



**THE BULWELL
ACADEMY**
*Creative
Education
Trust*

5 November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Half Term 2 at The Bulwell Academy!

We're excited to begin a new half term filled with festive activities, enrichment opportunities, and community spirit. As we approach the Christmas season, here are some key events and opportunities for your child to get involved.

Remembrance Day, 11 November: Honoring Through Reflection and Respect

As part of our Remembrance Day commemorations, we have planned a series of meaningful activities across the school to help students reflect on the importance of remembrance and honor those affected by conflict.



Key Activities Include:

- **Remembrance Assembly**

Years 7–10 assemblies will take place on Tuesday 11 November, with Year 11 receiving their assembly on Monday. Each assembly will focus on the theme “*Lest We Forget*” and include a brief history of Remembrance Day and student-led poetry readings.

- **Whole School Reflection**

At 11am on Tuesday 11 November, the entire school will observe a two-minute silence, signalled by the school bell. *The Last Post* will be played over the Tannoy to mark the occasion. ***Students who are members of any cadet service, including Army, Navy, RAF, Girl Guides, Boys’ Brigade and Scouts, are invited to wear their cadet uniforms to school.***

- **Tutor Time Activities**

Students will take part in creative sessions during Wellbeing Wednesday, producing poppies, artwork, and messages of peace to be displayed in our Community Hub.

- **Remembrance Wall & Display:**

A memorial wall will be created in the Community Hub, showcasing student contributions and offering a space for reflection.

- **Quiet Reflection Space:**

A dedicated space will be set up in the library or a classroom, featuring peaceful music and books about war and peace, offering students a calm environment for personal reflection.

We hope these activities will help our students engage thoughtfully with the significance of Remembrance Day. Thank you for your continued support.



Year 9 National History and Science Museum Visit, Thursday 13 November

48 Year 9 students will be attending a visit to the **National History and Science Museums**, where they will take part in **hands-on practical workshops**. This exciting trip brings learning to life outside of the classroom and supports our commitment to experiential education.

Christmas Shoebox Appeal, Deadline Friday 14 November

Students are invited to take part in our Tutor Group Challenge to earn their Charity Pledge by donating items to fill a festively wrapped shoebox to donate to a child in need this Christmas. More information is available on our [socials](#) and from your child's tutor.



Odd Socks Day, Friday 14 November



We'll be wearing our odd socks this Odd Socks Day, will you?

As part of **Anti-Bullying Week**, we're inviting all students to come to school wearing **odd socks** on **Friday 14 November** to celebrate individuality and promote kindness.

Be bold, be creative! Bright colours, wild patterns, football socks, leg warmers—anything goes, as long as they don't match! Let's show that it's okay to stand out and be different.

Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh's Award Programme Launch

We are thrilled to announce the launch of our **Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme**, with **44 students** now signed up. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to develop essential life skills such as **resilience, confidence, teamwork, and problem-solving**, while discovering new interests and building a strong sense of community.

The programme includes challenges in four key areas: volunteering; physical activity; skills development; planning and completing an expedition.



Participation in the DofE Award helps students become more independent, connect with nature, and build a strong foundation for future opportunities in **higher education and employment**.

Food Bank Tutor Group Competition, 1 to 18 December

Students are encouraged to bring in **tinned and dry food** to support our local food bank.

- Tutor groups that fill **five boxes** will receive their **charity pledge reward**.
- The group that collects the most will enjoy a **Pizza Party!**

Please help us support those in need this Christmas.





Annual Careers Fair, Tuesday 3 December

All students will have the opportunity to speak with a **variety of professionals and further education providers**. This event is designed to **raise aspirations**, spark interest in future pathways, and allow students to ask questions about different careers and industries.

Year 10 Visit to Drax Power Station, Wednesday 10 December

38 students in Year 10 will visit a **fully operational power station** to learn how electricity is generated. This forms a vital part of their **GCSE Science curriculum** and offers a highly engaging learning experience that connects classroom theory with real-world application.

School Production: Legally Blonde, 9/10/11 December



We are proud to present our school production of *Legally Blonde*. This promises to be a fantastic performance, and we look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible, including friends and family.

If you would like to attend, **please purchase tickets from** ticketsource.co.uk/the-bulwell-academy

Christmas Jumper Day / Christmas Dinner Day, Friday 12 December

To celebrate the festive season, students are welcome to wear a **festive accessory**, such as a Santa hat, tinsel in their hair, or a **festive jumper in place of their shirt and blazer**. To take part, we ask that students donate an item for the Foodbank or a donation for the Christmas Fair (long-life food items; chocolate; good quality teddies and dolls; good quality games and books; unused toiletries; unwanted gifts).



Please note that **all other uniform items must still be worn as usual**.

On this day, a special Christmas lunch will be served to students—always a highlight of the term! This includes a main meal and pudding for £2.61—please ensure your child's account is topped up in Arbor (no payment needed for those in receipt of Free School Meals).

Creative Writing Enrichment Programme, Monday 16 December

We're delighted to announce that **16 students from Years 7 to 11**, who are part of our **First Story club cohort** will take part in a special enrichment day focused on creative writing.

Activities will include:

- **Creative Writing Workshops** with **professional authors**, helping students develop their voice and storytelling skills.
- A **tour of a further education establishment**, including a **Q&A session** about writing and literature courses at university.
- Opportunities to **meet peers from other schools**, encouraging collaboration, social development, and a deeper understanding of diverse experiences.

FIRST STORY

This is a fantastic opportunity to nurture creativity, raise aspirations, and celebrate the talent within our school community.



Christmas Fair, Thursday 18 December

Join us for our annual Christmas Fair, in aid of Bestwood & Bulwell Foodbank—a festive celebration for the entire Bulwell community!

Want to get involved? If you're a talented craftsperson, part of a charity or know someone who'd love to host a stall, please spread the word and encourage them to apply:

bulwellacademy.org.uk/christmas-fair

We can't wait to celebrate with you — mark your calendars and share the joy! It's a wonderful way to celebrate the season and support our school community.

**COME & JOIN US
FOR A FESTIVE TREAT**

THE BULWELL ACADEMY

CHRISTMAS FAIR & SANTA'S GROTTO

THURSDAY 18 DECEMBER
3.30 PM - 6:00 PM
SQUIRES AVENUE NG6 8HG

SANTA'S GROTTO
FROM 9.30 AM
THE BULWELL ACADEMY COMMUNITY HUB

FREE ADMISSION
Open to the Bulwell community
Food and drinks available

Meet Santa
Children's Activities
Arts & Crafts
Christmas Choir & Karaoke
Christmas Raffle
Festive Nibbles
Community Stalls
Fun, Games & Prizes
Chocolate Tombola
Name the Teddy Bear

EVERYONE WELCOME

**WANTED
COMMUNITY STALLS**

APPLY NOW

All proceeds to
Bestwood & Bulwell
foodbank

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to a joyful and successful term ahead! Please follow us on social media ([Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)) for reminders of what's going on throughout the term.

Kind Regards

Emma Worker-Simpson

Emma Worker-Simpson
Assistant Principal