

# Weekly Bulletin for Families

## Message from the Head of School

It hardly seems possible that I am now writing our final bulletin of the year. My first year at SET Beccles has been somewhat atypical; Covid testing; Covid bubbles; remote learning during Lockdown; Teacher Assessment Grades. The team in school have not allowed this to stop our progress against our improvement plan and I want to take this opportunity to reflect on a few of our key achievements...

- Team time launch – students now experience a 40-minute small group tutorial programme, building confidence and resilience within our learners.
- House system launch – building on the existing house system used in PE, this now sits across the whole school, introducing an element of competition and ownership, with older students supporting those further down the school.
- Curriculum review – Y11 GCSE blocks have been restructured to enable students to achieve and make the greatest possible progress next year.
- Curriculum review – For Y10 GCSE students new subjects have been offered to meet the needs and wishes of our students; BTEC Child Development, BTEC Public Services and AQA certificates.
- Approval and launch of Forge Beccles, our Cognition and Learning Specialist Centre.
- Extensive enrichment programme, including the successful installation of our polytunnel.
- Successful in-school transition for our new Year 7 cohort, we look forward to this very happy, polite and eager to learn group of young people joining us in September.
- Restructure of our student support systems in school, offering additional interventions and support opportunities to maximise student engagement and achievements.

It is with sadness that we must say goodbye to a few colleagues;

- Mr Neale has been a very loyal member of the Beccles team, he is popular with students and staff alike and in my year working with him has worn many hats! As a school we are immensely grateful for his efforts with enrichment, PE and Student Leadership.
- It is tricky to know where to start with Mrs Brown, Mrs Brown has taught everything for us this year, her teaching range is impressive and no matter what the subject she is always the expert in the room. We say goodbye to Mrs Brown as she retires from a teaching role but I am delighted that she will still be with us in September supporting with cover and student assessments.
- Mr Woodard joined the team in September as a cover supervisor and due to unexpected circumstances quite quickly became a full time English teacher, taking to this new



Mrs H Philpott  
Head of School

subject with great enthusiasm. He leaves us to pursue this further in another school. Mr Woodard has also managed to offer our students PSHE learning and careers opportunities across the Trust, again no easy task when working under Covid restrictions.

- Miss Porter leaves us to move to London, joining us two years ago as a trainee she now leaves as a very confident and caring teacher. Working in a small school has meant Miss Porter has often supported us in the manner of a much more experienced member of staff, we are very grateful for this.
- Mr Gallagher joined our Maths department keen to experience mainstream teaching, to learn how a secondary school functions and supports students. We wish him well as he returns to a Special School provision in a new senior role.
- In October Mrs Henwood joined us to cover maternity leave of a colleague. Students have thoroughly enjoyed having Mrs Henwood with us teaching both German and French. We know that your passion is Spanish so, Los mejores deseos para el future!
- Miss Messenger also joined us for maternity cover. From day one she made the art room her own, sharing her love and passion for the creative arts. I do not doubt that the initial Covid restrictions made art teaching a challenge but Miss Messenger ensured our students still received a rich and diverse experience. Whilst we are sad to see Miss Messenger leave Beccles she is still going to be close by, joining the team at SET Saxmundham. I have no doubt we will welcome her to Beccles regularly.
- As a school we are immensely grateful to the work of our Midday supervisors, Mr Pinkstone, Mrs Steward, Mr Spratt, Mrs Woolnough and Mrs Finnie. It has not been easy to support our students during free time this year as we have operated with different lunch sittings and restricted movement. The team's support has facilitated a safe daily social time for all. Many of you will still be in school throughout the coming year supporting with invigilation, we look forward to welcoming you back.
- Finally, Mr Craft and Miss Kett are not leaving us, they will still be very much a part of our school team, however their roles are changing as they both take on new responsibilities within Forge Beccles.

I am excited to introduce new colleagues to you in September, we welcome all new Trust colleagues this week during our induction day. I look forward to having everyone on site at the same time, sharing our plans for next year and hearing their ideas and thoughts for SET Beccles.

I can speak for everyone at Beccles when I say we are thoroughly looking forward to the enrichment activities this week, culminating on Wednesday with our celebration assemblies.

We wish you all a very safe and happy summer break,

**Heidi Philpott, Head of School**

## **Specialist Centre name:**

SET Ixworth opened Forge Ixworth last September, this is a specialist centre for students with ASD. We have been thinking about an appropriate name for our Cognition and Learning Centre at Beccles. This led me to look up the meaning of the word Forge; to create (something) strong, enduring and successful. This felt very apt; our core purpose is to support our students to be strong, enduring and successful young people. We approached Forge Ixworth who were delighted to share their name with us, along with much on-going support and advice for which we are very grateful. This is yet another example of the strength that comes from the partnership of the schools within Seckford Education Trust.



Enrichment@SETBeccles





# Wet Felting Workshop

