



The Bishop David Brown School

Enabling all to excel

Principal's Newsletter

30th January 2026

Dear BDB Families,

I am sure you will join me in congratulating our Year 10 team who beat all the competition from other schools to win the Maths competition at Woking College this week! The team are pictured with me and my dog at Principal's Praise this morning (left to right) Jake, JJ, Laura and Catherine.

Thank you also to parents of Year 11 pupils who were able to join Mr Stevens (HOY 11) and Ms Gomm (Vice Principal) at the 'Exam Success' event earlier this week. It is crucial that we have a strong home-school partnership at all times, but especially in the build up to their GCSE exams. Please continue to remind your children to make the most of every opportunity available, such as the P6 intervention sessions that run daily.

With very best wishes for the weekend,
Ms C Venter



Holocaust Memorial Day Assembly – Learning from the Past

As part of Holocaust Memorial Day on 27th January, students took part in an assembly focused on understanding the appalling atrocities of the Holocaust, remembering its victims, and considering how we can all help prevent genocides in the future.

Students learned that genocide is the deliberate attempt to destroy a national, ethnic, racial or religious group. The assembly began by exploring the Holocaust, during which Nazi Germany and its collaborators murdered six million Jewish people, as well as millions of others, in ghettos, mass shootings, concentration camps and extermination camps. The date of Holocaust Memorial Day marks the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau in 1945.

Key terms such as antisemitism, concentration camps, and liberation were explained to help students understand the historical context. The assembly also shared the powerful personal story of Susan Pollack, a Holocaust survivor who was deported to Auschwitz as a child and later liberated from Bergen-Belsen. Her story highlighted resilience, the value of life, and the importance of choosing hope over hatred.

The assembly went on to show that genocide is not only part of history. Students learned about other genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, and Darfur, including the fact that genocide is still happening in the world today. The ten stages of genocide were introduced to help students recognise warning signs such as prejudice, discrimination, and the deliberate process of dehumanisation of a group of people.

