

# Newsletter



**PRIDE**

**RESPECT**

**KINDNESS**

**Welcome to the latest edition of our school's July 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 memorable Diamond Evening, our successful transition events, and how staff and students were changed by their trip to Kenya. We also celebrate the final school performance of Year 13 student Aaliyah C-K (pictured above), who performed at Art in Motion for the last time alongside her fellow dancers. Aaliyah will be starting at Addict Dance Academy in September to study BA (Hons) Dance Performance, and we were so proud of her outstanding farewell performance.



# Headteacher's Welcome

Today I have been involved in the sixth form taster day, which is an opportunity for our Year 11 students and Year 11 students from other schools to attend the sixth form centre and participate in a day of taster lessons to help them to decide on the subjects they wish to study at our Sixth Form in September. I am already so proud of the mature attitudes they have displayed and look forward to sharing their celebrations, and those of our Year 13 students, when they collect their results in August.

I know that parents, carers, and students will join me in sending best wishes to the staff who are leaving us this summer. Miss Holdcroft leaves our science department after joining us as an NQT in 2020. Within English, we say goodbye to Mr Ratchford and Miss Lewis, who are leaving to take on roles in other schools and Mrs Townsend, who is retiring at the end of this academic year after an incredible 39 years in education, 19 of which have been dedicated to Blythe Bridge High School. Also retiring are Mr Brookes, who has been a member of the music department since 2019, having had a successful career in a number of schools, including being Head of Music, and Mrs White, who, before she joined us, was a DSL in a large Staffordshire school. Mrs White retires from our science department after eight years. We will miss them all and wish them all the best for their next steps.

We are making some small changes to our school day from September, the start and end time will remain the same but period 1, 2 and breaktime will look slightly different and Mrs Kadri will communicate this with you, along with all of the other important information you need for the start of the new academic year in her end of year letter. And on that note, I wish you all a safe and restful summer and look forward to welcoming you all back in September.

**Mrs R Johnson**  
**Headteacher**



# Our Students Say It Best

“I have loved getting the chance to get involved with cross country and running. It helps me to burn energy, and I love doing well at races. Each time I win, I feel confident when I face my next challenge.” **Remi C, Year 7**

“The trip to Kenya was outstanding and it was a once in a lifetime opportunity. It was emotional and a chance to do something to help. I met new people and formed new friendships. It was worth every penny, and I would go again.” **Liam O, Year 10**

“The Alton Towers trip was nice as I was able to go on rides with my friends. My favourite was Nemesis because I was then less anxious about other rides, and I knew I deserved to be there due to my achievement points.” **Michael O, Year 8**

“I have really enjoyed my time in Year 11 and all my teachers this year have made my school experience more enjoyable, and I loved it!” **Isabel M, Year 11**

“Out to work day was useful this term. I saw first-hand what skills I will need and I'm looking forward to a whole week of work experience next year.” **Tilly H, Year 9**

“The history trip to Auschwitz in October was both deeply moving and thought-provoking. It was a powerful and memorable experience.” **Charlie C, Year 12**





## Year 6 Open Evening

Our annual New Intake Evening will be taking place on Thursday 18th September for families to tour the school and talk to students and staff. Invites will be distributed in early September with the first presentation starting at 5.30pm, with a second presentation an hour later.



## Summer School

Places remain available for Summer School 2025. This annual events last three days and gives Year 6 students the opportunity to participate in a range of lessons including business, science, art, drama, French, PE, DT and cooking, whilst being able to explore the school without any additional year groups in attendance. Senior Leader for Transition Mr Jackson said, "I would recommend attending summer school to any family. Students who attend have a direct advantage over peers who did not attend. Strong friendship groups are created, and the students already know the school before starting in September. Furthermore, the lessons are fun, and students get to use facilities and resources not available in the Primary curriculum."



## Year 4 Legacy Day

Year 4 students from all six partnership schools participated in their annual legacy day in mid-June. All 191 students actively engaged in sports & activities including athletics, dance, boxercise, fitness, problem solving & trampolining. Year 4 student Otis from Forsbrook said, "I want my dad to buy me a trampoline like we used at the high school. It was ace and we bounced really high." Fellow student Elora from Fulford commented, "The boxercise was ace. I like Miss James the PE teacher, and the dance was fun. Getting all 191 students to do the dance at the end of the day was ace."

## Year 5 Science Fun Fest



Sixty students had the opportunity to attend our annual 'high five science' day in June designed to encourage a fascination in science and beyond. Year 5 student Poppy from Springcroft said, "I really enjoyed the activities, especially the chemistry. We got to explode icing sugar and make electric cars from lemons." Fellow student Jack from Forsbrook commented, "I liked meeting the other students from different schools. The microscopes were ace and let me see what a skin of an onion looks like." Meir Heath student Ralph said, "We learnt how to lift heavy objects using levers. The day was really fun but tiring."



## Year 5 Maths Puzzle Day

Year 5 partnership students attended the annual Maths Puzzle Day on Tuesday 24th June. Participants explored a range of physical puzzles designed to improve rational, logical thinking and problem-solving skills. Student Leo from William Amory said, "I really enjoyed balancing the penguins on the iceberg. I didn't know maths could be this fun." Fellow student Isla from Meir Heath Academy commented, "Building the cubes was really fun but you needed more than two hands. I liked building the 'stair stack' and going as high as it could before it toppled over." Mr Pugh who organised the event said, "I was really impressed with the ability and application of the students. They already have a love of maths and a thirst to be inquisitive."





On Friday 20th June, a selection of Year 5 students joined us in school to take part in a Roman Extravaganza. Students began the day designing their own Roman Helmet and there were some incredibly bright and elaborate examples created, including a particularly colourful one for Mrs Avons too. Students then set to work learning about life in Roman Britain and how the Roman Army defeated the revolt of Boudicca. The students took their role as Roman Centurions very seriously and quickly began identifying the reasons why the Romans invaded Britain in the first place and judging the reasons why people joined the Roman Army. Once they had acquired this new knowledge, the group were set the challenge of designing their own Roman shields before making their way outside to practice shield formations. To finish the day, students marched into a celebration assembly to perform their 'testudo' formation in front of many of the parents and carers who joined us. Congratulations to all the Year 5 students who passed the test of becoming exceptional Roman Centurions!



On Tuesday 17th June, in recognition of our 60th year, we hosted our first Diamond Day. Year 8 sports leaders led the day and were joined by a selection of Year 6 students, who will be joining us in September, and a group of Year 7 students who have completed the Inspires Leadership project this year. The day started with some 'get to know you' games and the competition between the teams started quickly. There was lots of trickery on display as students shared two truths and lie about themselves. Lots of fibs went unnoticed as the other teams had to try and guess the lie. The teams then took part in a plethora of relay challenges where they had to run, throw and roll a hoop from one side of the course to the next. The excellent Year 8 Sports Leaders were on hand to keep score and motivate the teams. After lunch, the real skills were on show when the teams competed in a multi skills challenge. Students had to balance, hop and hula their way through a variety of timed challenges before the final winners were finally announced. The day finished with an excellent celebration assembly where the individual efforts of the student involved were celebrated and the many ways students demonstrated PRK were recognised. Whilst this was our first Diamond Day, I am sure it will not be the last.



This term has seen the launch of our very own Blythe Bridge Graduates Programme where a group of ten Year 9 students have taken part in an inspiring and academic project aimed at improving their ability to think critically and develop the quality of their extended written work. Their project centred on evaluating how much Blythe Bridge High School & Sixth Form has changed over the last 60 years since opening in 1964/65.

To begin with, students practised their ability to argue and draw conclusions by deciding which was better, McDonalds or KFC? Students enjoyed developing their questioning and reasoning skills whilst trying to convince their peers about the merits of a Big Mac v Kentucky Fried Chicken.

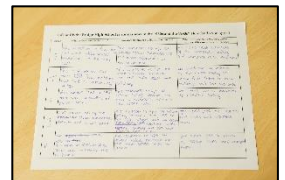
After this brief introduction to research, decision making and arguing a side, students began to research our school over the years. Here, they looked at a plethora of sources from old timetables, photographs from sporting events & school trips and even an early school handbook. Students identified similarities and differences whilst comparing this information to their own experience of school today. Their research was recorded in a table which they later used when preparing for their final debate and write-up.

A selection of the students involved volunteered to take part in our Diamond Evening where they spoke to former staff and students about their experiences at our school. They shared this information with the rest of the group before all taking sides and arguing if they thought life at school today was mostly similar or different in previous years. Their final task was to produce an extended piece of writing on the topic using the research they had found, and they were expected to evaluate the strength of their arguments. All the students involved approached this final task with confidence and the quality of their work was much improved compared to their initial attempts. Not only did their writing improve, but they also became more inquisitive and confident throughout the programme. What a brilliant group of young people!

Alisha R  
Leighton C  
Olivia T  
Maliyah C  
Liam K



Rylie H  
Imogen M  
Bella-Mia L  
Joshua E  
Tadiwa C





*Blythe Bridge High School & Sixth Form presents*

# Diamond Evening



On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June, we welcomed back former students and staff into school for a wonderful Diamond evening to celebrate 60 years of Blythe Bridge High School & Sixth Form. The school was filled with a profound sense of joy as people reminisced in the classrooms and corridors that hold so many memories for them. It was particularly special for our students to talk to visitors who had been present when the school opened 60 years ago.

We thank all of you for attending and for our superb student leaders who supported the event with refreshments, stalls, and tours. Well done, team!

Here are just some of the lovely messages we have received.

"I just wanted to say thank you for the wonderful Diamond evening. It was lovely to have the privilege of being back at school and reminiscing. Please pass on my thanks and gratitude to all of those involved. The students who assisted were also outstanding and a credit to the school." Jo (1974-1981)

"I wanted to say thank you for a lovely evening - it brought back lots of memories. Please thank Dr Mitchell for showing us round and all the staff and students involved for their time at the end of a long, hot day." Matt (1979-1983)



"Thanks for a wonderful trip down memory lane was fantastic to stroll round the hallowed grounds once again .... thank you and hope to do it again one day."  
David (1978 leaver)

"My husband (Mark W) and I thoroughly enjoyed revisiting the school and taking such a lovely trip down memory lane. Please pass on our thanks to all the staff and students for all of their hard work, not only on the night but also in the days leading up to it. I hope the staff and students enjoyed the evening too."  
Nicola (1976-83)

"We thoroughly enjoyed the evening and can't thank you and everyone who made it all possible enough. Thanks again for making our night of reminiscing an absolute joy." Beverley (1983 leaver)

"Oh, it was a wonderful evening! Thank you to everyone involved for putting it on. The students were a credit to you, and the evening was full of nostalgic wonder. We thoroughly enjoyed it." Jade (1998 leaver)

"Thank you for inviting us to the diamond evening. It was lovely to see inside the school again. Thank you to all the staff who gave their time." Ann (1986 leaver)

"Just a little thank you to you and your team. The three of us really enjoyed our visit. Particularly the personal tour of the school from your lovely Headteacher. We really appreciated it. The young pupils were very attentive and were a credit to the school. Personally, I was really glad I'd made the effort to travel from Wales for the evening." Lynn (1970 leaver)









# A Massive Thank You



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

A heartfelt thank you to our school community for the generous donations and support of our Sixty at 60 list of projects and wishes. Your kindness has made a real impact across departments—from launching our first Scalextric club in DT thanks to donated 3D printer filament, to giving students the chance to explore CAD and CAM skills in a fun and engaging way. In Art, a brand-new set of class mirrors—purchased through your donations—was used for the first time by Year 9 as they worked on their Under the Sea project, exploring form and reflections. We've also received a wonderful range of items from our wish list, including history book club texts, sociology textbooks, revision packs, and even a rounders set for our Duke of Edinburgh students.

Your support has helped to bring these experiences to life—thank you!



Our recent trip to Kenya left a lasting impression on all involved, as staff and students from Blythe Bridge High School & Sixth Form had the privilege of working with the vibrant and welcoming community of St. Trizah's School as part of African Adventures with Port Vale FC Foundation. *"From the moment we arrived, we received the warmest of welcomes,"* said Miss Marsden. *"It felt like every single child and adult in that school was just so pleased that we were there."* Students and staff alike were moved by the genuine joy and gratitude shown, despite the clear challenges faced by the community.

Miss Marsden reflected on the powerful contrast: *"The appreciation for education in Kenya absolutely astounded me. It reminded me how much of a privilege receiving an education is-something we often take for granted in the UK."* Students echoed this sentiment. Thalia H shared, *"It helps you perceive things differently... not everyone is as lucky as you may think. Be grateful for everything you have."* Connor H added, *"It was the most heart-warming trip. Some people would love the lives we have."*

Mrs Baines recalled a particularly emotional moment: *"On the first day, they had streamers for us to cut and were singing and dancing. It was overwhelming and really moved me."* The school not only offers education but also a safe place and daily meals to children living in extreme poverty. Joshua G reflected, *"We should help each other in any way we can."*

Throughout the trip, students took part in reading and maths lessons, creative and sporting activities, and school improvement projects. *"One of the highlights was seeing our students reading with children,"* Miss Marsden said. *"Our students brought them so much joy and made them feel seen."* Mr Goodwin added, *"Watching our students lead activities made me think of how we can use that more back in the UK and see them as role models."*

Many students found the school visits the most rewarding part of the experience. Morgan B said, *"It was exciting, fulfilling and busy... my favourite part was the volunteering."* Freya A shared, *"Visiting the school and reading to the children was a highlight. We're very lucky to have the resources and opportunities that others don't."* Liam O added, *"It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. It was emotional and a chance to do something to help. I would go again."*

Fundraising for the trip was a journey in itself. Students and staff raised money through events such as car boot sales, bake sales, charity matches, quizzes, craft stalls, GoFundMe, and more. *"We did bingo nights, football matches, and a chips and quiz night,"* said Sydney T. *"It was worth every penny,"* added Liam. *"We met new people and made new friendships."*

Students also had the chance to explore Kenya's natural beauty, including a safari - a favourite for many. Ajay P said, *"It was interesting because we saw things we never expected to see. We caught glimpses of lions, zebras, rhinos, and monkeys."*

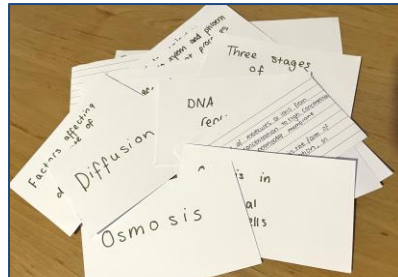
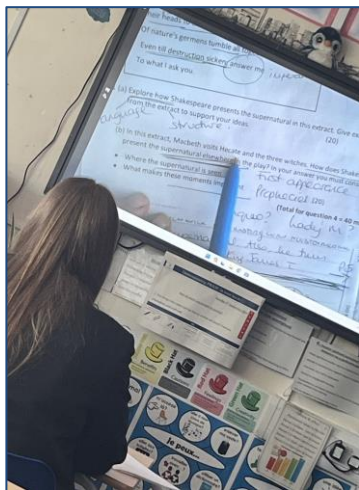
This trip was a powerful reminder of the value of education, the strength of community, and the impact of even the smallest acts of kindness. As Miss Marsden advised to future staff and students on the trip, *"Go with the determination to make a difference, the compassion to show kindness and care, and the resilience to face the hardships that you will see others having to endure."*





# Excellent Effort in Exams

Our fantastic Year 11 students showed real dedication in their revision sessions, and staff were very proud. Whether it was the focused preparation for Spanish and French speaking exams or the insightful walking talking mocks in English, their commitment has been outstanding. A special thank you to the staff who supported them, and of course to Head of Year, Mrs Cartlidge, who was beaming with pride. Highlights included our now traditional French breakfast, complete with croissants and chocolat gaufres to fuel learners ahead of their double exam. Well done, Year 11—you've done yourselves proud, and we wish you the very best for results day!



# Goodbye & Good Luck!

As we reach the end of this academic year, we want to take a moment to celebrate and say goodbye to two fantastic year groups. Our Year 11 students marked their journey with an emotional end-of-year celebration assembly, reflecting on their five years at Blythe Bridge High School and Sixth Form. The Class of 2025 have shown remarkable resilience, not only in their studies but through their many achievements beyond the classroom. The assembly was filled with laughter and a few



tears, as Mrs Cartlidge and the Year 11 form tutors shared heartfelt memories and words of wisdom. It's been a pleasure to watch them grow, and we look forward to celebrating their future successes as they head into the final weeks of their GCSE examinations.

We also said goodbye to our Year 13 students, who have reached the end of their Sixth Form journey. We're incredibly proud of the young adults they've become and know they'll go on to achieve great things, whether in higher education, apprenticeships, or the world of work. Thank you for everything you've contributed to our school community—we wish you all the very best for the exciting chapters ahead.



# Year 9 Mental Health Challenge

Huge congratulations to our amazing Year 9 students!

They took part in the Oli Leigh Trust Mental Health Challenge, where they learned about mental health awareness and worked hard to develop their own innovative services to support wellbeing. Through the challenge, they strengthened essential life skills including teamwork, leadership, and communication.

A big round of applause to our winning group, Mindful Mondays, and our other fantastic group of students, H.E.L.P. Both teams were invited to represent us at the national competition in London. We're incredibly proud of all who took part – you've shown creativity, compassion, and commitment. Congratulations to Mindful Mondays for your winning idea of an app!





# Chocolate Bingo



To reward their outstanding effort and attitude, 138 Year 7 and 99 Year 8 students with 100% attendance and 1s and 2s were invited to a special Chocolate Bingo event.

The hall was buzzing with excitement as Mrs Kadri and Mrs Hart-Cadman hosted the lively session. With clapping, chanting, and plenty of chocolate prizes, the mood was electric.

It was a fantastic way to celebrate the students' recent achievements. Keep up the excellent effort!

## Celebration Evenings



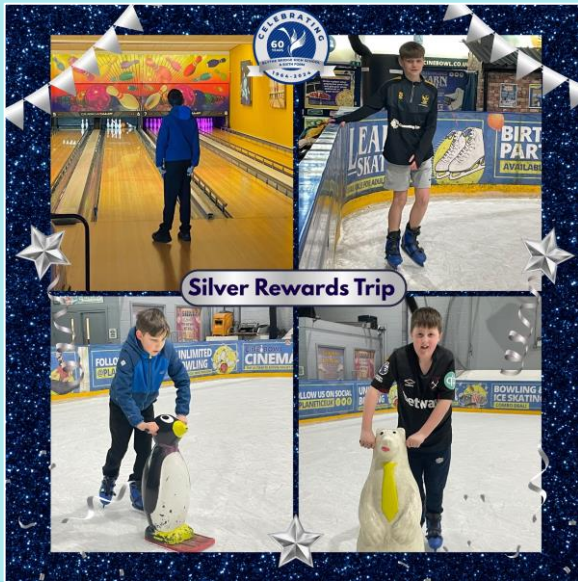
A huge well done to our students who enjoyed their celebration evenings this term!

Staff nominated students for their outstanding effort in lessons, alongside awards for attendance and extracurricular involvement.

Congratulations to all - your hard work doesn't go unnoticed!



# Silver Rewards Trip



At the end of the Spring term, our Silver Rewards Trips took off with a fantastic start as 64 Year 7 students enjoyed a well-earned visit to the Cinebowl! The day was packed with excitement - from watching a great film and tucking into snacks to strikes on the bowling lanes and plenty of laughs on the ice rink.



The celebration continued with Year 8, Year 9 and Year 10 students also enjoying their reward days, packed with the same high-energy fun. A huge well done to all students for their achievements and a special shout-out to those who showed true resilience on the ice-skating rink! What started with a few wobbles soon turned into confident laps around the rink.



We're incredibly proud of everyone who earned their place.



# Gold Rewards Trip



Over two hundred students enjoyed a fantastic Gold Rewards trip to Alton Towers at the beginning of July. Brilliant behaviour, punctuality, and smiles all round - well done to everyone!

Plus, we had some extra passengers on the coach thanks to our students winning different prizes!





# Drowning Prevention Week



As part of Drowning Prevention Week, Miss Hanvey organised a fantastic range of water safety activities for our primary school pupils. From interactive sessions to practical advice, every pupil took part with great enthusiasm and interest. A huge well done to all involved and thank you for taking part in such an important initiative!



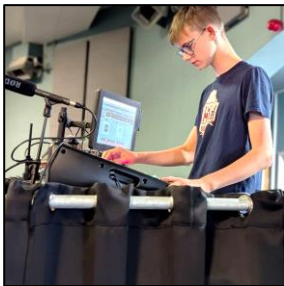
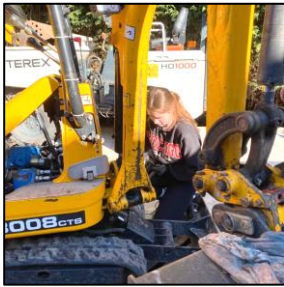
# Year 9 Out To Work



Miss Housley and Mr Goodwin would like to congratulate all the Year 9 students who had their 'Out to Work' day. Miss Housley has received glowing feedback from many of your employers. Thank you for working so hard, and demonstrating pride, respect and kindness. A few quotes from workplaces are below:

"It was a pleasure to host a polite, confident and competent Caleb today for work experience at Breathe New Life Church."

"Corey had a really good day at Ashbank Garage - he was sorting parts for me and doing a mini stock take which he enjoyed."





# Skills Champions



One of our Year 8 Skills Champion has presented to our new Year 7 Skills Champions, sharing his knowledge and experience of being a Skills Champion.

James showed what an effective student leader looks like. Well done and congratulations to our new Year 7 Skills Champions.

## Leadership at Rugby Event

A huge well done to our Year 7 and 8 students who supported Mr Jackson at the Year 3-4 rugby event! Fantastic sports leaders and brilliant role models for our school – great job, team.





# A Royal Visit



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award hosted a Gold Award celebration event in The Garden of Buckingham Palace during May, where Gold Award holders and nominated guests in the UK were invited to celebrate their outstanding achievements. Our Duke of Edinburgh Manager, Mrs Hayes shares her experience of attending this exciting event.

"I was very honoured and delighted to have received an invitation via a nomination from Brett Waring, our DofE Operations Manager. It was a wonderful surprise, and I was very thankful for being recognised for my dedication to the DofE training programme and delivery,

especially as I have only taken on the voluntary role of Duke of Edinburgh Manager since September."

"It was an incredible day, such a celebration of achievements. Guests were able to relax on the lawns, listen to the military bands, have fun with garden games, take photos in front of the beautiful scenery, indulge in tea and cake in the tea tent and get inspired by hearing from His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh KG KT GCVO and an exceptional line of guest speakers appearing on satellite stages throughout the day."

"I had the pleasure of hearing from a former 2023-24 DofE UK Youth Ambassador, 20-year-old Poppy, who chose to DofE because she wanted to push herself and discover what she was capable of. As a young person with autism, Poppy spent a lot of time trying to fit in and viewed her DofE as a chance to feel more positive about herself and find her own path. She found her DofE journey to be an empowering experience of self-discovery, providing her with the opportunity to try new activities, such as photography, woodwork, and volunteering as an NHS Cadet. Poppy had some powerful advice for anyone thinking of doing DofE: turn it into something that feels personal to you and find activities that you have always wanted to try – you'll feel a greater sense of accomplishment when you succeed – this is a message I share with our students."

"Whilst listening to Poppy, I couldn't help feeling emotional listening to her challenges but also thinking about our amazing students here and how they are not only making a huge difference to our community through their dedication to the DofE programme but the confidence that they are gaining, challenges they are overcoming and barriers they are breaking. I am so proud of each and every one of them. I have every confidence that one day, they will be standing up on that stage telling the inspiring story of their DofE journey."

"It was an incredibly special event to celebrate the achievements of young people. I am truly thankful to have been part of it, and I hope that many of our own students will have the opportunity to experience this themselves; I will certainly do everything I can to support them."

"It is a real privilege to be part of something so fulfilling and rewarding."

Let's hear it for our students! Youth Without Limits!

# Duke of Edinburgh

Earlier this term, a group of students took part in their Duke of Edinburgh's Award practice expedition, and it's safe to say it was a memorable and rewarding experience for everyone involved. From map reading and camping to a few unexpected run-ins with wildlife, our students rose to the challenge with determination, teamwork, and a great sense of humour.

Many students agreed that while the walking could be tough, they found ways to get through it—whether by chatting with friends, focusing on map reading, or building up their fitness in advance. Gracie-Mae W said she started walking outside of school to improve her stamina, while Lydia B powered through the uphill sections by keeping conversations going.

There were plenty of highlights too. Heidi H and Gracie-Mae W enjoyed reading the maps, Connie B loved the atmosphere at the campsite, and Jaimee-Leigh W had a memorable moment walking through fields of cows! Caleb O recalled a funny moment when he and his group were chased by bulls—thankfully, everyone came out unscathed and laughing.

Camping and cooking were popular favourites, with Tor M and Niah S especially enjoying life at the campsite. James S took pride in pitching his tent, although he's hoping for a better night's sleep in the qualifier!

Looking ahead to the qualifying expedition, students are excited about being more independent—navigating on their own, setting up camp, and putting all their practice skills to the test. Effie-Mae D is especially looking forward to walking without instructors, and Connie B is ready to find her own way around.

Most importantly, the students would highly recommend the Duke of Edinburgh programme to others. Whether you're into walking, camping, or just spending time with friends outdoors, there's something for everyone. As Caleb O summed it up: "You learn skills you may need when you are older."

Well done to all the students who took part—you've done us proud, and we can't wait to hear how you get on in the qualifier!



Over the last year, our Year 11 Literacy Leaders have worked hard to promote reading for pleasure to our younger year groups. Since September, Literacy Leaders have spent form time twice a week reading with students from Year 7 and 8. Through this hard work, along with their Christmas book review competition, they have successfully shared their own love of reading and supported their peers in their own reading confidence. Thank you to our literacy leaders for committing themselves to this, and we can't wait to launch the newest team in September!



## Free Cycle Sessions

Children's summer holiday cycling courses 'Learn to Ride' and 'Ride to Road' courses.

Choose a course based on your child's cycling ability:

- 1 - Learn to Ride
- 2 - Less confident riders
- 3 - Mixed ability
- 4 - Regular and confident riders



Book online:

<https://bikeright.co.uk/events?course=child-group>

<https://bikeright.co.uk/events?area=stokeontrent>

**BIKE  
RIGHT**



# Lights, Camera, Action



A select group of Year 9 students have started a new qualification in place of their MFL lessons, a BTEC Tech Award in Creative Media Production.

We have started to work towards identifying different types of shots in film, breaking down narrative structures using Todorov's stages and learning how to identify diegetic and non-diegetic sounds. They have also had a go at storyboarding, shooting and editing their own short scene.

Films we have watched include Back to the Future and Jaws. Shout out to Jack D grabbing this opportunity to develop his

understanding of film and gaining top marks in the first assessment and to Billy P for trying to link everything we do to Breaking Bad!

Our theme for the coursework in September will be media with an environmental theme. Any suggestions of films with an environmental theme or should any of you have any environmental themed magazines you no longer need these would be appreciated.

## Fantasy Football

40 students participated in this year's school fantasy football league and as always it was very competitive!

Top 5 students in the fantasy league were:

- 1st Oliver L-W 12LR Centaur
- 2nd Jack M 9NP Sphinx
- 3rd Sonny W 9KMP Pegasus
- 4th Tom S 13JBU Sphinx
- 5th Noah B 8KH Pegasus



In the fantasy cup Jack M (9NP Sphinx) beat Cameron R (7SMY Sphinx) in the final.



## Total Scores Update 30/06/2025

Centaur: 1501 (1st)  
Pegasus: 1445 (2nd)  
Serpent: 1261 (4th)  
Sphinx: 1405 (3rd)

We had just under 700 students taking part in our Spelling Bee competition – and what a buzz it created around school!

It has been truly brilliant to see students so engaged with the competition, from focused rounds in form time to spontaneous mini-spelling duels in the corridors and outside.

Thank you to all staff who helped to make this event run so smoothly! Our favourite moment was overhearing students testing each other on spellings and definitions – this is what we want to nurture: a genuine love of words, a spark for vocabulary, and a shared belief that every student has the potential to shine.

A special mention to Gurleen K (Year 7) for winning the KS3 title, and to Tommy J B (Year 10) who claimed victory in the incredibly competitive KS4 all-boys final.

Students recently had the opportunity to take part in the annual interhouse Xbox FIFA tournament. Year 7 / 8

Winner: Milo C - Centaur  
Runner up: Logan C-C - Centaur  
Third: George G- Serpent

Year 9 / 10

Winner: Toby B - Pegasus  
Runner up: Sonny W - Pegasus  
Third: Blake B-A - Pegasus

Plus, we have seen numerous students get involved with fantasy football and the chess club to earn house points.

All positions still to play for with a few events still to come!

# Blythe Bridge Reads



Year 9 enjoyed their latest group read – 'The Boxer' by Nikesh Shukla – during form time! We are especially excited about this one because it is part of a brand-new set of books personally chosen by the students through a vote.

It is all about reading what matters to them – and 9AK certainly enjoyed the latest choice!



At this year's celebration evenings, we provided books on every table with a note 'If you have any little ones who would like to get lost in a book during tonight's event, we would love you to borrow one of ours.' Many thanks for the positive feedback we received. It was wonderful that some younger visitors decided to take their new books home with them.



# Student Excellence

## Drama

The BTEC Drama students performed their Unit 3 performance pieces earlier this term. Both groups were given a stimulus that they had to devise their piece from which was the picture 'Relativity' by M.C. Escher.

This shows figures on different steps in quite a surreal setting, going up and down stairs that don't quite look right. From that both groups, independently from each other, creating promenade pieces where the audience walk from scene to scene.



Year 12 created a piece loosely based on Cluedo with the characters working in a school and finding Mr Black murdered on an open evening. By the end of the piece, the audience had to vote for who they believed murdered him. Pictured is the 'CCTV footage' of Colonel Mustard preparing to kill Mr Black.

The Year 13 group decided on creating a piece where one of the audience members was fitted up for a crime their own characters had committed. Huge thanks to our performers, technical team and audience members.

## PRK Podcast

Here is our latest BBHS PRK podcast.  
<https://on.soundcloud.com/ymmdSYtcMhdpb8zy7>

On this episode, we have three more exciting interviews including a link to a sandwich and a world war.

Featuring our very own Mr Knight, Mrs Avons and Mrs Cotterill.



# Student Excellence



## JCB Workshop

JCB Apprentices visited our school to deliver a workshop to a Year 7 science group. Our students had the opportunity to understand engineering and work in teams to complete a challenge.

## Instagram

We're excited to announce that we are now on Instagram! Follow us at @blythebridgehighschool to get a glimpse of daily school life, celebrate student achievements, and stay up to date with events, activities, and all the amazing things happening in our school community. It's another great way to stay connected in addition to our Facebook and newsletters.



# JTMAT Science Challenge

Our Year 7, 8, 10 and 12 scientists represented our school wonderfully during the annual JTMAT science challenge day in July.

There were three separate events with each one being set up as a competition against the other schools. Year 7 and 8 students completed a practical investigation, team quiz and individual test. They managed to take 1st place in the Year 8 competition (it should be noted that the Year 7 and 8 students worked together during the quiz part). Year 10 students were suited up ready for a forensics investigation which involved attending a crime (murder) scene, rifling through bin bags for evidence, testing the evidence using forensic techniques such as DNA profiling, mass spectrometry, toxicology and dissection as well as finally presenting their findings to a large audience including governors, teachers, students and a magistrate. Our Year 12 chemists attempted an individual chemistry Olympiad, practical activity and analysis as well as a team quiz to finish off the day.

A special mention goes to Owen L as the individual winner of the chemistry Olympiad. All students worked brilliantly as a team and showcased pride, respect and kindness throughout the day.





# Charity Fundraising



We are incredibly proud of our students for raising an amazing £280 for Stoke Speaks Out, supporting speech and language therapy for children in March.

Through a range of fun and creative activities, they have made a real difference - well done to everyone involved!

## Kindness at Lunchtime



A group of Year 8 girls made the most of the warm weather by enjoying lunchtime picnics on the grass, complete with a variety of homemade treats. This theme was fruit, which they not only enjoyed themselves but also kindly shared with staff on lunchtime duty, a thoughtful and heartwarming gesture!



# Eggcellent Science Work



Miss Fargher's Year 8 class worked well in science, creating parachutes to keep their plasticine eggs safe.

Students worked in teams, investigating ways to increase air resistance to ensure their "egg" landed safely.

## Maths Competition



Well done to James, in Year 9, for qualifying for the Intermediate Kangaroo maths competition.

The Grey Kangaroo is a follow-on round to the Intermediate Mathematical Challenge. It is a 60-minute, multiple-choice Challenge consisting of 25 problems.

Entry to the Challenge is by invitation only and is based on a qualifying score. James completed his challenge this term and showed fantastic resilience in some very tricky problems. Well done!

# Sixth Form Easter Fundraising Bonanza



In the final week of the spring term, our Sixth Form student leaders organised and delivered a fantastic week of fundraising activities in support of three meaningful charities. These charities – The Daisy Garland Foundation, North Staffs Aspergers/Autism Association, and CALM (Campaign Against Living Miserably) – were thoughtfully chosen for their personal significance to members of our Sixth Form community.

The week was a true display of generosity and team spirit, beginning with kind donations of chocolate prizes from students and staff. Events throughout the week included a quiz, a “guess the number of eggs in the jar” competition, multiple rounds of chocolate bingo, and an energetic cycling challenge.

Not only did students enjoy a week filled with fun and camaraderie, but they also raised an impressive amount of money, which was divided equally between the three chosen charities.

A huge well done to all involved – your compassion and enthusiasm made this a memorable and impactful week!



# Trip to Jodrell Bank



Our A level physics students had a wonderful trip to Jodrell Bank in June. They visited the exhibition, toured the site and took part in a workshop where they analysed data received by the radio telescope. They will use this information next year when they study astronomy and cosmology in Year 13.



# Dance



A huge well done to the GCSE dance Year 10 students who had their dance assessment, in the style of A Linha Curva, one of their anthologies. The students did an amazing job and looked fantastic. We are so proud of them all for their commitment to the assessment.

Highlights from our Art in Motion show, where our fabulous students showcased their wonderful talents to family and friends. Well done!!





# Sixth Form



## Year 12 Enterprise

Our Year 12 students involved in our enrichment offer of Young Enterprise stepped up to the 10X Challenge with creativity, ambition, and a £10 note in hand!

Their mission? Turn that tenner into a profit by developing a product or service from scratch – and keep anything they make beyond the original £10! Two teams wowed with delicious treats: Dua tempted taste buds with chocolate-covered strawberries, while Louie and Aaron impressed with their homemade cakes and brownies. Meanwhile, Zac offered a custom service, personalising items like phone and headphone cases. A brilliant display of innovation and entrepreneurial spirit – well done, Year 12!

## Port Vale Foundation Football Award Success

Well done to all of our Sixth Form students who won awards at this year's Port Vale Foundation Football Awards. This was to celebrate all their dedication, commitment and hard work they have shown in the football programme this year. We look forward to seeing which lads will be winning next year!





# Sixth Form



## Revision Sessions

Our A level students have been hard at work this term on exams and our teachers have supported them by organising revision sessions, some with pizza and different treats to enjoy! We look forward to seeing our Year 13 students on results day in August.



## Tomorrow's Teachers

We are so proud of one of our Tomorrow's Teachers, Saffron, who delivered a RE lesson in June. The Year 7 students had an outstanding attitude to learning and embraced every bit of the lesson.



## Year 12 Trip to Stafford

In June, we took our Year 12 English literature students to see the Gatehouse Theatre's production of Hamlet in Stafford.

This was a great opportunity to consolidate their understanding of the text and to see it in the form Shakespeare intended - on the stage. It was a fabulous production, and students took a lot from the day that they can use in their studies into Year 13.



## Fantasy Football League Winner

A huge well done to Oliver L-W from Year 12 who is the winner of this year's student fantasy football league.

Oliver won the 40-team strong league finishing with an impressive 2255 points.

## YEAR 7 CHAMPIONS



Year 7 and Year 9 football teams played in the final of the City Cup, both against Excel Academy.

Year 7 were up first, facing a very good side. Excel had the better of the early stages, and Blythe only stayed in the game thanks to some good defending and pressing. Eventually, Excel's pressure paid off, and they took a deserved lead. Blythe responded really well and quickly got an equaliser when Dylan T got onto a loose ball and finished well, sending Blythe into the break all square.

In the second half, Blythe grew into the game but found themselves behind again when Excel scored from a free kick. Blythe again responded well, and Dylan T managed to score when he went through on goal. After the equaliser, Blythe's squad depth began to show, and they started to get on top of the game, putting Excel under pressure. Dylan T rounded off his hat-trick and brilliant performance to put Blythe ahead before Val put the game to bed with a brilliant finish.

The effort, resilience and determination all the boys put in was brilliant to see and ultimately what won them the game against a very strong team.

Congratulations on being crowned City Champions this year. Players of the match: Dylan T and Flynn E.

Year 9 played in their final straight after the trophy presentation. Playing against a strong Excel team, who had comfortably beaten them twice before, Blythe knew they would need a much-improved performance.

The game got off to a poor start when a mix-up allowed Excel to take an early lead. The boys responded well to this early setback and grew into the game. They were a lot more solid in defence than in previous games against Excel. This solid platform meant that they remained in the game and drew level when Oliver F finished well from the edge of the area.

Blythe were able to keep it level well into the second half before Excel took the lead again, this time from a header from a free kick. Again, Blythe responded well and quickly drew level when Oliver H finished off a good move with a superb long-range effort into the bottom corner. The game then remained level until full time, so penalties would decide the winner.

Unfortunately, Excel scored all their penalties, and a couple of misses from Blythe meant that Excel are City Champions again this year. It was arguably the best performance Year 9 have had in their three years at the school. They should be immensely proud for running such a strong team so close and improving so much on last year's scoreline. Player of the match: Oliver H.

A massive thank you to all the parents for their support on the night and for providing transport to and from the venue. Thanks also to the staff who were watching on the night and to Mr Sturmey for running the line in both finals. Well done to all involved.



# Sporting Success



We recently completed our programme of Athletics at the Year 7 and Year 8 City Championships. Our athletes put out some fantastic performances, and we are proud to announce that we finished the day of competition as Year 8 boys and Year 8 girls Champions, Year 7 girls finished as runners up, and our Year 7 boys finished in 5th place. They were competing against 14 other schools and so these are brilliant achievements. Congratulations go to Remi C Year 7, Poppy W Year 7, Dylan T Year 7, Tilly H Year 9, Holly T Year 10 and Ryley D Year 10, who all qualified to represent Stoke-on-Trent at the County Championships. Further congratulations got to Holly and Ryley, who advanced to the Mason Trophy.

A special mention for Holly T, who finished in 2nd place in June. A new PB means that she has broken both the City of Stoke record, and the Staffordshire County Championships record. She will now represent Staffordshire at the English Schools' Championships in July, and we wish her all the very best!

Our Year 9 and 10 boys/girls athletics performers represented the school in excellent fashion at Northwood stadium on Tuesday 10th June. Blythe finished 4th overall out of 15 schools and had 4 individual athletes qualify for the county championships in the process. The U13 and U15 Cricket teams both qualified for the County Finals of the Staffordshire Softball cricket tournament – congratulations!

All students who represented the school did so with pride and commitment. Well done to all.





# Sporting Success



In May, we hosted a very sunny Year 4/5/6 partnership Cross Country meet. 🏃

Thank you to our wonderful Year 7 students who acted as marshals and pacemakers throughout the event.

Key Stage 3 students are excited to take part in this year's Sports Day; here are some highlights from last year's successful day. Best of luck for this year!



# Heads of Year



## Year 7

I can hardly believe I am writing my final newsletter article as Head of Year 7. It feels like only yesterday that you were arriving on your very first day: wide-eyed, full of energy, and maybe just a little nervous. And now, here we are, getting ready to start the exciting journey into Year 8.

There are so many memorable moments I could write about – trips, challenges, friendships formed, and lessons learned. However, one standout moment for me was, without a doubt, our Celebration Evening. Watching so many of you receive recognition for your achievements was a true highlight. Every member of staff struggled to narrow down their nominations to just three students per subject, which is a real credit to all the hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm you have shown this year.

I am also incredibly proud of the way you embraced your role in supporting the many transition activities, so brilliantly led by Mr Jackson. It has been amazing to see you step up, welcome the younger students, and offer them your guidance and support. You have truly shown them what it means to embody our school's core values of Pride, Respect, and Kindness, and I couldn't be prouder of how you represented yourselves and our school.

This term has also seen some outstanding sporting achievements, particularly in athletics and football, where both teams were crowned champions. What an incredible accomplishment! Beyond the sports fields, many of you have shown commitment and creativity through extra-curricular activities, including STEM Club, Podcast Club, and Film Club. It has been wonderful to see you explore your interests and contribute so positively to school life.

It has been such a joy to spend the year getting to know each and every one of you. Watching you grow, learn, and come together as a year group has been an absolute privilege. I cannot wait to see how you continue to grow as individuals in Year 8 and beyond.

Have a brilliant summer break. Rest, recharge, and enjoy every moment. I look forward to welcoming you back in September.

**Miss E James**

Head of Year 7

Teacher of Health, Sport & Exercise



# Heads of Year



## Form stars of the year

### 7DH Ava O

This student demonstrates all of the school's core values every single day. They take the time and effort to speak to me each day, showing genuine kindness and thoughtfulness. A well-liked and respected member of the form, they go above and beyond with their homework and approach citizenship topics with real maturity. They regularly help with organising form activities and show a truly caring nature. The form is lucky to have such a positive role model in it.

### 7ESH Gurleen K

This student shows exceptional creativity, dedication, and school spirit. Choosing just one person for this award was incredibly difficult every member of the form brings something unique, and they all shine in their own way. But this student stood out for their consistent involvement and incredible achievements across a wide range of activities. From winning nearly every art competition including designing event programmes to excelling in the Spelling Bee, baking challenges, and even placing in the Valentine's card competition, this student approaches every inter-house event with passion and determination. They spend hours at home preparing, always aiming to do their best, and their efforts have made a lasting impact on our form.

This student shows what it means to be committed, talented, and driven and we couldn't be prouder to have them representing 7ESH.

### 7JJ Jack L

They have had an outstanding year and have been a pleasure to have in 7JJ. They have got the most achievement points in the form and are always up there for best behaviour average in the year. They are always willing to get involved in citizenship and always have some insightful and interesting to say. If they keep up with this attitude, the sky's the limit. Well done!

### 7JL Phoebe G

This student shows dedication, consistency, and a positive attitude every single day. They approach their learning with focus and care, always completing homework to an outstanding standard. Each morning begins with their warm smile and kind greeting – a simple act that brightens the start of the day. In form time, they are a role model, following expectations and routines with maturity and reliability. Their determination to succeed is evident in their commitment to earning more than enough achievement points for the Gold Achievement Reward Trip. This student truly embodies what it means to lead by example, and they are a deserving recipient of the Form Star award.

### 7LG Rosie M

This student qualified for the Gold reward trip a couple of months ago. She is very quiet and unassuming but works very hard and is noticed around the school for being brilliant. She always puts all her effort into working hard and is always a delight to have in the tutor group.

### 7NAZ Alexa C

This student is deserving of the 7NAZ Form Star Award because they consistently show outstanding pride in all areas of school life. From producing excellent homework and demonstrating a love of reading, to showing a positive attitude, respectful behaviour, and wearing a smart uniform, this student sets a shining example for others. They take pride in always trying their best, supporting classmates, and representing the form with maturity. Their effort, enthusiasm, and high standards make them a true role model. Keep being amazing!

### 7RJJ Olly L

This student is deserving of the 7RJJ Form Star Award because they are a delightful individual who always demonstrates enthusiasm, dedication, and strong motivation on a daily basis. Their positive attitude and cheerful personality are a joy to be around, always bringing a smile to those nearby. They treat both staff and peers with the utmost respect, helping to create a welcoming and supportive environment for everyone.

### 7SMY Olivia F

This student shows remarkable resilience, quiet strength, and personal growth. Throughout the year, they have faced both academic and personal challenges with determination and maturity, always striving to move forward no matter the circumstances. They've developed strong habits around homework and independent study, showing real progress in their learning and a growing sense of confidence. Organised and committed, they consistently give their best and approach each day with a calm, kind presence that enriches our form. One of this student's most special qualities is their creativity. Whether it's a drawing, a story, or a handmade card, their artistic and written work often created independently reflects not just talent, but thoughtfulness and generosity. These heartfelt creations are a true gift to our community. This student shows what it means to be quietly brilliant, dependable, and kind. Their resilience, creativity, and positive spirit make them a truly deserving recipient of this year's Form Star Award.

## Year 7 Top Achievers up to 9/6/25

Hope M 7SMY 2818

Zoe N 7JL 2770

Rosie M 7LG 2739

Daisie B 7DH 2707

Gemma H 7NAZ 2674

Isla B 7SMY 2524

Sophie H 7DH 2519

Gurleen K 7ESH 2516

Emma C 7SMY 2510

Sebastian S 7JL 2473



# Heads of Year

## Year 8

What a brilliant year it's been for Year 8! One of our proudest moments came at the City Athletics Championships, where our talented students finished the day as both Year 8 Boys and Year 8 Girls Champions, a fantastic achievement that reflects their hard work, determination, and team spirit.

A personal highlight for me was undoubtedly the trip to Lille in December. It was a joy to see our students immerse themselves in the culture and charm of the city. I'll never forget the look of curiosity, and sometimes hesitation, on their faces as they tried escargots for the first time. Even more memorable was the laughter and surprise when many of them went back for seconds... and even thirds! It was a moment of bravery and open-mindedness that perfectly captured the spirit of the trip. And who could forget the pain au chocolat, some as big as your head at the bakery! Watching students marvel at the size (and taste!) of their breakfast pastries was a delight in itself. Whether exploring the festive markets, practising their French with locals, or simply enjoying the sights and sounds of Lille, our students carried themselves with such politeness and enthusiasm. Their happiness was infectious, and it's no wonder we're still talking about it months later.

We recently celebrated their many achievements at our Celebration Evening, which is genuinely my favourite night of the year. The atmosphere is always full of positivity, and I'm consistently overwhelmed with pride as I hear the wonderful comments from staff about our students. Seeing them receive their certificates in front of proud families and friends was a heartwarming reminder of just how much they've grown and accomplished this year.

As we look ahead to Year 9, I have every confidence that this fantastic year was just the beginning. Well done, Year 8! You've made us proud, and I look forward to seeing what's next!

### Mrs P Hart-Cadman

Head of Year 8

Teacher of Business, Finance and Computing



#### Form stars of the year

##### 8CBA Freya B

This student consistently demonstrates a strong work ethic and a respectful attitude throughout the school day. Their mature and thoughtful approach to learning has been a pleasure to witness this year and reflects the outstanding young person they are becoming.

Always among the first to arrive at tutor time, they greet each day with a warm and friendly smile. They regularly go above and beyond to support others, showing pride in how they carry themselves both in and out of the classroom.

Their kindness shines through in the way they interact with both peers and staff, making them an exceptional role model for others. Well done!

##### 8TDS Fredderick S

This student has demonstrated a high level of enthusiasm and engagement during form time and beyond, consistently displaying a positive attitude that contributes positively to the overall atmosphere of the class. This students' involvement in school life extends beyond the classroom, reflecting a commitment to a school community that is second to none. They are a valuable member of the school cricket team, where they not only showcase their skills but also assumes a leadership role amongst their peers. This aspect of their character highlights the ability to inspire and motivate others, which contributes to a high level of teamwork and camaraderie within the group. Their polite and courteous manner is consistently observed in interactions with both staff and fellow students, which speaks volumes about their character and respect for others.

##### 8KSA Izabella A

This student approaches school with a positive and engaging attitude. They are excellent at meeting expectations and just quietly get on with things, letting their actions and effort do the talking. They enjoy reading and the creative side of school but do equally well in more academic subjects. They are a real example of accepting that you get out of school what you put in.

##### 8MJR Arthur O'K

These are the values our school holds dear and this student embodies them fully. This student in 8MJR has been a quiet yet powerful role model, consistently showing respect, maturity, and kindness in everything they do. Their positive attitude, calm behaviour, and thoughtful actions have made them a trusted and valued member of the form. They approach challenges with determination, supports their peers generously, and has helped build a more inclusive and caring community. Their efforts to bring students together and lift others up have not gone unnoticed.

Thank you for being the heart of our form group. You've set a shining example, and we're incredibly proud of all you've achieved.

##### 8SAH Libby B

This student has been nominated for my Form Star because they have worked so hard this year to be the very best that they can be. Their behaviour for learning scores has been impressive, with over a third of their lessons being awarded as outstanding. This student possesses fantastic leadership skills, always willing to represent the school for athletic competitions and activities, with drive and enthusiasm, and is able to inspire others whilst doing so. This student is also performing extremely well in their subjects, with many teachers describing their attitude to learning and homework quality as outstanding. With all of this combined, it creates a recipe for success, and I have no doubt that this student is going to have a very bright future. I look forward to three more years of being their form tutor and seeing their potential. Well done.

# Heads of Year

## 8JJT Darci C

As a new member of staff at Blythe Bridge High School this year, my form group helped me to settle in quickly and get to grips with all of the new procedures and policies. However, one student in particular - through their genuinely gracious and considerate nature - embodied and demonstrated to me what 'pride, respect and kindness' look like in a student. They are actively involved in the school community such as the school show, choir, charity events, being a careers champion and lots more. Not only are they conscientious and diligent with their studies but they are also a kind and considerate friend. With great pleasure and pride, I'd like to present this student with 8JJT's star of the year award.

## 8KH Daisy E

The student who has won form star for 8KH is a student who always goes above and beyond to help others, they are a wonderful kind hearted person who always has a smile on their face, they have helped a number of new starters this year to settle in to school life here at Blythe Bridge and I am very grateful to have such a reliable student in my form who is always a friend to everyone. Always continue being as lovely as you are and don't let anyone dull your shine, 8KH would not be the same without you in it.



### Year 8 Top Achievers up to 9/6/25

Freya B 8CBA 2634

Jude W 8KH 2487

Amber W 8KH 2487

Michael O 8KH 2296

Daisy E 8KH 2294

Darci C 8JJT 2283

Ruby M 8CBA 2184

Tyler-Jay C 8KH 2183

Charlotte C 8SAH 2178

Noah B 8KH 2178

## Year 9

Year 9 – what an incredible journey this year has been!

You've made remarkable progress, both academically and personally. There has been a noticeable increase in your maturity, and many of you are starting to reflect seriously on your futures. This year marked an important milestone as you made your GCSE option choices—an exciting step that begins to shape the path ahead. I've been really impressed by the thought and care many of you put into these decisions, and I'm confident that you'll thrive as you begin these new subjects in September. It's the start of a new chapter where you can begin to explore your interests in greater depth and start preparing for your longer-term goals.

A particular highlight of the year was the number of students who achieved eligibility for the Gold Rewards Trip to Alton Towers. This recognition is no small feat; it reflects consistent effort, excellent behaviour, and a positive attitude throughout the year. You thoroughly deserved the experience, and I hope it was a fun and memorable reward for your hard work.

Another proud moment was the Celebration Evening, where we saw a significant increase in student nominations across a wide range of subjects and character awards. This speaks volumes about the

# Heads of Year

dedication and enthusiasm you've brought into school life this year. The event was a true celebration of your achievements, talents, and contributions—and it was fantastic to see so many families and staff come together to applaud your successes. I hope you felt proud of yourselves; you absolutely should.

You also took part in the "Out to Work" Day, giving you a valuable first experience of the working world. For many of you, this was the first opportunity to gain a taste of different industries and begin thinking about which careers might (or might not!) suit you. It was a chance to build confidence, professionalism, and a better understanding of life beyond school. This experience will be excellent preparation for your work experience week in Year 10, when you'll spend a full week in a real workplace setting.

As we wrap up the year, some of you are preparing for the exciting History trip abroad, which promises to be both educational and unforgettable. These kinds of trips are more than just travel—they're opportunities to connect with the past in a meaningful way and to develop independence, curiosity, and respect for different cultures and histories. I have every faith that you will represent the school with the highest standards of behaviour and maturity, and that you'll return with new perspectives and lasting memories.

Overall, I've been incredibly proud of how far you've all come this year. Your resilience, enthusiasm, and willingness to grow have not gone unnoticed. It has been a privilege to be part of your journey, and I'm genuinely excited to continue supporting you into Year 10 as you take on new challenges, develop new skills, and grow into confident, kind, and well-rounded young people.

Enjoy your well-earned summer break—you deserve it. I'll see you all in September, ready for the next step forward

**Miss K Fargher**  
Head of Year 9  
Teacher of Science



## Form stars of the year

### 9AK Eva-Rose M

This student has been an absolute joy this year, truly embodying our values of pride, respect, and kindness. Since their back operation, they have shown remarkable positivity, approaching each day with an infectious smile and friendly, helpful nature. They work extremely hard in all lessons and their resilient, optimistic attitude makes them a genuine ray of sunshine who lights up every classroom they enter.

### 9BRO Ava W

This pupil has consistently provided an example to her peers in displaying our core values of pride, respect and kindness. She always takes immense pride in her class work, displays respect for herself and others by always following our expectations, and is kind and helpful towards her peers. She has shown these qualities since joining us in Year 7. On top of this she has really pushed herself this year to come out of her shell and take on new challenges. Be this in her dancing outside of school or her work towards her Duke of Edinburgh bronze award. She has been awarded the start of the form for consistency, hard work and embracing challenges in everything she does.

### 9KK Jake W

This year I have really noticed this student come out of their shell more and display more confidence. Each day, they come to form time, ask me how my day was and if I am okay and then offer to hand out the books. They will also hold doors open to staff and students and will always go out of their way to be helpful. This kind of continuous kindness is admirable and outstanding. I am so pleased to see how this student has started to open up more and show to others as well how beautifully polite and courteous they are. I hope they will continue to grow with confidence so that more people get to see what a wonderful person they are.

### 9KMP Bella W

At last year's Year 8 Celebration Evening, I remember looking around the hall and thinking, "How has X not received a single nomination in any subject?" It genuinely surprised me, because even then, their effort and attitude stood out. I made a quiet promise to myself that if they continued on the same path, she would be my Star of the Year in Year 9. And they absolutely have. X is a truly outstanding student—intelligent, hardworking, and consistently respectful. Their behaviour is exemplary, and they live out our school values of pride, respect, and kindness every single day. They embody everything we hope to see in our students, and I'm delighted to recognise them this year.



# Heads of Year

## 9NC Heidi H

This student has made an outstanding contribution to 9NC this year. They consistently demonstrate exceptional integrity and show a thoughtful, considerate approach in all their relationships within the form group both peers and staff. They truly live out the school values of pride, respect, and kindness in everything they do, setting a brilliant example for both new and long-standing members of the group. I am incredibly proud of the young person they have become and how they have grown and flourished throughout this academic year. I am sure you will continue to do both myself and 9NC proud!

## 9NP Molly-Jean S

This year's 9NP Star of the Year goes to a student who has shown extraordinary resilience, strength, and quiet determination. From the very beginning of the school year, they have faced physical challenges that would have made many others understandably ask for adjustments or support—but not once have they complained. In fact, they've consistently said they didn't want to be a burden or cause any changes to routines, even when they were clearly in discomfort. What's even more impressive is the mindset they've carried throughout it all. They've approached every day with positivity, humility, and a quiet confidence that has earned the respect of their peers and teachers alike. Despite their personal challenges, they've remained fully committed to their learning—always prepared, engaged, and determined to succeed. They have produced fantastic work across a wide range of subjects and have continued to push themselves academically, never allowing their situation to hold them back. Whether it's contributing thoughtfully in class discussions, staying on top of deadlines, or encouraging others with a smile, they consistently go above and beyond. It's not just their academic performance that stands out, but the way they embody our school values every single day. They show pride in everything they do, demonstrate deep respect for others, and carry a natural kindness that makes them a quiet but powerful role model. This award is not just for what they've achieved, but for how they've achieved it. It's a genuine honour to name them the 9NP Star of the Year.



### Year 9 Top Achievers up to 9/6/25

Oliver W 9JB 2773  
Casey J 9KMP 2483  
Frankie A 9NP 2426  
Cole E 9KK 2321  
Sophie H 9BRO 2241  
Reuben L 9NP 2196  
Joe D 9NC 2186  
Freya L 9BRO 2176  
Alexis B 9KMP 2167  
Pippa S 9BRO 2154

## Year 10

As we approach the end of the academic year, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the excellent progress our Year 10 students have made. Your hard work and dedication have paid off, and it's fantastic to see you all growing into confident and capable individuals.

A big shout-out to our students heading off to Spain on their trip. We hope you have a safe and enjoyable time exploring a new country and making unforgettable memories. As I write this, we are also looking forward to our Year 10 Celebration Evening, where we can share and enjoy your achievements, throughout this academic year.

The next few weeks remain jam-packed with exciting events, including a week of work experience, where you will get to experience the world of work first hand, and gain valuable skills and insights. And, for those of you who have achieved a fantastic 2000+ achievement points, get ready for a thrilling day out at Alton Towers - a well-deserved treat!

This year we have also had a strong focus on careers, helping you explore your interests and aspirations. We're proud of the progress you have made, and we look forward to hearing all about your 'week at work'.

As we head into the summer break, I want to encourage you all to take some time to relax and recharge, you've earned it! Year 11 is just around the corner, and we'll be working hard to prepare you and support you for your GCSEs.

**Mrs S Davies**  
Head of Year 10  
Teacher of PE



## Form stars of the year

### 10AIT Layla D

This student is a real role model—attentive, hard working and always conscientious. They set an excellent example in the classroom, and, although quiet, will contribute thoughtful answers willingly. They consistently demonstrate our school values of Pride, Respect and Kindness, and stand out as a thoughtful and considerate member of the form. They are a good friend to all, and will always put in maximum effort, no matter what the task. I am delighted to name this student as the Form Star for 10AIT. Keep being wonderful!

# Heads of Year

## 10CFL Dexter H

This student consistently demonstrates an outstanding attitude across all areas of school life. His academic outcomes are excellent, and he is a superb role model to his peers. He shows great commitment to extra-curricular activities, particularly through his involvement in chess. He has displayed the qualities deserving of this award over the past three years. He is a real pleasure to have in the form group, always contributing positively and engaging fully in citizenship lessons. His attitude and conduct are consistently exemplary.

He is a credit to the form and the wider school community



## 10KC Sophie S

This student is an outstanding student whose enthusiasm, kindness, and dedication shine through in everything they do. They approach their studies with a genuine love of learning—especially their passion for reading—and consistently give their best effort in all subjects. Their warm and caring nature makes them a joy to be around, and they treat everyone with respect and compassion.

This nomination, put forward by their peers, is a testament to the positive impact they have on those around them. They are a great role model who lives out our school values of pride, respect and kindness every day. They are well deserving of this recognition.

## 10KKN Jessica C

This is a student who truly shines within our school community. From the very start, they have approached every aspect of school life with positivity, warmth, and integrity. They live and breathe our core values of pride, respect, and kindness — not through grand gestures, but through the consistent way they treat others and the example they set each day. A natural role model, they support their peers with compassion, step up to leadership opportunities, and dedicate their time to charitable causes — always giving their best and encouraging others to do the same. Since Year 8, their dedication to learning and their unwavering respect for others have stood out as something very special. It has been a privilege to watch their journey so far, and I have no doubt that even greater things lie ahead. We celebrate their achievements tonight and send them forward with our very best wishes for a bright and exciting future..

## 10LKB Alex T

This student has been chosen as 10LKB's Form Star in recognition of the consistent dedication, kindness, and integrity they bring to school each day. Their conscientious attitude and proactive approach to independent learning set a strong academic example for others.

With excellent punctuality and attendance, they show a deep sense of responsibility. They treat staff with respect, offer kindness and loyalty to their peers, and contribute positively to the form group in every way. In citizenship lessons, they engage quietly but thoughtfully, approaching sensitive topics with maturity and empathy.

They are a quiet role model; proving that true leadership lies in consistency, character, and the positive influence we have on those around us.

## 10NG Scarlett W-H

Their conduct and behaviour are exemplary at all times, and they consistently set a positive example to their peers. They contribute thoughtfully and maturely to lessons, showing genuine interest in their learning. They are kind, friendly and always welcoming, creating an inclusive atmosphere that helps others feel comfortable and supported. In dance, they demonstrate a strong work ethic and real enthusiasm. They approach each lesson with energy and determination, always striving to improve their performance. Their commitment was evident in their preparation for the recent Art in Motion showcase, where they dedicated lunchtimes to rehearse. Their willingness to help GCSE students with their choreography shows leadership and generosity. In Geography, they have produced some impressive work, particularly in The Living World topic, where they have shown a good understanding and thoughtful insights. Overall, they are hardworking and a reliable student who make a positive contribution to every subject and aspect of school life.

### Year 10 Top Achievers up to 9/6/25

Evie H 10KC 2044

Michael F 10CFL 1932

Esmee W 10KC 1931

Joshua G 10KC 1868

Scarlett W-H 10NG 1864

Emily B 10KKN 1860

Leo F 10KC 1860

Liam O 10NG 1855

Charlie B 10NG 1853

Thomas K 10KC 1837

# Heads of Year

## Year 11

The last five years have gone incredibly quickly, and it is difficult to believe that your journey of completing your key stage four studies is nearly over. How do you put five years of memories, growth, chaos and laughter into an overview of the year? The truth is, there's no perfect way to summarise everything we've shared, but I'll do my best.

When you all arrived in Year 7, you were children. Nervous, excited, chatty (some of you very chatty), clutching your new bags and timetables, worrying about getting lost on the way to science or whether you'd make friends. And now look at you. You've grown into young adults—strong, smart, funny, thoughtful—and ready for whatever comes next. From my perspective, it's been a real journey watching that transformation. A front-row seat to your progress, your mistakes, your proudest moments, and your worst attempts at trying to hide multiple students in a cubicle. Some of you have changed dramatically, others have stayed very much yourselves—but each and every one of you has come a long way.

These five years haven't been easy. You've faced challenges that no one could have predicted—online learning, missed milestones, periods of uncertainty,

and a steady presence. You've cheered on students through challenges, celebrated their triumphs, and carried more than your fair share of coffee on early mornings.

But through it all, you kept going.

You learned to adapt. You worked hard—even if it was five minutes before the deadline. You laughed when you could've cried, supported each other when someone was having a rough day, and you learned not just what's in textbooks, but who you are and what you stand for.

You've made memories that will last a lifetime: school trips, football matches, productions, charity events, inside jokes with your mates, moments in lessons that started as a tangent and somehow turned into full class debates. You've shared victories—big and small—and made it to the end of one of the most significant chapters of your life.

And yes, you also survived mock weeks. That deserves its own round of applause.

To the incredible staff who've guided you along the way—thank you. Our teachers, support staff, TAs, admin team, canteen staff, site team—you are the reason this school is what it is. You've gone above and beyond, time and again, not just to deliver lessons but to offer guidance, a listening ear,

and a steady presence. You've cheered on students through challenges, celebrated their triumphs, and carried more than your fair share of coffee on early mornings.

To every teacher who stayed late marking, gave up lunchtimes for revision sessions, or had to repeat "Put your phone away" more times than should be humanly necessary—thank you.

You've made a difference in these young people's lives. And I know they won't forget it.

To your families—thank you. We thank them for the late-night revision help, the encouragement, the school runs, the uniform hunts, and for being a consistent support behind the scenes. We know it hasn't always been easy, and we are truly grateful for all they have done to help our students get to this point.

To Year 11, I want you to know this: we see you. We see how hard you've worked, how much you've grown, and how far you've come. Some of you are heading to sixth form or college. Others into apprenticeships, training, or work. Some of you might still be figuring out what's next—and that's okay. Life is not a race. It's not about having it all figured out at 16. The truth is—most adults don't even have it figured out.



# Heads of Year

But what matters is the kind of person you are becoming. Be kind. Be brave. Be someone who stands up for others. Be someone who's not afraid to fail and try again. Take the lessons you've learned here—both in and out of the classroom—and carry them with you.

I want to share just a few final lessons that don't appear in any exam paper:

- You will fail sometimes. It's not the end of the world—it's the beginning of growth.

- Comparison is a waste of energy. Your journey is yours. Own it.

- People remember how you make them feel, not your grades or your trainers.

- Say thank you—to your teachers, your friends, your parents, your bus drivers.

- And finally—believe in yourself, even on the days when it feels impossible.

Now that your examinations are over, you leave as former students of this school—but you'll always be a part of it. You've left your mark here. You've shaped this year group. You've helped create a culture, a spirit, a sense of belonging that won't be forgotten.

You'll always be part of the Class of 2025—the class who made it through lockdowns, mocks, coursework stress, drama, laughter, growth, and everything in between.

We will miss your energy, your ideas, your individuality, and yes—even your noise.

But we know you're ready. Ready for the next step. Ready to discover who you are beyond these walls.

And we'll be cheering you on every step of the way.

Thank you, Year 11. For everything.

Now go and show the world what you're made of.

## Mrs L Cartlidge

Head of Year 11  
Curriculum Leader  
of Philosophy and Ethics



# 100% Attendance

**Year 7**

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

02/09/2024 to 30/5/2025

**Year 8**

Name	Reg
Oliver B	8KH
Noah B	8KH
Anya B	8KH
Lacey C	8CBA
Benjamin G	8SAH
Molly M	8KH
Callum M	8HW
Archie N	8KSA
Joshua T	8SAH
Jude W	8KH
Benjamin W	8CBA

**Year 9**

Name	Reg
Rosa C	9AK
Seth D	9NP
Joe D	9NC
Corey E	9AK
Oliver F	9KK
Sophie H	9BRO
Kyle H	9KMP
Olivia R	9NC
Joshua T	9KK
Bella W	9KMP
Holly W	9AK

**Year 10**

Name	Reg
Michael F	10CFL
Ben J	10JBY
Daniel L	10AIT
Ropate T	10AIT

**Year 11**

Name	Reg
Daniel C	11LLM
Freya C	11LLM
Lily C	11LRO
Leila F	11LRO
Will H	11HBL
Georgia Rose H	11GM
Taye H	11SGF
Ellie P	11GM
Harshdeep S	11LRO
Shimano S	11LRO
Harry V	11SL

# Attendance

The top three year groups for overall attendance up to 23<sup>rd</sup> May are:



## The top three forms per year group



The overall top form group is 8KH with 96.6%!





# 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](mailto: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

BLTYHE 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



# STEM Club



In May, STEM students enjoyed their last session in maths. Students were calculating the heights of locations around the school, using their homemade clinometers.

# Pool Club



This has been our first year running the pool club at Blythe Bridge and it has been a huge success. The progress the students have made has been phenomenal, some barely able to hold a cue when they started are now play full games. We do a whole range of activities including, singles, doubles, killer, drills and watching games, the aim is to improve not only their play but their knowledge of the rules and their patterns.



The best players we have are Toby B in Year 9, who aspires to compete at a county level, Josh E in year 9 who has the highest win rate at the club, and Adam K in Year 10. Then we have several amazing year 7s who have all come on so much this year, Rosie H-C, Elizabeth R , Jacob E and Archie W.

There is going to be a number of exciting opportunities coming next year , including house competitions and leaderboards. So, watch this space!



# Eco-Garden Club



Our school eco-garden has enjoyed another successful year, with students taking great pride in caring for the animals and nurturing a vibrant array of plants and flowers. From planting seasonal blooms to maintaining the garden spaces, their dedication has helped create a calm, green corner of our school that continues to flourish. A huge well done to everyone involved in keeping the eco-garden thriving!





# Chess Club



## Tuesday League (Years 7 and 8) Week 2

Tuesday lunchtimes Room 10

1st Ryan H 8JTT Centaur

2nd Ben C 8SAH Sphinx

3rd Bodhi B 7DH Centaur

4th Oskar P 8JTT Centaur

5th Tyler-Jay W 8MJR Sphinx

## Thursday League (Years 9,10 and sixth form) Week 2 Thursday lunchtimes Room 10

1st Dexter H 10CFL Centaur

2nd Tor M 9KK Sphinx

3rd Seth D 9NP Serpent

3rd Michael F 10CFL Pegasus

3rd Toby B 9NC Pegasus

4th Martin G 9KMP Serpent

5th Joshua E 9KK Pegasus

This year's summer tournament will take place in July.

# Philosophy and Ethics

## **Joshua S, Year 11**

"I chose philosophy and ethics as I enjoyed the lessons in Year 7-9. I always engaged in the lessons and felt that it had always been one of my strongest subjects. My favourite unit in the subject is the Crime and Punishment unit. This is because it looks at all opinions and religious views on key topics that are relevant today. Mrs Cartlidge and Mrs Holmes support us by always making sure that we know the curriculum and are always willing to help us with anything that we need, either in lesson or not."

## **Tamsin C, Year 11**

"I picked philosophy and ethics mainly because of the amazing teachers that taught me in year 7, 8 and 9 and felt I wasn't done with it when the end of the year came, and we had to pick our options. I enjoy anything and everything in philosophy and ethics and it's been an incredible few years with not only my classmates but teachers too. The teachers are always giving the class booklets and ways to revise. This includes teachers who I don't have this year offering to help in any way they can."

## **Sophia A, Year 10**

"The Year 9 topics were interesting and the different views and opinions throughout the class really stood out to me. I find the subject quite accessible, and I enjoy topics like Crime and Punishment. I also enjoyed studying Buddhism as I had no prior knowledge of it and it interested me. The teachers recap the topics and ask us if we are confident and will explain if we need further information."

## **Nancy O, Year 9**

"I think the subject is interesting and I enjoy learning about other people's beliefs and why they think that way. I found Crime and Punishment enjoyable and find that the teachers are brilliant at encouraging learning."

## **Meryem M, Year 8**

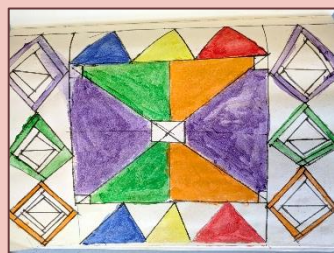
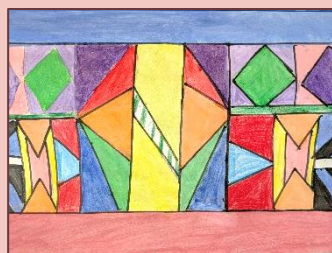
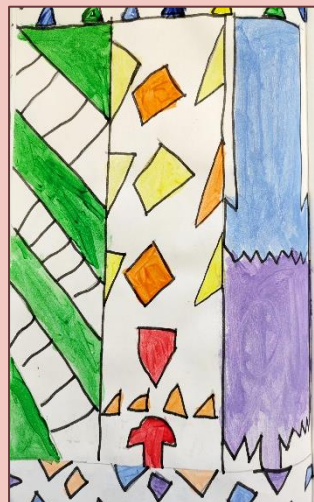
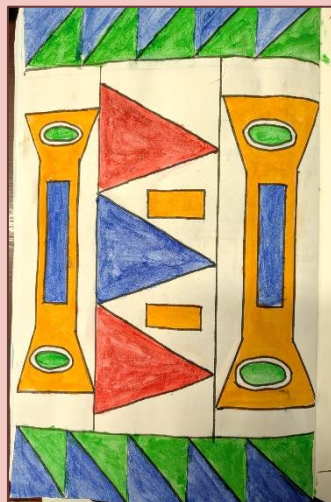
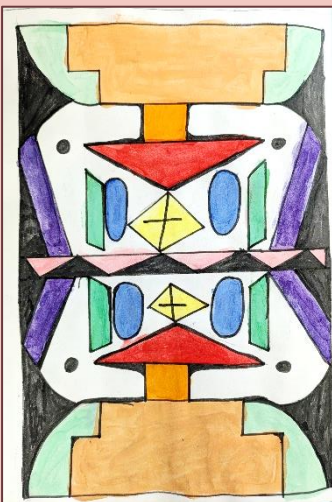
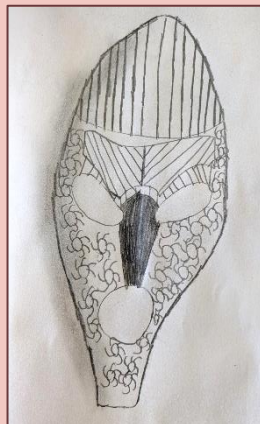
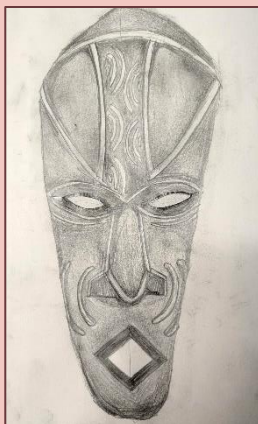
"I enjoy learning about how people have changed for the greater good, such as those who have done bad things and then come to a realisation and form a relationship with God. One of my memorable topics was learning about Crime and Punishment like capital punishment or deterrence, reformation and retribution. My teachers help by giving me lots of information and since I make a lot of notes – one lesson can be up to four pages of notes!"

## **Olly L, Year 7**

"I liked learning about the stories about reincarnation. The teachers are great at helping you when you are struggling to answer a question."

# Year 7 Art

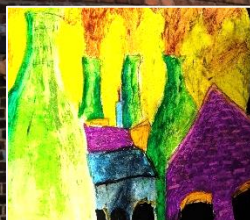
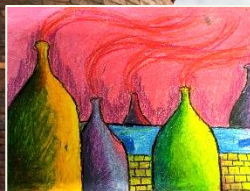
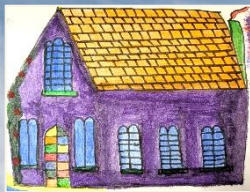
Year 7 students are diving into African Art by exploring the colourful world of the Ndebele tribe. They've discovered how the tribe's bold patterns and bright colours have inspired modern design. Using this as their guide, the students created their own paintings inspired by the striking artwork found on Ndebele village buildings.





# Year 8 Art

Year 8 students are exploring Architecture with a colourful twist! They've been checking out the bold, wild style of Fauvism and the unique designs of Antoni Gaudí. Inspired by these, they've painted local buildings in bright Fauvist colours and patterns. They explored the work of local artist Michael Pritchard and created oil pastel pieces of the iconic Stoke-on-Trent bottle kilns.





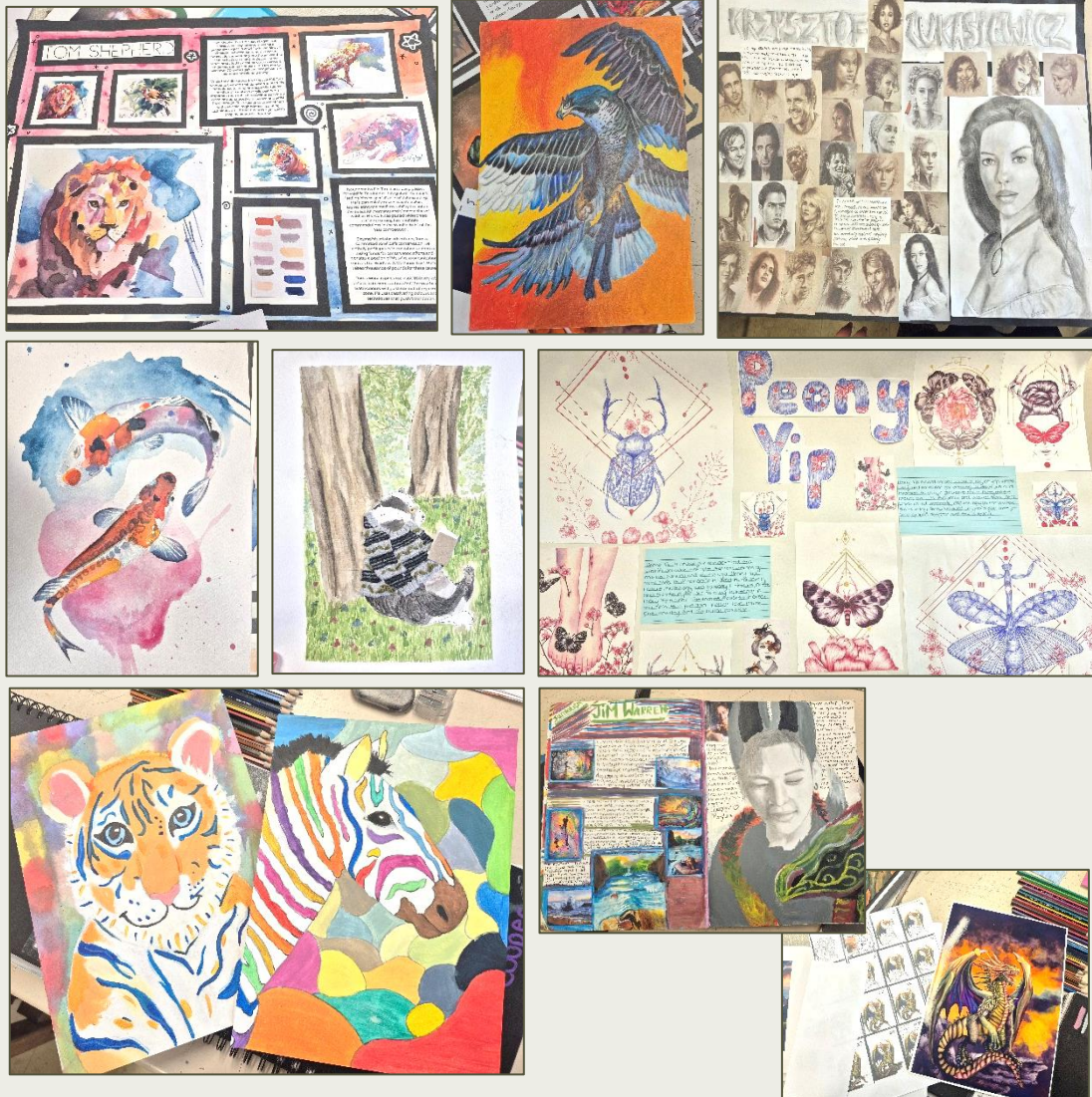
# Year 9 Art

Year 9 students are currently exploring the subject matter of Aquatics. They have examined the artwork of Vincent Scarpace and created oil pastel pieces of fish, exploring colour and texture. They have also completed a creativity assessment, having the freedom to make their own decisions on their 3D sea creature outcomes.





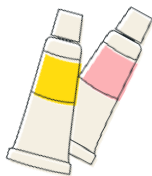
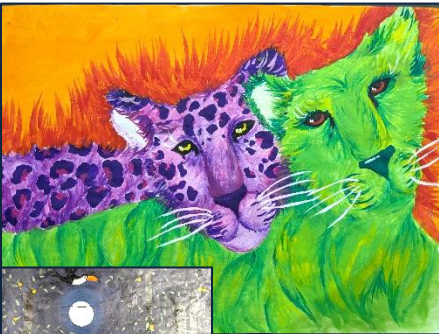
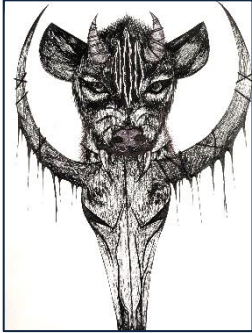
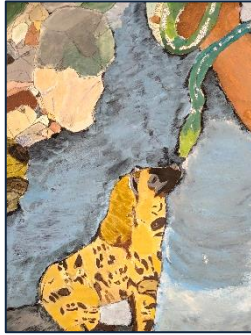
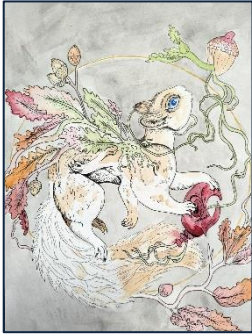
This term, Year 10 students have taken the lead with self-chosen projects inspired by their favourite artists. They've been experimenting with all sorts of media, materials, and techniques to bring their own creative ideas to life through unique compositions.





# GCSE Art

Year 11 students have finished their GCSE Art course this term, and we couldn't be prouder of all the amazing work they've created over the past two years. We're excited to see many of you continue your artistic journey by returning to study Art at A Level next year!





# Art, Photography and Design Technology Exhibition

On Thursday 3rd July, we were proud to showcase the incredible talents of our students at the Art, Photography and Design Technology Exhibition. The event was well attended by students, families, and staff, who enjoyed viewing a wide range of creative and thought-provoking work. From detailed sketchbooks and striking photographs to innovative design pieces, the exhibition was a celebration of the hard work, imagination, and skill our students have shown this year. Thank you to everyone who came along to support!



# Drama

## 6@60

Mrs Baines and the drama club have been rehearsing since March ready for their performances.

Families will enjoy an evening of scripted and devised work.

Pictured are Carly and Libby from Y12 and Millie and Evie O in Year 7 with Frankie A in Year 9 in their piece about the consequences of drink driving.



## School Musical 2026

We're thrilled to announce that our 2026 school musical will be **Annie Jr!**

Open to all year groups, auditions will take place in September, with performances scheduled for February 2026. Whether you're a seasoned performer or new to the stage, we'd love to see you get involved.

So why not take a chance - you're never fully dressed without a smile and a great audition!





# Year 10 IT

Year 10 IT students have been recreating famous faces in vector graphics package Fireworks.



Carly M



Kyra E



Thalia H



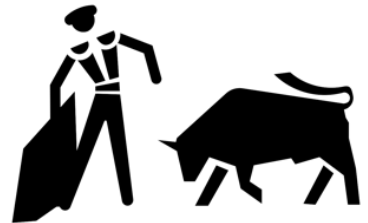
Philippa F

## ¡Viva San Fermín! – A Famous Festival in Spain

Every year from the 6th to the 14th of July, the city of Pamplona, in northern Spain, celebrates **Los Sanfermines**. This festival is famous around the world, especially for the **running of the bulls**, where brave people run through the streets in front of real bulls. It's exciting – but also dangerous!

But San Fermín isn't just about the bull run. There are parades, music, dancing, fireworks, and lots of people dressed in white with red scarves. It's a celebration full of energy, tradition, and culture.

San Fermín is an important part of Navarre's identity and shows the festive spirit of Spain.



# Modern Foreign Languages

## **My book of choice for this term is Pedro Páramo by Juan Rulfo**

Part of my MFL degree focussed on Latin American Culture and Identity which is why I have really enjoyed re-reading a book called Pedro Páramo by Juan Rulfo. It follows the journey of Juan Preciado, who is fulfilling a promise to his dying mother as he sets out to the town of Comala in search of his father, Pedro Páramo. Upon arrival, he finds a desolate, eerie place inhabited by ghosts. As he wanders, he pieces together the fragmented history of Comala and the tyrannical rule of Pedro Páramo, a ruthless landowner who dominated the town through greed and cruelty.

It was so much fun to revisit this book as the story reflects the history, identity and culture of the Mexican people which has been hugely influenced by colonialism. The fact that the town of Comala is a ghost town is a reference to the once flourishing Aztec society which was wiped out by the Spanish conquistadores. There are many other references as to how this mixing of cultures in the past has shaped Mexican identity today. For anyone interested in Latin American literature, Pedro Páramo remains an essential and thought-provoking read and I highly recommend it!

Mr L McConvey

## **Vocabulary Builder**

**Our Year 10 students are diving into the world of food and healthy living this term!** They've been exploring key vocabulary to talk about meals, healthy habits, and making good lifestyle choices – all in French and Spanish!

Spanish	French	English
La salud	La santé	Health
Las verduras	Les légumes	Vegetables
El azúcar	Le sucre	Sugar
El ejercicio	L'exercice	Exercise
El cuerpo	Le corps	The body
El corazón	Le cœur	The heart
En forma	En forme	In shape / fit
La comida sana	La nourriture saine	Healthy food
La comida basura	La malbouffe	Junk food





# Welcome!

## ...to S4 Swim School

**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

**s4swimschool.uk**

# 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](http://frog.bb-hs.co.uk) as the school URL
4. Enter username/password

Please email [frogsupport@bb-hs.co.uk](mailto:frogsupport@bb-hs.co.uk) if you require a password reset or further information.

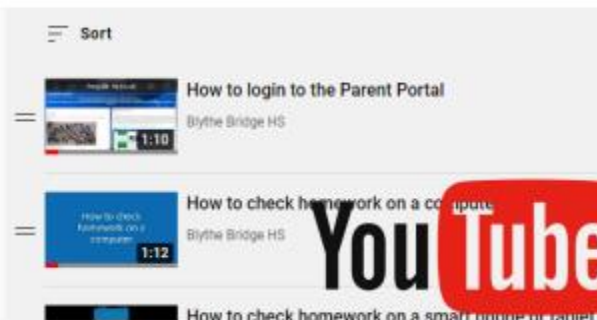
## Parent Portal Tutorials

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

Visit: [tinyurl.com/ymj8pkz5](http://tinyurl.com/ymj8pkz5) or go to [www.bb-hs.co.uk/parentportal](http://www.bb-hs.co.uk/parentportal)



Parent Portal Tutorial Series



YouTube

# 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  
local community and businesses.

If you are looking for a regular indoor or outdoor  
venue for your club or society, or a space for a one  
off event, we offer a range of facilities.

### THESE INCLUDE

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