

Friday Focus



Issue 214 | October 2026

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

Photo of the week
#weareblythe

WELCOME

Many thanks to all the parents/carers who have submitted their responses to the updated photo permission forms sent out recently. These have been developed following a change in policy across our Trust and you will see it has a few additional criteria of use included. If you have any queries regarding the changes, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mrs Johnson

Headteacher

Pride, Respect & Kindness



BE SOMEONE

Sixth Form Open Evening

Thursday 22nd
October
6pm



sixthform@bb-hs.co.uk
01782 392519

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

Year 11 parents and carers, we are delighted to invite you to our Sixth Form Open Evening. Please **check your email inboxes** for a flyer with full details of the event and click [here](#) to **book additional information sessions**. We look forward to welcoming you and helping your son/daughter take the next exciting step in their educational journey. Send any queries to sixthform@bb-hs.co.uk

YEAR 7 INSPIRES

Ms Matthias and the Year 7 Inspires Group have been busy this half term, building on different essential skills, starting off by exploring the library with the help of librarian Mrs Jones.

The first group took part last week and it was a joy to watch their confidence develop and see them work so well as a team.



CROSS COUNTRY SUCCESS

A fantastic start to the cross-country season for our Blythe Bridge runners! Our U14 girls' team won their team event, with the Y7 team finishing an excellent 3rd place. Poppy W also secured a brilliant 2nd place finish. Our boys' teams enjoyed further success, with both the Y7 and U14 teams taking 1st place. Congratulations to Flynn E, who won the U14 race, alongside top-10 finishes for Isaac C, Finlay D, Jackson N and Harry N. Our U16 boys also put in some strong performances. Nine athletes recently competed in the Staffordshire Inter-Schools Cross Country Championships, with Isaac C (Y8), Harry N (Y7), Flynn E (Y9) and Finlay D (Y9) all qualifying to represent Staffordshire at the Inter-Counties Championships in November. Well done to all our runners — you did yourselves and the school proud!



Well Done!

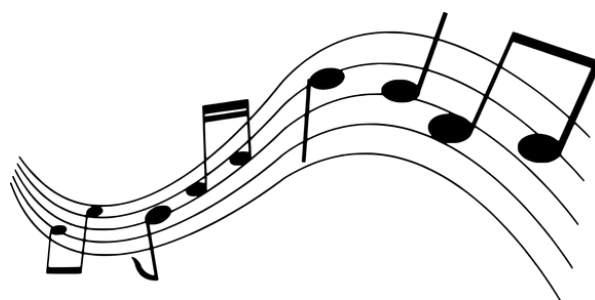
Pride • Respect • Kindness



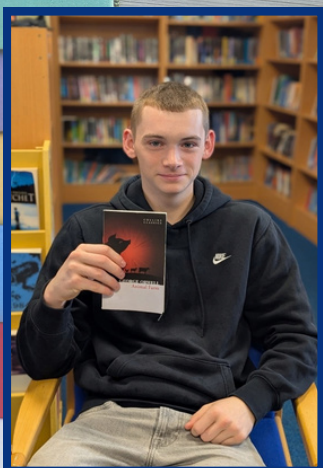
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SHREK JR

After their superb performances last year as Annie and Miss Hannigan, we are delighted to announce that the role of Princess Fiona in Shrek this year will be shared by Year 11 students Lucie and Frankie. These girls have proved themselves year after year in our school musicals, being involved in all five of them now. Their commitment, passion and creative approach to their work means we actually involved them in our casting decisions - did they want to be human Fiona or ogre Fiona, or did they want to share the role? They decided to share the role and have two performances as each. We cannot wait to see Princess Fiona come to life on stage!



READING ADVOCATE



Oliver E is *Animal Farm* by George Orwell

Animal Farm was recommended to me and, as I never got round to reading it when I was at school, I thought I'd give it a go. I actually found it really interesting, especially the way it shows the problems with communism and how people can become corrupt when they have too much power. It's quite a short book, but there's a lot more to it than you first expect.

Napoleon was probably my favourite character because he was the most interesting to follow. He starts off seeming like just another one of the pigs, but as the story goes on, he becomes more controlling and power-hungry. I liked seeing how his character developed and how the farm changed because of him. I'd recommend it because it's easy to read but still gives you quite a lot to think about.



AUTUMN TERM PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Year 7: Health & Wellbeing: Healthy habits for adolescence
 Year 8: Identity & Equality: Protected characteristics and equal treatment
 Year 9: Relationships: Consent, readiness and respectful relationships
 Year 10: Voice & Vigilance: Image abuse and deepfakes
 Year 11: Thinking & Choices: Scams and coercive online influence
 Year 12: How do idealised images shape body image and self-esteem, and how can I push back?
 Year 13: How to evaluate financial gains and risks & repayment implications?

KEY DATES

Thursday 22nd October

- Sixth Form Open Evening

Friday 23rd October

- Year 7 & 8 Halloween Disco

Friday 23rd - 26th October

- Iceland Visit

Monday 2nd November - 4th November

- Year 10 Geography Blencathra Visit

Tuesday 3rd November

- Year 12/13 assessment week
- Year 11 exams start



CAREERS SPOTLIGHT BENCHMARK 4 & 6

Some of our Year 7 visited Hilderstone Care home a few weeks ago to celebrate National Poetry Day. They read poems to the residents and finished with a poem where the residents joined in. The students displayed excellent leadership and teamwork skills, well done!



ASSEMBLIES

Year 7 - Year 11: Careers and Work Experience

Sixth Form: Careers focus on gaining relevant experiences / work related experience



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

Meetings for new and/existing EDI, PRK and Charity Champions will begin next week. Well done to all students involved in this.

House Captains to be informed in the coming week

MFL Bake off on Monday 12th October

Year 11 / Sixth Form and Staff Netball competition to be confirmed next week 20th October

- Sixth Form subject ambassadors
- Literacy Leaders (KS3 and KS4)
- House Captains
- Year Group Ambassadors
- School Parliament
- Dance Leaders
- Communication Champions
- Skills Champions
- Year 7 Inspires
- Year 8 Inspires
- EDI Champions
- Charity Champions
- Chess Leaders
- PRK Champions
- Wellbeing Champions
- Sixth Form Sports Leaders

HOUSE UPDATES

House captains to be selected next week and students informed. Thank you to all who have applied.

MENU CHOICE

STREATERIES

MAINS

- WEDNESDAY: HILDERSTONE SUNDAY HOME & RED CHICKEN SALADAGE ROLL
- THURSDAY: CRISPY HONEY BEEHIVE CHICKEN
- FRIDAY: SLOW ROAST PULLED GARLIC & TOMATO PASTE WITH VEGETABLE BEAN BAKE
- SATURDAY: SPICY MEXICAN BEEF CORN TACOS
- SUNDAY: BUTTERFLY CHICKEN MARGHERITA SALADAGE PIZZA SLICE

VEGETARIAN

- WEDNESDAY: GARLIC & THYME ROASTED VEGETABLE BEAN BAKE
- THURSDAY: SPICY MEXICAN BEEF CORN TACOS
- FRIDAY: SLOW ROAST PULLED GARLIC & TOMATO PASTE WITH VEGETABLE BEAN BAKE
- SATURDAY: SPICY MEXICAN BEEF CORN TACOS
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HOT POTATOES: LOADED SPUDS!

HOT DELI KITCHEN

PASTA, RICE & NOODLE POTS

BIG BOWLS-SALADS

DESSERTS

MEAL DEALS

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



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





HAF



FUN

IN STAFFORDSHIRE



Scan Me



Looking for free activities in the school holidays?

Holiday Activities and Food is funded for children and young people aged 5-16 who get targeted free school meals*

staffordshire.gov.uk/haf

*Paid for places are also available