

11th July 2016

Dear Parents & Carers,

The final few days...

We are now into the final fortnight of the year, but with a few major events to go still – Sports Day and the Celebration Assembly - I thought I would send out a newsletter so everyone has the details for these in one place. First of all though...

Sports Awards Evening

Friday saw the school's second ever Sports Awards Evening, which this year was held at St Cuthbert's Hall. It was another lovely night, and a wonderful way to recognise all the sporting achievements of the year. We were lucky enough to be joined by **Alistair Patrick-Heselton**, GB Paralympian and athlete mentor, who gave a truly inspiring presentation. **A massive "Thank You" to Mr Cox and the P.E. team** for everything they have done this year to enable our students to experience so much sport. **I'd also like to thank Mrs Edge** for helping pull the event together, making it worthy of the sporting success we have seen this past year.

Friends of BFS Quiz Night – we will run it in the autumn!

In among everything else that has been going on at school, we have struggled to get the logistics for Quiz Night sorted – not least when our usual chip shop announced it was closed this week!

Given this, **we've decided to reschedule the event for early in the autumn term** – which will mean we can invite along all of our new students and their families too. If you'd previously paid money to us for this, we'll be in touch to refund it so that everything is reset in time for the new term.

Sports Day – Bedford International Athletics Stadium – this Thursday, 14th July

A separate letter is going home today about Sports Day – but I thought I would flag it up here too. As usual we will walk all students to the athletics stadium from school, and they will spend the entire day there.

If families wish to join us, they can do so from 1pm – it is always great to see how well our students are supported at days like this. When the events are finished we will walk **all** students back to school, and they will be released at the usual time of 4pm.

Celebration Assembly – Friday 22nd July, Park Inn hotel, from 1.30pm

We will be holding the Celebration Assembly – our big review of the academic year – on the last day of term. As for previous years, we will have a mixture of awards, student and staff performances, as well as the handover from this year's student leadership team to next year's.

We would love to be joined by family and friends – in order that we can plan for numbers, if you wish to come along please let us know in advance by emailing us on info@bedfordfreeschool.co.uk Previous events have seen the room filled to the rafters, **so please do let us know if you're coming, and make sure you are present and seated by 1.15pm.**

REMINDER - The start to the autumn term

A quick reminder again of the tweaks we have made for the start of the academic year:

- **Year 7 and Year 11** – return on Thursday 8th September
- **Year 8, 9 and 10 Reward Trip to Thorpe Park** – Friday 9th September
- **All students return & lessons start as usual** – Monday 12th September

That's all from me for now – I'll review the year in another newsletter before the term is out!

All the best,

Mark Lehain.

Key dates

14 th July	Sports Day – at Bedford International Athletic Stadium – family & friends welcome to join us from 1pm
22 nd July	End of Year Celebration Assembly – all welcome – 1330 – 1445 (please let us know in advance if you are coming, & please be seated by 1315) END OF SCHOOL YEAR – students released from school at 1515
25 th August	GCSE Results Day
5 th September	Staff return to school
8 th September	Year 7 and Year 11 return to school – usual time of 0825
9 th September	Year 8, 9 and 10 Reward Trip to Thorpe Park
12 th September	All students in school, lessons commence, lineup at usual time of 0825