

15th January 2025



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Welcome to this edition of the Bow School Bulletin, your latest update on all things Bow School. I do hope that each of you enjoyed a restful holiday period and I am sending wishes for a happy, successful and prosperous 2025.

Last term, we enjoyed a successful start to the school year. It was fantastic to welcome our new Y7s and Y12s into the school community and to see them make such a brilliant start to this next stage on their journey to becoming world and career ready.

We were pleased, also, to welcome new colleagues into the school. All of whom have settled in quickly to life at Bow and are throwing themselves whole-heartedly into providing the best opportunities for each of our young people. I am confident that our new colleagues will be fantastic in helping our students to fulfil their potential, embody our values and to wring every opportunity out of life at school.

As we begin, this new year we have much to celebrate and even more to look forward too. I hope that, in this bulletin, you will enjoy reading about some of our most recent successes as well as learning a little about what lies ahead.

Mr. Lye - Headteacher

Student Success

Compassion *By Arian (Y9)*

Whenever I walk and see one plead,
Hands outstretched in desperate need
On the floor of the busy London streets,
"Please, please," the victim repeats.

A face worn thin by struggle and pain,
Yet not one dares to break the veiled chain
Of indifference that thickens the air
As hurried treads echo without a care.

Each glimpse averted, a heart turned cold,
This routine matter is a story retold,
A silence so loud and agonising
That the victim keeps on revising,

"Please, please," the victim repeats,
Until one breaks the partition on the streets
Of those with a roof and those without,
Rushed to give some change, without a doubt.

And in that moment, compassion ignites,
A spark of warmth in the chill of nights.
For every hand that reaches to gift
Reminds us of all the lives we can help to lift.

With hearts attuned to the cries around,
We weave a tapestry of hope profound.
Together, let kindness flow like a stream,
Transforming despair into a shared dream.

Last term, we were delighted to witness and celebrate the success of many of our students, both individually, and collectively, through our end of term celebration assemblies. Each child truly deserved the recognition they received. Here are just a few highlights to reflect upon as we move in 2025.

Huge congratulations to our very impressive, highly committed, and ambitious Y11 Prefect Team lead by Rock and Damla, ably supported by their deputies who have taken to their leadership duties with aplomb. They look very smart in the prefect ties, and high-vis jackets, as they support students around the school.

We also want to give special mention to Arian (Y9) whose brilliant poem 'Compassion', will soon be published in The Beautiful Truth – The Poetry Patchwork, a copy of which will be stored in the National Archives at the British Museum!

Finally a huge well done to all of the students who have really embraced our drive to increasing reading at the school leading to an impressive 1500 books loaned in autumn term!

"Student leadership and engagement in enrichment are essential parts of our personal development curriculum and our world ready, career ready vision"

Curriculum and Assessment

Later this term, we will see the second round of mock examinations for Y11 and Y13. These important exams will support students, and their teachers, in identifying any last minute learning gaps in the run in to the final exams this summer. Students, in both Year Groups should already be revising, and should have a clear plan for supporting them in doing so. Good quality revision, rest breaks, sleep and a high quality diet are important parts of their preparation. Oh, and a quiet distraction free place to study is important too.

KS3 Assessments will also take place later this half-term. These assessments will test prior knowledge as well as what has been taught most recently. More information about the curriculum, and what has been taught can be found here:

<https://www.bow-school.org.uk/Our-Curriculum/>



#BOWGIVESBACK

We are pleased to announce the start of our *BOWGIVESBACK initiative which was launched last term.

Through this initiative students, staff and parents will be able to contribute to a series of activities, events and projects where the school 'gives back' to the community. Part of our personal development curriculum, we see community leadership and charitable giving as an essential part of the world ready character we want to encourage in our students.

We are so proud that following the launch of *BOWGIVESBACK, supported by our parents ambassador group, we raised over a £1000 for worthy causes, made donation of dozens of food parcels to Bow Food Bank, and entertained residents in some local sheltered accommodation with musical performances from our talented musicians.

Please do look out for future activities and how you can get involved.



“Being able to take part in #BowGivesBack and provide support for those in need was a brilliant way to end the school term”



Safeguarding and Student Wellbeing

Mr Emin, Deputy Headteacher

At Bow, the safety, wellbeing, and development of every young person are at the heart of everything we do. Together, as a school and a community, we share a vital responsibility in shaping a generation that is not only safe but also thriving physically, emotionally, and socially.

Safeguarding remains a top priority. We work diligently to create an environment where every child feels secure, respected, and supported. To enhance this, we ask for your partnership in being vigilant about their online activity, social interactions, and overall mental health. Conversations about digital safety, appropriate boundaries, and open communication can make a profound difference.

Our staff are always here to assist with resources and guidance on navigating these important discussions.

Equally, promoting healthy and active lifestyles is key to their overall wellbeing. Encouraging regular physical activity, balanced diets, and quality sleep supports both their physical health and academic performance. We offer a range of after-school sports and enrichment clubs, which we urge students to join. Additionally, leading by example—through family walks, cooking nutritious meals together, or limiting screen time—can instill lifelong habits in our children.

Your support amplifies our efforts and ensures that our young people grow into resilient, healthy individuals.

Let's continue working together to provide them with the best foundation for a successful and happy future.

Thank you for being an integral part of our community.

Please visit the safeguarding section of our website for further guidance, advice and support@

www.bow-school.org.uk/Safeguarding/



Upcoming Dates and Events

- **Personal Development Day 2 - 30.01.25**
- **Y11/Y13 Mock Examinations - Wb 10.02 and 24.02.25**
- **IY9 Parents' Evening - 05.03.25 (16.00 - 18.30)**
- **NSET Day - 07.03.25**

Parental Engagement @ Bow



"I jumped at the opportunity to be part of the Parent Ambassador network. It offered the chance to be part of the school community, meet other parents and work with the school in partnership, to enhance the student experience offered at Bow"

Shabna, Parent Ambassador

It has been absolutely delightful to witness the growing parental engagement programme here at the school. Attendance at our parents' ambassador coffee mornings, as well as attendance at the range of courses, and workshops we offer has gone from strength to strength. Over the last term our parents' ambassador group has taken part in a range of activities including:

- participation in our #BowGivesBack initiative, provided delicious treats, for our charity bake sale
- Helping us to plan for the launch of our own podcast (details coming soon)
- Participated in focused workshops and coffee mornings (SEND, Revision Skills and Computer Science)
- Raised funds for Bow Food Bank
- Taken part in our 'sew and chat' programme

This really is a brilliant group to join, with more exciting activities planned including our upcoming ministry of food course.

We are always keen to see more parents get involved. If you are keen, and want to find out more, please contact Ms Mohamud at mohamudh@bow-school.org.uk

Recommended Reads

Here are some recommended reads from students

Be Resilient, Be you by Becky Goddard Hill

One Day by Michael Rosen

A Really Short History of Words by Bill Bryson

Thunder City by Phillip Reeve

Tomorrow We Begin by Matt Goodfellow

Brighter than the Sun by Daniel Aleman

The Teenage Guide to Digital Wellbeing by Tanya Goodin

