved being a 6th Form tutor."

Is there anything that you dislike about teaching?

"I dislike the fact that we have had a lot of Education Secretary's and that they keep on changing the priorities and that we need to select some priorities and stick to them. I dislike having to work within a very small budget, I wish schools were given more money."

Are there any movements in school that you are particularly interested in?

"I am particularly interested in enrichment and trips. I love running trips to different countries and have led lots, especially during my time as Head of Geography. We have been to Italy, Iceland and New York. Wider experiences are a vital part of education. I'm really excited about the opening of the Study Zone where the Upper Atrium is. I'm trying to create a lovely space for

learning and for students to use for their own independent study, it's really exciting and I hope the students will love it once it's done."

What were your favourite subjects when you were at school?

"My favourites are English and Geography."

Where did you go to university?

"I went to Leeds University."

What did you do at university?

"I did Geography and Media."

What did you want to be when you were growing up?

"I wanted to be a vet. Everything I did in school and in work experience was working towards that. After a while I realised that I wasn't going to get the grades needed in Science to progress in that career which is a shame. I think now with the support we give students, that would be much more likely."

What are your hobbies/interests?

"I like spending time with friends and family but have very little time for hobbies of my own now between work, my sons love of football and his matches and ponies! I love horses and we have a pony in the family who takes up a lot of time. I had horses myself when I was younger and have now passed that passion on to my daughter."

What is your official role in the Senior Leadership Team?

"My official role is Assistant Headteacher in charge of Progress and Outcomes."

What does that job entail?

"I look carefully at where students are in terms of their learning and how they can make the most progress possible by the time they leave. I look at how we can support, intervene and work with departments to ensure the best provision for students at BCS. I manage a couple of departments and the Directors of Progress in their new roles."

The Hub

By: Willow Jones and Chloe Hu

The Hub is open to everyone from Monday to Thursday and it has lots of different genres such as Fantasy, Horror, Non-Fiction, Adventure and many more. If you wish to visit the library, you can sign up at the start of the day for access all day, at Break-time and sign up to either go in immediately and also go in at Lunch that day. You can take out up to three books from the library at one time and when you do you have the book for 3 weeks. If the book has not been returned after the due date, then you will be reminded on classcharts, if the book has still not been returned then you will be banned from borrowing a book again. The library is a great place to find your desired book, and everyone is welcome.

Black History Month 2023

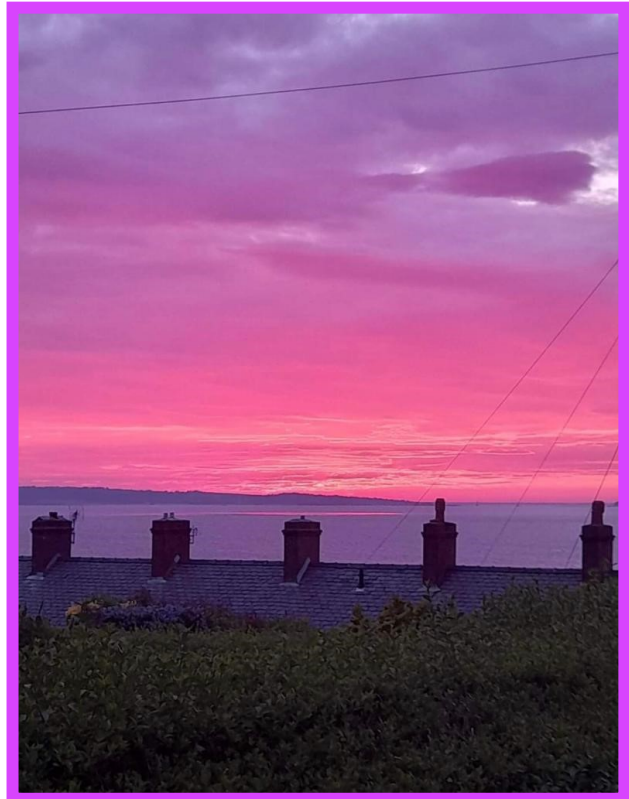
By: Bentley Rose-Jones

October is Black History Month. This national celebration aims to promote and celebrate Black contributions to British society, and to foster an understanding of Black history in general. Its origins go back to the 1920s and the establishment of Negro History Week in the United States.

Rosa Parks is a black person that refuse to stand up for a white person to sit in her spot and she got arrested for doing so. And that means she needed to courage and bravery to do what she did.



thePhotoPage





Taken by:

Oliva Bell - Y7

Barny Buston - Y11

Archie Wild - Y7

Apple in Autumn

By: Luke Adkins

Apples Autumn event was underwhelming.

There is a new iPhone 15 with USB-C and a new camera and last year's chip (I know, shocking!). iPhone 15 Pros with a new chip, USB-C and a new camera and titanium. Immediately upon shipping the structural integrity of the Pro's was questioned. This is primarily stemming from the durability testing video from "JerryRigEverything" YouTube channel. This video showed him applying a moderate amount of force to the back of the 15 Pro Max and the back glass shattering. This is the first time that a modern iPhone has failed this test. This is even more interesting because one of the main selling points of the iPhone 15 Pros is the titanium alloy that is being incorporated in the shell.

There are new Apple Watches. No real change, there is now a feature where you can double tap your forefinger and thumb to select the main feature on an app. Some examples of this are picking up a call and stopping a timer. There were no other new products.

I am hoping for another event before the new year begins.

Conservative Party Conference

By: Haydn Smith

This summer during the 6 week parliamentary recess (yes politicians get the same holidays as us!!) all the major political parties held what are called Conferences, a massive meeting of most the members and fans of the party.

The Conservative Party conference was dominated by the news that the Government were scrapping the main section of HS2 from Birmingham to Manchester, meant to connect the North to the South and bring more funding and investment in the North. The £32 Million budget is expected to be reinvested into smaller scale transport schemes.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak is also under fire for his comments against the Transgender community, in a speech announcing various policy changes in PHSE education and the NHS against LGBTQ people, he said “A man is a man and a women is a women, that’s just common sense”. Suggesting he was outright against someone changing their gender. This comes at a worrying time for the LGBTQ community as the government is constantly failing to meet promises on banning Conversion Therapy, leaving schools and students in limbo over Trans guidance for schools and many cabinet members consistently speaking against LGBTQ people.

Labour Party Conference

By: Haydn Smith

We only have the space to look at 2 parties this issue. So lets go with the Labour Party.

Before he even gave his speech, the party leader Sir Kier Starmer was showered in glitter by a protested saying that Labour had not done enough to stop the Conservative Party. After taking his blazer off and rolling up his sleeves, he gave a speech that on the whole was light on policy, but gave the impression that Labour is ready to fight an election with the Tories.

His speech focused on economic growth, with promises of 1.5m new homes and building on the “grey belt”, areas of the green belt that are disused i.e. old petrol stations.

As with all major political parties in the run up to elections, the promise of “more police officers” was given. Is this just another party pulling at old strings for votes? That remains to be seen.

Also mentioned was GB Energy, a new state-owned green energy producer in an attempt to drive down prices of energy in a time of huge cost of living rises and energy companies raking in millions. More interestingly, he wants to base GB Energy in Scotland. State-owned companies and organisations in Scotland have never lasted well, the poor Forestry Commission was split in 4 due to Scotland. So we will see how that goes.

Met Police Corruption

By: Finlay Jones

Recently, more than 1,000 Metropolitan Police officers have been suspended or put on restricted duties, the force has said, as it tries to root out rogue officers. The police have started their crackdown because of the recent convictions of two police officers who have been found guilty of serious crimes. The 'eye-watering' figures show that over 450 police officers are being investigated for misconduct and abuse allegations. Some officers believe it's going to take a long time (at least 2-3 years) to get rid of the corruption whereas others in the force believe the Met have uncovered most of it already. One of the main units focused on is the Parliamentary and Diplomatic Protection Command (the same unit Wayne Couzens and David Carrick the police officers mentioned earlier were in). The PaDP is an elite taskforce of officers charged with protecting the House of Parliament and many embassies around London. The Home Office has announced that senior police officers will be given more responsibilities to police the matter further and make sure it doesn't happen again in future.

Trump Arrested

By: Luke Adkins

Former United States President Donald Trump has been indicted (sent to court) 4 times now has been charged on 55 separate counts of various crimes. Furthermore, he and his associates have amassed 123 separate total counts. These include 34 counts of Falsifying Business Records in the First Degree in the State of New York. If these are all charged for their full sentence, then Trump will face a maximum 136 years in a New York State prison. He has been charged for 32 counts of Wilful Retention of National Defence Information in the State of Florida. These hold a maximum penalty of 320 years in Florida State prison. There are many other counts that he has been charged for. If these were all hypothetically found guilty and received the max sentence, then would receive a total of 717 years in a mixture of state and federal prisons. This is extremely unlikely, but I personally find it hard to believe that he will be able to dodge the guilt of 55 criminal charges. He will have to fight these alongside his upcoming election to be the President of the United States. Part of the indictment process involves taking a mug shot. The one from his Atlanta, Georgia indictment has been leaked:



This has fuelled merchandise and memes for both sides of the election.

US Lose a Fighter Jet

By: Luke Adkins

On Sunday the seventeenth of September a USAF fifth-generation stealth fighter jet went missing above South Carolina USA, here's what we know:

- At the time of ejection the fighter jet was at 1,000ft. (0.19 miles). The speed is unconfirmed.
- The jet was found 28 hours later on Monday the 18th.
- The fighter jet was put into autopilot mode before ejection.

The F-35B has an 'auto-eject' feature for when a pilot is unconscious or if the plane is critically damaged. Whether this was the case is yet to be confirmed.

The pilot confirmed that there was a malfunction in the jet. To what extent is still unconfirmed but there is a pentagon investigation into the crash. The F35x fighter jet is the most internationally exported modern fighter jet with almost 900 in the world. 30 of which are owned by the UK. The day after the crash there was a total stop for all US air force and US marines' aircraft. Something even more interesting is that the 911 operator that the pilot called from a nearby house seemed totally confused. The pilot had to explain the incident multiple times to the operator. The fighter jet was developed and manufactured by Lockheed Martin inc. Surprisingly they are yet to make an official public statement on the matter. More will be revealed but at the time of publishing this is all that we know...

Our Team

The team that have created this edition are as follows:

Haydn Smith (Y11) - Editor and Digital Design/Formatter
Riley Fletcher-Shaw (Y7) - Writer

Luke Adkins (Y10) - Deputy Editor, Interviewer/Writer
Chloe Hu (Y7) - Writer
Willow Jones (Y7) - Writer

Finlay Jones (Y9) - Writer/Interviewer
Heath Koontz-Garboden (Y7) - Illustrator

Barny Buston (Y11) - Photographer
Bentley Rose-Jones (Y7) - Writer

Olivia Bell (Y7) - Photographer
Archie Wild (Y7) - Illustrator

theBCSPress team are always looking for new people to join, we are looking for anybody who would want to write about any issues or events that could be happening in the school or for young people in general.

You could join us as a regular writer, adding content to all of our editions, or you could join us on a freelance basis. Writing in just one or a few of our editions.

If you would like to come along to our meetings we meet:

In D29 at 12:50 on a Thursday Lunchtime

HELP ADD TO OUR NEWSPAPER

If you want to help with our newspaper
come to our meetings:

Every Thursday at 12:45 in D29

You made it to the back! Well Done, have a doughnut!

