

Friday Focus



Issue 175 | September 2025

Highlights of this week's news at school and forthcoming events

Photo of the week
#weareblythe



LEARNING IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS

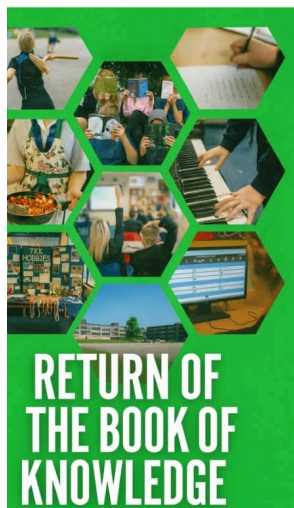
Our Year 11 geographers enjoyed a wonderful day at Carding Mill Valley, even though the weather brought more rain than sunshine! The students showed great enthusiasm throughout the fieldwork activities, making the most of the experience and demonstrating real resilience in challenging conditions. Mr Knight was especially proud of the group, not only for their hard work and positive attitude but also for the way they represented our school in the wider community. Several members of the public took the time to comment on how polite, respectful, and well-mannered our students were, which was a real credit to them. Overall, it was a successful and memorable day that highlighted both the dedication of our students and the strong values they uphold.

WELCOME

Linking with the theme of this week's assembly on gratitude, I'd like to thank our team of prefects who have taken to their new roles so well. Their mature and positive approach to their additional responsibilities this week at the Year Ahead evenings has been superb and I look forward to their valuable support during our Year 6 Open Evening on Thursday. Just a reminder that school is shut to students on Friday 19th September as this is our second INSET day for staff.

Mrs Johnson
Headteacher

Pride, Respect & Kindness



Our year 8 students have been issued with their new Book of Knowledge.

Please support them by encouraging them to get into good habits and to do their homework for each evening.

If they have sporting events or other commitments, then students should try to complete homework ahead of when it is set in the booklet.

Class teachers will ask students to mark and correct their homework in lessons.

Last year 99% of all students completed their homework each day.

As before form tutors will check homework each day and any student who completed it and doesn't have a valid reason will be asked to complete the homework that same day with teacher support in N4 from 3:10 to 3:40. Parents/carers will receive a text message if this is the case.

Thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support with this. We know that important knowledge is in ensuring that all children have a successful year with as many opportunities open to them as is possible.

Students who might struggle to complete the homework at home can make use of the homework club each evening which runs in room 3 and has staff support. Students attending the Kick Start club in N1 each morning also have support in completing their homework.

Year 7 will be issued with their book next Monday.



SUBJECT AMBASSADORS

Staff will nominate Year 12 students for Subject Ambassador roles. Selected students will work closely with staff to promote an awareness of careers and progression routes linked to the subject, as well as develop extra curricular opportunities. Together, the team of ambassadors also have a role within teaching & learning, taking part in student voice activities with leaders and governors. As well as developing a range of skills, being nominated as a Subject Ambassador shows universities and future employers that staff recognise the commitment and passion you have for your subject. Student nominations to be subject ambassadors closes on Monday 15th September.

For more information, please see Miss Alford.



TAKING CENTRE STAGE

This week, the new Y10 performing Arts class performed their first piece.

Working in pairs, they rehearsed and developed their understanding of the characters over two lessons and then performed in front of the class.

Their classmates gave positive and useful feedback to each group to enable them to improve their acting skills further.

BOOK OF KNOWLEDGE

What's on in September

Tuesday 9 th	Annie Jr auditions Year 8 tutor meetings
Wednesday 10 th	Year 11 trip to Carding Mill Year 9 tutor meetings
Thursday 11 th	Year 10 tutor meetings
Thursday 18 th	Year 6 Open Evening
Friday 19 th	INSET day
Thursday 25 th	Blood Brothers theatre trip
Friday 26 th	European Day of Languages
Monday 29 th - Friday 3 rd	Year 11 MFL mock speaking exams

Pride • Respect • Kindness



EGERTON 7

Another change that took place over the summer was to create Egerton 7. This amazing area next to their yard is exclusively for Year 7 students and benefits from its own servery, toilets and a large social space. There are plenty of reading books, boxes of games and even table football. In addition, Mrs Cartlidge and Mr Jackson's offices are based in Egerton 7 so they are on hand to support the students. Thank you to the site staff who made all these changes in just a few weeks.

BBHS Fantasy Football League 2025-26



Could you be the next Arne Slot?

Visit www.fantasy.premierleague.com or use the app to register, create a team and then join the school league using the league code below. Teams must be entered by Saturday 13th September 11am in order to gain points from the gameweek 4 fixtures. See Mr Pugh in room 10 for more information

LEAGUE CODE : 2up5ux

FANTASY FOOTBALL

Think you've got what it takes to manage a winning team? Join the BBHS Fantasy Football League 2025-26 and put your football knowledge to the test!

Simply visit www.fantasy.premierleague.com or download the app, create your team, and use the league code 2up5ux to join the school competition. Make sure you've registered by Saturday 13th September at 11am to start earning points from the Gameweek 4 fixtures. Don't miss out on the chance to compete with friends, classmates, and staff—see Mr Pugh in Room 10 if you need more information.



LITERACY LEADERS

Our newest group of literacy leaders returned to reading for pleasure with year 7 students this week!

Students had the opportunity to discuss their current form time read, before reading together.



Year 7 Creative Corner



Thursday 18th Sep



ANNIE

Over 90 students from across all seven year groups auditioned yesterday to be part of the school musical Annie. The commitment and enthusiasm from all was amazing and we are happy to say that everyone who auditioned will be part of the show. Rehearsals start next Tuesday in the main hall until 4.30pm. A small group have been emailed to come back for callback auditions to help us cast some of the main parts.

YEAR 7

Calling all Year 7 creatives! Do you have any creative hobbies or projects you would happily share in the school newsletter?

We would love to hear from you, with a sentence or two to explain your hobby/project and why you enjoy this creative outlet outside of school. Achievement points will be added to those who get involved.

Please fill out the Microsoft Form shared on your Frog assignments, and we will include a selection of entries in the upcoming October newsletter. Thank you for taking part!

Email bbhsnewsletter@bb-hs.co.uk for any queries.

YEAR 6 PROSPECTIVE PARENTS' EVENING

We are delighted to invite Year 6 families to our Year 6 Prospective Parents' Open Evening on Thursday 18th September.

With presentations in the main hall at 5.30pm and 6.30pm (bookable via our school website), as well as guided tours and activities from 6.00pm–8.00pm, the evening is a fantastic opportunity to explore our facilities, meet staff and students, and experience our school's ethos. We are incredibly proud of our community and the achievements of our young people, and we look forward to welcoming you and sharing what makes our school such a special place. Please register your interest at: www.bb-hs.co.uk

plus
BLYTHE BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL
& SIXTH FORM
PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SHOP

PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SHOP

Our Pre-Loved Uniform Shop (PLUS) supported so many students and families this summer, but we are running very low on stock. We would welcome any donations of unwanted uniform so that we can continue this important offer. Many thanks for your support.

Please email office@bb-hs.co.uk or e.avons@bb-hs.co.uk if you would like to access the uniform shop.



LOST PROPERTY

Please remember to label all items of uniform, as well as water bottles and lunch boxes. At the end of last year, we collected eleven large bags of unclaimed lost property that we were unable to return to their owners.

As the weather turns cooler, if your child has misplaced a coat, please contact t.matthias@bb-hs.co.uk to check our lost property's winter coat section.



AUTUMN TERM MONDAY P4 CITIZENSHIP

Year 7: What is self-awareness?
Year 8: What is peer pressure?
Year 9: What is a safe relationship?
Year 10: How do we deal with unwanted attention?
Year 11: Revision skills

Year 12: Study skills
Year 13: Budgeting



KEY DATES

Thursday 18th September
• Year 6 Open Evening

Friday 19th September
• INSET day

Thursday 25th September
• Blood Brothers theatre trip

Friday 26th September
• European Day of Languages



CAREERS SPOTLIGHT - BENCHMARK 3 - CHECKING IN ON OUR YEAR 11 LEAVERS

Below is an email sent from Mr Goodwin to our Year 11 leavers from Summer 2025. *It was lovely to see so many of you on results day, and I hope that the next step in your journey is going well. We have been contacted by a few students who have found themselves without a college or training place, and others where things haven't worked out as they had planned.*

Remember, as the careers lead, I am here if you have any queries or would like some support with these next steps. We still have some places available in our sixth form, which may be an option. Alternatively, I can access information about other options which might be more appropriate. Please get in touch if you would like to talk this through with me or Claire Atkinson, our independent careers advisor.

Finally, just a reminder that I will contact you again later this term regarding GCSE/BTEC certificate collection.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Congratulations to Louis, Holly, Liam and Scarlett for becoming Head Prefects! We cannot wait to see how they embrace their leadership roles this year.

Meet our Head Prefects



Pride · Respect · Kindness

YEAR GROUP AMBASSADORS

The application process is now open to become a Year Group Ambassador for 2025/26, with two representatives per year group (Year 11 will continue to be represented by the four Head Prefects). This exciting opportunity is designed to develop leadership skills, give students a voice in shaping school life, and represent their peers at a variety of events. Ambassadors should demonstrate pride, respect, and kindness, as well as strong communication and teamwork skills. To apply, submit a letter, video, or presentation telling us about yourself, your qualities, and why you would excel in the role - make sure your application stands out and submit it by Friday 26th September.

ASSEMBLIES

Year 7-11

Mrs Adams: Teaching and Learning

Sixth form assemblies will be a student led presentation on blood donation.



REMINDER

A reminder for students to check their timetables and bring in the correct kit for their PE lessons with appropriate footwear. Please also remember to bring in ingredients for food technology lessons.

MENU CHOICE

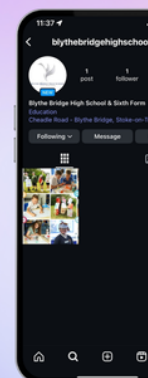
STREETRIES		LUNCH MENU		TRADITIONAL	
WEEK 1		MON		TUE	
Penne Bolognese Bake with Creamy Garlic Topping		Chinese Style Sweet & Sour Chicken		Roast Pork & Stuffing with Gravy	
Veggie Bolognese Bake with Creamy Garlic Topping		Chinese Style Vegetable Curry		Maple Buttered Puff Pastry Slice	
Italian Tomato & Gnocchi Salad		Steamed Rice with Fried Asian Vegetable		Skin On Garlic Roasted Red Cabbage & Carrots	
ITALIAN TOMATO PASTA DAILY		PASTA & NOODLE POTS		ITALIAN TOMATO PASTA DAILY	
GARLIC PULLED CHICKEN ALFREDO (PASTA)		CHICKEN CHICKEN CURRY (NOODLES)		CLASSIC MEATBALL MARINARA (PASTA)	
DELICIOUS		PORK BUTTERFLY CRUNCH WRAP		CHICKEN TIKKA MASALA PIZZA SLICE	
BIG BOWL SALAD		CHICKEN TIKKA & MINT YOGHURT		RAMEN INSPIRED NOODLE SALAD WITH EGG	
DESSERTS		Apples Cookies		Classic Iced Sprinkle Sprinkle	
Daily Meal Deals Regular Chef's Specials		JACKET POTATOES - Regular - CHIPS - TUNA MASH - OR SIMPLY PULLED		Freshly Made From Scratch DAILY!	
				Fresh Cut Fruit & Yogurt Pots Available Daily	
				HANDCRAFTED DELI SANDWICHES, BAGUETTES, WRAPS, SALADS & MORE!	

Follow us on



Instagram

@blythebridgehighschool





LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

MONDAY

Colouring club - All lunches

TUESDAY

Yr & 7 & 8 Lunch
Archeology Club

WEDNESDAY

Sign Language Club- All lunches

THURSDAY

Year 9 & 10 Break- Literacy prefect reading

FRIDAY

Year 9 & 10 Break- Literacy prefect reading

Year 7 & 8 Lunch - Story sessions



Did you know you can raise free donations for Blythe Bridge High School & Sixth Form every time you shop online? With over 7,500 retailers including Tesco, Amazon, John Lewis and more, a percentage of what you spend is donated to our school at no extra cost to you. Signing up takes just a moment and is completely free – simply scan the QR code below to get started and help support our students.



6 Reasons to Put Your Phone Away

by @Inner_Drive
www.innerdrive.co.uk



Lowens Concentration

Having your phone out while doing homework or revision has been shown to reduce performance by 20%.



Increases FOMO

Fear of Missing Out (FOMO), or the compulsive need to know what others are doing leads to worse moods and increased anxiety.



Increases Stress and Anxiety

Over use of mobile phones leads to increased anxiety, feelings of loneliness and low self-esteem. Reliance on mobile phones can cause irritation, frustration and impatience.



Warpes Your View of Reality

Nobody is as happy as they seem on Facebook or as wise as they appear on Twitter.



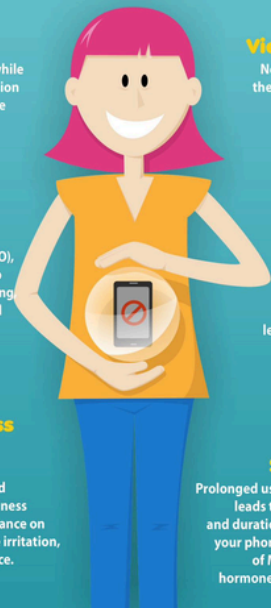
Reduces Memory

Instant messages are distracting, which often leads to forgetfulness



Makes You Sleep Worse

Prolonged use of a mobile phone leads to poor sleep quality and duration. The backlight on your phone delays the release of Melatonin, which is a hormone important for sleep.



plus
BLYTHE BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM
PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SHOP

If you are interested in purchasing items please email t.matthias@bb-hs.co.uk and we will let you know what we have in stock. Donations are always welcome.

Funding for Selected Routes

Full or Part-Time Routes

Gain School Experience

Train to Teach in Local Schools

Primary (3-7) • Primary (5-11) • Secondary (11-16)



The John Taylor SCITT

jtscitt.co.uk

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

MUGA PITCHES ● GRASS FOOTBALL PITCHES ●
MAIN HALL ● CLASSROOMS ● ICT SUITES ● ART
FACILITIES ● HARD COURTS ● SWIMMING POOL



Scan the QR code for our price list and
a copy of our hire request form

01782 392519

office@bb-hs.co.uk

ST11 9PW



Free School Meals



HAVE YOU REGISTERED YET?

**See if you are entitled...
It costs nothing to try, so why not give it a go!**

You may be eligible for support via benefits related Free School Meals if you meet any of the following low income entitlement criteria:

- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance. Please note the 'new style' job seekers allowance is not a qualifying benefit.
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance. Please note the 'new style' employment and support allowance is not a qualifying benefit.
- Eligible for Child Tax Credit but not Working Tax Credit and the household income (as used by HMRC to assess tax credits) is not more than £16,190.
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- In receipt of the 4 week run on of working tax credit
- Universal credit (provided you have an annual net earned household income of no more than £7,400 as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods). Your net earned income is your household income after taxes and deductions and does not include income from Universal Credit or any other benefits you may receive.

Even if your child prefers packed lunch, it is worth registering to receive benefits such as:

- A discounted place on some school trips
- Year 6 Headstart pack on transition including one school tie and headphones
- 20% voucher for National Schoolwear, Hanley
- Access to free food and activities during the school holidays

Help the school by registering for Free School Meals!

By registering for Free School Meals, you will also allow school to receive PUPIL PREMIUM, which is extra money from the government to support children from families on lower incomes. The funding that school receives can be used for a range of interventions including help with costs of school trips, music fees, teaching assistant staff, after school programmes and equipment.

The Pupil Premium strategy can be found on the school website.

Holiday Activities and Food



www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Educational-awards-benefits/Holiday-activities-and-food/Holiday-Activities-and-Food.aspx



**To apply, visit the Staffordshire County Council website
www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/educational-awards-benefits/freeschoolmeals/apply-online.aspx**