

Friday Focus



Issue 209 | September 2026

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

Photo of the week
#weareblythe

WELCOME

Although it has been a shorter first 'week' back, students have impressed staff with their positive start. Year 7 have settled into school life really well, and I have no doubt that summer school and the transition events helped with this. Our newly refurbished sixth form centre has welcomed back our Year 12 and 13 students, who have also had a superb week. As well as our new students, we welcomed a number of new teaching staff, who are clearly going to be huge assets to our school community.

Mrs Johnson
Headteacher

Pride, Respect & Kindness

CHANGES TO THE SCHOOL DAY

Our students have made a fantastic start to the new school year, with just a small change to their lunch routine and assembly day. Year 7, 8 and 9 will all have lunch 11:55-12:30 and Year 10, 11 and sixth form will have lunch at 13:15-13:50. Assemblies will take place on the following days:

Monday: Year 7
Tuesday: Year 8 & Year 13
Wednesday: Year 9 & Year 12
Thursday: Year 10
Friday: Year 11



EXCELLENT EXAMS

Blythe Bridge High School & Sixth Form is pleased to report outstanding achievements by its students in their A levels and BTECs this summer.

We are also very proud of our Year 11 students for completing their exams and coursework last year, with some absolutely brilliant results!

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

PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SHOP

Our Pre-Loved Uniform Shop (PLUS) has 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 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@bbhs.co.uk to check our lost property's winter coat section.



AUTUMN TERM PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Year 7: Health & Wellbeing: Emotions, vocabulary and self-regulation

Year 8: Identity & Equality: Different viewpoints and respectful disagreement

Year 9: Relationships: Managing strong feelings and break-ups

Year 10: Voice & Vigilance: Coercion, control and stalking

Year 11: Thinking & Choices: Financial products, contracts and consumer rights

KEY DATES

Monday 7th September

- Year 7 and Year 12/13 Year Ahead Evening

Tuesday 8th September

- Year 8 Tutor Meetings
- Shrek Jr Auditions

Wednesday 9th September

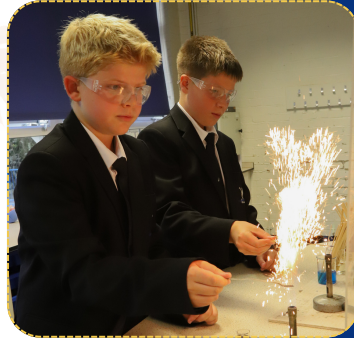
- Year 9 Tutor Meetings

Thursday 10th September

- Year 10 Tutor Meetings

Thursday 17th September

- Year 6 Open Evening



BIKE HELMET REMINDER

A big well done to the students who have remembered to wear a helmet on their way to school this week.

A reminder that all students who cycle to school are required to wear a helmet for health and safety reasons.



SHREK JR

Cast Auditions: Hall, Tuesday 8th September 3:10-4:30pm

Set & Costume: N5, Wednesday 9th September 3:10-4:10pm

ASSEMBLIES

Year 7 - Year 11: Welcome Assembly



Group	Block 1 (6)
Year 7 Girls AC	1 st Sept - 9 th Oct
Year 7 Girls DV	Netball
Year 7 Boys AC	Swimming
Year 7 Boys DV	Football
Year 8 Girls AC	Rugby
Year 8 Girls DV	Netball
Year 8 Boys AC	Handball
Year 8 Boys DV	Rugby
Year 9 Girls AC	Swimming
Year 9 Girls DV	Netball
Year 9 Boys AC	Rugby
Year 9 Boys DV	Volleyball



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.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Year 11 Prefects

All prefects will be assigned an area of school leadership/community that they will contribute to and be a part of this academic year.

House Captains

Students will have the opportunity to apply to be a House Captain again this year. Information regarding how to do this will be communicated within the next week.

Student Leadership Roles

Within this half term, students will have the opportunity to become a student leader within a variety of aspects of the school community. Information on how to express interest in each area will start to be communicated next week.

We are always looking to develop our leadership programme and can't wait to get our students leaders in place to help develop their skills, contribute to an effective school environment and broader community.

YEAR 6 PROSPECTIVE PARENTS' EVENING

We are delighted to invite Year 6 families to our Year 6 Prospective Parents' Open Evening on Thursday 17th 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

MENU CHOICE

Those in receipt of free school meals are entitled to £2.72 per day.



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.



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 - lettings@bb-hs.co.uk



EASY FUNDRAISING

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.



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

Free School Meals



Are you entitled?

From September 2026, the Government is expanding eligibility for Free School Meals (FSM). All children in households receiving Universal Credit will become eligible for Free School Meals, regardless of household earnings.

You may be eligible for Free School Meals if you meet any of the following entitlement criteria:

- Universal Credit

Aside from Universal Credit, children remain eligible if their parents receive:

- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- The guarantee part of Pension Credit

Households may also be entitled to a free school meal if:

- Are in receipt of income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Meet criteria set out in separate guidance for families with no recourse to public funds

There will be two categories of free school meal eligibility:

1) **Targeted free school meals** – for families with a household income of £7,400 or less. These pupils will attract Pupil Premium funding for schools therefore can also benefit from additional support such as the Holidays and Food (HAF) Programme and support with funding curriculum essential activities.

2) **Expanded free school meals** – a new category covering pupils who do not qualify for targeted FSM, but who are in households receiving Universal Credit.

Important Information for Families

Pupils on free school meals used to have their eligibility protected for 6 years however from September 2026 these protections for free school meals will end. Households must meet the FSM eligibility criteria from the start of the 2026 to 2027 academic year to continue receiving provision and eligibility will be checked annually by the local authority. If you are already registered for free school meals this will happen automatically.

We strongly encourage eligible families to register for Free School Meals as it can provide significant benefits for both families and schools.

To apply, visit the Staffordshire County Council website below or scan the QR code.
www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/educational-awards-benefits/freeschoolmeals/apply-online.aspx

