



ROBERT BLOOMFIELD ACADEMY

Principal: Mr John Linehan



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Dear RBA Families,

I returned to school from the ski trip on Saturday afternoon, a bit tired and bleary-eyed but mainly full of pride because of the magnificent opportunity the trip gave our students. The location was beautiful, the students were impeccably behaved, resilient and independent and the staff (as well as the parent helpers) were incredible.

On a personal note, I think it is fair to say that I will not be joining the GB Winter Olympics Team for the forthcoming games! Having said that, the students were very kind to me despite my unco-ordinated dodderiness; I think it did them good to see an adult struggle with something but to still persevere and keep getting back up!

To take 97 children abroad is no small thing but excellent planning and organisation meant everything went smoothly - with six days of skiing being supplemented by activities like karaoke, a disco, a firework display and a trip to a pizza restaurant. The ski instructors, hotel staff and many random adults complimented our students on their manners and politeness throughout the trip - kind words which tell the story of the wonderful students we have at RBA.

Moving back towards school-based matters now, Tuesday was Holocaust Memorial Day and we recognised this important occasion with assemblies and articles in our reading fluency lessons throughout the week. As you would expect, our students were appropriately respectful in their approach to this topic.

Wednesday of this week saw the launch of our participation in The Brilliant Club, which is a UK-based charity and award-winning non-profit organisation that works with state schools to increase the number of students accessing highly selective universities. Fourteen students in KS3 are participating and we are really looking forward to the work they produce as part of the programme.

Also, on Wednesday, our year 8 girls were crowned county basketball champions continuing the special year of sporting success we are enjoying. It was lovely to see their beaming smiles as they left the site with their medals - well done girls!

Yesterday, our year 5 and 7 students were treated to a musical performance from the Word Guerrilla. They greatly enjoyed his engaging brand of spoken word poetry, performance and workshops, which were offered with the aim of helping students develop their creativity, communication skills and wellbeing.

Next week sees the first Bikeability session for year 5 students. We are delighted to offer this to students because of the importance of learning how to ride safely, particularly near busy roads.

We also have our next school disco taking place next week on Friday the 6th of February. Please follow the instructions sent previously to purchase tickets.



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A future date for the diary, for year 6 parents/carers, is Wednesday the 11th of February when we will be holding an additional SATs information evening. This will consist of a presentation that will take place in the theatre between 5:30pm and 6:30pm with the express purpose of helping you understand the process and how to support your child to succeed.

More information will be sent in the coming days so I would just like to take this opportunity to encourage as many of you as possible to attend this vital presentation.

Looking considerably further ahead, we are going to celebrate World Book Day on Friday the 6th of March. This is due to the fact that year 6 students have mock-SATs on the actual national day (Thursday, 5th of March). Students from all year groups are invited to dress up as a book character of their choice as part of our continued celebration of reading.

Thank you for taking the time to read this slightly longer than usual update - I hope that you all have a great weekend.

John Linehan
Principal



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