

# WEEKLY ROUND-UP

BLYTHE BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM

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## UKRANIAN APPEAL UPDATE



Thank you to all the staff, students and parents that have supported our Ukrainian appeal. Mrs Mitton and Mrs Newman have been blown away by the number of donations received. A group of staff and students worked hard after school last week to start to sort the items into different categories.

Due to the amount received, Mrs Newman arranged for a van on Wednesday afternoon to take the donations to a collection point in Birmingham where they have 50 trucks waiting to be filled before they head to Poland. This meant that we could extend the deadline for donations until Tuesday afternoon.

An incredible effort by an incredible school community. Thank you so much.

## WELCOME

The response to the Ukrainian appeal has been incredible and I am so proud of the whole school community. The plan to take a car of donations down to a local drop-off point had to be modified a number of times eventually ending up with around 20 students and staff loading boxes and bags into a large van ready for a trip to a collection point in Birmingham. There were still lots of items that couldn't fit in so the car was needed as well!

So many staff and students told me how much you appreciated Mr Biggs' whole school assembly on the background to the invasion. Remember, we are here if you have questions about the situation.

Mrs Johnson

## #PRIDERESPECTKINDNESS

## WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY FOCUSED ON UKRAINE CRISIS



### Want to speak to someone?

War is always terrible. The images that you will see on TV are likely to be upsetting.

Who can you speak to?

1. Speak to your parents about it. Everyone is worried about what is happening and we are all in it together.
2. Speak to your form tutor
3. Every Wednesday 3:10-3:30pm Mr Biggs is available in 6b.

Want to find out more?

- Take real care: there are lots of examples of misinformation (AKA 'Fake News') – only get your news from trusted news outlets <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/60513452>
- Let other people do the fact-checking: use reliable news sources: BBC, Sky, Channel 4 are some of your best bets. Don't believe things that don't match up with what trustworthy media is reporting.



### What can we do?

#### Be sensitive to others:

There are people in our community who have connections with Ukraine and Russia, and the events unfolding are tragic for them.

This war not a subject for jokes, either in person that people may overhear or on social media that people may see.

In either case you could be doing something that would hugely upset someone listening or reading it.

#### Donate to support the refugees:

Please donate to our school collection with the following:

- Financially – parents can donate via parentpay
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Baby wipes
- Dried Foods
- Hygiene products
- Bandages and plaster



#### Want to do more?

- Write to your local MP
- RedCross Charity appeals
- Donate directly to the Ukrainian embassy – [withukraine.org/](http://withukraine.org/)

### Russian invasion of Ukraine 2022



On Tuesday this week we delivered a whole school assembly remotely via MS Teams on the ongoing Ukrainian Humanitarian Crisis as a result of the Russian invasion. We have been aware that lots of young people have questions around what has happened, and is continuing to happen in Eastern Europe and are anxious about how it will develop and we wanted to address this with them. Our assembly explored the causes behind the Russian invasion and historical context of Ukraine-Russian relations, discussed the international response to this and shared ideas of how we can support. Lots of students have said how they found this helpful to understand what is going on and will hopefully find this reassuring. We have reiterated to all students if they want to speak to anyone they can always speak to their tutor, HOY, Mrs Owen and Mr Biggs have set aside Wednesday afternoon 3:10-3:30pm (in 6b) as a time when students can come and ask any questions they have.

## BRASS BAND FINALISTS FOR PAST AND PRESENT STUDENTS



Students Will M (Year 11) and Dan S (Year 13) and Josh S (alumni) who are all part of the Trentham Brass Band, took part in an area contest in Corby, Northamptonshire and finished second with excellent adjudicator comments. They are now through to the national finals - Well done to everyone involved!

## SCHOOL AMBASSADORS DEVELOPING SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN IDEAS



Earlier this week, our student ambassadors from Year 7-10 spent time with Mrs Johnson and Mrs Kadri working on a priority from the school improvement plan. It was a very productive and enthusiastic meeting and we look forward to seeing how their ideas begin to develop during the next meeting.

## CHESS CLUB IS BACK



Thursday lunchtimes in the student leadership area. If you are a complete beginner or working towards becoming a Grandmaster we would love to see you there.

## IN THE HOT SEAT FOR YEAR 9 AND 10 STUDENTS

'In the Hot Seat' was hosted by Mr Leese, Mr Goodwin and Dr Mitchell today. With Year 9 & 10 students, they enjoyed hearing about a passion for dance in and outside of school as well as musical interests, including participating in the school orchestra and achieving grade 6 on the piano. Our Year 7 & 8 students discussed an interest in cars, including being proud of restoring an old car, and an ambition to work in Spain after being inspired to learn more about the language and culture while studying Spanish at school.



## .....AND SO IS FILM CLUB!



Year 7 & 8 film club is back. Room 17 every Tuesday until 4:30pm. Bring your drinks and snacks but remember, we don't talk about Bruno!

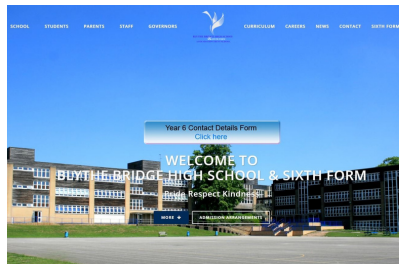
## NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK



As part of National Careers Week, students were asked across the whole school, 'What career would you like to do when you leave school?' The result? - a word cloud showing just a selection of the answers our students came up with. In addition, many maths classes have taken part in virtual talks today delivered by 'Founders4schools' focussing on Girls in STEM but considering many opportunities for all using maths.

One was delivered by a racing car driver and auditor sharing with students how maths has been part of their journey.

## PREPARING FOR OUR NEW YEAR 7 ARRIVALS



Welcome letters have been sent to the parents/carers of all students allocated a place in Year 7 for September 2022.

If you do not receive your welcome letter in the next few days, please contact Mr Jackson via [a.jackson@bb-hs.co.uk](mailto:a.jackson@bb-hs.co.uk)

## GIRLS CRICKET TEAM QUALIFIES FOR COUNTY FINALS



Blythe took part in the first round of the Lady Taverner's cricket competition today.

Despite having a relatively inexperienced side, the girls played some brilliant cricket, comfortably winning all 3 of their group games, to top the group and qualify for the final.

In the final, the girls again played well but got their lowest score of the competition, with key moments in the innings going against them.

In the field, they bowled well but couldn't restrict John Taylor enough, losing off the second to last ball.

Despite the disappointment of losing the final, the girls should be very proud of their achievement, in what was for most of them their first experience of a cricket tournament.

As Blythe had topped their group, they have qualified for the county finals later in the month. Well done girls!