

Newsletter



PRIDE

RESPECT

KINDNESS

Welcome to the latest edition of our school's April Newsletter!

Get ready to catch up on our vibrant school community's latest happenings, achievements and upcoming events. Join us on this journey of learning, growth and countless memorable moments.

Find out about our Year 8 students' December trip to France, our successful school production of *We Will Rock You* and how well our charity champions continue to spread kindness within the school and beyond. Also, discover more about Social Science and Media Studies.



Headteacher's Welcome



You may remember that last term, JTMAT commissioned its annual survey across all 19 schools in the trust. Students, staff, and parents/carers were asked a range of questions regarding school provision. It was encouraging that compared to 2023's responses, there was a significant increase in engagement from all stakeholder groups. Staff participation improved by 21%, and parent/carers responses were up by 170%. Parents rated six criteria as outstanding and sixteen as good. The highest scores for non-academic areas related to careers provision, developing moral values, level of homework and community spirit. No areas from the parent survey were noted as 'attention advised.' The analysis gives an overall grading based on the response from each group, and again, the improvements from the last survey were encouraging.

- Students – Good
- Parents – Very good
- Staff – Outstanding

Comments from parents and carers included:

"Amazing school and teachers. Any concerns or problems are dealt with."

"My child is very happy and has made new friends and loves attending every day."

"Lovely school, lovely teachers, my child has no complaints."

"We are very grateful to the school for their support with our children."

The main concerns raised in the free response section were grouped into the following categories.

- Concern 1: The survey seemed to focus on university (4 parents). This related to the number of questions on student ambition to go to university. Feedback has been provided to expand the range of career pathways included in the next survey.
- Concern 2: Homework (3 parents). Students can access homework club Monday – Thursday from 3:10 pm – 4:10 pm, which is supervised in one of our computer suites for any student. The use of homework booklets for Year 7 was exceptionally positive.
- Concern 3: Communication (2 parents). We have streamlined our communication to stakeholders. Our social media pages are generally used to celebrate achievements and give general news about the school and is never used as a sole method of communication. Our Weekly Round-Up (now called Friday Focus) is a newsletter that draws its content from Facebook to ensure nobody misses out. We have a generic no-reply email account, blythebridgehigh@bb-hs.co.uk where the majority of whole school emails and letters are sent from. From September our school will move over to BromCom which will replace our current systems, and we are looking forward to sharing further information about this migration over the summer term with parents/carers.

Any other individual issues have been addressed where possible.

Many thanks to all parents/carers who completed the survey, your comments and feedback are much appreciated.

Mrs R Johnson
Headteacher

Our Students Say It Best

“ Being selected to be part of the student ambassador team is a real honour. I cannot wait to get started and work with Mrs Avons and the other student leaders to represent the school at different events, work on my skills and make new friends.
Evie O, Year 7 ”

“ I love taking part in PE, it's so energetic and fun. I love that everyone gets involved in whatever the sport is and getting the chance to compete. **Esmae W, Year 10** ”

“ I love attending Kickstart Breakfast Club as I get to enjoy toast and a nice hot drink to start my day whilst I receive support with my homework.
Kaeden C, Year 8 ”

“ The extra revision sessions this year have been very beneficial. Teachers have helped us with revision, and we've also gained skills on how to manage our mental health during busy exam periods, which has helped me. **Charlie B, Year 11** ”

“ The recent trip to Shrewsbury Prison was interesting as we are learning about crime and punishment in RE.
Reuben L, Year 9 ”

“ I enjoy studying health and social care and my coursework is interesting to work on. In my English literature group, I like the different books and texts we study. **Kayleigh B, Year 12** ”



2025 Intake

Year 6 students received the fantastic news on Monday 3rd March that 189 places have been allocated for September 2025. Year 6 teachers will start the data transfer process in late March allowing 7 mixed ability and gender forms to be created. The setting process will commence with refinements made in late June allowing students to receive their personalised timetables.

Year 6 student Daisy from Forsbrook said, "I'm really looking forward to high school and the different lessons. I'm going to attend summer school in July which will allow me to make new friends and find my way around school." Fellow Year 6 student Amelia from Springcroft commented, "I'm glad I will be going to Blythe as all my class will be moving up with me. I'm excited about being able to move around school by myself. I think attending summer school will be really fun and we will get to do lots of different lessons without any other students in school."

Summer School

Year 6 students are again being offered the opportunity to attend summer school in preparation for September 2025. This highly successful event is running for the fourth consecutive year to give students the opportunity to access the school environment without other year groups in attendance and participate in lessons not available within the Primary curriculum.

Feedback from Summer School 2024 included:

"The summer school was an outstanding success, and I would recommend it to any Y6 parent."

"My child was so nervous about coming to high school, which is not a feeder school, but the summer school has filled her with so much confidence."

"After asking my daughter, she felt that understanding the school layout has really helped with some anxieties about starting in September. Thank you. She really enjoyed the whole experience, from taking part in the lessons to making two new friends and is now looking forward to starting with you in September."

"The 3 days have been brilliant. X has made new friends, has a better understanding of where classrooms are located, and is full of confidence and excitement about starting high school in September. Thank you to all of the staff involved, it is really appreciated."

You can book a place through the school website or by contacting Mrs Pereira at N.Swinson@bb-hs.co.uk. Event 1 takes place from Monday 28th to Wednesday 30th July. Event 2 is from Tuesday 19th to Thursday 21st August.



Year 5 Transition Mornings

Year 5 students within Partnership schools have commenced their transition activities in preparation for the transfer into secondary education in September 2026. Fulford student Henry said, "The science was great fun, and I enjoyed investigating if liquids were acid, alkali or neutral." Fellow student Francis said, "I enjoyed making the keyrings. Mine was the shape of a cat." Forsbrook student Isla commented, "The morning was really fun. We have already attended lots of swimming lessons. The Year 7 students were really friendly, but the school is huge."

Year 5 students will also have the opportunity to attend a range of activities throughout the summer term, culminating in Year 5 Open Week, when students and parents will have the opportunity to view the school as a working environment.



Dates for your diary

Tuesday 10th June: Year 5 Science Fun Day (Nominated students only)

Tuesday 17th June: Year 6 Diamond Day (Nominated students only)

Wednesday 18th June: Year 4 Olympic Legacy Day

Friday 20th June: Year 5 Roman Day (Nominated students only)

Tuesday 24th June: Year 5 Maths Puzzle Activities

Thursday 26th & Friday 27th June: Year 6 Familiarisation days (Nominated students only)

Monday 30th June & Tuesday 1st July: Year 6 Intake days

Monday 30th June: Year 6 Year Ahead parents evening.

Monday 7th to Friday 11th July: Year 5 Open Week

Charity Bake Off



We saw an amazing turn out for the Great Blythe Bridge Bake Off! Thank you to all students and staff who baked or bought delicious bakes in support of Stoke Speaks Out. We were overwhelmed with the amount of cake that we received and are so delighted to share we raised just under £200 for our charity.

Congratulations to all our student winners for their outstanding bakes:

Evie N, Year 7- Sphinx (and overall winner)

Abigail H, Year 8- Centaur

Katie B, Year 13 – Serpent

Amelia & Jessica W, Year 7 – Pegasus



We Will Rock You

Blythe Bridge, are you ready to rock?

Well, back in February, you certainly were as the refrains of I Want to Break Free, We Are The Champions, and Crazy Little Thing Called Love sounded around the school as Scaramouche and Galileo tried to escape the clutches of Killer Queen and her henchman Khashoggi. The school musical this year was We Will Rock You, written by Ben Elton, using the songs of the band Queen, and over forty students from every year group were involved in performing and staging a great show. They performed four times, once to local primary schools and then three evening performances in front of friends, family, staff and students.

A huge thank you to everyone involved, from the performers themselves, audience members, helpers, and everyone who loaned props or helped build and paint sets—you are all very much appreciated.

And now our thoughts turn to next year.....





Blythe Bridge High School & Sixth Form presents

Diamond Evening



Calling all former students and staff! Join us on Thursday, 19th June, from 6:00pm for a trip down memory lane. Reconnect with old friends and relive your school days, all hosted by our Chair of Governors, Mr Boumford. Don't miss this chance to come back to school and share your favourite memories!

Scan the QR code below to register your interest - we cannot wait to welcome you back!

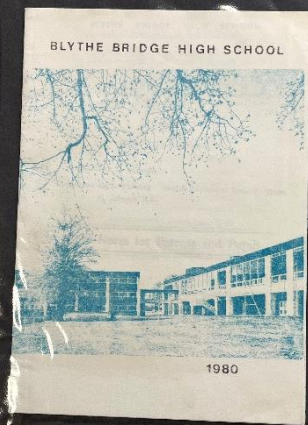
- ❖ **Tours of the school**
- ❖ **Photo displays**
- ❖ **The opportunity to share your school memories**

Register your interest by clicking the link or scanning the QR code:

<https://forms.office.com/e/yLxvQhe5dv>

Diamond Evening - Attendee
Details





Memories from Our Headteachers

Enjoy a look back at past school memories from our previous headteachers, from 1964 to 1990 as we continue to celebrate our school's 60th anniversary.

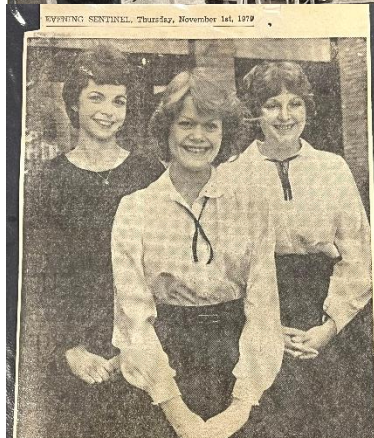
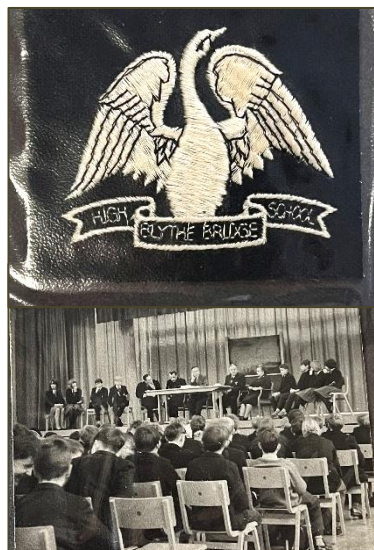
1964	
Sept 8 th	Blythe Bridge Secondary School opened with 169 names on roll.
Staff:	Leslie Meacham, Headmaster Irene Bentley, 1/2 Girls' Welfare Colin Brass, Hd. of Technical Studies Kenneth Brownwood, (N.E.) P.E. and Maths. Nona McDonald, Home Economics James Maland, Hd. of Maths. Dept. Jean Ryder (N.E.) Geography and History Ruth Stones (N.E.) A.T.D. Art and Crafts. Joan Thom, Hd. of English Dept.

Sept. 24 th	First Prefects appointed. 3 rd yr. children consulted and as a result 6 boys and 6 girls were selected.
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1972	
Sept. 1 st	Blythe Bridge Secondary School became, officially, a comprehensive school with the title Blythe Bridge High School. (Group 9).

April 3 rd	Swimming Gala held at Gheadle Swimming Gala.
1973	
6 th	School Cross Country Race held.
7 th	P.T.A. Spring Dance held in School Hall.

Sept. 5 th	School reopened. Phase 3 taken over. A considerable amount of equipment still not to hand. Minor building jobs still outstanding. The new block gives us a Music Centre, 3 Art rooms, a second Needlecraft room, a second woodwork and metalwork room and a Drawing Office. A new kitchen and dining room also came into service. Two new science laboratories have been created out of the old Art room.
1978	



Memories from Our Headteachers

July 29th 1983 Final Assemblies for 1st + 2nd Years; 3rd + 4th Years took place in the morning, primarily for the presentation of trophies etc.
School ended on a pleasant note.

16th 1987 Alton Towers trip for french exchange children.

20th Chester trip for french exchange.

23rd - 31st 1987 Orchestra trip to Switzerland. Three concerts. Visits to Zermatt and Geneva
Mr Clarke / Mrs Stephens.

Dec 2nd 1989

25th Anniversary Celebrations held in school.

11th 1990

A most successful and moving Remembrance Service held in the Main School Hall.



RE Trip to Shrewsbury Prison



As part of their RE curriculum on religion, crime, and punishment, our Year 9 students had the unique opportunity to visit Shrewsbury Prison. Exploring the historic Victorian site, they toured the typical prisoner cells, learned about the harsh realities of hard labour and rehabilitation, and uncovered the more modern history of the prison, which closed in 2013.

One of the most unforgettable parts of the visit was stepping inside C Wing—the most haunted area of the prison—where they heard spine-chilling stories of its eerie past. Throughout the tour, our students listened intently, asked thoughtful questions, and engaged in meaningful discussions.

A huge well done to Year 9 for your excellent behaviour and enthusiasm during the visit!



STEM Club

We have had an excellent time teaching our Year 7 students valuable skills as they have completed their first rotation of science in the STEM club. I am so proud to see how far the students have come in understanding complex scientific concepts and completing complex practicals which challenge their scientific understanding. Students have gained fundamental skills in areas such as handling strong chemicals, measuring accurately and following methods exactly. We have completed an array of complex practicals, including titrations, catalyst reactions, and making sherbet, and I can confidently say that students have used these skills in lessons to support peers where needed. One of our students said, "STEM club is fun because you get to do experiments every week. I especially enjoyed doing the elephant's toothpaste and getting to make and eat sherbet." - Archie (Year 7). As you can imagine, we are very excited to continue with our rotations in the STEM club. The next one is in computer science; where students will learn valuable skills and consider what careers they can aspire to follow if this is the area of STEM, they enjoy the most.

Miss K Kane – Teacher of Science and STEM Coordinator

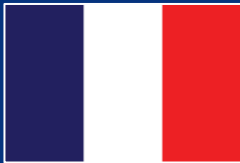
Students have been learning how to make games and other apps that run on the BBC Microbit. Students can keep the Microbit so that they can continue to develop apps / games at home. Other activities in computer science include building a PC from component parts and using Minecraft for education to code in Python.

Year 7 students Seren, Dorota and Hope recently finished off their project with a dancing robot! They combined a Microbit with a robotics kit to programme it to dance. It took them two sessions and the girls were the first group to finish - what an amazing effort!

Mr G Broomhall – Curriculum Leader for Computer Science



Year 8 Trip



We received unprecedented levels of interest for this year's visit to the Christmas market in Lille, France, meaning we were able to take two coaches, allowing 80 students to participate. We stayed in La Caserne and L'Auberge, two of the accommodation blocks at the Château d'Ebblinghem, for two nights.

During the visit students visited the Boulangerie d'Escœuilles, where Bruno the baker explained the bread-making process. Everyone got to try their hand at shaping bread dough and saw how the bread is baked using the wood-fired oven. We also visited the P&J Chocolate workshop in Adinkerke, in Belgium, where students learnt about the chocolate-making process and tried their hand at decorating a chocolate bar. As ever, students purchased lots of chocolate to take back to their families for Christmas!

On Thursday, the group visited the Christmas Market in the northern city of Lille, France. Students enjoyed visiting the many varied stalls, purchasing gifts and sweet treats for themselves and families. During the evenings, students had a silent disco in the games room, a festive quiz, and a Christmas meal.

Like in previous years, all students demonstrated our school values of pride, respect and kindness throughout and were a credit to our school. I would like to extend a huge thank you to the accompanying staff, in particular Mrs Cotterill for leading the second coach. Without the generosity of staff giving up their time outside of the school day, the visit would not be possible.



Year 8 Trip



Michael O, 8KH

"My favourite thing about the trip was the chance to be adventurous. It was really fun and it was a great chance to learn about different cultures."

Adam Q, 8CBA

"My favourite thing about the Lille trip was the Christmas markets and being with my friends. The market had lots of stalls with food and lots of different accessories and things to buy. Being with my friends a lot of the time was nice for me too. Overall, the Lille trip was very good."

Lacey C, 8CBA

"I loved getting the chance to try snails and connecting with French culture."

Aviaana A, 8CBA

"I enjoyed the chance to go to the chocolate factory in Belgium, eating baguettes at the bakery and speaking French along the way - *"Bonjour, ça va ?"* Plus, I bought some cute socks at the market."



Book Competition



Prior to Christmas, our literacy leaders judged our first book competition. After intense discussions, a final decisions were reached. Our literacy leaders were blown away with the effort put into all entries. The unanimous favourite, and overall winner, was a review of *Murder Most Unladylike*, by Charlotte C, Year 8. Congratulations to the winners:

KS3 winner: Charlotte C, Y8 Centaur.

2nd place: Freya L, Y9 Sphinx.

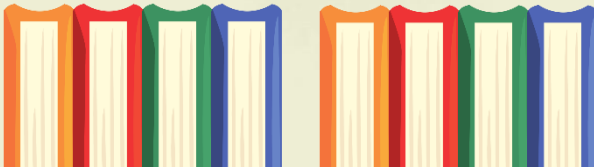
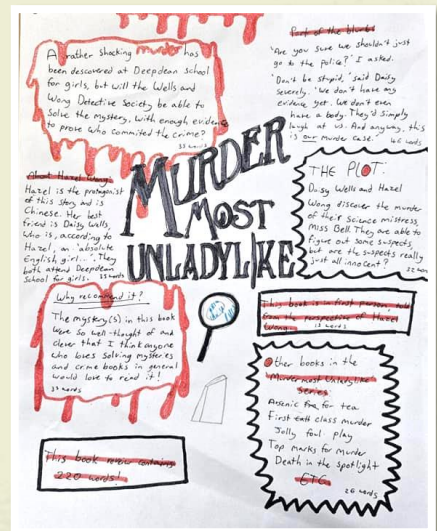
3rd place: Sophie B, Y7 Centaur

KS4 and 5 winner:

Cloie T, Y12 Centaur.

2nd place- Freya A, Y10 Sphinx,

3rd place: Iona M, Y12 Sphinx.



Year 9 Nursing Home Visit



In December, our students had the wonderful opportunity to brighten the day of the residents at Church Terrace Nursing Home. As part of our ongoing SEA program, the visit aimed to look at careers within the health care sector and bring a little Christmas joy to the residents.

The students arrived with smiles, ready to engage in a variety of activities, we started with a tour of the building followed by a range of professional discussions from the employees. Then the Christmas crafts started, it was an invaluable lesson in empathy, kindness, and the importance of community.

One of the highlights of the visit was one of the residents playing the harmonica for the students- laughter and conversation flowed freely as bonds were formed across generations.

We are so proud of our students for showing such care and compassion and are grateful to Church Terrace Nursing Home for welcoming us.

Eleanor D, 8JJT

"My hobby is to go horse riding every Saturday for 45 minutes and then do another 45-minute theory lesson on all things about and around the horses. I enjoy horse riding because I just love horses, so getting to ride them means I can spend time with them while doing something fun and a little bit different. My favourite memory so far this year has been when I got a part in this year's musical, 'We Will Rock You' as a bohemian when I got to act, sing and dance too."

Aviaana A, 8CBA

"I go swimming every Wednesday at Cheadle Leisure Centre with two of my friends. I love this hobby because I love to swim and socialise with my friends. We swim for half an hour only. I have been going to this leisure centre ever since I was 6 months old, and in that time, I have received multiple awards for my techniques and achievements such as swimming a mile, life safety (1,2,3,4), all stages (1-9), 400m, 800m, 1600m, gold, silver, bronze and water safety. I have loved every bit of Year 8 so far."

Courtney S, 8JJT

"I love horse riding. You get to bond with your horse, and they are so much fun to spend time with. My favourite memory so far this year has been the choir concerts."

Poppy J, 8JJT

"I really enjoy gardening. I like sowing the seeds, watching them sprout and planting them out when they get big enough. One of my favourite memories of the school year so far is cooking a pizza in food tech!"

Max M, 8CBA

"My hobby is football. I really enjoy watching it and playing it because I play in a team with lots of my friends. I love getting the chance to play in the school football team."

Theatre Performances



A Christmas Carol Performance

On Friday 24th January, we were lucky enough to welcome Quantum Theatre into school to perform their adaptation of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol for Year 11 and our KS5 drama students. The production explored the key characters and themes of the novella and was timed perfectly to recap a text studied at the start of Year 10 in anticipation of Year 11's February mock examinations. Students behaved exceptionally throughout and embraced this opportunity to revise one of the GCSE English literature set texts. Students were also provided a revision resource to accompany their studies: a knowledge recall booklet consisting of 275 questions (and answers) that can be used to secure the knowledge needed for both GCSE English language and literature.

In March, 149 Year 11 students were accompanied by staff from the English department to the theatre to see Macbeth, another one of their GCSE texts. The Year 11 students enjoyed the production and represented the school impeccably.

Miss J Marsden - Core Subject Leader for English



War Horse

In March, Mrs Baines and the Year 11 GCSE Drama class went on their last theatre visit together to see War Horse at The Regent Theatre after a lovely meal at Nando's. This amazing production, with puppets that you genuinely believe are real horses, made some of the class cry, and it was wonderful to finish our time together on such a great production.

Mrs K Baines - Assistant Head of Sixth Form and Curriculum Leader of Drama

Duke of Edinburgh - Bronze

We are so proud of the progress our Year 9 and Year 10 students are making towards their Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

Our Year 9 students, **James S, 9AK** and **Ava B, 9KK** are in the middle of their first DofE journey. We sat down with them to ask about the upcoming adventure and how they work towards their sections.

What made you sign up for DofE?

J: I thought it would be a very good life experience to know where I need to go and in case I'm ever in a situation where I need to travel somewhere - I have a tent and I'd be able to cope.

A: I wanted to learn some new skills - the camping is an added bonus!

What are you doing for volunteering, physical and skills?

J: For volunteering, I teach younger people how to do karate. For physical, I play table tennis every Saturday. For skill, I've been learning higher up karate, Seido Karate. I hadn't done it for a while, but I'm enjoying it now.

A: For volunteering, I have been teaching drama at the dance school I attend to younger students. For physical, I have been dancing ballet and attending dance classes and for my skill, I have been knitting squares with my Nan.

What are you looking forward to?

J: I'm looking forward to walking around with my friends, having a chat whilst we navigate. I think it's going to be very fun. I used to camp when we were young but not much anymore.

A: Being more outdoors! I'd like to spend more time outdoors and I really enjoy camping, so I can't wait to camp with my friends.



Duke of Edinburgh - Silver

Thomas K, 10KC

"I signed up because it looked fun. I didn't do bronze but have caught up to be at the same level as my friends who are also completing silver. For volunteering, we are all litter picking, for physical, I am walking for physical, and I've been cooking for my skill. I am looking forward to the whole experience."

Isabella W, 10LKB

"I really enjoyed bronze even though it was hard work, and it was a bit scary when we encountered some cows! But it was really fun spending time with my friends, going on an adventure. I love getting to hang out with them every week whilst litter picking. and it helps the environment, which is good as we're putting ourselves forward to the community. I cook for my skill and work out for my physical. Favourite meal I've cooked? Pasta with tomato sauce at home. I am looking forward to camping for two nights, seeing all the nice places, doing some exercise and talking to my friends throughout the experience."

Lucy H, 10NG

"So, last year, bronze offered a bit of a mixture, and the campsite was lovely, as well, so I wanted to do it again! For my physical, I have been walking in the Peak District once a week and for my skill, I've been doing photography in all the pretty locations. My favourite place has been Lud's Church. When I walk, I go with my dad. I'm looking forward to the walking section, new routes, and staying at the new campsites as it's fun in the nice weather (fingers crossed!)"

Darcie P, 10AIT

"I wanted to challenge myself because I've never been camping before. So, I wanted to see if I can do it. I'm doing karate as my physical & cooking as my skill, my favourite meal has been a burger. I've done karate since I was seven, and I'm two belts off a black belt. I don't know what to expect because I've not experienced camping before, I'm just looking forward to facing it all with my friends."



The Telegraph

"The programme has gone really well. It's great to hear the experiences from people who are in similar positions to where you're aiming to be in the future.

They've been setting weekly challenges after each session, with the two tasks so far being to write a travel feature, and to prepare three interview-style questions for an Olympic athlete. Both have been good fun to take part in, with it being interesting to hear from professionals on how they would tackle the respective topics.

I do see a future career in the media for myself, and the most exciting part about it is that I don't know for sure in what form that will be. It's impossible to know with the industry being such a constantly evolving environment. Either way, the programme has and will be a valuable part of helping me on the way to that."



Above: Tom S, Year 13

Tom is currently taking part in a four-week media literacy programme with the Telegraph. The programme aims to break down the barriers to careers in journalism and provide school pupils with the tools and skills to think critically about the media landscape. It provides an insight into what it's like to be a journalist at an award-winning multimedia news brand. The online sessions are from a range of journalists from departments across the business including news, sports, beauty, music, and social media, with students given the opportunity to learn skills such as headline writing, interviewing and travel writing, and win prizes.

Year 12 Criminology Trip

Year 12 students recently visited the University of Staffordshire's Criminology Department for an exciting and informative day as a part of their Criminology course. During their visit, students participated in a masterclass on Offender Management, exploring how offenders are managed both in custody and in the community. They had the opportunity to step into the university's simulation rooms, where they examined some of the equipment used by crime scene investigators.

A key part of the experience involved learning about the Police and Criminal Evidence (PACE) Act. Students took part in a practical activity where they were read their rights at a custody booking-in desk. They also visited a mock cell, giving them a first-hand understanding of a typical cell.

The trip provided a fascinating insight into the field of criminology and the realities of working in the criminal justice system.



University of
Staffordshire



Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion



Our newly appointed EDI (Equality, Diversity and Inclusion) champions have been meeting regularly this term to discuss the many ways they can champion these values around school and continue to have a positive impact on their peers. They are currently working on plans for a diversity week in the summer term where we can celebrate everything that makes Blythe Bridge High School & Sixth Form special.

Students have also received an assembly this term on the topic of EDI and the numerous things we all do around school to champion inclusivity. Form groups were also asked to pledge what they could do as a form to promote these values. We have shared a small selection of these with you below:

11LRO

- Listen respectfully to all
- Be fair to all & include people
- Do not show discrimination – consider your impact
- Treat people how you would like to be treated yourself
- Consider other people's feelings
- Provide equal opportunities
- Be helpful to others
- Use manners & follow the rules
- Work as part of a team
- Show pride, respect and kindness at all times

8CBA

- Thinking about actions before saying things.
- Celebrate important days for a diverse range of people.

7NAZ

- Follow the school charter pledge and remind others about it
- Don't judge anyone and make unkind comments
- Treat people how you want to be treated
- Develop mutual respect
- Follow PRK and champion it with our friends
- Always ensure we include everyone and make sure that no one ever feels left out

Blythe Bridge High School & Sixth Form

Our School Charter

Our collective vision is for a safe school environment where all students feel represented and happy.

We want everyone in our community to:

- Take **pride** in their identity and feel accepted.
- **Respect** and value others.
- Show **kindness** and compassion to those both similar and different.
- Understand the protected characteristics of the Equality Act 2010.
- Celebrate **diversity**, champion **inclusivity** and be **tolerant**.



The various student leadership teams have been incredibly busy this half term representing the school and championing their area of responsibility. New for this year, we have introduced Year 12 Wellbeing Champions who received training for their role by Mrs Roberts. Recently, they delivered an assembly to students regarding how to manage healthy relationships and support their own health and wellbeing. They are a determined group, and they have decided to create a 'cuppa club' for all students to attend who would like a space to relax and chat during lunchtime. The team are passionate about creating a warm, welcoming and inclusive space where students can spend time in the company of older sixth form students.



Cuppa Club

Looking for a place to unwind during lunch?



Join us every Thursday in Room 8A or 8B

Both lunch periods welcome!

Come along to Cuppa Club where you can:

- Enjoy a lovely cup of tea!
- Play card games with friends!
- Chat with our Wellbeing Champions!
- Simply relax in a friendly atmosphere!

No pressure - just good company and good conversations!

Hosted by your Wellbeing Champions

Our Literacy Leaders have been busy this half term judging competitions, supporting reading with younger students and promoting a love of reading around school.



Skills Champions have continued their work with Mr Goodwin promoting the essential skills and were recognised for their excellent communication and leadership skills when they supported our careers fair earlier in the term and helped in assembly.

How can healthy relationships with ourselves and our peers be good for our mental health?

Healthy relationships with ourselves and our peers can support our mental health and wellbeing by:

- Developing our sense of belonging and purpose.
- Improving our self-esteem and self-confidence.
- Providing a support network.
- Providing opportunities to explore our interests with people we have things in common with.



SLIDE 5



In early March, the sunny weather was made even brighter by some of the loud accessories on show to support our fundraising for local charity, Stoke Speaks Out. Our Communication Champions, supported by Mr K Knight, organised and advertised a 'wear something loud for a pound' day and we are thrilled that our school

community made over £70 for an outstanding charity. Thank you to everyone who took part and donated and to our fabulous Communication Champions for your organisation and hard work!



Congratulations to our student ambassadors who are ready to get involved and be role models to the rest of our school community. Zach D, Year 8, is very excited, sharing, "I can't wait to be a student ambassador and I'm so happy to represent the school.

and spread our school ethos of pride, respect, and kindness. It is important that we embody these values every day, inside and outside of lessons."

We are looking forward to seeing how they thrive in their leadership roles and what the rest of the school year will bring them.



We hosted a house table tennis competition which saw students from across the year groups step up and represent their house with pride!

Individual Winners

Year 7 & Year 8: William P (Serpent) and Evie N (Sphinx)
 Year 9: James S (Centaur)
 Year 10: Ajay P (Centaur)
 Year 11: William S (Serpent)
 Sixth Form: Charlie L (Pegasus)



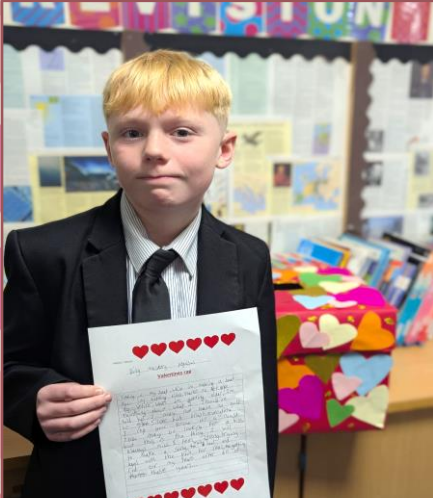
The house cross-country event had an impressive 25 student entries from Year 7 to 10. Boys and girls completed the course in great times. Star performances came from the following students who won their age group races.

Year 7 and 8 boys: Flynn E
 Year 7 and 8 girls: Annabel W-C
 Year 9 and 10 boys: Corey E
 Year 9 and 10 girls: Tilly H





Hope M, Year 7 (Sphinx)



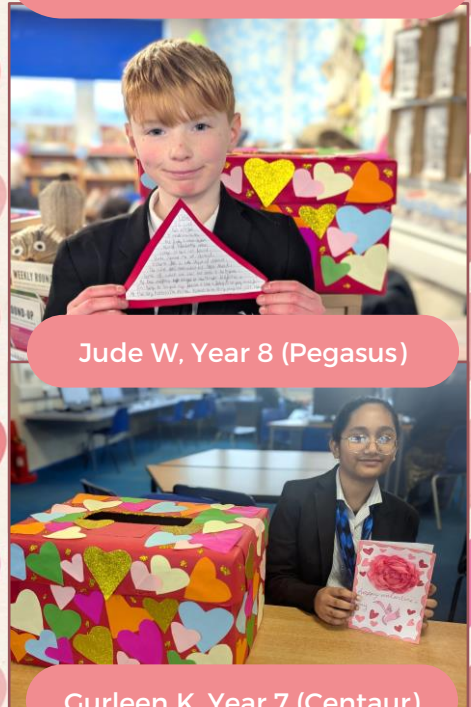
Billy M, Year 7 (Pegasus)



Jessica V, Year 13 (Pegasus)



Some of our winners from the Valentine's Competition, 48 entries including raps, poetry and card creations. Superb effort all round!



Jude W, Year 8 (Pegasus)

Gurleen K, Year 7 (Centaur)



Year 8 students participated in a dodgeball competition at Stoke-on-Trent College. The students played against teams from Birches Head Academy, Excel Academy and Discovery Academy.

During the competition, each team played each other 3 times in a round robin format. The games were played in a good spirit and with enthusiasm. Even though we didn't reach the final of the competition the students won several of their games and worked extremely hard throughout the day. Each student always tried their best and helped their teammates when needed.

The students should be extremely proud of their hard work throughout the competition. Well done to the group for showcasing the essential skills of teamwork, staying positive and communication throughout the competition.



In celebration of National Careers Week in March, all staff have spent time nominating students for an essential skill award.

Over 130 students were awarded a certificate for demonstrating one of the essential skills.

Many were awarded for classroom work, but others were for social time activities, extra-curricular and outside of school achievements.

It was fantastic to see all skills showcased: listening, speaking, communication, creativity, problem-solving, teamwork, leadership, aiming high and staying positive. Well done to all students who were nominated!

Student Excellence

Art Club

Students that were involved in painting the large backdrop boards for We Will Rock You were excited to see them on the stage.



Year 10 Revision

A massive well done to Freya and Kaylee for their dedication at homework club! They worked hard together, using flashcards and Frog resources to test each other and reinforce their knowledge in preparation for the Year 10 mock exams.



Superstar Poet

Sebastian S, a Year 7 student, has compiled his first-ever collection of poetry—his very own book! The school has laminated and bound his work, turning it into a beautifully finished piece. It is now available in our fantastic library, ready to be borrowed.

Here he is, proudly holding his wonderful creation!



Student Excellence

Gurleen K in Year 7 won the prize for designing the PRK podcast a special Christmas edition of their logo – well done Gurleen and we hope you enjoyed your chocolate treat, presented by some of our Communication Champions.



In February, Year 11 students, Eshaan, Krrish and Harshdeep visited Mossley CE Primary School to deliver workshop talks to Year 3, 4 and 5 on their religion and beliefs. They showed excellent speaking and leadership qualities in their delivery and answering the many questions the young children asked.

Student Excellence



Well done to students in 9EY1 and 10EY1 who gained certificates in the UK Maths Intermediate Challenge. Congratulations to James S who gained the top score and will now compete in the next round.



Mr Boumford, Chair of Governors, joined Mrs Johnson for 'In the Hotseat' with Year 7 student Daisy. She shared her passion for rugby and talked about the opportunity she had to meet her favourite players from England's Red Roses. Daisy is keen to encourage more girls to take up rugby and you can read her article where she lets everyone know why she thinks it is such a great sport. Well done, Daisy, it was a pleasure to meet with you.



A big well done to Mikail, one of our Year 9 students, who helped to deliver an insightful and inspiring assembly about Islam and his personal experience with Ramadan!

Mikail spoke confidently in front of three year groups, sharing his journey and offering a deeper understanding of the significance of Ramadan. Well done, Mikail — you did an excellent job!



Mr Goodwin had a wonderful meeting with Scarlett J from Year 8 following the Year 8 assembly on future destinations.

Scarlett educated Mr Goodwin on her ambition to work in Animatronics and showcased some of her work.

What an excellent example of students being pro-active, thinking creatively and aiming high.

Girls in Rugby

I like rugby for many reasons but there's one thing I don't like and that's that there isn't enough girls playing. That's why I talked to Mrs Johnson about creating a girls' rugby team at school.

Here are some reasons why I think you should consider joining rugby:

- you will make new friends for life
- you'll have fun
- you'll be a part of a big happy family
- you will experience many new things

A memorable experience I have with my team is where we went to watch the Red Roses. (England's women's team) play Ireland at Twickenham. It was a day to remember as there was music, bucking broncos and amazing food.

Furthermore, a few weeks ago my team and I visited Burton RFC where we met with three of the Red Roses players, Amy Cokayne, Sadia Kabeya and my favourite, Megan Jones. Megan is my favourite for many reasons, she's funny and inspiring. Please consider joining the team.

Written by Daisy H, 7JL



Into Film Club



Year 7 students who attend Into Film Club have had a busy term. They were tasked with making a ten-minute film themed around new beginnings. A group of Year 7 girls, including Elizabeth R, Melody B, Summer J, Tayla-Mae L, and Rosie H-C, decided to take on a zombie theme and have been working on their film, 'Infection.' The plot is based in a high school, with an older woman handing out toxic sweets that turn their characters into zombies, and chaos ensues. With the girls enjoying series such as 'Stranger Things', 'Wednesday' and 'SpongeBob SquarePants' - it's no wonder they've created an eerie, exaggerated universe where their tale takes place. Well done for your creativity, teamwork, and for working so hard!

Careers Fair



The careers fair was a huge hit with our students, who walked away with invaluable insights and were incredibly grateful for the expert guidance from all the representatives! From top universities and colleges to apprenticeship and training providers, students had the chance to engage with a dynamic mix of professionals, exploring exciting opportunities for their futures. A big shoutout to Miss Housley, Mrs Baines, Mr Goodwin, and all the student leaders for their tireless efforts and dedication—without them, this event wouldn't have been such a resounding success!



Year 9 Engineering Workshop



Year 9 took part in an engineering workshop delivered by Inspirational Learning in partnership with GE Electric.

The workshop was titled 'Toxic Popcorn'; in teams they had to devise a strategy and engineer some materials to transport the toxic popcorn.

The students were fully engaged and showed excellent essential skills in completing the task.

Geography Trip to Brick Lane

As part of their Changing Places case study, our A Level Geography students travelled to Brick Lane in the East End of London to look at the cultural uses and changes the area has undergone over the years. From brick and tile production to an extremely creative and ethnically diverse area, the students had a productive and very enjoyable day gathering data on the case study, even bumping into comedian Jimmy Carr! The students were excellent and did our sixth form proud.



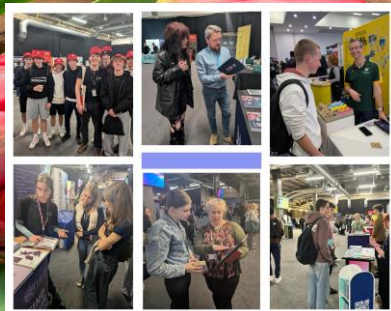
Sixth Form



Important Assembly

Year 12 were visited by Paul Cope from Staffordshire Road Safety Education team who took them through some of the things they will need to think about as new drivers and passengers.

The students were really good and interacted with all of Paul's questions and tasks, showing great maturity and some stayed behind to ask even more questions.



Year 12 Trip

47 Year 12 students travelled to the Edgbaston cricket ground to visit the UK Universities & Apprenticeship Search. They were able to interact with a wide range of course and training providers, learning about differences between courses, universities and apprenticeships as well as sit in on various seminars. Our students were a real credit to the school, having some wonderfully in-depth conversations with different providers as well as getting some great freebies!



Wellbeing Champions

Our Year 12 wellbeing champions, trained by Mrs Roberts are working hard in school to encourage everyone to talk about issues they're facing and are excited about the launch of Cuppa Club, a chance for all students to talk, relax and have a bit of down-time. It runs on a Thursday in room 8a or 8b over both lunches.



Year 12 History

In history, Year 12 have just completed the first key topic looking at the origins of the Cold War. They have been looking at the differences between communism and capitalism as well as looking at the tensions that emerged post-World War Two between the USA and the Soviet Union. Students have been focusing on the creation of Stalin's 'Buffer Zone' in Eastern Europe and the ways in which he enforced Soviet control, especially in areas such as Eastern Berlin. Staff have been really impressed with the approach of the group and their understanding of this challenging topic.

Sixth Form



Health and Social Care Visit

We value our relationships with our local community and are incredibly grateful every time our Health & Social Care students visit the brilliant Hilderstone Hall Care Home. During a recent visit, we had a poetry reading session with the residents, which everyone thoroughly enjoyed! The residents loved hearing some new and familiar pieces and had a great time swapping sonnets.



Tomorrow's Teachers Visits

The tomorrow's teachers, Miss Housley and Mr Goodwin visited BETT at the Excel in London. They are celebrating 40 years at BETT. As part of the tomorrow's teachers programme, students are given the opportunity to explore all the different areas and learning technologies at the forefront of education today. BETT is always an amazing experience for all the students.



The tomorrow's teachers also visited Cicely Haughton School SEMH. Our students and staff were absolutely blown away by the school, staff, students and welcoming atmosphere that greeted us. Some of our students are going to set up a full day's visit, they enjoyed the experience so much. We would like to personally thank Janey Hancock, the headteacher for showing us around her school.



Reading Advocate Harvey

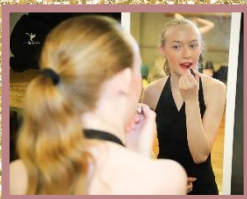
A special shout out to Year 13 Harvey B, who shared his love of reading with the school community by talking to Mrs Adams about his love of 'The Hunger Games' by Suzanne Collins. A suspenseful science fiction tale of a dystopian society where young people are forced to compete every year in a gladiator-style battle - this is an unforgettable series.

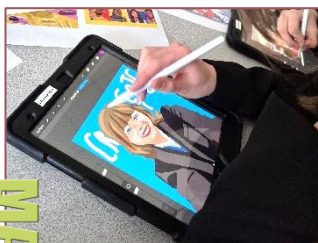
Dance Academy

MOVE IT
CELEBRATING
**20 YEARS OF
DANCE**
7-9 MARCH 2025 EXCEL LONDON



Our dance academy students performed at the Regent Theatre in Hanley on the 7th of February. The students are a mix of Year 8 - Year 13 students and they are an incredibly talented group! We also got the chance to attend MOVE IT! They watched some amazing performances by Addict, Jelly Studios and Wilkes Academy. Our students were also totally starstruck with all the famous dance stars they met such as Ashley Banjo and Perri from Diversity, and even Abbie Lee Miller from 'Dance Moms'. They took part in dance workshops by leading professionals and spoke to many representatives from a wide range of dance and musical theatre stands.





Congratulations to Evie B and Anneliese C in Year 9, who both entered an Art competition and won the opportunity to attend a workshop with West London based artist and illustrator, Raj Dhuna. Hundreds of students took part in the competition and just 15 winners were selected from 8 different schools across the John Taylor Multi Academy Trust. Mrs Johnson is very proud of both students and would like to say a special well done to Anneliese who won second place overall and took home the Silver Award.

During the workshop, students learned how to create digital art on an iPad and had the opportunity to ask Raj questions about his career as an illustrator. Raj has worked for a range of companies including Netflix, Adidas, Nike, Umbro and more. He has been involved with many campaigns too, creating artwork for transport for London and billboards for the World Cup 2022 and the BBC show Peaky Blinders.

Sporting Success



Over the past term, our students have been excelling in a wide range of events! The Stoke-on-Trent Sport Association inter-school orienteering competition saw Blythe students shine, with James S and Tor M winning two events, and Fred M and Anneliese C taking another victory. Our Year 7 and 8 athletes were also fantastic at the County Athletics final, with the Year 8 Girls' team winning County Champions and the Year 8 Boys finishing a close 2nd. Our Year 7 Girls finished 7th but showed great determination. Meanwhile, in the County Schools Cross Country Championships, Poppy W and Anabel W-C secured top ten finishes in the Year 7 Girls race, while Holly T (2nd place) and Euan O (6th place) qualified for the All-England Schools Championships. In football, the Year 10 Boys triumphed in their city competition, and the U16 Girls secured an impressive 4-2 win in the County Cup semi-final. Our Year 7 Boys' football team won 6-0 in their City Cup match, while the U15 Boys' cricket team narrowly missed out on a final spot in their indoor competition. Our Year 8 Boys' football team dominated their match against Ormiston Meridian Academy with a 6-0 victory, and our U16 table tennis players showed remarkable skill in their competition. Lastly, the Year 11 Girls' netball team was undefeated throughout most of their final tournament, showing tremendous teamwork and determination, even in their narrow loss to Trentham. We're incredibly proud of all our students' achievements!

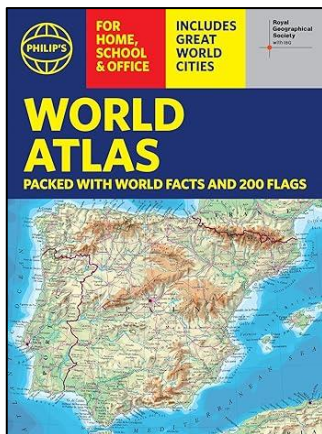




We saw the Biggest Ever Football Session taking place across schools nationally! Girls in Year 7 and Year 8 took part in a fun celebration that aims to inspire and empower the next generation through girls' football in schools.



60th Anniversary Wish List



60 Atlases
£5.99 each



Room Divider for Drama
£67.90



A selection of students with your generous donations! Textbooks, a rounders set and revision equipment – thank you!



10 Black Leotards
Variety of sizes
£13.99 each

10 Pairs of Jazz Shoes
Variety of sizes
£13.69 each



Scientific Calculator for Revision Packs
£11.99 each



Cricket balls from £3.50
Rounders balls from £4.50



We are so thankful to the members of our community for purchasing items from our Sixty at 60 wish list. We've already received 'wishes' in school such as books for our history book club, sociology textbooks, revision pack supplies and a rounders set for our Duke of Edinburgh students. We currently have a total of £220 donated, which will also go towards purchasing items on our wish list. If you haven't had the chance to check out our wish list, please click here: www.things-to-get-me.com/1245033a542ab



What's On?

Drama Reading

Fancy reading a
playscript instead
of a novel?

Every half term, the
drama department
recommends three
playscripts that you can
borrow to read.

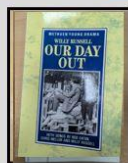
This half term's recommendations are:



The Woman in Black is the stage play based on Susan Hill's ghost story. Follow Arthur Kipps' adventure to Crythin Gifford.



Oliver Twist follows a young boy to London where he meets The Artful Dodger, Fagin, Nancy and mean old Bill Sykes.



Our Day Out covers a school trip out where we see the teachers and students out of their natural habitat.

You are very welcome to borrow these or other plays through Mrs Baines.



The school chess club/league runs fortnightly on week 2 lunchtimes in room 10. Tuesday for Years 7, 8, 11 and Thursday for Years 9, 10 & sixth form



Despite a healthy attendance, Mr Pugh is always looking for new players, especially from Year 7 and 8. All abilities are welcome.

Parental Support for Year 11 English Literature

Do you want to better assist your child with their revision for English literature?

Mrs Moorcroft is starting a book club for parents and carers to help support Year 11 students in their literature exam. The group is informal and friendly and would welcome anyone who wants to give their child a boost before their forthcoming exams. It will focus on the text that all students study - 'Macbeth'. The sessions will be every Tuesday (up to the literature exam), starting on 8th April. Each session will be hosted on Teams for 40 minutes from 4pm until 4.40pm.

If you are interested, please email Mrs. Moorcroft at: l.moorcroft@bb-hs.co.uk. An invite will then be sent to you for the first meeting, along with more information to get started.

Support Our PRK Committee

We've registered Blythe Bridge High School & Sixth Form - PRK (pride, respect and kindness) Committee with #easyfundraising, which means over 7,000 brands will now donate to us for FREE every time you use #easyfundraising to shop with them. These donations will help SO MUCH, so please sign up to support us - it's completely FREE and doesn't take long.

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/blythebridgehssc/?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=pmc&utm_content=gs-fb1



Shop with 7,500+ brands including:

Booking.com

ebay

M&S

GROUPON

Argos

TUI

JOHN LEWIS



Viking

ASOS

BT

Uber Eats

Heads of Year



Year 7

What an exciting and action-packed term it has been for Year 7! From battling it out on the outstanding lesson leaderboard to demonstrating incredible teamwork and kindness, I couldn't be prouder of all the progress you've made. Let's take a moment to reflect on some of the incredible achievements you've had this term.

Firstly, our outstanding lesson leaderboard competition has been fierce, with Year 7 forms competing every week to see who can accumulate the most outstanding lessons. Last term, 7LGI claimed the top spot, and I'm pleased to report they're leading again this term! The competition is getting even more intense, and I'm challenging another form to step up and take the lead. Keep pushing yourselves, Year 7!

Another exciting milestone this term was the completion of our Bikeability course. A huge congratulations to all 48 students who took part in this valuable programme. You demonstrated pride, respect, and kindness, and have all walked away with a stronger awareness of road safety. Well done to each and every one of you!

I'd also like to celebrate the Year 7 students who have earned a place on the upcoming rewards trip. It's been inspiring to see so many of you work tirelessly to accumulate the 1300 points required. You've shown dedication, hard work, and a positive attitude throughout the term—well done!

This half term, our form group reads have been a highlight during tutorials. It's been fantastic to watch everyone listen attentively as your form tutors read aloud, and to see the thoughtful discussions you have had about plot predictions and character developments. I've truly enjoyed visiting each form and being part of these engaging sessions with you.

Our participation in the Table Tennis House Competition was another huge success. Year 7 had the highest number of participants, and I want to congratulate all those who took part. Not only did you have fun and show excellent sportsmanship, but you also earned valuable house points for your team. Great job, everyone!

One of the most memorable events of this term was the Year 6/7 Valentine's Day Disco. It was wonderful to see so many of you come together to welcome the primary school students and enjoy an evening of dancing and celebration. A big thank you to Mr James, our resident DJ, for providing the fantastic music that kept us dancing all night long!

As we look ahead to the summer term and your final one as Year 7, I want us to take a moment to reflect on how far we've come. Think about the person you were when you first arrived in September. Are you proud of the person you've become? Year 8 is just around the corner, and I'm confident that you'll continue to grow and thrive in the coming months.

Overall, Year 7, this has been a positive and successful term. I'm incredibly proud of each of you, and I can't wait to see what you achieve in the summer term.

Miss E James

Head of Year 7
Teacher of Health, Sport & Exercise.



Heads of Year



Form stars of the term

7DH Ava O

Your attitude towards learning and form time routines is fantastic. You are a helpful and well-respected member of the form and always takes the time and effort to say "hi" and "bye" each day. It brightens my day, thank you!

7ESH Gurleen K

Gurleen produces outstanding homework, enters every art house competition, and has won or come runner-up on most occasions; she has also applied to be a student ambassador and is a great role model for the other students in form.

7JJ Sophie G

Sophie has had an incredible year so far and is an example to all students. She is always at the top of the form BfL scores, and achievement points and she is keen to get involved with extra curricular activities. Well done!

7JL Isabella F

Isabella is always keen to volunteer for answers in citizenship and volunteer for extra curricular activities. Follows form routine and always completes homework.

7LGI George G

George is nearly always first to form time and last to leave. He hands out books at the beginning and tidies away at the end. He is an attentive member of the form, always answers questions in citizenship and makes astute and sometimes hilarious observations. He is a delight to have in the form.

7NAZ Billy M

Congratulations on your well-deserved Form Star nomination! Your bright smile and positive attitude light up the room, and you consistently show both kindness and friendliness, making everyone feel welcome and valued. You go out of your way to help both staff and students, making a real difference in the school community. Your hard work and dedication in lessons are truly impressive, and you set a wonderful example for others to follow. Your thoughtful and caring nature makes you a role model to your peers, and we're incredibly proud of everything you do. Keep shining, Billy - you're an absolute star!

7RJJ Oilly L

He has a real thirst for learning and clearly wants to do well at school. He is a resilient and hardworking young man who participates well in all citizenship lessons. He is confident and forthcoming in offering opinions during class discussions. He has a very positive attitude towards learning, is always smiling, and is a pleasure to teach and mentor.

7SMY Isla B

Isla is a star student in every sense of the word. She is incredibly hardworking, always striving to do her best and maintaining high standards in everything she does. Her punctuality is impeccable, and she consistently arrives on time, ready to tackle the day with enthusiasm. Polite and courteous, she is a positive influence on her peers and is always considerate of others. Her conscientious nature and keen desire to succeed make her a valuable member of the form, and she represents the school with pride and integrity. Her commitment to excellence and her outstanding character make her a true role model for all.

Year 7 Top Achievers up to 21/3/25

Rosie M 7LGI 2121

Zoe N 7JL 2052

Hope M 7SMY 2032

Isla B 7SMY 1959

Emma C 7SMY 1950

Gemma H 7NAZ 1902

Lucy J 7NAZ 1884

Alexa C 7NAZ 1820

Sophie B 7NAZ 1783

Freya E 7NAZ 1769

Heads of Year

Year 8

Year 8, congratulations on your outstanding achievements during the spring term. We have witnessed your persistent support for the school in many activities, and many of you have continued to flourish in your leadership roles. Congratulations to our students who have excelled in sports this term, particularly our Year 8 girls' athletics team who are county champions and our Year 8 boys who came second - well done to you all.

Our student leaders did us proud at the careers fair, where you interacted with our visitors and were on hand to help and support. Our Charity Champions also helped with the MFL's department's charity cook in celebration of our 60th anniversary. It was also fantastic to watch and see many Year 8 students get involved with We Will Rock You and perform alongside their peers. All staff, including myself, who attended the Lille trip in December were very impressed by our students' conduct and enthusiasm, which made me proud as their Head of Year.

I have been particularly impressed by the ongoing work of our charity champions, our new student ambassadors and the students working hard on the PRK podcast. This half term, you have focused on parliamentary democracy and studied the royal family's role, linking their roles to British Values and our school ethos of pride, respect, and kindness.

This term, we have accumulated 47 students onto the silver rewards trip. We look forward to celebrating with you at the Cinebowl.

Have a wonderful Easter break. We will welcome you back to school with your perfect uniform on Monday, 28th April!

Mrs P Hart-Cadman

Head of Year 8
Teacher of Business, Finance
and Computing



Form stars of the term

8CBA Joab B

Joab, you consistently take pride in your appearance, and without fail, you demonstrate kindness by giving out the class's books for Citizenship lessons. You also show great respect for your fellow form members and peers. You are an exceptional role model. Well done!

8HW Elizabeth L

Elizabeth is always calm and collected when entering form time. She is respectful and kind to others while working hard and diligently on any task she may be set. When asked to complete any work, she is always motivated to achieve the best results for herself and others around her. Elizabeth has had a fantastic term.

8JJT - Daisy M

Daisy is quietly conscientious and consistently makes good choices both in lessons and around school. Her lesson scores are always positive, showing her ambition in all lessons. In both form and citizenship, Daisy always follows instructions, engages with tasks and is respectful throughout the sessions. It's a pleasure to have Daisy in our form - well done and keep it up!

8KH Tyler-Jay C

He has been completely focused this school year on being the best version of himself both in the classroom and in the wider school community. He consistently achieves 1s in lesson and is always willing to go the extra mile and work hard. He is a polite and lovely member of 8KH who everyone in the form looks up to.

8KSA Izabella A

She has shown an excellent approach to school and engagement in school life. Setting herself the challenge of taking on roles that stretch her and support the school.

8MJR Arthur O'K

Arthur tirelessly pushes himself to achieve his best every day and every lesson. This was most evidenced in his achieving the necessary points to go on the Silver Award trip. Well done, Arthur.

8SAH Maizie B

This student is just wonderful. They apply themselves 100% in lessons and show eagerness and resilience when faced with a challenge. Their positivity is outstanding, and they lift up the people around them with it. They qualify for the rewards trip with points to spare every time, and they are grateful for what staff do for them. Thank you for being you!

Year 8 Top Achievers up to 21/3/25

Freya B 8CBA 1883

Darci G 8JJT 1728

Amber W 8KH 1616

George R 8KSA 1609

Charlotte C 8SAH 1595

Benjamin G 8SAH 1563

Ruby M 8CBA 1562

Elouise C 8SAH 1523

Ava W 8JJT 1521

Eleanor D 8JJT 1517

Heads of Year

Year 9

Year 9, you have continued to work hard across the curriculum this term. You have shown a great insight in a number of lessons, and it has been pleasing to hear of the many accomplishments that have taken place inside the classroom. We have over 60 students eligible in Year 9 for the silver reward, which is the second highest for year groups. Well done to all.

It was a great pleasure to watch several of you in the school musical, We Will Rock You, and to see the acting/performance skills was amazing to see. It showed how many talented individuals we have in Year 9. There have also been several curriculum trips that have become available to you, and it has been fantastic to hear of the number of you have that have taken these opportunities up.

We have focused our conversations this half term on options choices. The options evening, on Monday 31st March, was a great opportunity for you all to speak to staff about the options available and whether those options were right for you. You have until 28th April to get your options in and then we will be working on this to try to give each of you your first-choice options. A reminder to choose the options you would be good at and not an option as your friend is doing the course.

As we enter the summer term, we still have plenty coming up. One of which is the Year 9 out to work day. Please ensure you have completed your forms and they have all been returned. In Year 10, you will complete a full week of work experience so this is a good opportunity to see what one day may look like.

Keep working hard and continue to push yourselves for the remaining term of Year 9.

Miss K Fargher

Head of Year 9

Teacher of Science



Form stars of the term

9AK Rosa C

This student has been an exceptional member of 9AK this term. They have amassed an impressive total of over 1,500 achievement points, demonstrating their consistent dedication to excellence. This student quietly gets on with their work without seeking attention, yet their efforts have not gone unnoticed. Week after week, they have maintained one of the highest behaviour scores in the class. Their excellent attendance record further highlights their commitment to their education. This student's quiet determination and consistent high performance make them a deserving Star of the Term.

9BRO Freya L

This pupil always exemplifies the core school values of pride, respect and kindness. They display a fantastic commitment to their studies and making improvements across all lessons. Teachers always speak highly about their work ethic and fantastic contributions in lessons. An absolute star pupil and a real asset to the school and 9BRO as a form group.

9JB Tilly H

This student has been nominated for the star of the term as they have consistently demonstrated the school's values inside of their lessons and around the school. Their contributions to reading and to citizenship is a testament to the individual they are. They have a strong sense of responsibility and will consistently go above and beyond in everything they do.

9KK Annie May C

This student goes above and beyond each day to make sure they always take pride in their work, treat people with kindness and respect. This student works so hard outside of school on their performances and extra-curricular activities while also putting their all into each lesson they walk into. Well done and keep on working hard.

Heads of Year

9KMP Casey J

This student has been nominated for star of the term as he has the most achievement points in the form group and shows a positive attitude in all his subjects. He contributes well in citizenship lessons and shows an interest in form activities. He gets on well with others in the form and is a pleasure to have in the tutor group

9NC Lucie W

The recipient of 9NC's Star of the Term award has truly embodied all of Blythe Bridge High School & Sixth Form's core values—pride, respect, and kindness. This student consistently demonstrates pride in their work and uniform, showing dedication and a strong work ethic in every task. They treat others respectfully, listen attentively, value opinions, and contribute positively to the classroom environment. Their kindness shines through in their interactions with both peers and staff, always offering support and encouragement. Through their exceptional commitment to these values, this student has set a wonderful example for others, making them a well-deserved winner of the Star of the Term Award. Well done, Lucie!

9NP Molly-Jean S

This individual consistently embodies the core values of pride, respect, and kindness within the school community. They arrive to form each day ready to engage, always prepared with thoughtful responses and eager to participate in group discussions. Their contributions during citizenship sessions reflect a strong sense of responsibility and care for others, and they maintain a positive, pleasant attitude toward their peers, fostering an inclusive and respectful environment.



Year 9 Top Achievers up to 21/3/25

Oliver W 9JB 1961
Frankie A 9NP 1864
Cole E 9KK 1658
Fred M 9NP 1624
Casey J 9KMP 1593
Freya L 9BRO 1592
James S 9AK 1570
Pippa S 9BRO 1565
Reuben L 9NP 1562
Emmie G 9BRO 1534

Year 10

Year 10, it is rewarding to write about another successful term in school. So many of you are growing in confidence and maturity, as we make our way through the school year. I enjoy our conversations about your future aspirations, and the enjoyment that you are experiencing in your GCSE subjects. I was impressed with your conduct, as a year group, in your recent examinations, and so many of you embraced these in a positive and determined manner. We have just had our progress evening on Monday 7th April, and this gave you a good indicator of your progress so far this year.

We have enjoyed several sporting successes this term. The Year 10 boys' football team have secured their place in the next round of the City Cup, after a win against OMERA. The U15s cricket team secured a 3rd place finish in the County Finals, and Holly T did us proud at the English Schools National Cross-Country Championships, placing 55th from 328 athletes. It was also great to see three of our Y10 boys, representing their houses in the recent inter-house cross country competition, alongside some Y10 leaders. Well done to all of you! Several of our Y10 GCSE Dance students attended the 'Move It' exhibition in London with Miss Housley. I know that she was proud of your conduct, and I've heard about it being a fantastic experience for all involved.

We have had a big push on securing those final work experience placements over recent weeks. I am pleased to see that the majority of you are now looking forward to these placements and have made the necessary arrangements in preparation.

I have enjoyed visiting your forms this term, to share your group reads. I am impressed with the good routines that are in place with this during tutor time, and also to hear that many of you have visited the library to change your own reading books. Congratulations to 10AIT who recently won the teacher 'shelfie' quiz, as part of our 'World Book Day' celebrations.

I am excited to announce that there are some student leadership opportunities on the horizon for Year 10. Your chance to apply to become a prefect is coming soon in 2025! Are you ready to lead, inspire, and make a difference? Could you see yourself as a student leader?

Heads of Year

This is your opportunity to grow, help others, and be a role model. Stay tuned for more details on how to apply over the next few weeks.

Keep up the hard work Year 10 and I look forward to following your progress and sharing your successes as we move towards the summer term.

Mrs S Davies
Head of Year 10
Teacher of PE



Form stars of the term

10AIT Lexi L

Lexi is consistently hard working, thoughtful and a pleasure to have in my form. She is always properly prepared, well organised with her homework, and quietly dedicated to her learning in school. Lexi is considerate to both staff and students, and I am delighted to nominate her as Star of the Term.

10CFL Thomas M

For having a very positive approach to all areas of school. Tom consistently meets all our expectations and shows great respect to other students. He is consistently up with the highest BfL scores in the form on a weekly basis. His attendance and punctuality have also been exemplary as well as getting involved with the wider school community.

10KC Thomas K

Tom has truly shone this half term with his kindness, respect, and dedication to everything he does. He consistently goes out of his way to help others, showing a wonderful sense of empathy and teamwork. Tom approaches every task with hard work and a positive attitude, always striving to do his best. His respectful nature towards both peers and teachers makes them a role model in the classroom. Keep up the amazing work, Tom – you are a true star!

10KKN Aaron L

Aaron is a quiet and thoughtful individual who has made fantastic progress this half term. He consistently demonstrates our core values of pride, respect, and kindness in everything he does and is always polite to both staff and peers. Aaron has shown real maturity in identifying areas he wants to improve and has taken positive steps to seek support when needed. His resilience and growing self-confidence have been inspiring to see, and it's clear he has a bright future ahead. Well done, Aaron!

10LKB Jake S

Jake is my student of the term for his quiet dedication and outstanding attitude. He consistently demonstrates politeness, respect, and dedication, completing tasks without fuss and setting a fantastic example for others. His maturity and sensitivity in citizenship lessons showcase his thoughtful engagement, while his attentiveness during reading highlights his commitment to learning. Always well-mannered and compliant, Jake is a true role model, embodying the values of our school. I am very proud of the way Jake has approached his GCSE studies this year.

10NG Kyra E

She is a polite, mature and well-mannered student and moved into the form class seamlessly. She consistently does the right thing and follows all of the PRK values. She demonstrates kindness both to her peers and staff and sets a model example to others.

Year 10 Top Achievers up to 21/3/25

Evie H 10KC 1470
Emily B 10KKN 1393
Joshua G 10KC 1384
Phoebe W 10NG 1382
Isla D 10KC 1381
Thomas K 10KC 1371
Freya A 10AIT 1369
Dexter H 10CFL 1347
Precious M 10NG 1343
Samuel H 10CFL 1340

Heads of Year

Year 11

It has been another incredibly busy half term for Year 11 with a two-week mock examination period being the main focus for our students. Students have shown great resilience, and it was a crucial experience for them to identify the potential demands of having multiple examinations in a day. Organisation has been key, with students needing to prioritise their revision timetables based on when their examinations would be. It has also highlighted the importance of students having all the equipment needed to ensure that they are as prepared as they possibly can be. Just a reminder that calculators are part of students' five a day and must be brought into school. As I am writing this, I am in the process of preparing a mock results day, to allow students to experience an actual results day where hopefully students' hard work will be rewarded. It is imperative following this that students utilise the vital feedback from teachers to plan their revision by identifying the main areas of focus.

Please see the revision tips on the next few pages.

Mrs L Cartlidge

Head of Year 11
Curriculum Leader
of Philosophy and Ethics



Form stars of the term

TIGM Hannah D

Hannah, you have consistently impressed me with your quiet, diligent, and methodical approach to your academic studies. You work hard and maintain a positive attitude no matter what gets thrown at you, and you are so polite and well-mannered. I always look forward to seeing you in form.

TIHBL Jorja H

This student continues to prove what a dedicated and hard-working student they are. They played a vital role in the backstage team of We Will Rock You while balancing this with a high standard of revision for mock exams and supporting younger students in their reading. They are consistently punctual, with a perfect uniform, and model outstanding behaviour to all peers. They never fail to arrive to school with a smile and have become so much more confident in themselves. They are a true asset to HBL.

TILM Rory S

Rory has truly impressed me this term with his excellent attitude towards revision. His consistent effort, focus, and determination have set a fantastic example to others. He approaches his studies with maturity and a genuine desire to improve, and this positive mindset will undoubtedly serve him well in the months ahead. Well done, Rory!

TILLM Freya C

My form star of the term is Freya for her continued demonstration of pride, respect, and kindness in everything she does. She also has the most achievement points in the form. A fantastic term's work!

TILRO Ella B

Ella is an exceptional student who goes above and beyond to support our form and classes. She truly embodies Pride, Respect, and Kindness, leading by example in everything she does. Her dedication to school activities and willingness to help others make a real difference. Most of all, Ella's positivity shines through, lifting everyone's spirits and bringing a sense of calm and optimism—even on the toughest days. We are so lucky to have her in our form! Thank you, Ella, for all that you do!

Heads of Year



11SGF Joe K

He has really worked hard over the last term to prepare for the mocks, and he was rewarded with fantastic results. However, I know that he will not settle for these grades and will continue working extremely hard in order to achieve the best GCSE results possible. WELL DONE!!!

11SL Evie J

For demonstrating outstanding resilience, dedication, and effort in the face of an incredibly stressful and highly pressurised time in her academic journey. I could not be prouder of her ability to adapt, 'roll with the punches', her commitment to independent study and her ability to remain a pillar of support to those who need her.



Lily F and Emma G hard at work in History.



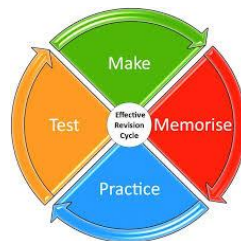
Massive well done to Archie G who competed for the England junior pool team.



Scarlett B as Galileo in *We Will Rock You*.

Revision Tips

Successful revision needs to be systematic and thorough



How to help your child develop a successful method to revise:

- ✓ **Step 1:** Identify what they need to revise
- ✓ **Step 2:** Self-audit their level of understanding
- ✓ **Step 3:** Break each subject, topic, unit into manageable chunks and develop a process for ticking off certain topics
- ✓ **Step 4:** Create a revision timetable to focus revision
- ✓ **Step 5:** Revise: What does revision look like?
- ✓ **Step 6:** Practise

Step 1- identify what they need to revise by: Subject, Paper and Topic

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
B1 - Cell level systems	C1 - Particles	P1 - Matter
B2 - Scaling up	C2 - Elements, compounds and mixtures	P2 - Forces
B3 - Organism level systems	C3 - Chemical reactions	P3 - Electricity and magnetism
B4 - Community level systems	C4 - Predicting and identifying reactions and products	P4 - Waves and radioactivity
B5 - Genes inheritance and selection	C5 - Monitoring and controlling chemical reactions	P5 - Energy
B6 - Global challenges	C6 - Global challenges	P6 - Global challenges

Step 2: Self-audit their level of understanding



Traffic light content check

- Mark in green everything that you completely understand
- Mark in orange where you know some but not all of the content
- Mark in red anything that you feel concerned about

Step 3: Break each subject, topic, unit into manageable chunks and develop a process for ticking off certain topics

A	B	C	D	E
Subject	Paper	Topic	Mock	Week
Computer Science	2	1.1 - Algorithms	Yes	28/01/21
Computer Science	2	1.2 - Programming techniques	Yes	04/02/21
Computer Science	2	1.3 - Producing robust programmes	Yes	11/02/21
Computer Science	2	1.4 - Computational logic	Yes	18/02/21
Computer Science	2	1.5 - Translators and facilities of language	Yes	25/02/21
Computer Science	2	1.6 - Data representation	Yes	04/03/21
Computer Science	1	1.1 - System architecture		11/03/21
Computer Science	1	1.2 - Memory		18/03/21
Computer Science	1	1.3 - Storage		25/03/21
Computer Science	1	1.4 - Wired and wireless networks		01/04/21
Computer Science	1	1.5 - Network topologies, protocol and layers		08/04/21
Computer Science	1	1.6 - System security		15/04/21
Computer Science	1	1.7 - System software		22/04/21
Computer Science	1	1.8 - Ethical, Legal, Cultural and Environmental concerns		29/04/21

Revision Tips

Step 4: Create a revision timetable to focus on revising information

A revision timetable is an essential tool for making revision seem manageable and preventing procrastination.

How to support your child in creating an effective revision timetable:

- Block out time spent at school.
- Block out time completing extra curricular activities / sports / dancing / etc.
- Block out family time at the weekend.
- Aim to add at least 2 - 3 hours for evening revision into the timetable – this can be broken down into 30-minute chunks.
- Add a suitable bedtime in the week to ensure students are ready for school the next day.
- Aim to add at least 6-8 hours over the weekend for revision – this can be broken down into 3-4 hours on a Saturday and 3-4 hours on a Sunday. 1-hour break the time spent revising into 30 minutes to 1-hour chunks.

Step 5: Revise: What does revision look like?

Students need to decide where they are going to get the key information from e.g. revision guide, exercise book or online VLE. Students need to **CONDENSE** this information. This could be onto revision flashcards.

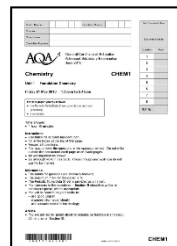


Some key criteria for creating effective flashcards:

- Use colours to represent different things (e.g. **red is for ideas you must remember, green for explanation, blue for statistics**)
- No full sentences
- Underline keywords and spellings
- Use images if they help you to remember

Step 6: Make your revision active

- Get practice papers and mark schemes
- Hand them in and get feedback
- Keep practising



100% Attendance

Year 7

Name	Reg
Carter A	7RJJ
Naya B	7DH
Daisie B	7DH
Isabella B	7LGI
Sophie B	7NAZ
Emma C	7SY
Seren C	7SY
Seren D	7SY
Flynn Edward E	7LGI
Freya E	7NAZ
Lennon F	7RJJ
Alexa G	7RJJ
Sophie H	7DH
Joe J	7LGI
Xavier K	7ESH
Oliver K	7NAZ
Tayla-Mae L	7DH
Ella M	7ESH
Olivia M	7RJJ
Lilian M	7DH
Isla N	7DH
Zoe N	7JL
Elizabeth P	7NAZ
Max Q	7NAZ
Cameron R	7SMY
Mayson-Jai S	7LGI
Nathanael S	7NAZ
Bethany T	7RJJ
Jacob W	7ESH
Isla W	7SMY
Sienna W	7SMY

Year 8

Name	Reg
Izabella A	8KSA
Oliver B	8KH
Noah B	8KH
Anyia B	8KH
Lacey C	8CBA
Benjamin G	8SAH
Ruby M	8CBA
Molly M	8KH
Callum M	8HW
Samuel N	8HW
Archie N	8KSA
George R	8KSA
Joshua T	8SAH
Zhane T	8KH
Jude W	8KH
Benjamin W	8CBA

Year 9

Name	Reg
Evie B	9NP
Rosa C	9AK
Holly C	9KMP
Seth D	9NP
Corey E	9AK
Oliver F	9KK
Georgia H	9NC
Kyle H	9KMP
Jack M	9NP
Fred M	9NP
Olivia R	9NC
Kirsty S	9NC
James S	9AK
Joshua T	9KK
Bella W	9KMP
Holly W	9AK

Year 10

Name	Reg
Charlie B-W	10NG
Michael F	10CFL
Ben J	10JBY
Daniel L	10AIT
Lana R	10LKB
Bradley S	10AIT
Jake S	10LKB
Ropate T	10AIT

Year 11

Name	Reg
Daisy B	11LLM
Daniel C	11LLM
Freya C	11LLM
Lily C	11LRO
Leila F	11LRO
Will H	11HBL
Georgia Rose H	11GM
Taye H	11SGF
Skye K	11SGF
Ellie P	11GM
Harshdeep S	11LRO
Shimano S	11LRO
William S	11LM
Darcie W	11LLM

Attendance

The top three year groups for overall attendance up to 21st March are:



The top three forms per year group



The overall top form group is 8KH with 96.4%!



Extra Curricular Clubs

We offer a wide range of extracurricular clubs, including our popular breakfast club, where students can fuel up, get on top of homework, and socialise in the morning. We also have clubs for chess, PRK podcast, escape room, football, trampolining, orchestra, STEM, choir, sculpture, craft, and our eco-garden - endless possibilities! We have an excellent resource in our swimming pool, with an early bird swim open to all students on Tuesdays 7:45-8:30a.m., our after-school session for Year 7-9 on Tuesday afternoons 3:10-4:00p.m. and another after-school session for Year 7-9 girls on Wednesday afternoon 3:10-4:00p.m.



LM Swim School operates at our swimming pool, please email LMswimschool.D@outlook.com for any enquiries about their classes.

These are just a glimpse of the vibrant opportunities waiting for you. We encourage our students to dive into these experiences, nurture their talents, and grow alongside their academic pursuits. Discover the full line up of extracurricular adventures on Frog.



★ ★ ★

KICKSTART

N1

8:10-8:40am

MEET FRIENDS
CHECK HOMEWORK
READ OR PLAY GAMES
PURCHASE STATIONERY

TOAST & DRINKS AVAILABLE

SUPPORTED BY
YEAR 11 PREFECTS

♥

BLYTHE BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM



PRK Podcast

Communication Champions

Are you interested in joining the BBHS podcast?

Researchers
Editors

Presenters
Writers

Marketing

Open to all year groups





Happy World Book Day!

Our students took part in some wonderful activities! These have ranged from a National Literacy Trust interactive quiz, to a united school reading of Roald Dahl's short story 'Lamb to the Slaughter', and a range of drop-in tasks in our school library. Staff have shared their favourite books and enjoyed conversations about these, with students, throughout the day. The English department joined in the fun by dressing up as characters from George Orwell's classic novel 'Animal Farm'! All students have been given a £1 World Book Day book token so they can swap it for one of the free books available or purchase a new reading book at a discounted price.

Book Blind Date

The library hosted an exciting "Book Blind Date" event for Valentine's day, where students were encouraged to judge a book by its (mysteriously wrapped) cover! Each book was carefully disguised in plain wrapping with a few intriguing hints written on it, inviting students to take a chance on their next literary adventure. The event sparked curiosity and added a delightful twist to choosing a book, with many participants discovering unexpected favourites.



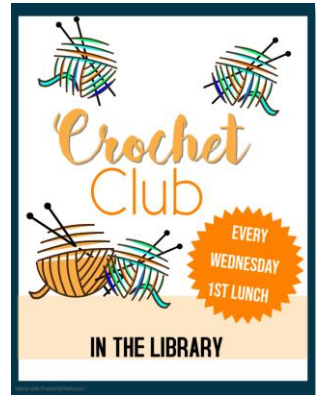
Library



At the Archaeology Club's latest meeting, students turned learning into a hands-on adventure by transforming each other into mummies! Armed with rolls of toilet paper and plenty of enthusiasm, they explored ancient embalming techniques in a fun and interactive way, bringing history to life—literally. Archaeology club runs every Tuesday from 12.00-12.30 in the library.



Looking for a creative and relaxing way to spend your lunchtime? Look no further than the brand-new Crochet Club, led by two talented students, Hope and Dorota! Join them in the library every Wednesday lunchtime to learn the art of crochet, whether you're a complete beginner or a seasoned pro. It's the perfect opportunity to unwind, create something unique, and connect with fellow students who share a love for crafting.



Year 7 Art

This term our Year 7 students are exploring 'Man Made Objects' in art. They have looked into a variety of drawing techniques including using positive and negative space. They are currently exploring the work of artist Jim Dine.



Year 8 Art

This term our Year 8 students are exploring 'Nature' in art. They have looked at the artist Georgia O'Keeffe and her bold colourful flower paintings. They have produced oil pastels drawings in the style of this artist. They have also explored Vincent Van Gogh and produced collage, ink drawings and are in the process of producing paintings in the style of Van Gogh's art.

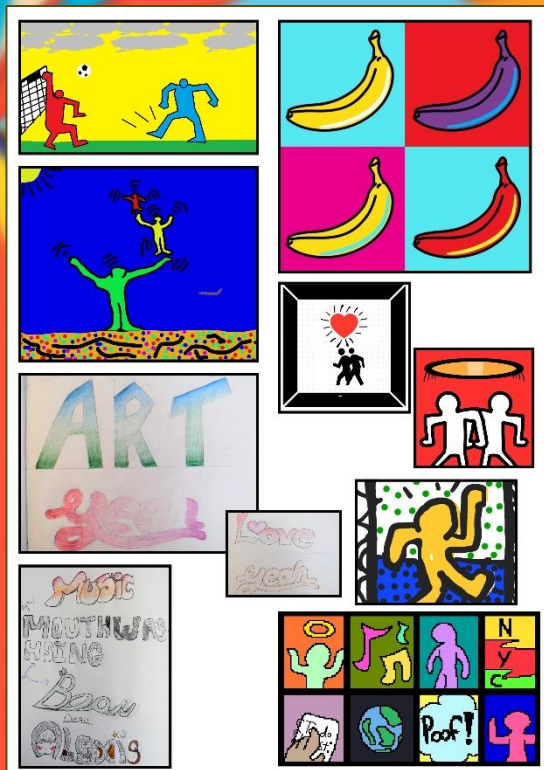


Year 9 Art

This term our Year 9 students are exploring 'Street Art and Graffiti'. They have investigated different typography and the meaning behind the art. They have explored topics such as Racism in Football and have designed t-shirts inspired by this topic. They have explored the work of Keith Haring and experimented with digital art.



SHOW
RACISM
THE
RED
CARD



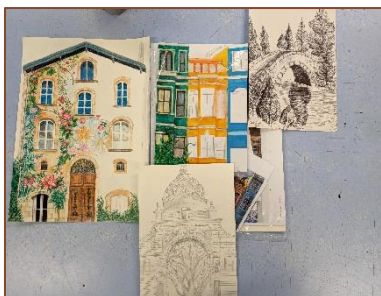
GCSE Art

Year 10 students have been exploring different Art Movements including Fauvism, Impressionism and Pop Art. They have completed research and explored the techniques using their own imagery.



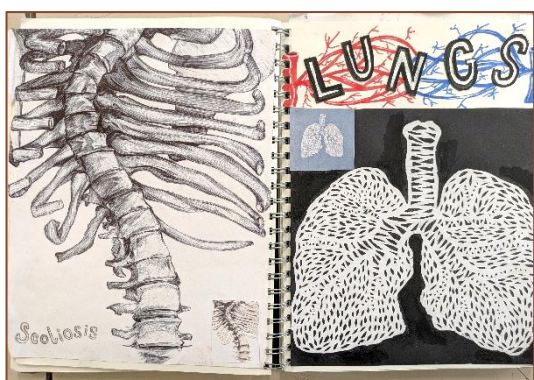
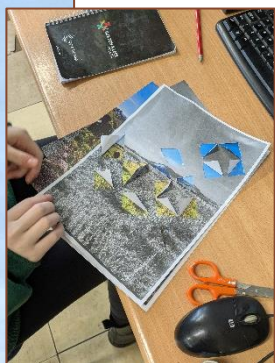


Year 11 students are currently working on their examination preparation, where they each explore different topics using a range of artist influences and their own primary and secondary sources.



A-level Art and Photography

A-level Art and Photography students have been busy exploring a range of personal topics this term. They have experimented with different media, materials, techniques and processes to create a variety of different visual outcomes. They have been researching contemporary and historical artists, drawing inspiration from their work to create similar outcomes.



Design and Technology



Our talented Year 8 students continued to impress in food technology lessons, earning the title of star baker from Mrs N Johnson. Sam achieved the recognition by creating excellent scones and Ben worked really well making a delicious ragu.

Great job, boys!

Year 10 food technology students created a range of rice dishes during a practical lesson. They adapted recipes and incorporated different ingredients to change the flavour and texture of dishes. Well done to you all.



Year 9 DT students were tasked with making a card model of a film stand using white card and tape and selected images. Students were given specific measurements for their model and used a net to design their base. Staff were impressed with their teamwork, problem-solving and the creativity of their designs



To mark our 60th anniversary, the history department have created 'The History Bookshelf' using the books bought and donated as part of our Sixty@60 wish list. Students have been set a FROG assignment with all the information they need about how to borrow a book. We are looking forward to sharing their reviews.



We commemorated Holocaust Memorial Day and, in particular, the events that took place at Auschwitz-Birkenau. This year marks 80 years since the liberation of the camp and students listened to the experiences of survivors who experienced the horrors of the Holocaust. Students were then asked to reflect on the theme of this year and consider what we can learn from history about the importance of respecting others and showing kindness.



To mark our 60th anniversary, Year 9 students have spent time considering key features of life in the 1960s. This learning has been sequenced with their topic on the age of ideologies. They have thoroughly enjoyed learning about 60's music, fashion and what life was like in schools during this decade. They looked at the Cuban Missile Crisis and were left to contemplate how swinging the sixties actually were.

Media Studies

Students who choose to study Media Studies at GCSE and A-level are very passionate to share why they love the subject. Let's see what a selection of students have to share.

Joe K, Year 11



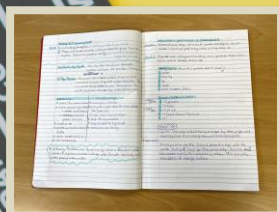
"I was initially studying DT, but media was more fitting because I'm interested in the technical side, I think it's really clever. My favourite topic that we've has been identifying camera angles and analysing different types of work. If you are interested in film and marketing, I would recommend studying media studies. I also study music and media links really well. If you're creative in any way, you will enjoy media. In the future? I'd like to pursue music, but media is definitely an option for me as I really enjoy designing and media can help you within the creative industry."

Phoebe W, Year 10

"I like learning about different forms of media because you see it everywhere. You see magazine covers, music videos, and I listen to music a lot in my everyday life, and I also watch lots of films and tv shows. That's what I do almost every day! So, to learn more about it makes me appreciate the work more. I can recognise the different shots in tv shows and films, so it's awesome. We have just seen our possible coursework themes, we could make a video game website, make a music video to promote taking a step back. A cereal advert, or a radio advert for a cereal product. Many options! Future-wise, will I continue with media? Yes, my uncle did media and he told me that you can get anywhere with media, do loads of jobs and discover different opportunities. If you can get a good grade in media, you can go anywhere you want. I also do creative media, so if I could make my own video game that would be dead cool. Sometimes I take notice of special effects, I love the horror genre, so looking at the different special effects is so cool, plus how they use camera angles to build tension."

Esmee W, Year 10

"I have always liked learning about how things are made, like music videos. I enjoyed learning about the backstories between 'I, Daniel Blake' and 'Black Widow' and how the films were promoted. We covered K-Pop, learning about they became idols and used music videos to promote their songs. We look at different camera shots in film and TV, predicting what's going to happen with the conventions, with directors and their choices, plus what actors are in it. I love watching behind the scenes content as it helps me understand technical aspects and how they feed into the plot of visual content. I liked working on a poster about energy drinks and turning a Disney film into a horror film."



Media Studies

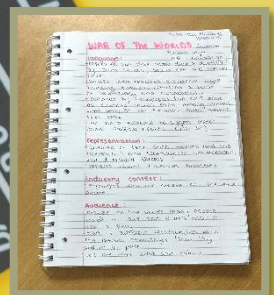
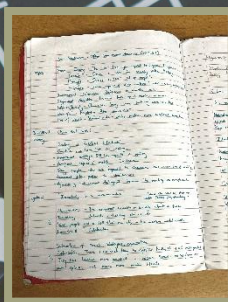
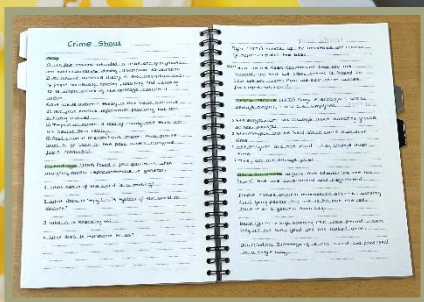
Ellie H, Year 13

"I like studying media as you get a behind the scenes look into tv, radio and films. It makes you appreciate how much work goes into it. The different decisions people have to make - lighting, camera shots and why they chose those options. Our lessons are different all the time, sometimes we go over theorists linking to a certain concept. In the future I'd definitely like to pursue media; I've applied for media courses at universities. A project I enjoyed working on was a three-minute music video and pages for a magazine that I persuaded my cousins to star in!"



Lara B, Year 12

"When I came to the open evening, media was very appealing to me because I love watching films and playing video games. It's interesting to explore the different aspects of films for example. I watch crime shows in a different way now. The plot can sometimes be unique or sometimes they use stereotypes. The course is 30% coursework and two exams at the end of Year 13. A memorable project was when we had to make our own cleaning product and an advert and social media page on it. My future lies in forensic science - being in the forensic field- that's the plan!"



Modern Foreign Languages

The Spectacular Oruro Carnival

Every year, Oruro, Bolivia, hosts one of the world's most dazzling festivals: the Oruro Carnival, recognized by UNESCO as a Masterpiece of Oral and Intangible Heritage.

The highlight is the Diablada, or "Dance of the Devils," a dramatic performance symbolising the battle between good and evil. The festival, rooted in Andean traditions, dates back over 2,000 years, originally honouring Pachamama (Mother Earth) and El Tío (a mining deity).

Over four days, thousands of dancers and musicians parade through the streets, performing traditional dances like the Morenada and Caporales. The peak is a 20-hour pilgrimage to the Shrine of the Socavón, where participants honour the Virgin of Candelaria.

Blending indigenous and Catholic influences, the Oruro Carnival is Bolivia's most important cultural celebration, showcasing the country's rich heritage in a breathtaking display of dance, music, and devotion.

Mr L. McConvey

La Chandeleur: France's Crêpe Tradition

Every 2nd of February, France celebrates La Chandeleur, a festival rooted in both Christian and pagan traditions. Originally marking the Presentation of Jesus at the Temple, it also symbolizes light and renewal, linked to ancient Roman and Celtic festivals honouring fertility and the sun.

The highlight of La Chandeleur is the tradition of making crêpes, which represent the return of longer, sunnier days. A popular superstition says that flipping a crêpe while holding a gold coin in the other hand ensures prosperity for the year.

Though primarily a food-focused celebration today, La Chandeleur remains a cherished occasion for family gatherings, where people enjoy sweet and savoury crêpes with cider.

Beyond the delicious tradition, the festival reflects France's deep cultural heritage, blending history, superstition, and gastronomy into a beloved annual event.

Mr L. McConvey

A book review by Miss Durán-Rodríguez

Manolito Gafota's series is a gem full of humorous moments, characters and histories that are not only funny but touching. Elvira Lindo, the Spanish author and journalist, portrays, in a hilarious way, the daily life of Spanish people through an endearing child's point of view that tends to exaggerate and dramatise the challenges and joys of growing up.



Manolito explores themes such as family life, friendship and social classes, through interactions with his wise grandfather, mischievous brother, best friend "El Orejones" and many encounters with neighbours which are set in the humble neighbourhood of Madrid, Carabanchel Alto.

These books gave me the opportunity to establish and develop friendships with my neighbours since I couldn't wait to share the mind-blowing and fantastic stories. We ended up exchanging books and talking about them, even now when I go for holidays, in my hometown Granada.

Miss H. Durán-Rodríguez



Charity Cook

In celebration of our school's 60th anniversary, the MFL department wanted to celebrate by cooking 60 meals for a local charity, inspired by international cuisine.

A huge well done to our amazing students who worked together, with the guidance of Mrs N Johnson, to cook 30 portions of delicious chilli and an equal number of cupcakes! The team worked tirelessly, stirring, cooking rice, portioning, and packing up the meals to ensure everything was perfect.



"Thanks so much for the food! It went down a treat and there wasn't much left at the end! A big thank you to the young people, and for the cake too! We were impressed by the ingredients written on each tub! It means a lot to our guests to know that people are taking the time to cook for them, so thanks again!"

Feedback from the charity

They took on a Spanish-inspired recipe of chilli con carne. What an incredible effort for such a worthy cause! Well done, team! Take a look at some lovely feedback we had from the charity.

They will be cooking another 30 meals later in the term to complete their goal of 60 meals.

Modern Foreign Languages

GCSE examination preparations

The GCSE examinations for French and Spanish will take place over the coming months, beginning with the speaking test (25% of the GCSE) from the 29th April to 2nd May 2025. Each student will be given an individual date and time before the Easter holidays. Thorough preparation for this examination is crucial. There are lots of resources available to you on Frog that you can use to practise for your examinations further.

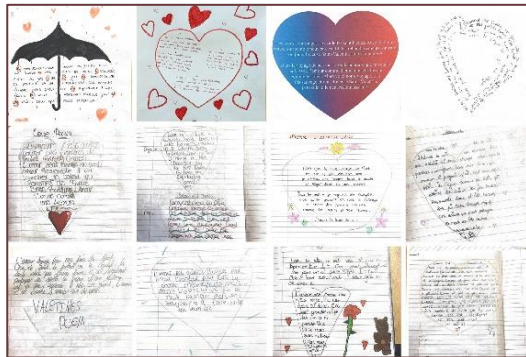
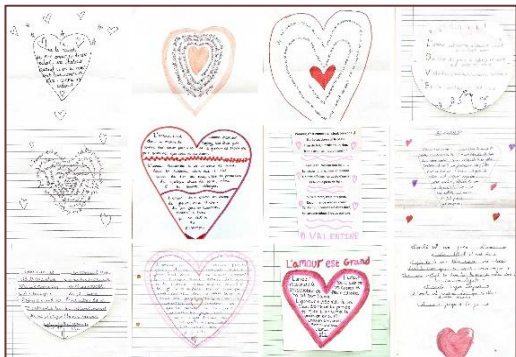
Key dates for your diary:

GCSE French examinations - Listening and Reading – 21st May 2025 / Writing – 5th June 2025

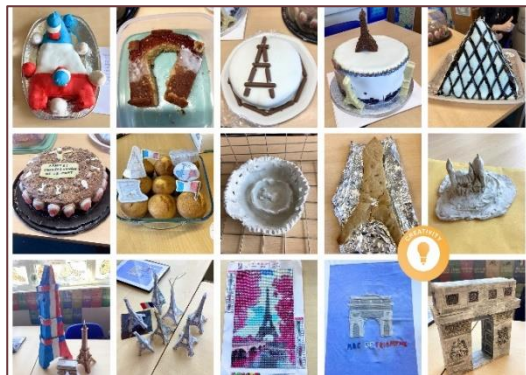
GCSE Spanish examinations - Listening and Reading - 10th June 2025 / Writing - 17th June 2025

Good luck!

The exam season is fast approaching, and we would like to wish all our Year 11 and Year 13 students the very best of luck. Students are working hard in these final few weeks, and it is wonderful to see their resilience and determination. Follow our advice carefully, work hard and you will achieve great success. We wish you the best of luck!



Our Year 9 French students were assigned a different type of homework, whereby they had to recreate a French monument after studying a cultural aspect in the last unit of work. Valentine's Day came and love was truly in the air with our Year 8 French class students who were tasked with creating a poem for their homework.



Students who choose to study social science at GCSE and A-level are very passionate to share why they love the department. Let's see what a selection of students have to share.

Alex T, Year 10 Psychology

"I like how psychology shows me how to understand the world, myself and to find out why people do what they do. I like criminal psychology and learning about analysis and evaluation. The teachers help by testing our previous knowledge through retrieval practice."

Alex G, Year 12 Psychology

"I chose psychology because I'm fascinated by how the brain works and controls everything I do. I really enjoy the experiments we look at in class. My favourite topic is attachment. The teachers support us by giving homework related to previous lessons and using resources like Uplearn."

Poppy-Mae R, Year 12 Psychology

"I enjoyed GCSE psychology, so I decided to continue at A-level. Learning about human behaviour in different situations is fascinating to me, and I especially enjoyed Zimbardo's and Milgram's studies on social influence. The teachers are great at ensuring we understand theories before moving on and they give us regular assessments."

Aoife B, Year 13 Psychology

"I've always been curious about how the brain functions and studying it has helped me understand human behaviour better. My favourite topics are psychopathology, which focuses on mental health treatments, and social influence. The teachers give us opportunities to ask questions in class, and they help with revision and exam marking."

Aaliyah C-K, Year 13 Psychology

"I wanted to understand how our brain works and why we make certain choices. I really enjoy studying how the brain adapts to new experiences, and I'm particularly interested in biopsychology and forensics. Our teachers provide access to online textbooks and past exam papers, which helps us prepare for our final exams."

Scarlett J, Year 12 Sociology

"I'm interested in how society works and want to study social work. Sociology helps me understand societal problems and their impact. I particularly enjoyed studying the domestic division of labour and how class, ethnicity, and gender affect education. The teachers ensure we understand the content and provide feedback to help us improve."

Atlanta-Mae S, Year 12 Sociology

"I chose sociology because I wanted to learn about different cultures and how society is structured. I enjoy learning about how societal issues influence schools and the differences in educational achievement based on gender and ethnicity. The teachers support us by explaining topics in detail and providing videos and revision materials to help with our understanding."

Social Science

Georgina B, Year 13 Sociology

"I chose sociology because the education system section ties into my goal of becoming a teacher. Learning about institutions and how theorists approach them has been interesting, and I found the crime and deviance topic, especially the documentary, memorable. The teachers support me with booklets, exam practice, and feedback on improving essays."

Eva Q, Year 13 Sociology

"I chose sociology to better understand how internal and external factors, such as social class and ethnicity, influence individuals. I find it fascinating to evaluate research methods and sociological theories. My favourite topic has been education, particularly how schools are marketed and how education policies change."

Aoife B, Year 13 Sociology

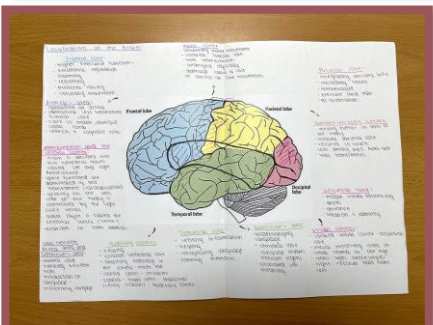
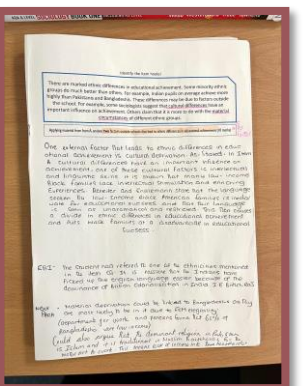
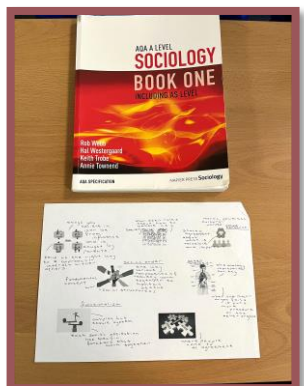
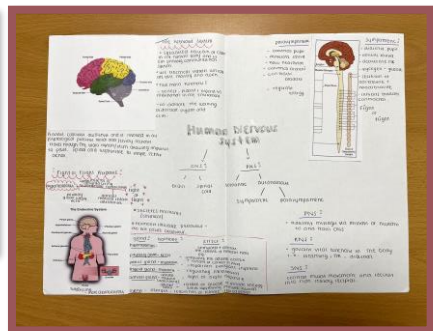
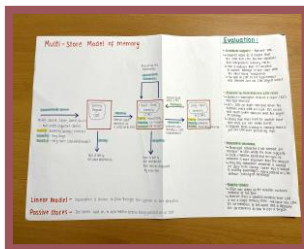
"I picked sociology to gain a deeper understanding of human behaviour and how society has evolved. I enjoy discussing big questions and looking at issues from multiple perspectives, like Feminism and Marxism. My favourite topic is families, as it connects with my understanding of attachments in psychology."

Matthew T, Year 12 Criminology

"I chose criminology because it sounded interesting and fun to do. I enjoy the case studies we do and the theories behind why people behave they way they do. I really enjoyed looking at the physiological explanations behind crime. The teachers make the lessons interactive and interesting as well as offering support if we are ever stuck on a topic."

Lucy I, Year 13 Criminology

"I want to pursue the field of law at university, so criminology always appealed to me, and I enjoyed looking at different agencies and how they work. I like looking at concepts that have specific cases attached to them and that the course isn't 100% exam-based, giving us the chance to do an assessment after each unit. Mrs Goodwin offers us excellent support, always ensuring we are confident in our notes, and we have the correct resources."





Welcome!

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A commitment to continuing swimming development

Book your place on one of our courses today!

At S4 Swim School we provide clear effective progression for our swimmers. Children experience a high level of swim teaching, with opportunities to progress to advanced technique & elementary coaching sessions.

Our fully qualified, DBS checked instructors are able to deliver quality swimming lessons and advanced coaching sessions. S4 is affiliated to Swim England and follows the Swim England Award Scheme. Our swimmers are regularly assessed and monitored by a swim coordinator and instructors at every lesson.

For further information feel free to browse our website or to book a place on one of our courses, contact us today!

Term Times

Our swimming courses run parallel with the school terms.

Holidays

S4 Swim Intensive courses run throughout the school half terms & summer holidays.

Member Benefits

- Small group sizes
- Online personal member area
- Term plans available to download
- Personal achievement records
- Fast progression through groups



m: 07903 857471
finnenau@s4swimschool.co.uk

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Attendance

Attendance – Is 90% good?

90% attendance at the end of the academic year:

- 19 days missed, 38 sessions missed
 - ½ day every week missed
 - Almost 4 weeks of school
- 19 days x 4 lessons = 76 hours of learning
 - 57 lessons missed
- DfE: Persistent absentee

90% attendance for all 5 years:

- 95 days missed, 190 sessions missed
- ½ day every week missed for 5 years
- Almost 20 weeks of school or a term and a half
 - 95 days x 4 lessons = 380 hours of learning
 - 285 lessons missed
- DfE: Drop in GCSE grades

Important to note

- Talk regularly with your child about school and how they feel about it.
- Contact Mrs Moore (attendance@bb-hs.co.uk) as soon as possible to tell us why your child is absent on every day of absence
 - Only grant days at home for genuine illness
 - Contact your form tutor to discuss any concerns
- JTMAT has a graduated response to attendance and punctuality
- Attendance letters in line with the JTMAT policy will be sent if attendance is a concern
- We are following the JTMAT policy and a leave of absence in term time could lead to a Fixed Penalty Notice

Punctuality

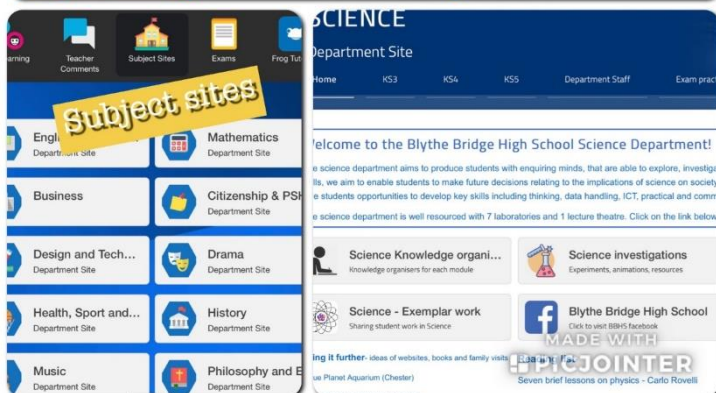
All students are expected to be in school at 8.45am in good time for Period 1. Any student who arrives after this time is marked late on the register. Two lates per week result in a 30-minute detention after school. It is essential that you ensure your child arrives at school on time to prevent disruption to your child's own learning and that of others. Late after the registers have closed is classified as an unauthorised absence.

Learning Platform

FROC - A learning platform available to students, parents and teachers, where you can access everything from subject resources to support any remote learning, homework, teachers and tutors' comments every week, attendance scores from lessons and achievement points.

Let's not forget the school letters, school links where other sites were created just for you and short tutorials for you to use if you need help navigating around the Frog platform. All as part of one learning platform!

Please get in touch with frogsupport@bb-hs.co.uk should you need help with your logins.



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.

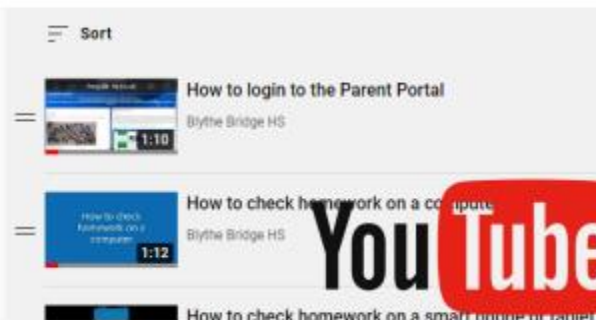
Parent Portal Tutorials

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



BLYTHE BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM

COMMUNITY LETTINGS



BLYTHE BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL
& SIXTH FORM

Blythe Bridge High School & Sixth Form
is excited to offer our school facilities to the
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venue for your club or society, or a space for a one
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