

# Friday Focus



Issue 180 | October 2025

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

Photo of the week  
#weareblythe



## CHRISTMAS CAKE CLUB

We are launching our Christmas Cake Club with Year 7 students after half term. Held across five consecutive Fridays after school, students will bake, marzipan and decorate their cakes ready to be taken home on Friday 12th December. Last year's group were amazing and produced fabulous cakes.

Places are limited and will cost £15 to cover the purchase of the ingredients and decorations. Students who are interested should complete the forms link which will be set as an assignment on FROG.



## Science House Competition



## YEAR 12 SCIENCE

Our A-level science ambassadors have been busy preparing a house competition for Year 7 and 8 students.

After reading 'Why don't things fall up?', the ambassadors have written chapter summaries to answer a range of fundamental science questions and then produced their own quizzes. Year 7 and 8 students can pick their favourite question, read the chapter summary and attempt the quiz.

The more quizzes attempted, the more individual achievement points and the higher the contribution to the house totals!

Please check out frog assignments to read a summaries and attempt the quizzes.

# WELCOME

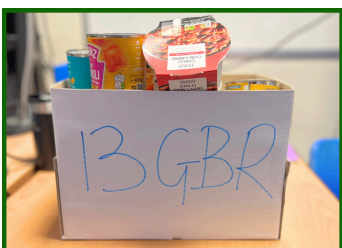
Our Year 10 students, who participated in and won the Oli Leigh Trust Mental Health Challenge, saw the launch of their Mindful Mondays app this week and received both local and national publicity for this amazing achievement. From an interview on Radio Stoke to features on social media and BBC News, this recognition highlights just how well the girls have done. As a school, we are incredibly proud of you all and can't wait to hear about the positive impact your app will have on young people and their families.

Mrs Johnson  
Headteacher

Pride, Respect & Kindness



The Year 7s have been busy donating in Egerton 7!



Students have also been generous in 13GBR.

## HELP US SUPPORT OUR LOCAL FOOD BANK!

To all our wonderful parents, carers and students.

As we approach the colder months, many families in our community are facing difficult times. We believe in the power of compassion and community, and we are asking for your help to make a real difference.

We are collecting non-perishable food items to donate to our local food bank. These donations go directly to families in need, helping to ensure that no one in our area goes hungry.

What can you donate?

- Tinned vegetables, fruit and soup
- Pasta, rice, and noodles
- Breakfast cereals and porridge oats
- Long-life milk and juice
- Tea, coffee, and hot chocolate
- Biscuits and snacks
- Baby food and toiletries

Where to donate: Students, please bring your donation(s) to the Student Leadership Area or via Form Tutors.

Even one item can make a big difference. Let's come together to show kindness and generosity—values we hold dear in our school community. Thank you for your support!

## HALLOWEEN RAFFLE

Our spooky cauldron full of amazing goodies has been put together by Mrs Hayes as a way to launch our first fundraising initiative of the year. We'd love to purchase new goalposts for the top football field and money raised from the Halloween raffle will go towards this. Tickets are available through ParentPay or via reception.





**LUCIE IS ANNIE**



**PHILIPPA IS GRACE**

**LILLY MAI IS ROOSTER**

## ANNIE CAST

It's time to start introducing our wonderful cast of Annie, our musical this year. First up is Lucie W, who will play the titular character of Annie. Lucie has been in all of our musicals and has shown us a growing level of stage maturity, performance skills and commitment over the last three years. We are looking forward to seeing her bring this cheeky, lively and heart warming character to life.

Our second cast member is sixth former Philippa, who will be taking on the role of Grace, Mrs Warbucks' Assistant. Philippa has been involved in all our musicals and is currently in the process of applying to universities to study musical theatre. This will be her last show with us but what a great role to bow out on.

Thirdly, Lilly Mai joined our sixth form this September and has jumped straight into our musical life. Earning the role of Rooster, Miss Hannigan's brother, throughout the audition process Lilly Mai has shown a maturity and natural presence on stage. We look forward to seeing her perform such a rascal of a character!



## HALLOWEEN DISCO

We are excited to announce that tickets will be sold during first break in Egerton 7 for Year 7 and 8 students from Monday 13th October. Don't miss out - grab yours for just £2! last year, students had a blast dancing all night long, and we can't wait to do it all again.

When: Friday, 24th October  
Time: 5pm - 7pm

## SPORTS UPDATES

Here are a few updates from our PE department.

The Year 8 football team got their defence of the city cup underway this week. The lads put in a solid performance to come out 6-0 winners against Co-op Florence MacWilliams Academy. Goalscorers: Dylan T x3, Val, Flynn E, Noah W.  
POM: Val

**Tuesday 16th September: Year 11 boys football Vs OMERA**

Our year 11 boys team completed their first match with a 2-1 victory at home against OMERA. Blythe started well and went one goal up early and maintained this up until half time. OMERA came back in to the game in the second half and levelled the game at 1-1. Blythe scored the final goal of the game and secured victory with about 10 minutes remaining. A solid performance saw Blythe year 11 boys start well this season.

**Thursday 25th September: Year 11 5-A-Side tournament at Excel Academy.**

Our year 11 boys 5 a side football team competed in a round robin format against 8 other city schools. With some excellent play and outstanding individual performances Blythe managed to finish joint top. Unfortunately, they finished 2nd overall on goal difference.

**Thursday 9th October: U14 girls football Vs Thistley Hough**

The U14 girls team were involved in a 9-goal thriller against Thistley Hough at home and ran out 5-4 victors. Excellent performances came from Amelia D and Poppy H to ensure Blythe achieved all 3 points. Well done to all the girls involved!

**Monday 13th October: Year 9 boys football Vs JCB Academy**

Goals from Ethan W and Louis W ensure Blythe ran out 4-0 victors in the year 9 boys football team's first game of the county cup this academic year. A close game in the first half ended with a top midfield performance from Blythe to ensure a comfortable victory.



## FANTASTIC FELIX

Our very own Felix in Year 7 has been selected to take part in the regional training camps for football for Wales.

The first training camp will be a 2 day camp in the October half term followed by another 2 day camp in the December half term.

Felix will be part of this for the next year, where hopefully all of his work, grit and determination will pay off!

Felix has been in the academy system for many years, and is an extremely successful footballer who plays for Manchester United's academy. Felix has blown us away with his exemplary attitude and resilience that he has demonstrated on and off the pitch and it is wonderful to see Felix getting the recognition that he truly deserves. We look forward to seeing Felix's football journey as he continues to shine.



## SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

We look forward to welcoming Year 11 students and their families on Thursday 23rd October, 6-8pm, to our Sixth Form Options Evening. To book your place, please complete the MS Form on our website or via the link in the letter sent to parents and students. Our prospectus is also available on the website for further information on the courses we offer and opportunities available at our sixth form. If you would like any further information, please email [c.alford@bb-hs.co.uk](mailto:c.alford@bb-hs.co.uk) and check out our prospectus here: [www.bb-hs.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Sixth-Form-Prospectus-20256-15.pdf](http://www.bb-hs.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Sixth-Form-Prospectus-20256-15.pdf)



## NEW ARRIVAL IN THE GARDEN

Liquorice, aka Theresa Megg, would like to introduce her new little chick. Both are doing really well and we look forward to hearing more about their progress.



## ANNIE REHEARSALS

The cast and crew of Annie, both two legged and four legged, came into school on Saturday for a three hour rehearsal.

Everyone worked really hard and we were able to finish the choreography for NYC and It's The Hard Knock Life, practise a wide range of individual and group songs as well as block scenes.

Our Sandy (really known as Alfie) came in to meet everyone which almost brought rehearsals to a halt!

We are looking forward to introducing the cast to you over the next few weeks.





## MINDFUL MONDAYS

On this year's World Mental Health Day, we were delighted to welcome visitors from The Inspirational Learning Group and The Oli Leigh Trust to celebrate our amazing group of Year 10 students, who created "Mindful Mondays" as part of the Oli Leigh Trust Mental Health Challenge.

We were joined by parents and special guests to celebrate their success and hear powerful, moving stories about mental health and resilience.

Earlier this year, the group travelled to London to present their idea - and won the challenge! Their incredible project will soon be published and shared with schools across the country to help young people practise mindfulness and improve their mental health. Plus, they have a brand new logo, combining The Oli Leigh Trust's existing logo with the group's design. We couldn't be prouder of what the students have achieved - their work will change lives and make a real difference to young people across the UK. A massive congratulations!

## CROSS COUNTRY

Our boys' cross-country team performed brilliantly this week. We are so impressed with their pride and determination.

We took 20 athletes to St Joseph's to compete in their first race of the school series. A huge congratulations to all involved on your individual performances.

Special mentions:

Congratulations to Isaac C who stormed to victory in the Year 7 race.

Eleven Year 8 pupils competed in the U14 race! Congratulations to Flynn E (), Remi C, Elias K and Finlay D who all finished inside the top 15.

Our U16 team put in a fantastic team effort. Congratulations to Cory E, Oliver S and Maddox C, who also finished inside the top 15, and to Billy P who had a brilliant first cross-country race to complete the team standings.

We look forward to race 2.

## YEAR 13 COOK ON A BUDGET

In this week's citizenship lesson, students from 13LR worked together to plan and cook a meal using a budget of just £3.50.

They discussed different ideas, compared prices, and decided on ingredients that were both affordable and filling.

Everyone had a role - some focused on preparing the food, others managed the shopping list, and a few handled the cooking.

Despite the tight budget, they showed great teamwork and creativity, proving that with good planning and cooperation, it is possible to make a tasty meal without spending much.

Star bakers were Louie S and Joseph B for their home-made pizza and their hygiene/cleaning approach.

## A LEVEL PE VISIT FUSE ACTIVE

A group of A-Level PE students visited Fuse Active in Stafford on 3rd October, where they met with Nathan Wharton, co-owner of the gym and a practicing physiotherapist based at the facility.

The visit gave students the opportunity to ask questions related to their A-Level PE studies, including topics on anatomy, injury recovery, and rehabilitation. They also explored potential career pathways in sport and gained valuable insights into the world of professional athletics and the range of roles available.

Nathan's background in professional football—both as a player at a high level and as a physiotherapist at West Bromwich Albion FC—made him exceptionally well placed to share practical advice and real-world experiences with the students.



## YEAR 11 ASPIRATIONS

Year 11 took part in 'Aspiration Discussions' this week with senior and middle leaders. It was an opportunity to discuss their preparation for upcoming mock examinations and find out what support they need moving forward in Year 11. Staff were impressed with the engagement and enthusiasm displayed by our students.

Good luck in your mock examinations after half term.





## AUTUMN TERM MONDAY P4 CITIZENSHIP

Year 7: What are friendships?  
Year 8: What is bullying?  
Year 9: Types of relationships  
Year 10: What are relationships?  
Year 11: Revision skills



## KEY DATES

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October  
• Year 7-11 Flu immunisations

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October  
• Sixth Form Open Evening

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October  
• Halloween Disco

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> October  
• Iceland Visit

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November  
• Year 11 Exam Week



## CAREERS SPOTLIGHT - BENCHMARK 6

Our 2027 volunteers met at Port Vale FC to discuss the fantastic progress they are making in the fundraising their mission to go to Kenya in 2027. We were impressed with how much progress they have made and the variety of ideas that have been taking place in the community. It was also a good chance for the volunteers to meet students from other schools who will also be taking part in the experience. Keep up the great work!



## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Congratulations to the students who have applied to become year group ambassadors 2025/2026. You have all been rewarded with achievement points and a skills certificate for leadership.

1. Imogen M
2. Arthur O
3. Evie B
4. Nancy O
5. Toby B
6. Frankie A
7. Holly N
8. Ava W
9. Zach D
10. Amelia D
11. Ruby M
12. Ava O
13. Hope M
14. Gurleen K
15. Sophie G
16. Rosie HC
17. Sienna W
18. Elsa T
19. Pippa N
20. Georgia S
21. Amelia P
22. Theo H
23. Daisy F
24. Katy-Hope B
25. Archie R
26. Elli-Mai O

Don't forget if you want to join the PRK committee, the application is still open on Frag!  
PRK club starts 4<sup>th</sup> November - come and get your Christmas craft on!



## MENU CHOICE

| STREATERIES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | LUNCH MENU                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | TRADITIONAL                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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| WEEK 3                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Home                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Home                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Home                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | American Diner                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Chips & More                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| MON                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | TUE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | WED                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | THU                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | FRI                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>MAINS</b><br>Pork Sausages with Red Onion<br>Sticky Veggie Bangers<br>Mixed Beef & Onion Pie<br>Lamb & Onion Pie<br>Cauliflower Cheese with Gravy<br>Lemon Garlic Chicken Bake with Sage & Onion Crumbs<br>Cheesy Garlic Mushroom & Leek Mux & Cheese<br>BBQ Pulled Pork Bun with Coleslaw<br>Cheesy Garlic Mushroom & Leek Mux & Cheese<br>Chicken Nuggies | <b>MAINS</b><br>Pork Sausages with Red Onion<br>Sticky Veggie Bangers<br>Mixed Beef & Onion Pie<br>Lamb & Onion Pie<br>Cauliflower Cheese with Gravy<br>Lemon Garlic Chicken Bake with Sage & Onion Crumbs<br>Cheesy Garlic Mushroom & Leek Mux & Cheese<br>BBQ Pulled Pork Bun with Coleslaw<br>Cheesy Garlic Mushroom & Leek Mux & Cheese<br>Chicken Nuggies | <b>MAINS</b><br>Pork Sausages with Red Onion<br>Sticky Veggie Bangers<br>Mixed Beef & Onion Pie<br>Lamb & Onion Pie<br>Cauliflower Cheese with Gravy<br>Lemon Garlic Chicken Bake with Sage & Onion Crumbs<br>Cheesy Garlic Mushroom & Leek Mux & Cheese<br>BBQ Pulled Pork Bun with Coleslaw<br>Cheesy Garlic Mushroom & Leek Mux & Cheese<br>Chicken Nuggies | <b>MAINS</b><br>Pork Sausages with Red Onion<br>Sticky Veggie Bangers<br>Mixed Beef & Onion Pie<br>Lamb & Onion Pie<br>Cauliflower Cheese with Gravy<br>Lemon Garlic Chicken Bake with Sage & Onion Crumbs<br>Cheesy Garlic Mushroom & Leek Mux & Cheese<br>BBQ Pulled Pork Bun with Coleslaw<br>Cheesy Garlic Mushroom & Leek Mux & Cheese<br>Chicken Nuggies | <b>MAINS</b><br>Pork Sausages with Red Onion<br>Sticky Veggie Bangers<br>Mixed Beef & Onion Pie<br>Lamb & Onion Pie<br>Cauliflower Cheese with Gravy<br>Lemon Garlic Chicken Bake with Sage & Onion Crumbs<br>Cheesy Garlic Mushroom & Leek Mux & Cheese<br>BBQ Pulled Pork Bun with Coleslaw<br>Cheesy Garlic Mushroom & Leek Mux & Cheese<br>Chicken Nuggies | <b>MAINS</b><br>Pork Sausages with Red Onion<br>Sticky Veggie Bangers<br>Mixed Beef & Onion Pie<br>Lamb & Onion Pie<br>Cauliflower Cheese with Gravy<br>Lemon Garlic Chicken Bake with Sage & Onion Crumbs<br>Cheesy Garlic Mushroom & Leek Mux & Cheese<br>BBQ Pulled Pork Bun with Coleslaw<br>Cheesy Garlic Mushroom & Leek Mux & Cheese<br>Chicken Nuggies |
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| <b>DELICIOUS</b><br>CHICKEN<br>HOT GRAB & GO<br>BAKED BURGERS<br>RANCH & EGG COBB SALAD<br>Apples<br>Cookies<br>Daily Meal Deals<br>Regular<br>Chef's Specials                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>DELICIOUS</b><br>CHICKEN<br>HOT GRAB & GO<br>BAKED BURGERS<br>RANCH & EGG COBB SALAD<br>Apples<br>Cookies<br>Daily Meal Deals<br>Regular<br>Chef's Specials                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>DELICIOUS</b><br>CHICKEN<br>HOT GRAB & GO<br>BAKED BURGERS<br>RANCH & EGG COBB SALAD<br>Apples<br>Cookies<br>Daily Meal Deals<br>Regular<br>Chef's Specials                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>DELICIOUS</b><br>CHICKEN<br>HOT GRAB & GO<br>BAKED BURGERS<br>RANCH & EGG COBB SALAD<br>Apples<br>Cookies<br>Daily Meal Deals<br>Regular<br>Chef's Specials                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>DELICIOUS</b><br>CHICKEN<br>HOT GRAB & GO<br>BAKED BURGERS<br>RANCH & EGG COBB SALAD<br>Apples<br>Cookies<br>Daily Meal Deals<br>Regular<br>Chef's Specials                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>DELICIOUS</b><br>CHICKEN<br>HOT GRAB & GO<br>BAKED BURGERS<br>RANCH & EGG COBB SALAD<br>Apples<br>Cookies<br>Daily Meal Deals<br>Regular<br>Chef's Specials                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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## ASSEMBLIES

Year 7 - 11 Black History Month

Year 12: Work Experience  
Year 13: Apprenticeships



| Group           | Block 2 (5)<br>13 <sup>th</sup> Oct-21 <sup>st</sup><br>Nov |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Year 7 Girls AC | Tramp                                                       |
| Year 7 Girls DV | Netball                                                     |
| Year 7 Boys AC  | Rugby                                                       |
| Year 7 Boys DV  | Football                                                    |
| Year 8 Girls AC | Football                                                    |
| Year 8 Girls DV | Netball                                                     |
| Year 8 Boys AC  | Rugby                                                       |
| Year 8 Boys DV  | Swimming                                                    |
| Year 9 Girls AC | Netball                                                     |
| Year 9 Girls DV | Football                                                    |
| Year 9 Boys AC  | Volleyball                                                  |
| Year 9 Boys DV  | Rugby                                                       |



## REMINDER

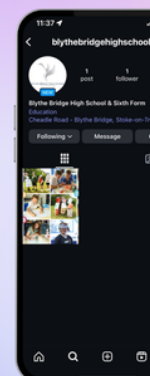
A reminder for students to check their timetables and bring in the correct kit for their PE lessons with appropriate footwear. Please also remember to bring in ingredients for food technology lessons.

Follow us on



Instagram

@blythebridgehighschool



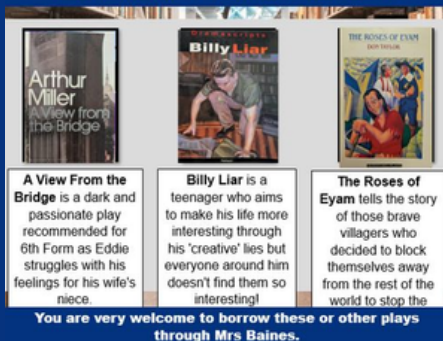


## Drama Reading

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](mailto: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**  
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# 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](http://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](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/educational-awards-benefits/freeschoolmeals/apply-online.aspx)