



# Blacon's Blog

Blacon's weekly school letter about the community, for the community, published every Friday.

ISSUE 7 17th October 2025

**BLACON**  
HIGH SCHOOL

## Headlines - Message from the Head

We are incredibly proud of five Year 11s in our student leadership team, who spoke at the CRAG Conference this week, in Chester. We have received some superb feedback from the dignitaries and senior representatives from the local area. Our young people spoke with pride and confidence about their hopes for the future, some of the barriers and how challenged some of the perceptions of our community. In the words of John Walker, 'without a doubt, Blacon High and the residents of Blacon can take great pride in the contribution of their students, they captured the hearts and minds of the delegates.'

It has been wonderful to see so many students designing pumpkins in Art and Year 11, accessing the Bistro each lunchtime for study support. We have spoken to Year 11 this week about their forthcoming mock exams, taking place after half term and shared a revision guide along with an overview of the key topics to revise for each subject. Please support at home to prepare for these exams, in readiness for the summer.

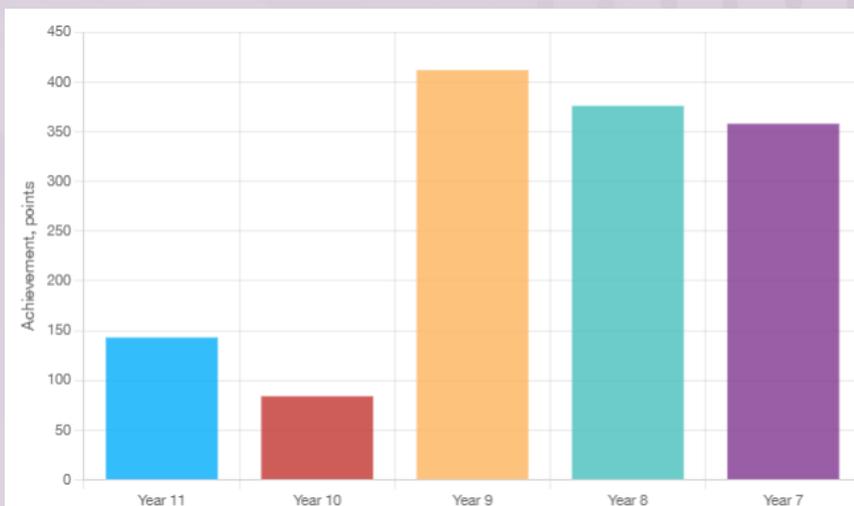
As we draw closer to the end of term, please ensure that your child attends each day to maximise their chances of success. On Friday, we look forward to doing a big prize draw for all students with 100% attendance over the last 4 weeks. I wish you all a peaceful weekend and look forward to all that the final week of this half term will bring.

Rachel Hudson - Headteacher

## Rewards for this week

Congratulations to students for a superb week of learning in school and for all of the achievement points given. It has continued to be a positive term and we would like to thank students for their efforts so far. Well done to Year 9 for achieving the most this week.

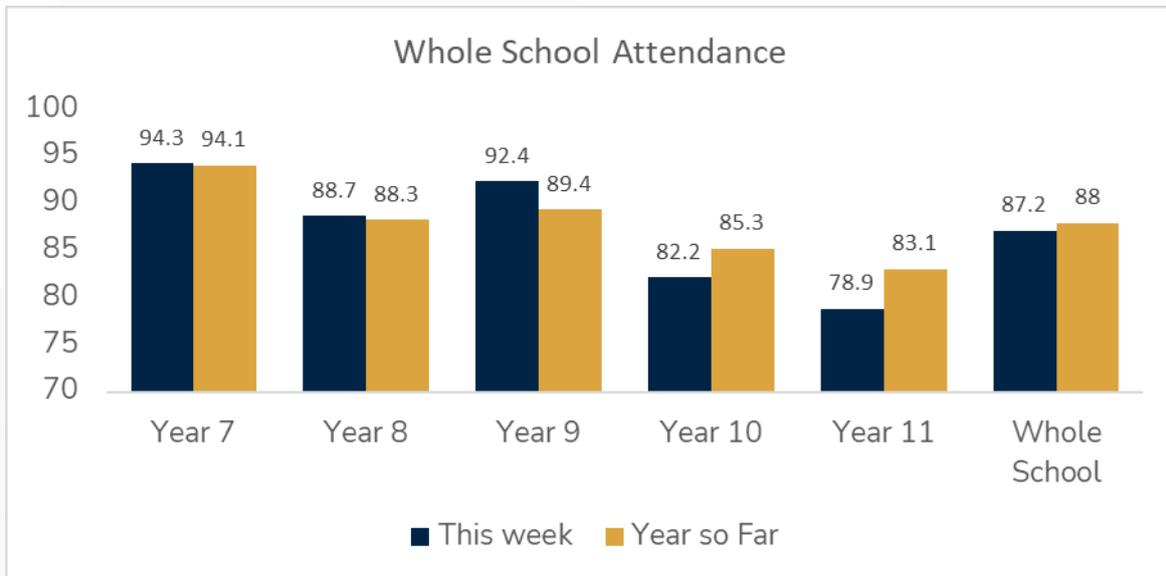
### Achievement Points Week 7:



Year	Total Points
11	143
10	84
9	412
8	376
7	358

## Attendance Matters - Every Hour, Every Day Counts....

The attendance for the whole school so far is **88.1%** with attendance for this week being at **88%**. All students with **100% attendance** over the last 4 weeks of this half term, will be entered into a prize draw for vouchers in each year group, to be drawn on the last day of term next Friday. Please work with us to ensure your child attends every day so that they can maximise their chance of success as every absence has an impact on learning. Aim to be in the 100% club! Work with us to improve the attendance at our school.



"THIS MORNING HE WASN'T FEELING WELL...BUT LOOK AT HIM NOW!"

MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

HM Government  
Head to the NHS website to find out more.

NHS



# JOIN THE 100% CLUB

**WANT A CHANCE TO BAG YOURSELF A GIFT VOUCHER AT THE END OF THIS HALF TERM?**

## Attend school every day

# 1

Feeling a bit under the weather? Tired? Not keen on Period 1? Push yourself to be here. Motivate yourself by planning to meet your friends at the gate and encourage each other to get into school. Every day you attend is a step closer to success.



# 2

## Be on time

Be on time - every minute counts! Sleep earlier, set your alarm sooner, get organised the night before, and arrive ready to learn.

*Competition dates from:*

*Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025*

*Prize draw will take place in the last week of this half term!*

★ ASPIRE ★ BELIEVE ★ ACHIEVE

## Climate for Learning

Over the last 2 weeks, 176 lessons have been visited as part of our quality assurance within school. This has shown that a high number of students are prepared for their learning wearing the correct uniform. 97% have said that they strongly agree/agree that the classroom environment is calm and safe.

We have also had a focus on student engagement in lessons which has shown that a significant number of students are engaged and actively involved in their learning. We encourage all students to maintain these high standards and continue to be actively involved in their learning.

**Total lessons visited: 176 over 9 days.**

### Outcomes:

'5 a Day' equipment: 88% of lessons – all students had the required equipment

Correct Uniform: 97% of lessons – all students wore the correct uniform

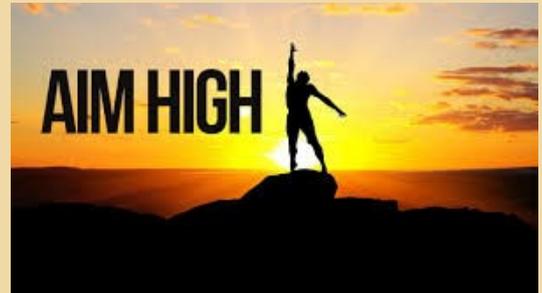
**Classroom environment: Fostered a calm and safe atmosphere.**

81% Strongly Agree

16% Agree

2% Disagree

1% Strongly Disagree



**Student engagement: Students engaged, actively listening, and tracking the teacher.**

82% of lessons – all students

14% of lessons – most students

4% of lessons – some students

**Vision** - We want Blacon High School to be a safe and caring place at the heart of our community, where everyone is valued and supported to aspire, believe and achieve beyond their potential.

**School Motto** - Aspire, Believe, Achieve



## Rowing Week 3

### Rowing

Students engaged in a hands-on activity focused on boat assembly and floatation testing. Each student was responsible for setting up their own boat and attaching floats to ensure both security and buoyancy. The activity encouraged independence, creativity, and practical problem-solving.

A group of four students successfully rowed their boat all the way to the sailing club and back down to the Iron Bridge, demonstrating excellent teamwork and navigation skills. One student also took on the challenge solo, assembling and testing her own boat with confidence and determination.

As part of the experience, students were encouraged to stand up in their boats to build confidence and improve balance. This added an extra layer of challenge and excitement, helping them develop resilience and self-assurance in a supportive environment.



## Depaul Homeless Charity Delivers Assemblies to Year 7 and 11

On Friday 10th October, we were delighted to welcome back Depaul UK to school to deliver powerful workshops on youth homelessness and its underlying causes. Depaul is a youth homelessness charity helping young people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.



Year 11 students took part in a KS4 session, while Year 7 students participated in a KS3 workshop. Through interactive activities, students were presented with scenarios and asked to make decisions for characters in the videos, exploring how different choices can affect young people facing homelessness. A key message from both sessions was the importance of reaching out for support if they ever feel worried or in trouble. This free programme is an invaluable resource for schools, helping to raise awareness and empower young people to seek help when they need it most.

For more information about this charity, please visit <https://www.depaul.org.uk/>



**11512**

young people supported across our services



**5871**

safe nights provided by the Nightstop network



**140**

young people took part in family mediation



**7541**

took part in our education programme

# CRAG Conference

## CRAG Conference 2025

Five Year 11 students from the school's Student Leadership Team represented the wider Blacon community at the CRAG (Chester Residents Associations Group) Conference, which was held in The County Long Room at Chester Racecourse on Tuesday 14th October.

Students prepared and delivered a presentation on 'Inclusivity' in response to one of the key strands from the Chester One City Plan. Key areas of focus, amongst other things, included challenging negative stereotypes of Blacon, addressing inequalities in the education offer, in that there is no sixth form provision within the community for the young people of Blacon, and also how developing improved employability skills, and employment opportunities, would be a natural consequence of appropriate and equitable investment.

Students spoke with confidence, conviction and demonstrated real insight and empathy in their thoughtful delivery, which, in turn, illustrated a fantastic reflection of the school's values and ethos.

Students received very positive feedback, which was well-deserved, and have been invited to represent the school and the community of Blacon and be a voice on a number of other initiatives.



## Pumpkin Painting in Art

This week, students had the chance to be creative with a fantastic pumpkin painting activity to celebrate the autumn season each lunchtime. The classroom was filled with colour, laughter, and plenty of imagination as everyone designed their own unique pumpkins — from spooky faces to glittery masterpieces! It was wonderful to see so much enthusiasm and teamwork as the children shared ideas and helped each other bring their designs to life. Each pumpkin turned out beautifully and showed just how creative our students can be.

A huge well done to everyone who took part — our autumn display has never looked better!



## A sweet reward for the Inclusion Centre

During lesson 5 students enjoyed a well-deserved treat on Wednesday as a reward for their fantastic attitude and hard work in the Inclusion Centre. The students had a great time baking with Mrs Lloyd and Miss McMillan and created some delicious cakes to take home, including:

- ◆ Custard & Caramel Cream Slices
- ◆ Lemon Curd & Cream Slices
- ◆ Jam, Custard & Cream Slices—A wonderful way to celebrate their achievements — and everything looked (and tasted) amazing!



## Diwali

On Monday 20th October, we will be celebrating Diwali, the Festival of Lights, in our canteen. To mark this special occasion, our talented canteen staff will be preparing a themed menu inspired by traditional Indian cuisine, offering a variety of delicious dishes full of colour, flavour, and festive spirit. Join us in enjoying this vibrant celebration, which symbolises the triumph of light over darkness and good over evil. It's a wonderful opportunity to share in the joy of Diwali and experience some fantastic food together!



## Job of the week

**Job of the week this week is a Model Maker**

A model maker designs and creates physical, three-dimensional scale models and prototypes for various industries, including architecture, product design, engineering, film, and museums. They use a range of materials and tools, such as wood, plastic, clay, and 3D printers, to translate designs into tangible objects for visualization, testing, and client presentation.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HvjoCb2MZbc>



## Year 11 Tuition for Half Term

We are delighted to share an excellent opportunity for our Year 11 students. Please find attached an e-flyer offering a 50% discount on October Half Term GCSE Booster sessions in Maths, English or Science with our valued Tuition Partner, Capital Tuition Group (CTG). As a school, we have negotiated this discount which is open to any students in Year 11 at Blacon High School.



Capital Tuition Group  
**OCTOBER HALF TERM GCSE REVISION BOOSTERS**  
English, Maths or Science

Between 28th-31st October

**DON'T FORGET TO USE YOUR BLACON HIGH DISCOUNT CODE!**  
ASK THE SCHOOL OR CTG IF YOU CAN'T FIND IT!

**ONLY £22.50+VAT PER HOUR!**

Limited places available for 3 hours of intensive small group online tuition per subject taught exclusively by qualified teachers.

DESIGNED TO BOOST YOUR CHILD'S CONFIDENCE AHEAD OF THEIR MOCKS!

[www.capitaltuitiongroup.com/gcse-revisionboosters](http://www.capitaltuitiongroup.com/gcse-revisionboosters)  
hello@capitaltuitiongroup.com  
020 3478 8514

THE GOOD SCHOOLS GUIDE  
THE TUTORS ASSOCIATION MEMBER

SCAN HERE

## Dates for the diary

- Thursday 23rd October - SEND and Student Services Information Evening 6 - 7pm
- Friday 24th October - 3.10pm - School closes for half term
- Monday 3rd November - School opens after half term
- Friday 28th November - School closed for Staff Training Day
- Monday 8th December 9am to 4pm: Dress and technical rehearsal for The Snow Queen
- Tuesday 9th December 9am to 9pm: Dress and technical rehearsal for The Snow Queen 9am to 11am, matinee performance of The Snow Queen at 11.15am, evening performance of The Snow Queen at 7pm
- 15th December - Reward Assemblies week
- Friday 19th December - Break up for Christmas at 12 noon



## Extra Curricular Activities, Lunch and After School Clubs

### Week 2 Lunch Clubs

Day	Club	Years	Location	Staff member
Monday	Football	All	MUGA	Mr Cairns
Monday	Dance	7	Studio	Miss Joynson
Monday	Maths club	KS4	506	Mr Pedder
Monday	Science	7	316	Mrs Edwards
Monday	Drama	7	Studio	Dr Salisbury
Tuesday	Football	All	MUGA	Mr Cairns
Wednesday	Maths	KS3	502	Miss Price
Wednesday	Textiles club	KS3	112	Miss Wright / Miss Adamson
Wednesday	Football	All	MUGA	Mr Cairns
Wednesday	History hot scholars	All	318	Miss Liddell
Thursday	Volleyball	All	Sports hall	Mr Cairns
Thursday	Football	All	MUGA	Mr Cairns
Thursday	Physics club	All	202	Mrs Lewis
Friday	Football	All	MUGA	Mr Cairns
Friday	Chess club	All	302	Mr Green

### Week 2 After school clubs

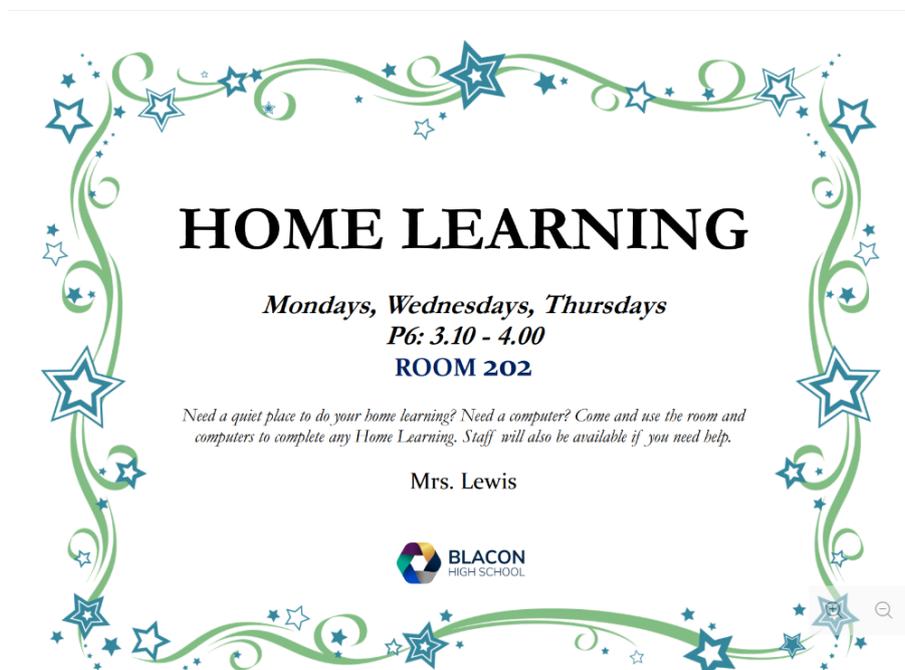
Day	Club	Years	Location	Staff member
Monday	Football	KS3	3G	Mr Cairns
Monday	Cadets	All	Containers on field	Miss Joynson
Monday	Performing arts coursework club	KS4	Studio	Dr Salisbury
Monday	Home learning club	All	202	Mrs Lewis
Tuesday	Performing arts coursework club	KS4	Studio	Dr Salisbury
Tuesday	Duke of Edinburgh Drop in	9 & 10	315	Mrs Hughes
Wednesday	Performing arts coursework club	KS4	Studio	Dr Salisbury
Wednesday	Drama club	8, 9, 10, 11	Studio	Dr Salisbury
Wednesday	Netball	7 & 8	MUGA	Mr Cairns
Wednesday	Product, Graphics, Art	KS4	112	Miss Wright / Miss Adamson
Wednesday	Home learning club	All	202	Mrs Lewis
Wednesday	School Band	All	124	Miss McHale
Thursday	Performing arts coursework club	KS4	Studio	Dr Salisbury
Thursday	Maths P6	11		Miss Price
Thursday	Dance club	9	Main hall	Miss Joynson
Thursday	Basketball	All	Sports hall	Mr Cairns
Thursday	Sports Fixtures	All	TBC	Mr Cairns
Thursday	Home learning club	All	202	Mrs Lewis
Thursday	School Choir	All	124	Miss McHale
Friday	Badminton	All	Sports hall	Mr Cairns

Follow our twitter account @BlaconPE



## Home Learning Club

Our **Home Learning Club** is open to all students who would like a quiet and supportive space to complete homework, revise, or catch up on classwork. Staff are available to offer help and guidance, and computers are provided for any online tasks. Whether you need extra support or simply want a calm place to study, all students are **welcome to attend**. It's a great way to stay on top of your learning and make good progress in a relaxed environment.



**HOME LEARNING**

*Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays*  
**P6: 3.10 - 4.00**  
**ROOM 202**

*Need a quiet place to do your home learning? Need a computer? Come and use the room and computers to complete any Home Learning. Staff will also be available if you need help.*

Mrs. Lewis



BLACON  
HIGH SCHOOL

The poster features a decorative border of green and blue stars and swirls. The text is centered and includes the club's name, schedule, location, a helpful note, and the staff member's name. The Blacon High School logo is at the bottom.

## The Big Clean

This week, our school community came together for The Big Clean — a fantastic effort to tidy, refresh, and take pride in our shared spaces. Students, staff, and volunteers rolled up their sleeves to collect litter, plant flowers, and give classrooms and outdoor areas a well-deserved spruce-up. It was inspiring to see everyone working side by side to make our school environment cleaner, greener, and more welcoming for all. A huge thank you to everyone who took part and showed what teamwork and school spirit can achieve! Well done to 7 Royal !



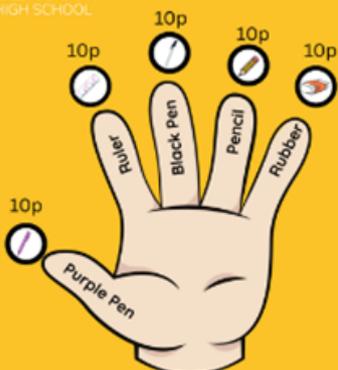
## Menu for week beginning 20th October 2025

Area	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Week 2 – Week Commencing 20/10/2025</b>					
<b>Hot Serve</b> <b>Main:</b> (£2.40) <b>Drink:</b> 80p <b>Cake:</b> 80p	Aloo Chaat Vegetable Samosa Spiced Potatoes Chicken curry Onion dip	Sweet Chilli chicken Wrap Or Veggie Chilli Wrap	Noodles Curry Sauce and Prawn Crackers	Roast Chicken Dinner	Hunter style chicken wraps
<b>Panini Bar</b> <b>Main:</b> (£2.40) <b>Drink:</b> 80p <b>Cake:</b> 80p	 <p><b>Panini</b>                      Cake and Biscuits                      Drinks</p>				
<b>Cold side</b> <b>Main:</b> (£2.40) <b>Drink:</b> 80p <b>Cake:</b> 80p	<p><b>Pasta</b>                      Salad bar                      Sandwiches with                      Choice of fillings                      Cake/Biscuits/Fruit</p> 				
<b>POD</b> <b>Main:</b> (£2.40) <b>Drink:</b> 80p <b>Cake:</b> 80p	 <p><b>Jacket potato with a choice of</b>                      Cheese                      Beans                      Tuna                      Included is a side salad                      Cake/Biscuits or Fruit</p>				



**'FIVE A DAY'**  
 Are you prepared for learning?

BLACON HIGH SCHOOL



Equipment available to buy everyday!

- During Breakfast Club
- Breaktime @reception
- Lunchtime @reception



**BLACON**  
 HIGH SCHOOL