

# Welcome

This Tuesday, our Christmas lunch was a real highlight of the week, bringing a joyful festive spirit to the school. The students enjoyed a delicious Christmas turkey, pulling crackers, and wearing colourful paper crowns. Many students and staff fully embraced the Christmas spirit by donning Christmas jumpers or adding festive "bling" to their uniforms. It was heart-warming to see so many creative touches!

Assemblies this week celebrated our students' achievements across all subjects. Heads of Year proudly showcased slides of our talented winners, while their peers showed their appreciation with warm applause. Talented Year 11 students, Maria and Poppy, opened the assembly with a beautiful rendition of Baby It's Cold Outside. They truly set the tone for the assembly and added a special touch of festive cheer. We are so proud of their musicality and the joy they brought to the assembly!



On Wednesday and Thursday, many students took part in ice-skating reward trips. Everyone had a great time on the ice - it was a wonderful way to recognise their successes this term.

As 2024 comes to a close, I'd like to reflect on the incredible learning opportunities our staff have provided, both in and outside the classroom. Through activities highlighted in our In the Loop newsletters, it's clear that our students have had many chances to grow and develop our 6C global competencies. I'm deeply grateful to our staff for their dedication to academic excellence, character development, and exceptional pastoral care. Thank you to the parents and carers who have shared kind words of encouragement; I've passed them on to our staff in our staff meeting this week.

I sincerely thank all parents and carers for your ongoing support. Your encouragement of your children's learning and commitment to our high expectations is key to their success. **"Together we Achieve"** is more than just our mission statement; it's the foundation of our school community, and when students, school staff, and families collaborate, every child thrives. We cannot accept anything less, as it impacts everyone in our learning community. Your partnership is invaluable, and I am deeply grateful for your continued unwavering support.

I would also like to take a moment to celebrate our incredible students. Their energy, enthusiasm, and passion for learning have been truly inspiring throughout this term. The vast majority have approached each day with determination and an eagerness to grow, and I couldn't be more proud of their progress. I encourage them to use the upcoming holiday to rest, recharge, and spend quality time with their families - cherishing the joy of the season.

In closing, a quote from Charles Dickens' **A Christmas Carol** a text our GCSE English Literature students have recently studied. **"No space of regret can make amends for one life's opportunity misused."** - a powerful reminder of the importance of seizing every opportunity for learning and growth. It encourages students to value and make the most of their educational journey, without letting chances slip by.

We look forward to **welcoming our students back on Tuesday, 7th January 2025**, ready to continue our journey of achievement together. Until then, **I wish you all a peaceful, joyful Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

**Mr Brown**  
**Headteacher**



# In This Edition of In the Loop

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# Ice Skating Rewards Trip

This week students have had a fantastic time on our rewards trip; ice skating at the Sky Dome Arena in Coventry.



The experts amongst us skated freely; penguins and polar bears were at hand for those who were less confident. There is nothing like a winter sport to make it feel like Christmas. What a brilliant way to finish the term.

Mrs Wright



## Christmas Dinner

Our Christmas Dinner was enjoyed by students and staff on Tuesday. It was great to see all the Christmas jumpers and Christmas bling being worn throughout the school.



## End of Term Celebration

Students came together this week to celebrate their work across the Autumn 2024 term in special assemblies.

Year 11 students Maria B and Poppy L serenaded students with their version of 'Baby It's Cold Outside' before the awards were handed out. Well done to all students.



## Coat Collection

This week 12YCO collected coats for Open Hands. The charity will now distribute the coats and warm clothes to individuals and families facing homelessness and hardship. Your donations make a significant difference in their lives, providing comfort and warmth during this chilly season. Together, we spread warmth and kindness in our community! Thank you to all those donated.

Mrs Connolly



# Basketball Update

'Tis the (basketball) season to be merry!  
 We always knew that our P.E. programme for basketball is one of the strongest ones in Leicestershire and Rutland County, but this year our students are having the most successful seasons ever in national competition for schools too!  
 I'm over the moon to say that both of our year groups in Basketball England league for schools (**U19** and **U16**) are at **the top of the table in their respective divisions at the end of this term!**



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## U16 CO-ED GROUP 6

Names	P	W	L	P	Form
Bosworth Academy (DNSU16X)	4	3	1	10	WWWL
Northampton School For Boys (DNSU16X)	3	3	0	9	WWW
Northampton International Academy (DNSU16X)	2	2	0	6	WW
OUNDLE SCHOOL (DNSU16X)	3	0	3	3	LLL
Manor School (DNSU16X)	3	0	3	2	LLL
Castle Mead Academy (DNSU16X)	1	0	1	1	L



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## U19 MEN GROUP 4

Names	P	W	L	P	Form
Bosworth Academy (DNSU19M)	3	2	1	7	LWW
Bromsgrove School (DNSU19M)	2	2	0	6	WW
Alcester Grammar School (DNSU19M)	1	1	0	3	W
Holly Lodge (DNSU19M)	2	0	2	2	LL
Shrewsbury School (DNSU19M)	2	0	2	2	LL
Shireland Sixth Form (DNSU19M)	0	0	0	0	

This is on top of everything that Bosworth Academy has achieved winning across year groups, going on to represent Hinckley and Bosworth area in the County Cup, and winning confidently in our regional qualifiers!

All students who have taken part have displayed great understanding of the game with skills to match, and have behaved exemplary throughout the competitions, showing what true sportsmanship is all about, true to the core values of Bosworth Academy. To Learn. To Achieve, indeed. Going into the holiday season, from all of us at the P.E. department and all our student-athletes, wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!  
**Igor Mirković,**  
**Bosworth Basketball Coach**



## Toys For LRI Patients

Students from Years 9 to 12 at Bosworth Academy demonstrated their generosity and community spirit by supporting the Leicester Hospitals Charity Christmas toy drive. They raised funds to purchase toys, spreading joy to children in need this festive season. This meaningful contribution highlights their dedication to making a positive impact in the local community. We delivered the toys on Friday and the staff were really impressed. Well done to all involved!  
Mrs Croucher and Miss Sessions



## CanSat Weekly Report

This week we had our crochet Worry Worm fundraiser, and would like to thank everyone who bought one. Due to the high demand, they were already out of stock on Tuesday, and so we are looking at perhaps running a worry worm raffle after the holidays.



We have started on the code for the Raspberry Pi Pico, and all of the sensors we are using. We have also begun prototyping a parachute, as we are getting closer to sending in a design to be 3D - printed, and to start detailed testing as soon as possible.

In order to fund this project, we have set up a Go-Fund Me where we will print names, or a small message for donors. More information is on our Go-Fund Me page.

The CanSat social links:

[Instagram](#)

[Facebook](#)

Twitter - [@CanSatBosworth](#)

Bosworth CanSat Team



## Prom 2025 Bake Sale

Our students enjoyed some tasty treats on Thursday by buying cakes from our Christmas bake sale.

The items flew off the shelves like... well, hot cakes and we raised a total of **£328.20** towards our Year 11 Prom in summer 2025!

Thank you everyone and we look forward to running other fundraisers next year.

Mrs Jones, Head of Year 11



## Maths Puzzle of the Week

### Last week's puzzle: Christmas Boxes

Work out the contents and cost of each of the Christmas boxes from the given clues.

Calculator £8.40      Ball £4.20      Abacus £9.40      Diary £6.40

The ball is next to and inbetween the calculator and the abacus.

The three presents on the right cost a total of £20.

The calculator costs twice as much as the ball.

The abacus costs £3 more than the diary.

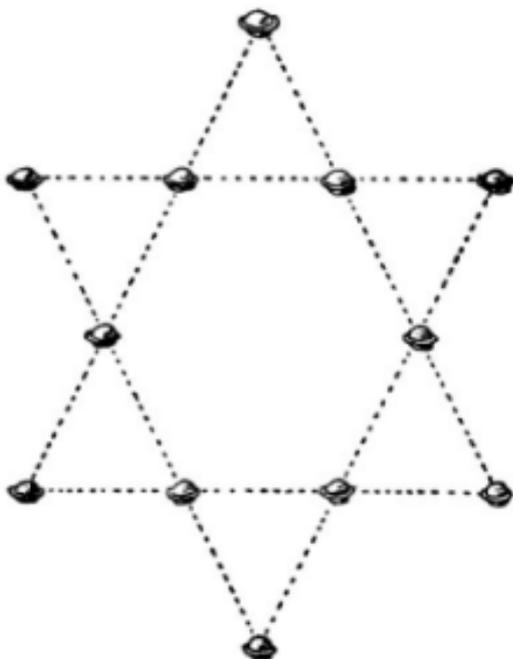
The diary is next to and on the immediate right of the abacus.

The three presents on the left cost a total of £19.

### This week's puzzle: Twelve Mince Pies

In the illustration below it can be seen how 12 mince pies may be placed on the table so as to form six straight rows with four pies in every row. The puzzle is to remove only four of them to new positions so that there shall be seven straight rows with four in every row,

**Which four would you remove, and where would you place them?**



## FSM Support

Students who receive Free School Meals can be supported in a number of ways, which may include a contribution towards the cost of uniforms, equipment and trips.

If you believe that your children may qualify for this support based on your income, you can apply by following these links:

**Leicester City:** <https://freeschoolmeals.leicester.gov.uk/>

**Leicestershire (County):** <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/social-care-and-supporting-families/free-school-meals>

[www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/social-care-and-supporting-families/free-school-meals](https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/social-care-and-supporting-families/free-school-meals)  
[/june/sign-up-now-for-holiday-scheme-for-children-on-free-school-meals/](https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/social-care-and-supporting-families/free-school-meals)

**Pantry:** We also have a supply of food in our pantry. Please email [pantry@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:pantry@bosworthacademy.org.uk) if you would like further details.

If you have further queries about Free School Meals and the support we offer, please contact the school.

Jane Manning Associate Senior Leader, Pupil Premium Coordinator

[jmanning@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:jmanning@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

### Bosworth Academy School Pantry

We have a great resource at Bosworth Academy to support families in our community. If you ever find your family struggling to get basic cupboard and hygiene products you can access them through our school pantry.

If you would like to arrange a time to collect some items, please do not hesitate to email the link at the bottom of the page.

**Items that you may find in the school pantry:**

Pasta	Tinned fruit and vegetables	Shampoo & Conditioner
Rice	Soup	Shower gel
Jarred sauces	Sugar, tea and coffee	Sweet treats
Cereals	Tooth brushes	Sanitary products
Crisps	Toothpaste	

[pantry@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:pantry@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

## Support Over Christmas

### Helplines open over the festive period

Please reach out if you need support

**Under 25s**

**childline**  
ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME

Call 0800 1111  
Open 24/7, under 19s  
[www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

**Other ages**

**mind**  
for better mental health

Call 0300 123 3393  
9am - 6pm, Mon - Fri  
helpline 18+ only  
(Closed 25 & 26 & Jan 1)

**SAMARITANS**

Call 116 123  
Open 24/7 | all ages

**shout** Text SHOUT to 85258

here for you 24/7  
Open 24/7 | all ages

For more advice and information visit:  
[youngminds.org.uk/urgent-help](http://youngminds.org.uk/urgent-help)



# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## SAFETY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Currently, children are growing up in an immediate and throwaway culture when it comes to content that's consumed online. So much material is now deliberately created to be shorter in nature – and may often contain hidden elements such as advertising, or extreme political and cultural views. With complex algorithms built to keep people on their phones and engaging with social media content, it's becoming increasingly difficult to reduce time spent on these platforms.

### 1 REDUCE DOOMSCROLLING

It's concerning how common for young people to spend hours 'doomscrolling': trawling through social media and aimlessly viewing every post they see, many of which might make them feel sad or anxious. Social media can be useful for keeping in touch with friends and family, as well as staying up to date on current events. However, it's important to use it with a clear purpose, instead of endlessly scrolling through content, which could lead to young people accidentally discovering harmful material.

### 2 TALK ABOUT THE CONTENT

It's important to keep apprised of the kind of content that a young person is being exposed to. Discussing what they're watching online can help you understand why they're using social media in the first place. Furthermore, ensure that children are aware of hidden content, such as advertising of a product – and that they know how to spot that the creator is being paid to talk about it.

### 3 FIND POSITIVE ASPECTS

Despite all the concerns, there's plenty of wholesome content on social media. It's worth spending time with children to help them find something suitable and enjoyable. Perhaps you'll even discover a joint interest, and you can enjoy the content alongside the child. As part of this, you should also point out why certain things shouldn't be given attention, explaining why it isn't suitable and why it's been created in the first place.

### 4 REDUCE SCREENTIME

Young people can sometimes be unaware of the exact amount of time they spend looking at social media. Smart phones don't just have the capacity to monitor screentime; they also record how much time is spent on each app. Consider setting targets to reduce this and support children to meet these goals, gradually reducing the amount of time spent on different apps.

### 5 FILL THE VOID

Monitoring and reducing screentime can create a lot of free time to fill, and young people can even face withdrawal symptoms when made to step away from their phones. To mitigate this, consider what offline activities you could introduce the child to, and what they would enjoy. This can ensure that young users will permanently cut down on their screentime, rather than temporarily doing so while they know it's being monitored.

### 6 REDUCE NOTIFICATIONS

One way in which social media platforms keep people coming back is through notifications. The algorithms behind these apps track people's daily habits, including the times of the day where they're most likely to engage with the platform. This data is then used to deliver specifically timed notifications to draw them back in. To avoid young users being exposed to this tactic, simply turn off notifications for the app in their phone's settings.

### 7 LIVE IN THE REAL WORLD

Overexposure to social media can distort someone's perception of the real world – from body norms to social conventions. This filtered environment can make it hard for young people to distinguish reality from online content, which is now becoming even more difficult with the rise of AI. To mitigate this concern, take time to teach young people how to discern truth from fiction, both on and off social media.

### 8 DIGITAL DETOX

Encouraging young people to take a 'digital detox', from even just a couple of the apps that they use, can result in an overall reduction of screentime and less exposure to potentially harmful content. Alternatively, rather than avoiding the app entirely, encourage children to take a 'digital detox' from content creators and influencers, and instead, keep in touch with friends and family – which is generally a far healthier use of these platforms.

### 9 MODEL GOOD BEHAVIOUR

Consider the habits that you're demonstrating to your children. How much time do you spend on your phone? How much do you 'doomscroll'? Comparing your own usage with the child's could put things into perspective for them – or if it turns out that you're also overusing social media, it can turn screentime reduction into a joint mission, which you and the child can work on together.

### 10 BE CLEAR ON THE "WHY"

Research shows that young people can become addicted to social media. There are many schools that are moving towards being 'phone free' due to the negative impacts of using social media and phones continuously. It's important to explain to young people why managing screentime is important. Set out the benefits and ensure they have all the relevant information, so it's not just seen as a punishment.

### Meet Our Expert

John Inley is a senior leader in a Birmingham secondary school and has vast experience in leading schools over the past 15 years – including the development of computing curriculums across primary and secondary schools, writing e-safety policies and supporting schools with computing and e-safety advice.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/top-tips-for-safety-on-social-media>



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Social media apps such as TikTok and Instagram are immensely popular among children and young people: Ofcom found that 96% of children have their own profile on at least one of these platforms by the age of 17. As parents and educators, it is vital for us to safeguard the children in our care if – or more likely, when – they use social media. However, the question then becomes “what exactly can we do?” This week's expert-led guide is here to answer precisely that, offering top-level advice on keeping children and young people safe as they navigate the digital landscape.

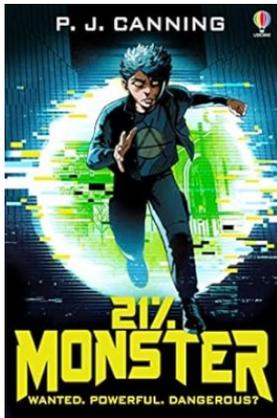




# The Compass

## Book Recommendations

### Key Stage Three



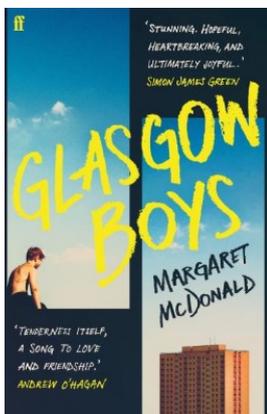
When Darren Devlin is arrested for destroying his school with his bare hands, it's not just the police who are after him. Enter Marek Masters, 14 years old, 19% alien, and the most intelligent, most wanted "almost human" alive. Marek is here to tell Darren the truth - he is 21% monster, and together they must take down the secret

organisation that created them.

Pacey adventure with plenty of sinister baddies, high-level tech and science-y plot developments. Gritty read that will appeal to Colfer and Horowitz fans.

### Key Stage Four

Neither Finlay or Banjo can remember the last time they had a hug. Against all odds, 18-year-old



Finlay has begun his nursing degree at Glasgow University. But coming straight from the care system means he has no support network. How can he write essays, focus on his nursing placement and stop himself from falling in love when he's struggling to even feed himself? Meanwhile, 17-year-old Banjo is trying to settle

into his new foster family and finish high school, desperate to hold down his job and the people it contains. But his anger and fear keep boiling over, threatening his already uncertain future.

Underpinning everything is what happened three years ago in their group care home, when Finlay and Banjo were as close as brothers until they stopped speaking. If these boys want to keep hold of the people they love, they have to be able to forgive one another. More than this, they must find a way to forgive themselves.

## Dates For Your Diaries

DATES	EVENT
Monday 23 December — Monday 6 January 2025	Christmas holidays. School closed
Thursday 16 January 2025	2PM finish for teacher training
Thursday 13 February 2025	2PM finish for teacher training
Monday 17 — Friday 21 February	Spring half term. School closed.
Thursday 13 March 2025	2PM finish for teacher training
Monday 14 — Friday 25 April 2025	Easter holidays. School closed.

[Term Dates 2024-25](#)

[Term Dates 2025-26](#)

## Careers Bulletin

You can now stay up-to-date on Careers news with our new Careers Bulletin.

From apprenticeships to careers talks, advice and Post 18 options, you can get the latest on Careers by clicking [here](#).

Careers Team



## Lunch Menu

We will now be having the lunch menu on a two-week rotation.

The first week after the Christmas break will be on the Week One timetable and you can see the menu below.

[Week One](#) and [Week Two](#) menus are also available to view by clicking the links.

Ms Ford, Head Cook

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH THIS WEEK?				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Sweet & Sour Chicken White Rice Carrots & Sweetcorn Prawn Crackers Chinese Salad	Cheesy Chicken Pasta Bake Green Beans & Sweetcorn Garlic Bread	Roast Chicken & Yorkshire Pudding Seasoned Mashed Potato Mixed Vegetables Gravy	Jerk Chicken Drummers Rice & Peas Broccoli & Corn on the cob / Coleslaw	Meaty Pizza of the day Herby Diced Peas & Sweetcorn
Chicken in Black bean Sauce White Rice Carrots & Sweetcorn Prawn Crackers Chinese Salad	Tomato & Basil Pasta Bake Green Beans & Sweetcorn Garlic Bread	Slow Cooked Beef Casserole & Yorkshire Pudding Seasoned Mashed Potato Mixed Vegetables Gravy	BBQ Pork Loin Rice & Peas Broccoli & Corn on the cob / Coleslaw	Cheesy Pizza Herby Diced Peas & Sweetcorn
Sweet & Sour Vegetables White Rice Carrots & Sweetcorn Prawn Crackers Chinese Salad	TWO CHOICE MENU	Vegan Casserole & Yorkshire Pudding Seasoned Mashed Potato Mixed Vegetables Gravy	Jerk Quorn Slice Rice & Peas Broccoli & Corn on the cob / Coleslaw	Vegan Pizza Herby Diced Peas & Sweetcorn
Dessert Of The Day	Dessert Of The Day	Dessert Of The Day	Dessert Of The Day	Dessert Of The Day



Filled Baguettes, Sandwiches, Wraps available Daily  
Bosworth Academy WEEK 1

If you would like information on which foods contain allergens please ask a member of the catering team who will be happy to help

## Read All About It!

Want to look up an old article?

Our most recent In the Loop newsletters are available [here](#) for you to access.

## Important Contact Details

If you have any concerns about your child that can not be sorted with their form tutor or class teacher then please contact their pastoral team.

**KS3 Leader Assistant Head Teacher:**

Liam Grest [liamg36@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:liamg36@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Head of Year 7:**

David Mowbray [dmowbray@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:dmowbray@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Assistant Head of Year 7:**

Caroline Tallis [ctallis@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:ctallis@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Head of Year 8:**

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**Assistant Head of Year 8:**

Ellen Wright [ewright@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:ewright@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Assistant Head KS4 Leader: Tom Worn**

[tworn@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:tworn@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Head of Year 9:**

Lisa Milner [lmilner@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:lmilner@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Assistant Head of Year 9: Wendy**

Sessions [wsessions@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:wsessions@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Head of Year 10:**

Jenny Jacobs [jennyj1@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:jennyj1@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Assistant Head of Year 10:**

Laura McQuaid [lmcquaid@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:lmcquaid@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Head of Year 11:**

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Steve Hewitt [shewitt@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:shewitt@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**KS5 Leader Assistant Head Teacher:**

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**Head of Year 12:**

Alison Woolley [awoolley1@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:awoolley1@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Head of Year 13: Chloe**

Stephenson [chloes3@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:chloes3@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Pastoral Leader: Kay Coxon**

[kcoxon@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:kcoxon@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Designated Safeguarding Lead: Nikki Whitaker**

[nwhitaker@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:nwhitaker@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Report a safeguarding concern:**

[DSL@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:DSL@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Student Support:**

[studentjusttalk@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:studentjusttalk@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**Anti-Bullying Form: Report [here](#)**

**Attendance Support:**

[attendance@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:attendance@bosworthacademy.org.uk)

**IT Support: [ictsupport@bosworthacademy.org.uk](mailto:ictsupport@bosworthacademy.org.uk)**

