



The Bishop David Brown School

Enabling all to excel

Principal's Newsletter

6th February 2026

Dear BDB Families,

As you know, at BDB, we value enriching experiences beyond the classroom - these can broaden horizons, increase ambition and engage pupils with their curriculum and future choices in a variety of ways. I hope you enjoy reading about 2 of these opportunities that have taken place this week.

We are so proud of all of the progress made by pupils everyday, but much of it is hard to measure. Take a moment to reflect with your child that we are now half way through the academic year (end of week 19) - I hope you can find successes to celebrate, and development points to reprioritise!

With very best wishes for the weekend,
Ms C Venter

GASP Students 4 week Course

Six Year 10 students were invited to take part in an exciting four-week course at Stanhope-Seta, where they will be challenged to design and build their very own rocket.

Throughout the programme, students will develop a range of technical skills, including SolidWorks 3D design, soldering, wire stripping and crimping, as well as 3D printing processes.

As a final challenge, students will explore the importance of marketing and product promotion, leading to the creation of their own unique rocket logos.

Using a regulated propulsion system, students will then launch their rockets and measure how fast they travel.



Brilliant Club Year 8 Graduation



Selected Year 8 students took part in a 7-week Scholars Programme run by The Brilliant Club, a charity committed to increasing access to highly selective universities for students from state schools.

The programme provided a challenging academic experience, including weekly tutorials led by a PhD tutor. Students studied Mission Impossible: Solving the World's Problems with Computer Science, culminating in the completion of a 1,000-word university-style essay. The results were outstanding, with 75% of students achieving a First.

The programme concluded with a graduation ceremony held at Reading University

We are extremely proud of our students' achievements and hope this experience inspires them to pursue their ambitions with confidence and resilience, knowing they have the ability to overcome any challenge

