

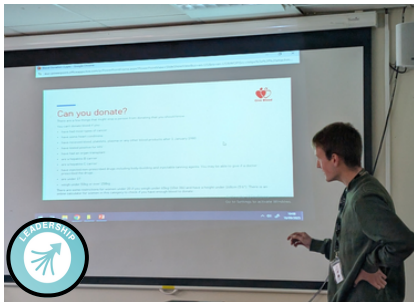
Friday Focus



Issue 177 | September 2025

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

Photo of the week
#weareblythe



SUPER SAM

This week, both sixth form assemblies have been led by Sam B in Year 13 about blood donation.

Sam explained the criteria to be a blood donor to the students, as well as taking them through some of the statistics about how much donated blood is needed each year for transfusions and emergency operations and how many new donors are needed each year.

He asked them to think about becoming a donor when they turn 17 as he has recently.

A huge thank you to Sam for such a great assembly.



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Our Sixth Form students did a fantastic job organising and running a cake sale for the Macmillan Coffee Morning. Working hard together as a team, they raised money for this vital charity while showing kindness and community spirit across the school. A huge thank you to all staff and students who supported the event and helped make it such a success!



YEAR 10 EXPLORE THE NERVOUS SYSTEM

Year 10 have recently been diving into the fascinating world of the nervous system in Biology! They've explored the different types of neurons and how these work together to create coordinated responses, such as catching a ball or riding a bike. Students also learned about reflexes — what they are, why they're important, and looked at real-life examples like the iris reflex, startle reflex, and withdrawal reflex. To put their learning into action, they tested their own reflexes using a ruler drop test — measuring how quickly they could catch a falling ruler. They also had a go at a digital reflex simulator, reacting to stop signs appearing on a screen. It was a fun and eye-opening experience — and let's just say, a few students were very surprised at how sharp (or not-so-sharp!) their reflexes were compared to others! 🧠👉



WELCOME

I have had lots of nominations for 'In the Hotseat' this week which is where students are given the opportunity to share something that they are proud of with senior leaders. Sometimes this is a piece of work in school, or an interest outside of school, but it is always a joy to speak to students and a real highlight of our week.

The list of extra curricular clubs and activities will be shared on FROG next week. There are some exciting things available but if students can think of a club or activity that isn't on offer, please ask them to speak to their head of year.

Mrs Johnson

Headteacher

Pride, Respect & Kindness

Year 7 Back to School competition winners



YEAR 7 COMPETITION WINNERS

Well done to Lottie and Ben who were chosen at random from all the correct entries in our Year 7 Back to School competition. To help our new Year 7 students get to know key members of staff they were challenged to use the clues to match the school bag to the correct teacher.

Achievement points to all participants and extra achievement points and chocolate treats for the two overall winners!



YEAR 10 NETBALL

Year 10 showed great teamwork in PE this week, working together to pass, move and score some brilliant goals on the netball court. Well done Year 10!



KS3 DT: FOOD INGREDIENTS SCHEME

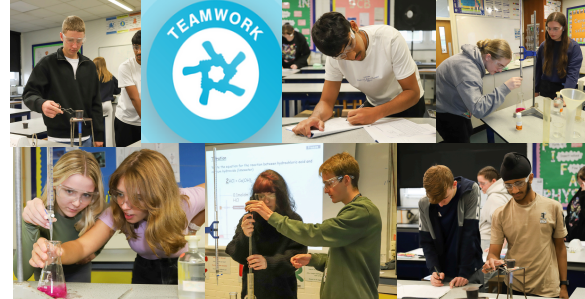
To help support families we offer to purchase base food ingredients in bulk. As well as taking advantage of economies of scale leading to cost savings, it takes the burden off parents needing to do last minute shopping. The price also includes containers to help students transport their finished dishes home.

One-off payments can still be made through ParentPay.



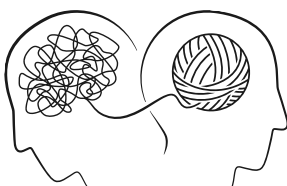
A LEVEL BIOLOGY

Year 13 biologists have investigated plant pigments using chromatography today. They worked hard to separate the plant pigments using the TLC method



A LEVEL CHEMISTRY

Great start to the year for our A level chemists. Students have already completed some challenging concepts such as: nomenclature for isomers, moles and masses, electron sub-shells and orbitals, mass spectroscopy, organic reactions and solubility products for sparingly soluble solids in equilibrium. Here they are showcasing their practical skills which enabled them to calculate reacting moles and masses (Year 12) and calculating concentrations to feed into equilibrium expressions (Year 13).



YEAR 12 PSYCHOLOGY

We're so proud of our Year 12 Psychology students on such a fantastic start to their sixth form journey! We've dived straight into Research Methods and Attachment, and it's been brilliant to see students bringing theory to life through hands-on experiments.

They've practised writing hypotheses, measuring independent and dependent variables, and identifying extraneous variables.

We began with a creative twist – making their own grassheads to test on.

This week, they've graduated to running experiments on each other, measuring cognitive inhibition – the ability to suppress automatic, overlearned responses in favour of less automatic ones.

It's been inspiring to see such enthusiasm, teamwork, and curiosity already shining through. Keep it up Year 12 – what a promising start to the year!



OUR FANTASTIC LIBRARY

Our school library is the perfect place to study, get ahead with homework, or simply enjoy a good book.

With computers available for research, shelves full of exciting reads and adventures waiting to be discovered, there is something for everyone.

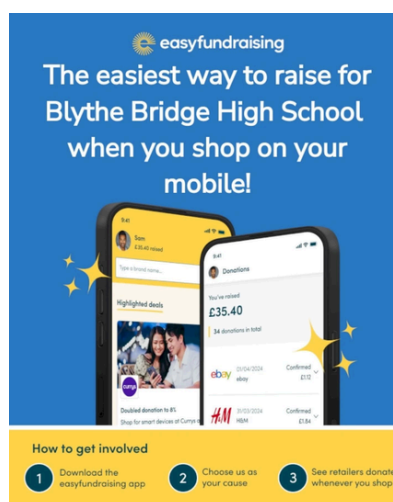
Plus, our friendly librarian, Mrs Jones, is always on hand to offer advice and support whenever you need it.



YEAR 11 COMPETE IN CITY COMPETITION

On Thursday, we saw the Year 11 Boys and Girls play in the City 5-a-side competition. The girls came out as overall winners, comfortably winning all their games without conceding a single goal. An excellent performance, well done!

The boys came a close 2nd in their competition. The finished level on points with the winners but missed out on the head-to-head record. A good performance from the boys to come so close.



EASY FUNDRAISING

Raise free donations for Blythe Bridge High School & Sixth Form - PRK Committee when shopping online with easyfundraising. It won't cost you a penny extra.

All you need to do is:

1. Go to: www.easyfundraising.org.uk/cause/s/blythebridgehscc/ and join for free.
2. Install the app and Donation Reminder extension.
3. Activate your donation before shopping online and the retailer will automatically donate to us for free!

Thank you for your support.



AUTUMN TERM MONDAY P4 CITIZENSHIP

Year 7: What are healthy habits?
Year 8: What are the effects of alcohol?
Year 9: What is grief?
Year 10: What is happiness?
Year 11: Revision skills

Year 12 and Year 13: Study skills and budgeting



KEY DATES

Thursday 2nd October
• Year 10 Chester Zoo trip

Tuesday 7th October
• Primary Cluster Concert

Thursday 9th October
• Percy Jackson Theatre Trip

Thursday 16th October
• HE/ apprenticeship fair

Wednesday 22nd October
• Year 7-11 Flu immunisations

Thursday 23rd October
• Sixth Form Open Evening



CAREERS SPOTLIGHT - BENCHMARK 2 AND 5

MScape visited our school escape room to check how the students have met the brief which was given to them last year. The feedback was excellent:

"We were super impressed by the latest escape room designed by the Blythe Bridge students. A lot of time has been taken to design the room, as the Mscape team we thoroughly enjoyed testing it out."

The room is going to be managed by the team over the coming weeks for students to earn house points!

The team are now going to work on their next creative room theme given to them by Mr Goodwin, watch this space!



A S S E M B L I E S

Year 7-11

National Poetry Day

Year 12 & 13

House Values



Group	Block 1 (B)
Year 7 Girls AC	1 st Sept - 10 th Oct
Year 7 Girls DV	Tramp
Year 7 Boys AC	Football
Year 7 Boys DV	Rugby
Year 8 Girls AC	Netball
Year 8 Girls DV	Football
Year 8 Boys AC	Swimming
Year 8 Boys DV	Rugby
Year 9 Girls AC	Football
Year 9 Girls DV	Netball
Year 9 Boys AC	Rugby
Year 9 Boys DV	Volleyball



R E M I N D E R

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.

S T U D E N T L E A D E R S H I P



This week, Mrs Avons has delivered assemblies on the topic of student leadership. Students heard about the success of Sarina Wiegman and the England women's football team before learning about the many opportunities to lead at Blythe Bridge High School & Sixth Form. One such opportunity is for Year Group Ambassadors. Application details have been shared on FROG and the deadline has been extended to Monday 29th September 2026.

M E N U C H O I C E

STREETRIES		LUNCH MENU		TRADITIONAL	
WEEK 3	Home STYLE	Home STYLE	Home STYLE	AMERICAN Diner	Chips & More
MON	Pork Sausages with Red Onion	Minced Beef & Onion Pie	Lemon Garlic Chicken Bake with Sage & Onion Crumb	BBQ Pulled Pork Bay with Coleslaw	Choose from: Beefsteak Pot, Sausage or Veg Sausage (dinner or plant), Margherita Pizza, Chicken Nuggets, Chips
MAINS	Sticky Vaggle Bangers	Lentil & Onion Pie	Cauliflower Cheese with Gravy	Cheesy Garlic Mushroom & Leek Mac & Cheese	
SIDES	Crushed New Potatoes, Peas	Mashed Potatoes, Green Cabbage	Skin on Garlic Roasties, Roasted Summer Vegetables	Coleslaw, Fries, Crispy Rice	Minny Peas, Baked Beans, Gravy or Curry Sauce
ITALIAN TOMATO PASTA DAILY		PASTA & NOODLE POTS		ITALIAN TOMATO PASTA DAILY	
BEST EVER BOLOGNESE (PASTA)		CHINESE CHICKEN CUPPY (NOODLES)		CLASSIC MEXICAN MARGHERITA (PASTA)	
DELICIOUS HOT LABS & GO		MAC CHEESE PIZZA SLICE		CHICKEN BUTTERMILK CRUNCH WRAP	
BIG BOWL SALAD		RANCH & EGG COBB SALAD		MEXICAN TORTILLA CRUNCH BOWL	
DESSERTS		Asiago Cookies		Chocolate Popcorn Balls	
Daily Meal Deals Regular Chef's Specials		ONLY JACKET POTATOES - BEAN, CHEESE, TUNA MASH OR SMOXY PLAIN		Freshly Made From Scratch DAILY!	
				Fresh Cut Fruit & Yogurt Pots Available Daily	
				HANDCRAFTED DELI SANDWICHES, SAGGETTES, WRAPS, SALADS & MORE	

Follow us on



Instagram

@blythebridgehighschool



Drama Reading

Fancy reading a playscript instead of a novel?

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

This half term's recommendations are:



Check this out

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.



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**