



BLYTHE BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL
SIXTH FORM
A FOUNDATION TRUST SCHOOL

Autumn Newsletter

Tossa de Mar Visit July 2022



Turn to page 5 read about our amazing visit to Tossa de Mar on the eastern coast of Spain.

Headteacher's Welcome



During the first term of the academic year, there is usually so much going on that we produce an additional newsletter, and this year is no exception. There are updates from our Heads of Year, curriculum leaders, and from students across the school.

As you know, the consultation period for the conversion to an academy closed on Monday 10th October. Parents/carers, staff, and other stakeholders, such as partnership headteachers, were asked to submit any queries. These were all responded to in a timely manner and the responses to FAQ were shared directly and then featured in our Weekly Round-Up newsletter. Many thanks for the support you have given to taking the next step in our school's journey.

Various legal documents, such as details of the leases held, have been agreed, and have been submitted to the Department for Education. As a result, our conversion and full membership of the John Taylor Multi-Academy Trust, will most likely take place on 1st December 2022. I will keep you posted once the date is confirmed.

Have a lovely half term and we will welcome students back on Tuesday 1st November.

Mrs R Johnson

Headteacher

Warhammer Club

We launched our 'Warhammer' club this term with interests from Year 7 to 11. During a lunch time each week they work through an activity book where they design, build and paint characters which eventually will take place in competitive battles. There has been support from the 'Games Workshop' situated in Hanley town centre and potentially a visit after school planned.



Mr M Goodwin

2Assistant Headteacher & Careers Leader

PVFC Foundation Football Programme

Our partnership with PVFC in launching the foundation football programme has started successfully with great support from students and parents. After a period of trials, the 14 students were selected and invited to a signing day during PVFC home match against Shrewsbury Town FC. The lads had pitch side and team photos and enjoyed a PVFC win of 2-1. During the week, the lads train two nights and on a Wednesday have the experience of playing against many talented teams including so far trips to Barnsley and Derby. As a result from the programme, we have created a media team who will document the journey of the programme throughout the year alongside PVFC. This programme has developed so many opportunities through this partnership and we hope to grow it further.



Mr M Goodwin

Assistant Headteacher & Careers Leader

Escape Room



A Year 8 team have been working hard since the end of last year to design and setup a real escape room in school. Our partnership with MScape has meant that students have had the room trialled by experts and used the feedback to ensure the room is ready for use across the school. Students and staff can sign up for slots at lunch and after school to take on the challenge of escaping the 'Circus' themed escape room.

Two of the team were then interviewed on BBC Radio Stoke explaining their creative thought process behind bringing this project to life!

GCSE Revision

GCSE Revision & AQA L2 Further Maths

Year 11 have shown an outstanding commitment along the maths corridor this half term. We have already seen record numbers of students getting extra support with their GCSE maths after school and students from EY1 going beyond the GCSE curriculum and studying the AQA Level 2 in Further Mathematics. Well done all!



Mr M Goodwin

4 Assistant Headteacher & Careers Leader

Tossa de Mar Visit— July 2022

After three years without a visit due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we were thrilled to be able to take a group of students to Cataluña in Northern Spain in July 2022. The group flew from Manchester airport to Barcelona airport, before travelling to the town of Tossa de Mar on the eastern coast of Spain.

The pupils were accompanied by Mrs. Burr, Mrs. Collins, Mr. James, Miss. Smith, and Mr. Sutton. On the first day, students sunbathed and swam in the hotel pool, before playing on the beach. The next day, students visited the market in Girona where they were set a number of challenges to allow them to practise their Spanish, before touring the city's historic centre, with its famous cathedral and distinctive buildings. Many students also sampled the delicious ice cream from the famous shop Rocambolesc.

On Wednesday, we visited the PortAventura theme park which is home to Shambhala, one of the tallest roller coasters in Europe. On Thursday students visited the city of Barcelona and following a tour of the Spotify Camp Nou Stadium, home of FC Barcelona, students toured the city with expert commentary from our excellent guide, Eva.

The week finished with a disco in the hotel on the evening before returning home. During the week, as always, the behaviour of our students was excellent. I would like to thank the staff for their hard work in accompanying the visit, and say well done to all students for their outstanding conduct during the week.



Mr D. Sutton

MUGA's

Rewind to 2018

We applied for a number of bids to help us to replace our flood lit five-a side court, which was not used to its full potential, with the replacement of an all-weather pitch/pitches. We tried year after year and whilst we managed to get funding for other exciting projects around school, the funding was not forthcoming to support physical activity both in school and in the local community.



Despite the lack of funding support, we saved.... and saved..... and saved..... because we recognise that we have an important role to play in supporting young adults to be resilient, physically and mentally healthy.



Our PSHE lessons cover healthy eating and living as well as mental health issues, this includes the promotion of self-esteem, independence and personal responsibility. Some young adults have a home life which offers little support. School is a stable place providing approval, comfort and encouragement when tough challenges arise at home. Before

& after school clubs, weekend and holiday clubs are equally as important in the lives of young adults. With the success of our project we can now provide extended support for physical and mental wellbeing not only in the classroom but beyond into the wider community. The development of social skills plays a significant role in adolescent wellbeing.

We embrace the opportunity to encourage our young adults to see extracurricular physical activity as something that we do because we value its positive benefits for our wellbeing, not just something that we should do or ought to do. Physical activity has a positive impact on our mood, increases our self-esteem and reduces stress and anxiety, all of which we know impacts positively on mental health challenges for young people today. Not only are we supporting our young adults within the school community, we can now reach out to the local community in which they are living. We will be promoting the use of our MUGA facilities in the coming weeks, look out for our rental and letting prices, coming soon!

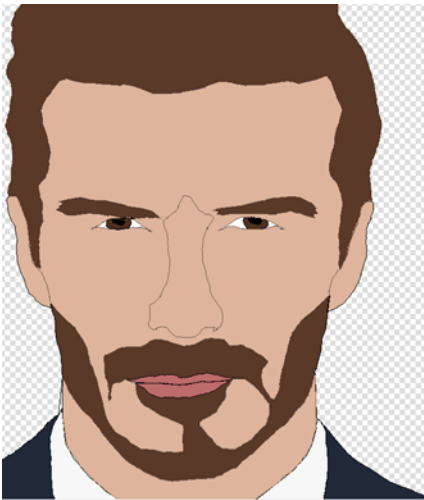
“It is exercise alone that supports the spirits, and keeps the mind in vigour”.
(Marcus Tullius Cicero)



Core IT

Digital Editing Tools

Core IT, 11S3A have been looking at digital editing tools and techniques. They were given a raster image of a celebrity that they needed to convert to a vector image using a programme called Fireworks. They have done a fantastic job but can you guess who the celeb was they were recreating?



(Aaron Smith)



(Eva Quick)



(Dominic Rose)



Frog Parent Portal

Here at Blythe Bridge High School & Sixth Form, we implement a service that helps us connect with parents more efficiently. We call this service the Parent Portal.

The best user experience is achieved through a laptop/desktop computer by visiting the website **frog.bb-hs.co.uk**. The Parent Portal is also available through MyFrog; an app designed specifically for smart phones.

The Parent Portal grants access to a pool of information, such as attendance data, behaviour data, homework, timetable, form tutor and teacher comments, letters home and revision materials.

How to login to the Parent Portal



Computer / Laptop

1. Go to **frog.bb-hs.co.uk**
2. Enter username/password



Tablet / Smart Phone

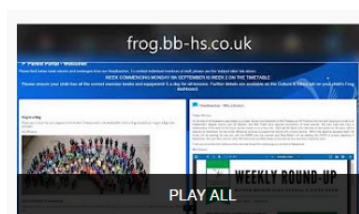
1. Download the MyFrog app
2. Launch the app
3. Enter **frog.bb-hs.co.uk** as the school URL
4. Enter username/password

Please email **frogsupport@bb-hs.co.uk** if you require a password reset or further information.

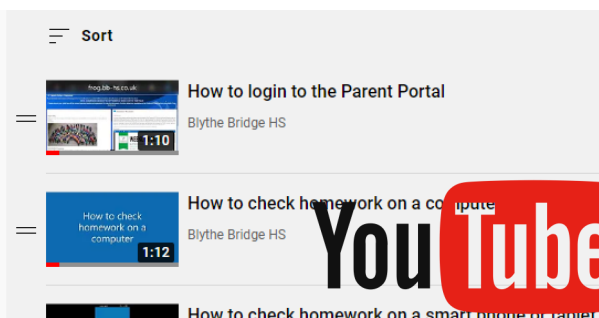
Parent Portal Tutorials

We have a number of tutorials for navigating the Parent Portal, all of which are available on our YouTube channel.

Visit: tinyurl.com/ymj8pkz5 or go to www.bb-hs.co.uk/parentportal



Parent Portal Tutorial Series



English

An Inspector Calls

On Wednesday, 5th October, we took 88 Year 11 students and two Year 12 students to watch J B Priestley's *An Inspector Calls*. *An Inspector Calls* is studied in GCSE English literature and BTEC and GCSE Drama so this was a fantastic opportunity to take students to consolidate their understanding of the play and to see it performed how J B Priestley intended. It really helped to bring the story to life and to help students to see how his stage directions look on the stage.

The students were an absolute credit to the school and demonstrated our ethos of Pride, Respect and Kindness throughout.



Miss J. Marsden

Teacher of English

Head of Year Comments

Year 7 have made a great start to their time at Blythe Bridge High School & Sixth Form. They have already started to participate in the wider school life and attending the great array of clubs we have on offer.

Students are already well on their way of reaching the number of points needed for the bronze award. They have until just before the Christmas break to reach the number of points required.

This half term, Year 7 students have shown great kindness to the local community by their donations to the Trussell Trust food bank. Thank you to each and every student who donated items.

The next half term is a busy one for Year 7 students. We start the term off with the hobbies exhibition. This will allow form tutors, Miss Fargher and Mr Jackson to hear all about the great array of hobbies the Year 7 students participate in. We then have the festival of arts. This is always a fantastic evening where we can see the talents of the year group. Information will be sent out closer to the time on how to get tickets.

We then have the Christmas carol service, led by Mrs Cartlidge, in December. Finally, we have bikeability taking place to ensure Year 7 students are safe when cycling to and from school.

Well done Year 7 on completing your first half term at high school!

Miss K Fargher

Head of Year 7 & Teacher of Science

Top Achievers

Sophie Hodgkinson	388
Fraya Wood	322
Malachi Harman	314
Freya Lucas	309
Darcie-Mai Middleton	308
Lily Morrell	299
Zachary Marshall	296
Ava Wood	296
Jake Worth	296
Seth Gordon	295

Year 8

Head of Year Comments

I have to start off with a huge thank you to everyone in Year 8 for their warm welcome as their new Head of Year. This half term has gone very quick and I have enjoyed getting to know you all and I am very excited to see what is around the corner leading up to Christmas.

It has been all go from the start for this half term. You have had assemblies on careers and employability skills. You have also shown how kind you are as a year group in participating in both the harvest collection and or the hug in a bag. Extra-curricular activities have started and many of you are taking part and our Year 8 football team won 3-0 in their recent game.

One of my proudest moments for this year group is your decision for the charity they would like to support this year. You have picked "The Daisy Garland" charity which is a national charity that works with children who have drug-resistant epilepsy and their families. This is personal to the year group and a great choice and I look forward to the ideas and events we can do as a team to raise money and awareness.

There have been many of you with entire days with 1s on the register or over half your lessons over the week have been 1s, which is outstanding! A group of you have been working hard with your escape room and have even been interviewed for the radio. Keep up the hard work and make sure you take up any opportunity that is offered your way in school.

Mr K Knight

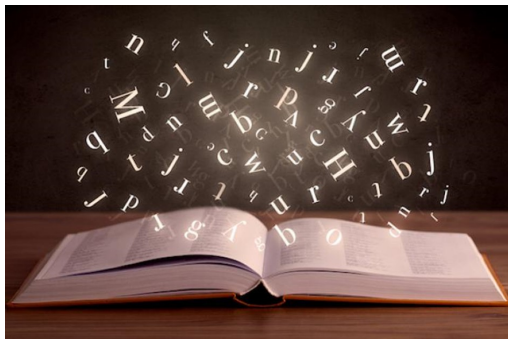
Head of Year 8

Top Achievers

Betsy Batchelor	282
Presh McGee	257
Nicole Stonier	254
Evie Walker	250
Freya Ankers	248
Amelia Downey	247
Jessica Crutchley	245
Holly Turner	242
Robin Xu	242
Michael Finney	241

Head of Year Comments

What an incredibly busy half term that we have had so far! Thank you to those parents/ carers that engaged with the year ahead evening. It was wonderful to welcome so many of you back into school and to give you the opportunity to meet with your child's form tutors. Students have received an assembly on careers which is crucial as students start to think about possible option choices later in the academic year. Careers will continue to be a focus in the curriculum that students receive and more information regarding



the option evening will be distributed nearer to the event.

Reading is still a priority, with students reading their chosen literature for fifteen minutes each day. The Year 9 recommended reading list can be found on frog and also is displayed on the year 9 noticeboard. There is a direct correlation between reading and performance; it increases vocabulary and comprehension.

Students have received an assembly about the Duke of Edinburgh. This is an excellent opportunity to enable students to have fun, make friends, improve self-esteem and build confidence whilst gaining essential skills and attributes for work and life such as resilience, problem-solving, team-building, communication and drive whilst enhancing CV's and future applications. If you have any further queries regarding this award, please contact Miss Townshend.

Mrs L Cartlidge

Head of Year 9

Curriculum Lead for philosophy and ethics

Top Achievers

Jorja Harper	394
Will Harris	394
Chloe Bate	366
Ryan Edge	364
Ayaan Raheem	358
Isabelle Robson	354
George Marson	348
Skye Marson	335
Krrish Chadha	269
William Snape	260

Year 10

Head of Year Comments

The return of our Year 10 students, to begin their GCSE courses, has been something I have looked forward to for a while now and it has not disappointed at all.

All of our students have returned with a renewed vigour and determination to hit the ground running and get their teeth into their courses. The atmosphere has been excellent and I cannot begin to say how proud I am of how they have started their life in Year 10.

The focus has certainly been on getting to grips with their option choices and used to their new timetables, groupings and teaching staff. However, they have also had their introductions to the Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award and Year 10 Work Experience. Students have been selected for the Spain trip and we also have a Geography trip to the Lake District coming up after half term.

To say this half term has been busy is a complete understatement. We have more of our students involved in extra-curricular activities than ever before. We have a very competitive boys football squad ready to start their season and already have success in both girl's netball and football. It has also been excellent to see the success that Year 10 students have had away from school with such things as national water sports, national cheerleading and county sport all having representation from Year 10. I also have the privilege of being invited to watch a large group of Year 10 girls who are appearing at the Mitchell Memorial Theatre at the end of this week, representing their dance school.

All in all, I have loved every minute of being back here at Blythe Bridge High School. I know that we will have our ups and downs as we move deeper into autumn and then winter. With the weather getting worse and the dark mornings and nights upon us, I cannot stress how important it is that we stay focused and maintain the excellent start that we have built over this last seven weeks.

Well done Year 10. I could not wish for a better year group!

Mr J Gibbons

Top Achievers

Will Downing	320
Emily Clutton	310
Isaac Adams	303
Sophie Brindley	283
Henry Adams	282
Alfie Bow	278
Chloe Johnson	277
Gordon Finlay	277
Ruby Gibbs	274
Mott Iona	274

Head of Year 10

Head of Year Comments

I've been thrilled with the way Year 11 have started this year. I have seen a consistent focus, determination, and desire to succeed which will serve our students well over this year.

This half term we've had a lot to celebrate already; over 60 Y11 Prefects were supporting at Open Evening by giving tours to prospective families and celebrating our wonderful school. It was a pleasure have Y11 parents in for our Year Ahead Evening and Study Skills Evening; both evenings were packed with a wealth of knowledge and advice for the forthcoming year. Over 80 Y11 students recently went to the local theatre to see An Inspector Calls. The students said how beneficial the trip was for their studies, and the English department were full of praise for the students.

This term we have also seen students racking up Prom points for their hard work in lessons with many over 200 already. Well done to the top achievers too!

Top Achievers

Tyler Harrison	289
Katie Burn	289
Dannie Saxby	269
Tanayeh Bedward	263
Noah Hewlett	262
Cerys Bull	257
Ryan Elmore	253
Joshua Bridgeman	251
Alex White	240
Owen Corey	232



Mr J Biggs

Head of Year 11

History

History Department Update

The history department have been delighted with the start to the year our young historians have made. Year 7 have been looking into the origins of Medieval England, Year 8 have been studying the Industrial Revolution and it's impacts on the UK. Year 9 have been studying the Interwar years and the Russian Revolution. Our young historians have started exceedingly well and shown great enthusiasm. Equally, Year 10 have approached the GCSE studies with great maturity and embraced their studies into Medicine through time. Our Year 11 students have continued to maintain the high standards they set of themselves last year. The Year 11 students have been progressing through Paper 2: The American West and are preparing for their mock exams. We've recently released our extra curricular revision schedule and I encourage all Year 11 students to attend!

Recently our sixth form Politics students had a MS Teams meeting with Lord Michael Wills, a Labour peer in the House of Lords. The students were lucky to be able to ask a range of questions on Sir Keir Starmer's chances of success in the next General Election, the impact of the Iraq War on British politics, the ethics of the recent Rwanda policy and the relationship between former prime ministers Tony Blair and Gordon Brown



Mr J Biggs

Head of Year 10

Transition Mornings

The autumn term has again witnessed Year 6 students from partnership schools completing their transition mornings in preparation for the start of their secondary education. Over 182 students have had the opportunity to participate in science, technology and PE lessons whilst touring the school during lesson time to watch lessons being taught.

Esme from Forsbrook said “the school is big but it was nice to see my friends at breaktime who are now in Year 7. I really enjoyed the magnification lesson”.

Fellow student Jake from Meir Heath Academy commented “I’m looking forward to starting high school and the different lessons. I enjoyed DT and watching other children being taught in lesson was good”.



Enrichment

1. On Monday 26th September, Year 10 students enjoyed a virtual workshop with UK Parliament's education team, enriching their citizenship studies. Students spent time learning about the work and role of the House of Commons and the House of Lords. They explored about the difference between UK Parliament and Government, the work of MPs and members of the House of Lords, how laws are made and how they can get their voices heard. Each form was able to contribute and question the speaker using Microsoft Teams. Feedback from form tutors was extremely positive.
2. On Monday 10th October, selected Year 7 students welcomed visitors from local mental health charity North Staffs Mind, who provided interactive workshops about mental well-being.
3. Year 7 and 8 students have been completing the Hug in a Bag challenge. N6a is filling up with incredible acts of kindness, ready for our next delivery to the Royal Stoke hospital after half term. Mrs Pheasey will be looking for volunteers to assist with the delivery - more details to follow.



Upcoming enrichment opportunities:

1. In January, we will be welcoming back the UK Parliament education team, this time for Year 9. They will enjoy a virtual session to support their citizenship topic on laws and debating. Students will propose their own idea for a bill and follow it through the different stages in both houses.
 2. After half term, Year 8 students will be enjoying a presentation from Bank of England speaker Nigel Taylor, as part of their citizenship programme on money management.
 3. On Tuesday 22nd November, Year 8 students will be taking on a Work Skills and Enterprise day, working in teams to design a product. They will then pitch their product to a panel of experts. Watch this space!
- Year 11 students will be running their very own Race For Life in aid of Cancer Research.

Mrs L Pheasey

18 Enrichment Coordinator

Year 9 Charity

The Pebbles Legacy Dog Rescue

Students have made suggestions regarding the chosen charity that Year 9 will be supporting throughout this academic year. Once each form had nominated a charity, the year group voted for their chosen charity and I am delighted to share that the charity of choice is the Pebbles Legacy Dog Rescue.

Pebbles Legacy is a small, local, volunteer run group whose aim is to rescue and rehome dogs. Pebbles Legacy is in honour of a bulldog called Pebbles, who was placed in rescue after being used as a breeding machine and an ashtray. In her memory, Pebbles Legacy was set up to help other dogs who require a home and support therefore Pebbles Legacy needs our help.

Pebbles Legacy dog rescue are finding an increase in dogs needing rehoming and rescue centres are full to capacity. Some of the dogs have been made homeless through abandonment whilst others have received cruelty and neglect. Due to the increase in costs of housing their dogs, whilst providing food and veterinary care, they need our help.

Throughout the year, we will be raising money and taking donations that will help the Pebbles Legacy dog rescue. We welcome any ideas of how we can raise money for this well-deserved charity therefore any suggestions please let the Year 9 form tutors know. We will be collecting dog food and blankets in the first instance prior to Christmas therefore any donations would be most welcome.

Pebbles Legacy

www.pebbleslegacy.co.uk



Mrs L Cartlidge

Head of Year 9

Curriculum Lead for philosophy and ethics



Photography Club



Photography Club

All Year 10 Welcome

Every other Thursday

Starts: 29th September

3.10pm till 4.10pm

N20 with Mrs Shenton



Exploring how to use a digital camera.

Experimenting with a range of compositional, editing, experimental and photographic techniques.

Looking at a subject matter of your choice.

Learning how be more confident with photography.

Mrs L Shenton

20Teacher of Art

Residential Home Visit

Hilderstone Hall

What a privilege it was to be invited to Hilderstone Hall residential home! Year 9 students excelled themselves by reading a selection of Autumn Poetry. In addition the group taught the residents how to sign a poem using British sign language.

Afterwards we had the opportunity to meet with the residents to chat about favourite poetry, seasons and school life. Absolutely wonderful! The students were enriched by the experience as much as the residents were enriched by our visit. We cannot wait to return to continue this special new friendship.



Mrs L Robinson

Teacher of English & Media

Year 7 Art

Our Year 7 students have explored the formal elements in art and have started to look into the first term project of 'Native American Art'. They have explored the art of the Haida people of Northern America.



Year 8 Art

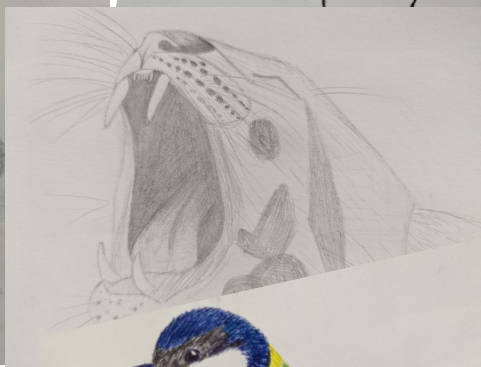
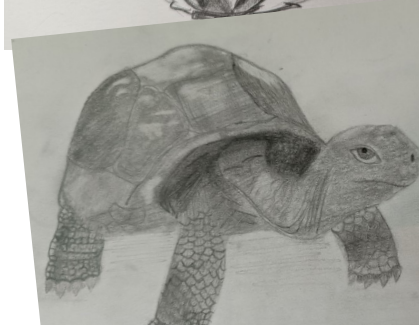
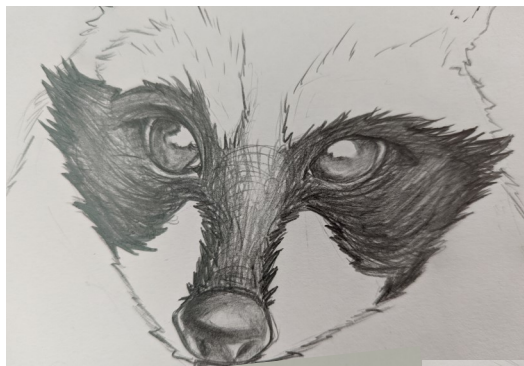
[illegible]

Year 9 Art



Year 10 Art

Year 10 fine art students have started to explore the topic of Animals. They have experimented with a range of media to understand how to use them effectively in their art work.



Chess League

Lunchtime Chess League

The Blythe Bridge High School & Sixth Form Chess League runs fortnightly for each year group at lunchtimes in room 10 with years 7, 8 and 11 competing on a Thursday week 1 and years 9,10 and sixth form competing on a Wednesday week 2. Thirty students have already participated in games this year. Ten chess grandmasters have been identified based on their performance in the league and in the school tournament. The chess grandmasters are as follows:

Year 7 Jack Durose

Year 8 Ryley Philips, Liam Overton

Year 9 Ryley Phillips

Year 10 Emily Woolridge, Aaron Winfield, Harry Sharpe

Year 11 Branden Hardy

Sixth Form Luke Winfield, Tommy Hart



Mr M Goodwin

Fantasy Football

School Fantasy Football League

Tom Sullivan is currently leading this year's School Fantasy Football League and is showing signs that he could fulfil his dream of being a future Premier League football manager. 40 students have registered a team and the current top 10 in the league standings are

1st Tom Sullivan 235 points

2nd Phoenix Slater 233

3rd Arthur Allerton 226

4th Phoebe Chadwick 225

5th Will Harris 224

6th James McFarlane 223

7th Mr Pugh 221

8th Tanayeh Bedward 219

9th Max Povey 219

10th Archie Brailsford 214



Mr K Pugh

Teacher of Maths

Dance

Peripatetic Dance

The one-to-one dance lessons were a great success last year. Each student developed their technical ability and performance skills on a weekly basis. The students made excellent progress throughout the year and participated in the end of year school show, Art in Motion, which they all really enjoyed. Many students were watched by their parents who said they were extremely proud of their daughters and the amazing progress which they had made. The students also developed their confidence and resilience throughout the year. Most of the students would not have had the confidence to perform in front of an audience before this time.

The programme was such a success last year that it has been rolled out again this year. From September the students have been working to develop the skills which they acquired last year and add to these by focusing on particular dance styles, for example Commercial dance. Commercial dance often uses popular music and combines self-expression and energy and gives each student the opportunity to develop and improve their performance skills. Each term the students will have the opportunity to change the style of dance which they work on, (for example Jazz, Street etc.) with the ultimate aim to perform their routines to an audience. The students pictured below are working to improve their Commercial dance technique.



Miss E Housley

Curriculum Leader of Dance & Work Related Learning

Intake Evening

Annual Intake Evening

Our annual New Intake Evening took place on Thursday 22nd September with 468 people booking appointments to tour the school. Families had the opportunity to attend the main presentation, visit departments and engage in student led activities. Parental feedback included:

“You should be very proud of your students, they were polite, enthusiastic, and helpful. It was great having them tour with us, I saw the school through their eyes and how the school has moulded them into ambitious and kind people’.

‘Student Leaders who lead us around were very welcoming and happily answered questions. very polite. I was very happy. My daughter loved it, she was very inspired and can't wait to start’.

“We felt very welcomed, the 2 students that showed us around were pupils from Year 9 and 10. Firstly, they are an absolute credit to the school. They interacted with the children well, were knowledgeable about the school and answered questions that we had. They were polite and just a lovely pair of girls. My son left the evening really excited at the thought of possibly going to the school. The teachers were lovely and welcoming and again answered questions and were very enthusiastic. Thank you for the opportunity to see the school”.

Parents are reminded that the deadline for secondary applications is Monday, 31st October. All applications must be completed online with the outcomes relayed to parents on Wednesday 1st March 2023.



Mr A Jackson

Progress Director for Transition

Harvest Festival

Students at Blythe Bridge High School & Sixth Form again donated their annual harvest collection to the Trussell Trust foodbank in Blurton. Year 7 student Lucie Woodworth said, “we watched an assembly about people living in hardship and poverty. We had the opportunity to write down how people might feel if there is not enough food in the house”. Fellow student Leighton donated two large bags of non-perishable food commenting “It’s really important to help people who don’t have breakfast or lunch. Some parents don’t eat all day so their children can have a hot meal”

The charity collection is led by Year 7 students although all donations are welcome from across all year groups.

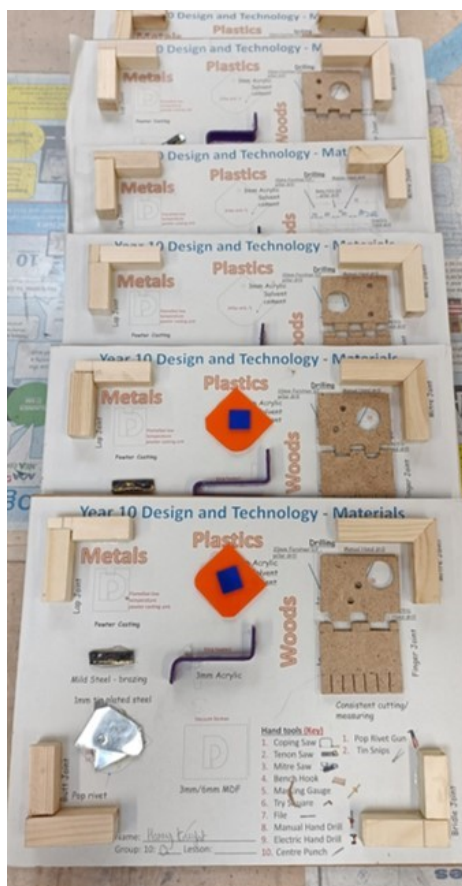


Mr A Jackson

Progress Director for Transition

Year 10 GCSE Design Technology

Well done to our new GCSE cohort who have certainly hit the ground running. They have been introduced to new skills such as brazing, casting and shaping plastics and have taken it in their stride. I personally am finding lessons fun and engaging and students are certainly growing in confidence in the workshops. In the second half of the term, students will have the opportunity demonstrate creativity now the base skills are in place and will be designing and manufacturing a product as part of the Design Ventura competition. Well done to all and keep up the good work.



Mr D Hughes

Curriculum Leader of Design & Technology

Road Safety

Road Safety Talks

Year 7, 8 and 11 all received important road safety talks delivered by our local road safety officer. Students developed their knowledge and understanding of important steps they can take to stay safe as pedestrians and passengers.

During the sessions students developed key employability skills such as problem solving, listening and positivity.



Mrs K Cotterill

VLE & Learning Technologies Team

Cancer Awareness

Students in Year 11 and Year 12 received a talk on testicular cancer by the charity Oddballs.

The talk was very informative, teaching our students the importance of being responsible for your own health, checking your body for any changes and encouraging our young people to be competent healthcare users.

During the talk students looked to develop key career skills such as listening and staying positive.

Mrs H Willott

32Curriculum Leader of Health, Sport & Exercise



Food Technology

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

The year 10 students have made a good start to their practical work creating a range of dishes from an all day breakfast, carrot cake, spaghetti Bolognese, cottage pie and chocolate tart. Blythe Bridge Star Baker goes to Tia Baddeley for her excellent organisation and practical skills to make her products. Well done!

Year 10 GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition: All Day Breakfast, Cottage Pie, Spaghetti Bolognese & Chocolate Tart



Music

Fundraising for Music

A group of Year 9 students have set themselves a challenge of raising £400 for the music department. The money will go towards updating some of the equipment in the recording studio, including a new snare for the drum kit.

They will be launching a competition to design a spooky Halloween character with a musical theme. Entry sheets can be collected from Miss Balewski.

They have also asked to come to school on our INSET day (Monday 31st October) to serve cakes and drinks to staff in exchange for a small donation.

With other great ideas planned for later this term we are sure they will meet their target very soon.

Good luck boys!



Miss H Balewski

Curriculum Leader of Music

European day of Languages



On 26th September we celebrated the European Day of Languages. During Period 1, all students took part in a short quiz of 12 questions about different languages. The winners were Mrs. Robinson's 10Y3 class with Mrs. Kadri's 9F2 class coming in a close second. Both classes scored 12/12 but Mrs. Robinson's Year 10 gave an excellent tie break answer. Can you correctly answer some of these questions?

If you saw a 'schmetterling' in Germany you saw a...

- A. Butterfly B. Storm C. Show

If an Italian calls you 'brontolone' you are...

- A. Annoying B. Lonely C. Grumpy

If you hit a 'farthinder' in Sweden you've hit a...

- A. Punchbag B. Speed bump C. Hole-in-one

In Cornish, which colour is 'gwynn'?

- A. Orange B. Black C. White

Having knowledge of a second language in the world of work is very useful and as a department, we strive to promote a love of language learning. The European Day of Languages acts a chance for us to do this in a new way each year.

Mr L McConvey

Teacher of MFL

El Día de los Muertos, México

The Day of the Dead celebrations are fast becoming one of the world's most well-known festivals. Students in Year 7 will have the opportunity during their first unit of work to study this festival in more detail and look at how this festival started and how it is celebrated. Students in Year 11 have also spent this half term looking at different Hispanic festivals as part of their GCSE curriculum, and 'el Día de los Muertos' is always one which they love learning more about. Traditionally celebrated on the 1st-2nd November in Mexico, it is dedicated to the remembrance of friends and relatives who have passed away. Families build 'un altar' with pictures of their friends and relatives along with their favourite items and candles. They also play music and decorate graves with brightly coloured flowers in remembrance. Match the autumn inspired words, how many do you know?



English	Spanish
Autumn	Cementerio
Day of the Dead	Unas flores
Grave	Otoño
Cemetery	Hace frío
Candle	El día de los muertos
Skull	Un esqueleto
Skeleton	Hace viento
Flowers	Una tumba
It's windy	Una vela
It's cold	Una calavera

English	French
Autumn	Il fait froid
All Saints Day	Un cimetière
Grave	Les fleurs
Cemetery	Il fait du vent
Candle	Automne
Lamb	Une tombe
Bank holiday	Agneau
Flowers	La Toussaint
It's windy	Jour férié
It's cold	Une bougie

Mrs N Hughes

Teacher of MFL

Le festival d'Abéné, Sénégal

The Republic of Senegal in West Africa has colonial roots with France, which is why French is one of their official languages. Our Year 7 students will study the Festival d'Abéné in more detail this term, as it is traditionally celebrated on 26th December until 2nd January. This winter festival was established in 1994 and offers us an exciting insight into African cultures and traditions. They celebrate the start of the new year in similar ways to us; with dance, music and singing. They also celebrate with theatre shows which attract many artists and performers from across Africa and Europe. 'La lutte' is one of the main attractions of the festival. It is a popular sport in Senegal and wrestlers wear brightly coloured cloths, leather charms and dance to the Seruba drums.

Mrs N Hughes

Teacher of MFL

GetIT Competition

Year 8 students are taking part in this year's: Amazon's GetIT competition. The competition is designed to inspire 12-14 year-old students to consider a future in STEM.

AWS GetIT is a powerful way to help young people gain an appreciation of the diverse range of career paths open to them within the technology industry.

As part of the programme students have access to a dedicated AWS GetIT Ambassador. Ambassadors are professionals working in tech at Amazon or AWS who support the school and act as a role model for students.

After completing the program curriculum, students submit app ideas for consideration in a country-wide AWS GetIT competition. Teams that reach the semi-finals present to a judging panel of experts in the tech industry with the overall winners spending a day working with a team at Amazon to see how their app would be developed in the workplace.

Mr G Broomhall

Curriculum Leader of Business & IT

UK BEBRAS

In November during computer science lessons, students in all year groups will be taking part in this year's Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge. The competitors are set a range of logic puzzles and they have 40 minutes to work their way through them.

Logic and computational thinking skills are at the heart of programming, information technology and computer science. Being able to decompose and abstract information is a fundamental skill which many students have without realising it.

Students who come in the top 10% of entries for their age group will be invited to take part in the Oxford University Computing Challenge next February.

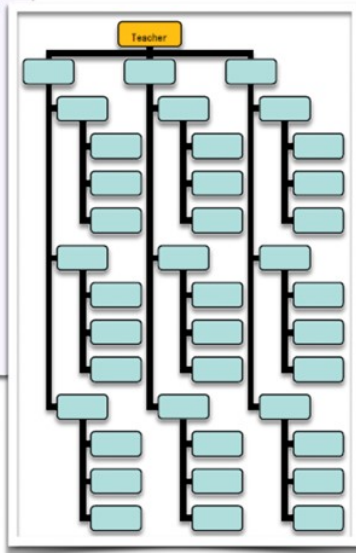
Have a go at the problem below in preparation:

Phone Messages

A class at Bebras High School has 39 students. The phone list shown here is used to pass messages from the teacher. Blue boxes correspond to students. Black lines connect each person with the people that they must phone. Each phone call lasts 3 minutes. Each person can only talk to a single person on the phone at a time. When the teacher starts the first phone call to announce a message, how many minutes go by until the message is completely delivered to all 39 students?

Possible Answers:

18 minutes
27 minutes
39 minutes
117 minutes



Dungeons and Dragons

Dungeons and Dragons Club

Our 'Dungeons and Dragons' club is currently exploring the fantasy world of Omeria, where bandits are running riot and only our adventurers can stop them! A weekly group who get together and put to practise their leadership and teamwork skills in strategizing in different game plays.

Dungeons and Dragons is a fantasy tabletop role playing game, when the players form a party of adventurers and explore fantasy worlds together. There is something for everyone to get involved in, whether you enjoy storytelling, role playing in character or the strategy of combat, you'll love dungeons and dragons. See Mr J Jackson if you would like to attend.



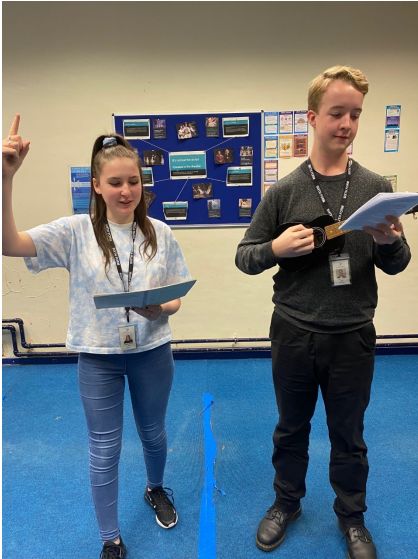
Mr M Goodwin

Assistant Headteacher & Careers Leader

Drama

Year 12 Drama BTEC Class

The Year 12 drama BTEC class have started rehearsing their first play of the year, a version of 'Everyman' by Splendid Theatre. This uses a wide range of Bertolt Brecht's epic theatre techniques and will act as the main acting evidence for Unit 19 acting styles. The group plan on performing an evening showing of this in the new year and will be inviting family and friends to watch their piece.



Drama Trip

On the 27th September, all GCSE drama students as well as some other students went to The Regent Theatre to watch Blood Brothers. The story follows Mrs Johnstone and her sons through to a tragic ending and more than one or two tears were shed. The students were an absolute delight to take to the theatre.



Mrs K. Baines

Assistant Head of Sixth Form and Curriculum Leader of Drama