



July 16th 2010

The final Newsletter of the year is published next week and that documents the highlights of this last half term of 2009-10.

As I said last week, we can look back across some outstanding landmarks and successes and look confidently forward to 2010-11.

The low point - the axing of BSF - has interestingly put us on the national stage: in last Friday's Guardian and after Phillip Davis' question to Michael Gove in Parliament, on 5Live, and Calendar News. BBC Leeds were also here last night, filming this site and hearing my comments for a piece to link into their local MP interviews on The Politics Show at 11.30 on Sunday.

I hope the publicity keeps our plight in the public eye and on the government agenda: we may not secure a new site, but our capacity issues may drive them to look again at this site and improving the deal for Wharfe Valley Children.

I have written to all parents and carers of our new Year 7 students in September - to welcome their children and to assure them that we will, as always, do our very best in terms of educational opportunities for them, despite the disappointment of BSF and the challenges of our future.

Those of you who enjoyed our summer concert with us on Wednesday will know just how much musical and dramatic talent we have across all years - and this is precisely why the axing of the new school is such a huge disappointment. We had big ambitions for a state of the art performance space - for school and community use. Having designed this and moved within six months of beginning to see this realised it is hard to scale down our ambitions.

If nothing else, it is recorded in Hansard that Ilkley Grammar School is a 'great school':

EDUCATION

The Secretary of State was asked-

Building Schools for the Future Programme

1. Philip Davies (Shipley) (Con): For what reasons he has ended the Building Schools for the Future programme for Ilkley and Bingley grammar schools.

The Secretary of State for Education (Michael Gove): As I set out in my statement last week, the Building Schools for the Future programme has been over-bureaucratic and inefficient. I therefore decided that where financial close had not been reached, future projects provided under BSF could not go ahead. Ilkley and Bingley grammar school projects have not reached financial close, and BSF plans for those two schools have therefore stopped. However, we will continue to invest in schools capital projects.

Philip Davies (Shipley) (Con): In the catchment areas for both Ilkley and Bingley grammar schools, there has been excessive house building, so there is no longer sufficient capacity on their existing sites to meet local demand. Can my right hon. Friend ensure that those schools that need new build to increase capacity to meet local demand will still receive capital expenditure?

Michael Gove: I very much take the point made by my hon. Friend. One of the defects of the BSF scheme was that, in many parts of the country where there was real need as a result of a growing population, the money was not there to provide new school places. As a result of our capital review, we will ensure that where there is additional population pressure and additional basic need, particularly in primary schools, which BSF did not cover, we will provide the support that is necessary. I look forward to working with my hon. Friend to help the parents and teachers in those two great schools.

Ed Balls (Morley and Outwood) (Lab/Co-op): For parents, children and teachers in Ilkley and Bingley, the initial shock of learning that their new school building has been cancelled will have turned to outrage at the seemingly arbitrary and chaotic way in which the Secretary of State has made and announced his decisions.

We are, of course, already looking into the future and premises work is underway this summer to reconfigure K Block into an E-Learning Centre; land the Ecopod to extend Post 16 study space; site a fifth Portakabin between C Block and the Sports Hall, and plan to open out the ex-Site Manager's House into two Applied Learning spaces.



ILKLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

A Specialist School in Science & Humanities

Head-Line Online

Our Transforming Learning ambitions - at the heart of the BSF new building design - are being reviewed in the new context. We remain committed to developing an outstanding learning community and seeing our students supported and challenged to aspire into successful, confident and caring individuals.

Thank you

As the year ends, I want publicly to thank all of you for your support across 2009-10 - in working with us so we have a student body we are immensely proud of, in high uniform standards, in letting us know if we fall short of what you expect! I hope you feel working together works - and, if not, please get in touch!

Let's Celebrate!

Next week we celebrate our Super Tutor Group winners - 7EAC, 8SAW and 9HD will enjoy an afternoon at the Lido; 10EM go to Shipley Bowl.

We will also celebrate student successes in our Celebration Assemblies, and on Celebration Day. Only 13 students in Years 7 - 10 are not invited onto Celebration Day - which speaks volumes about the other 1000 students who have got it right all year.

Successes this last week:

Sports Day winners:

S Band were the winning band in Year 7 and Year 8.

In Year 9 girls; Cleo Oldham (9BB) came first with Becky Batchelor (9CW) second and Anna Sinclair (9BB) third. Year 9 boys; Simon Wood (9HP) came in first, Ben Fripp (9HR) second and Louis Staley (9BB) third.

In Year 10 girls; Jenny Burn (10EM) came first with Lucy Deakin (10BJS) second and Georgina Allen (10JLF) third. Year 10 boys; Rob Reikis (10PB) came first, Mark Charlesworth (10BJS) second and Josh Crane (10JLF) third.

Well done to everybody involved in Sports Day. A full set of results is in this half term's Newsletter.

Matt Lulham Robinson (8RN) and his brother travelled to Scotland to defend their title as holders of the Mirror Dinghy Scottish Championship trophy in July. They fought hard to retain their title and will hold the trophy for another year.

End of Term

School closes next Thursday after lunch, with buses available at 1.15pm.

We welcome all of you to Take-a-Break ahead of this at 10.00 in the Lower Library.

Start of Term

- Monday 6th September is a Staff Training Day and no students are in school.
- Tuesday 7th September new Year 7 and Year 12 in school.
- Wednesday 8th September: all years in school.

8.30am	Registration
8.45am	Years 10 and 11 Assembly in the Sports Hall
	Years 7-9: Tutor time
9.45am	Break
10.05am	Return to Tutor rooms
	Years 7, 8 and 9 Assembly: Sports Hall
11.00am	Lessons start for all years.
11.45am	Lunch for Year 7 only (school dinners only)
12.00 noon	Lunch

If the weather is wet, the Sports Hall assemblies will be cancelled and an alternative pattern of year assemblies in B Hall arranged during the week.

A full calendar will be on-line by the end of term.

Happy Holidays!

This will be the last Headline of the year. Enjoy the 6½ weeks' summer holiday; we look forward to welcoming your children back refreshed and ready to be challenged to achieve on September 8th.



Take-a-Break

The final Take-a-Break of this year will be held in the Lower Library from 10 - 10.30am on Thursday 22nd July. Come along and chat with members of the Leadership Team over coffee. All welcome!



Attendance Champions

Top of the form this week:

Year 7: 7ALC with 89.6% attendance

Year 8: 8PDH with 88.5% attendance

Year 9: 9CW with 88.9% attendance

Year 10: 10JLF with 85.8% attendance

Year 11: Study Leave



Calendar

18th July PTA Car Boot Sale from 7.30am at school field

- **19th July** Celebration Assembly (am)
- **19th July** Super Tutor Group Activity (pm)
- **20th July** Celebration Assemblies
- **21st July** Celebration Day
- **22nd July** Celebration Assemblies
- **22nd July** School Closes after Lunch

Forward Planning

- **6th September** Training Day
- **7th September** Year 7 and Year 12
- **8th September** School Fully open
- **8th September** Year 12 ALIS Test
- **13th September** School Photographer in school
- **14th September** PTA 7.00pm
- **14th September** 7i Nell Bank Visit
- **15th September** 7g Nell Bank Visit
- **15th September** Year 13 Parents' University Meeting
- **17th September** 7s Nell Bank Visit
- **21st September** Year 12 Parents' Meeting (Tutors)
- **30th September** Open Day (School closes 1.15pm)
- **1st October** HPV Vaccine Year 8 Girls
- **7th October** Year 12/13 Young Film Makers Festival
- **7th October** Post-16 Meeting
- **11th October** Coutances Exchange to France
- **12th October** Parent Information Evening: Learning to Learn
- **18th October** Work Experience Week
- **20th October** PTA AGM
- **21st October** Year 7 Parents' Meeting (Tutors)
- **21st October** Year 11 Of Mice and Men am
- **22nd - 29th October:** Half Term
- **25th October – 29th October:** Rugby Tour



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Head-Line Online

You can view the 2010 - 2011 Holiday dates [here](#)

Mailing List

If you would like to receive a copy of Headline On-Line via email please complete the [email address field here](#) and you will be added to our mailing list from next week.

Get in touch!

We would be interested in any feedback on these bulletins.

Also, if you would like further information on anything within them or, wish to request other information items, [then please get in touch](#).

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