

Dear Families,

I hope you are all having a lovely time in the summer term and enjoying the recent warm weather. What a remarkable term we have had so far! We continue to have lots happening in and out of school and it has been wonderful to continue to see our pupils grow and develop. Pupils have had lots of opportunities and experiences in recent weeks as well as continuing their education across the curriculum.

Thank you to you all for the kind words in relation to my recent letter about the change in job role. Just to remind you, following half term I will begin this new role and will be dividing my time between Bader Academy and Lotus Academy. Please be assured this will not affect Bader and I will continue to be present and available. Please note, if you send an email or Dojo directly to myself, I will get back to you as soon as possible and within a week, however, in the first instance, please contact your child's class or form tutor who can and will escalate this to the senior leadership team.

I am so proud of the school community and the support they are showing for their peers as we are in the depths of exam season. School is quiet, calm and peaceful and this is wonderful to see. I cannot believe that we are nearly in the final half term of the school year. We hope you continue to enjoy the summer term and the upcoming spring break!

My Futures Career Event

The school recently hosted a well-attended careers event, where parents joined their children to explore a range of post-16 education options. The event took place in the main hall, which was filled with informative stalls primarily representing local colleges. Representatives from some institutions were on hand to offer advice, answer questions, and provide brochures about the courses and opportunities available after Year 11. Parents and pupils had the chance to speak directly with staff and students from the colleges, gaining valuable insight into subjects, entry requirements, and future career pathways. The event proved to be a valuable experience, helping families make informed decisions about the next steps in education.



My Futures Event



RE Week

This week, Bader Academy celebrated Big RE Week across the school, exploring the fascinating links between religion and art. Pupils took part in a range of creative activities, from designing symbolic artwork to studying religious stories through painting, sculpture, and stained glass. The week provided a rich opportunity for children to deepen their understanding of different faiths while expressing their learning through imaginative and thoughtful art. It was wonderful to see such enthusiasm and creativity from all our pupils!

Lea Green Residential

In April, some of our pupils embarked on an exciting residential trip to Lea Green Learning and Development Centre in Matlock. Their adventure commenced with a warm welcome, setting the tone for a day filled with engaging activities.



Students took part in a mixture of activities such as archery, bushcraft, climbing, canoeing, and high ropes courses. Additionally, they had the chance to explore the local countryside through expeditions and a night walk. These experiences supported pupils to build confidence, enhance communication skills, and promote a sense of adventure among peers. Throughout their stay, the pupils demonstrated resilience and teamwork, leaving with cherished memories and a sense of accomplishment.

Cresswell Crag

The children had a fantastic time exploring Cresswell Crag, where History and Geography came to life in a truly unique setting. They enjoyed discovering the fascinating Ice Age caves, learning about ancient tools, cave art, and the people who lived there thousands of years ago. Walking through the gorge and seeing the dramatic limestone cliffs sparked lots of wonder and curiosity. It was a day full of outdoor adventure, hands-on learning, and unforgettable experiences!

Eco Schools

We are thrilled to announce that Bader Academy has been awarded the Eco-Schools Green Flag with Merit! This fantastic achievement reflects the hard work and dedication of our pupils, staff, and Eco Committee in promoting sustainability and environmental awareness throughout the school. From reducing waste and conserving energy to growing our own vegetables on the Bader Farm, the whole school community has embraced eco-friendly practices. We're incredibly proud of this recognition and remain committed to building a greener, more sustainable future together.



Forest School Graduation

We are proud to celebrate our Year 7 pupils as they graduate from the Forest School programme, marking the end of a fantastic year of outdoor learning. Throughout the year, students have developed practical skills, built confidence, and deepened their connection with nature through a variety of hands-on activities in the great outdoors. The graduation event was a wonderful way to reflect on their achievements and the personal growth they've shown. Well done to all of Year 7 for embracing the Forest School experience with such enthusiasm!



Cannon Hall Farm

A group of school pupils recently enjoyed an exciting educational trip to Cannon Hall Farm, where they took part in a variety of fun and hands-on activities. The day began with a tour of the working farm, where the children learned about the animals and how they are cared for. They were thrilled to witness the magic of lambing season, watching newborn lambs take their first steps. The visit to the reptile house sparked lots of curiosity as they learned about fascinating creatures up close. Pupils also explored the adventure playground, letting off steam on climbing frames and slides. The trip was both entertaining and educational, giving pupils a memorable experience outside the classroom.



Examinations

This half term, we couldn't be prouder of our amazing pupils at Bader Academy who have shown incredible focus, determination, and resilience. From sitting SATs and GCSEs to completing Functional Skills exams and taking part in BTEC Home Cooking assessments, our students have truly risen to the challenge. Their hard work and positive attitude have been inspiring, and we are so impressed with how they've approached each task with confidence and maturity. Well done to all—we're cheering you on every step of the way!

Transitions

After the May half term, pupils will transition up to their next year group, allowing them to spend the summer term getting to know their new teachers and peers. This early transition helps to ease any potential anxiety about the upcoming school year by familiarising pupils with their new class environment before the summer holidays. By already knowing their classmates and teacher, pupils can return in September with greater confidence, ensuring a smoother start to the new academic year.

End Of Year Reports

Pupil reports will be released next week, providing an opportunity for parents and carers to review and reflect on their child's progress during 2024/2025. This timing ensures that families have the chance to fully process the report before the summer holidays, allowing for meaningful discussions about achievements and areas for development as pupils prepare for the next stage in their education.

Roles and Responsibilities

I am pleased to announce that Louise Kitching has had a change in job role and is now part of the senior leadership team. Louise is Senior Leader for pastoral care, safeguarding and attendance. This means that Louise is now the designated safeguarding lead. Please ensure if you have a matter to discuss which is about safeguarding you contact Louise in the first instance.

Dates for your diaries

Please see below activities which are already planned for the remainder of the academic year. There will be more dates added as we move through the half term. We will provide more information closer to the time where needed.

- **Week Commencing Monday 19th May – KS4 Exam season continues**
- **Friday 23rd May – May Half Term (School closed)**
- **Monday 2nd June – School Re-Opens for Summer Term 2**
- **Week Commencing Monday 2nd June – KS4 Exam season continues**
- Wednesday 18th June – Year 11 Leavers Assembly
- Wednesday 9th July – Active Day
- Thursday 10th July – Year 11 Prom
- Thursday 24th July – Pride Celebration Festival (Families invited)
- Friday 25th July – Whole School Celebration Assembly
- Monday 28th July – Big Bader Day Out (Final School Day)

Headteacher: Viki Drew

- **Tuesday 29th July – Summer Holidays (School closed)**
- **Wednesday 3rd September – New Academic year (School Re-Opens)**

Finally...

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact us if there is anything you wish to discuss further.

Kind regards,



Viki Drew
Headteacher