

Friday Focus



Issue 205 | June 2026



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

Photo of the week
#weareblythe



YEAR 6 DIAMOND DAY

On Tuesday, a group of our Year 7 & 8 student leaders hosted an exceptional group of Year 6 students who will be joining our school in September. The event recognised our school turning 60 this year and was an exciting opportunity for the teams of students to compete in a variety of different challenges throughout the day. We would like to thank everyone who took part for their outstanding attitude and thank the many parents and carers who joined us for our celebration event at the end of the day. It truly was a Diamond Day!



YEAR 4 OLYMPIC DAY

On Wednesday, we welcomed primary school children for our Year 4 Olympic Legacy Day - a fantastic day packed with energy, fun, and teamwork! From boxercise and trampolining in the gym, to athletics and problem solving on the top field, dance in the studio, and fitness on the MUGA - it was non-stop activity in the sunshine. A huge thank you to our amazing student leaders who supported each area so brilliantly. The children had a fantastic time exploring a variety of sports and challenges. Well done, everyone!

WELCOME

You will see from this week's Friday Focus newsletter that it has been another busy week in school with evening events and a number of transition activities taking place. Work is continuing on preparing for the new academic year and with that in mind I want to confirm the INSET days for 2026/27.

These will be:

Tuesday 1st September

Friday 18th September

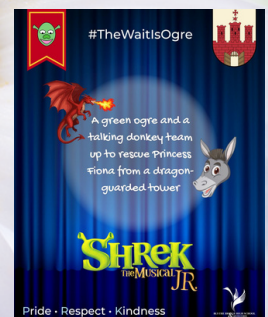
Monday 2nd November

Monday 4th January

Friday 2nd July

Mrs Johnson
Headteacher

Pride, Respect & Kindness



MUSICAL MYSTERY

Throughout the week, across social media and school, people have been trying to decipher the #MusicalMystery clues to uncover next year's musical. All was revealed today when we discovered our next school production will be....Shrek Jr! How fantastic!

HUG IN A BAG

Thirteen representatives from Year 7 visited the Royal Stoke Hospital this morning to deliver our Hug in a Bag care packages. The students were exemplary and demonstrated outstanding maturity, warmth and compassion. We spoke to staff in Children's Care, Elderly Care and Neonatal Intensive Care about the impact of our kindness. A highlight of the visit was taking the opportunity to visit patients in Elderly Care and hand out our 'Hugs' ourselves. Some beautiful memories have been made, and the children definitely enjoyed their well deserved McDonalds lunch on the return to school.

The visit was filmed by media company PREM; a special shout-out to Cara P who spoke with eloquence and passion in her interview. Our special thanks must go to the incredible Mrs Pheasey who is at the heart of this inspirational project.

'What a privilege it has been to work with such a wonderful year group. Thank you to each and every student who donated, helped to package the items, and attended the visit. Keep shining ' Well said Mrs Pheasey!

Hug in a Bag

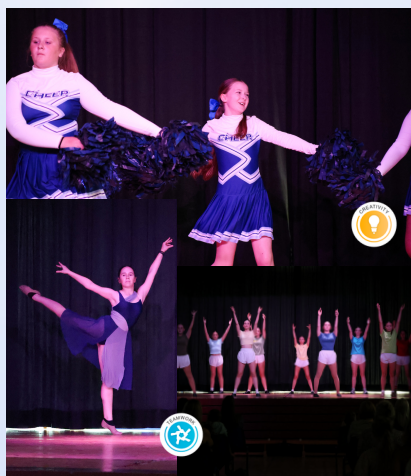


Pride • Respect • Kindness



ART IN MOTION

Highlights from another wonderful showcase of dance from Miss Housley and the students from across the year groups. Some beautiful choreography and funky Latin beats meant it was an evening for everyone, with hilarious hosts, Casey and Fred.



EXCELLENT ETHAN

Congratulations to Ethan who represented the City on Saturday in both the 300m and the Long Jump. He gained a silver medal in both events and will now move forward to represent the county in the upcoming inter-counties competition.



SPORTS SUCCESS

Last week, several of our football teams competed in the City Finals at City of Stoke Football Club, producing some fantastic performances against strong opposition from Excel Academy. Our U14 Girls narrowly lost 3-2 after a spirited comeback from 2-0 down, with Katie R scoring twice. The Year 7 Boys were crowned City Champions with an impressive 3-1 victory, thanks to goals from Tommy T (2) and Felix F. The Year 8 Boys showed great determination in a 4-2 defeat to the County Champions, with Flynn E and George R finding the net, while the Year 10 Boys fought back brilliantly before eventually losing 6-4, with goals from Seth G (2), Oliver F and Oliver H. Reaching the City Finals is a fantastic achievement, and all of the players should be incredibly proud of their efforts and commitment throughout the season. Well done to everyone involved!



YEAR 5 ROMAN EXTRAVAGANZA

Today, we welcomed a selection of Year 5 students from our partnership schools to take part in a Roman Extravaganza. Students learnt about Roman Britain, life as a Roman soldier and created some wonderful Roman shields. They finished the day by marching into the celebration assembly in perfect rhythm and showcased some excellent Roman shield formations. Well done Year 5 and thank you to the parents and carers who joined us for the celebration assembly.

READING ADVOCATE: ALFIE & MICHAEL



Reading: Harry Potter & the Goblet of Fire by J.K. Rowling



Reading 'Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire' was really exciting because it feels darker and more intense than the earlier books. We both liked how J. K. Rowling uses her imagination to create such a detailed magical world, especially with the Triwizard Tournament and all the different challenges. Even though we've read all of the Harry Potter series books, this one still stood out because there was so much suspense and action, and it kept us wanting to read more. Alfie's favourite characters are Fred and George Weasley because they are funny, mischievous, and always bring humour to serious moments. Overall, we really enjoyed this book because it had a great mix of adventure, friendship, and emotion, and it showed why the Harry Potter series is so memorable.

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.

Drama Reading

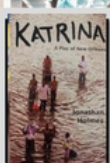
Fancy reading a playscript instead of a novel?

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

This half term's recommendations are:



Lady Windermere's Fan is a classic Oscar Wilde play that delves into society, shame and appearance!



Katrina is set in America after Hurricane Katrina which wiped out huge chunks of New Orleans in 2005.



Sparkleshark follows Jake who writes magical and fantastic stories in his secret book to hide from bullies.

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

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAMS

We're reaching out to our amazing community and local businesses for support! Our school football programme continues to grow, with multiple teams across different year groups proudly representing the school. To give every player the opportunity to perform at their best, we're looking to secure new kits for all our teams.



WHAT WE NEED

- Match kits for multiple year groups
- Training wear to support development sessions
- Updated equipment to ensure all teams are fully equipped



HOW YOU CAN HELP

We are seeking sponsorship partners who would like to support grassroots sport and invest in young talent. In return, we can offer:

- Your company logo displayed on team kits
- Recognition across our social media platforms and school community
- The chance to make a real difference to young people in sport



WHY GET INVOLVED?

Support local young people in achieving their potential

Help promote teamwork, discipline and a healthy, active lifestyle

Invest in the future of our community and our school



If you're interested in sponsoring or would like to get more information, please get in touch by emailing Mr Flint

MR FLINT
c.flint@bb-hs.co.uk

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR PLAYERS AND OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY



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.

Worps Your View of Reality

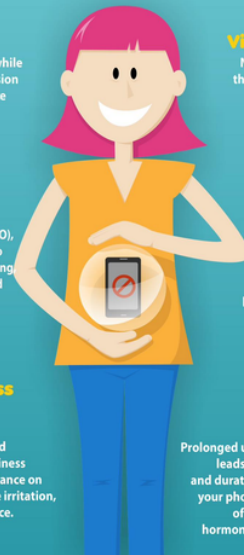
Nobody is as happy as they seem on Facebook or as wise as they appear on Twitter.

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.

Train to Teach in Local Schools

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



The John Taylor SCITT

jtscitt.co.uk

Funding for Selected Routes

Full or Part-Time Routes

Gain School Experience



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



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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**