



# Blacon's Blog

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

ISSUE 13 5th December 2025

**BLACON**  
HIGH SCHOOL

## Headlines - Message from the Head

In the first week of Advent, it has been a pleasure to recognise so many students for their contribution to the wider life of school, with students practicing their French in the Lille Christmas markets, students rowing on the river in Chester, musicians singing for our local residents at afternoon tea and a team of young people picking litter every lunchtime to ensure we have a pleasant environment around school. This is part of our green flag action plan as we work towards a sustainable plan for the future.

Congratulations to Year 7 on achieving the highest number of achievement points this week and well done to Years 10 and 11 for securing so many more points than last week. I have a team of helpers wrapping a gift for every student each lunchtime, which will be handed out in the last week of term. Please ensure your child continues to attend every day for the rest of the term.

There are some fantastic family prizes available in the draw on the 19th December for all students who have had 100% attendance between the 1st and 19th December.

Advent reminds us that hope grows brightest when we choose kindness, patience and connection, especially during the busiest days of the year.



**Rachel Hudson - Headteacher**

## Rewards for this week

Congratulations to students for all of the achievement points given out this week.

Congratulations to Year 7 on achieving the highest number of points.

### Achievement Points Week 13:

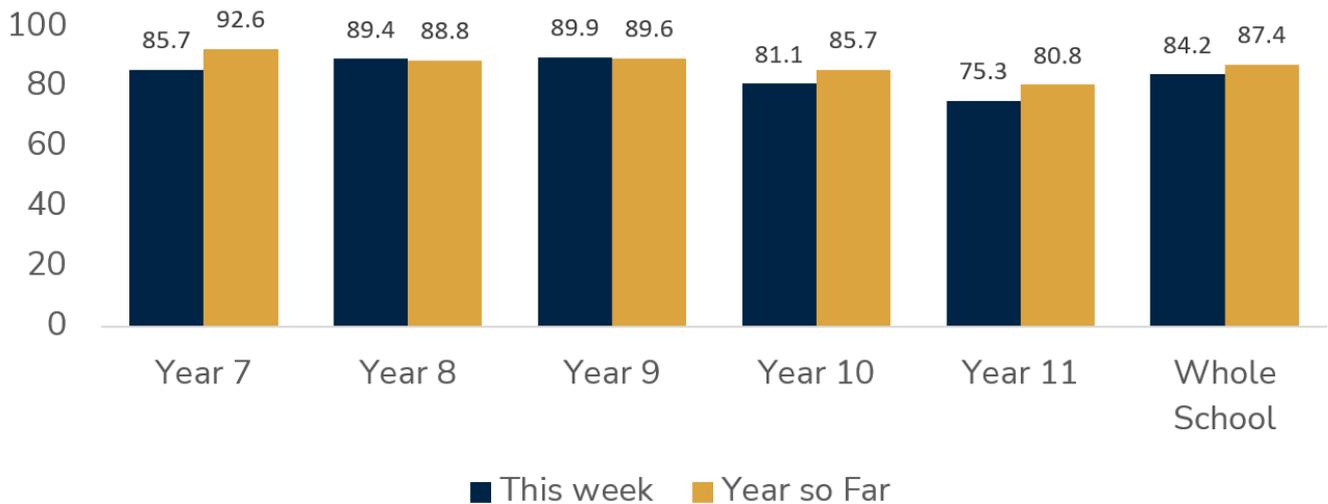


Year	Total Points
7	662
8	301
9	306
10	339
11	333

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

The attendance for the whole school so far is 87.4% with attendance for this week being at 84.2%. All students with **100% attendance** between the 1st and 19th December will be entered into a prize draw. Aim to be in the 100% club this term. Days off cost grades and affect next steps so please work with us to ensure your child attends.

### Whole School Attendance





**BLACON HIGH SCHOOL**  
ASPIRE BELIEVE ACHIEVE

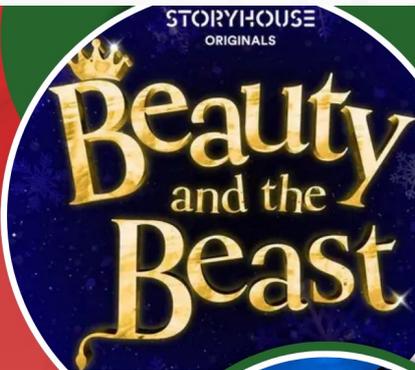
## DECEMBER ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE!

1<sup>ST</sup> - 19<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 25'

 Attend school every day from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 1- Friday 19th and you could WIN a Family Ticket to this year's panto at Storyhouse!

 Each ticket admits 6 people to the show! We have 10 to give away. A prize worth up to £250 per family!

 Get your name in the wheel of names which will be drawn on the last day of term!



**STORYHOUSE ORIGINALS**

# Beauty and the Beast



BE IN IT TO WIN IT!



ASPIRE BELIEVE ACHIEVE

🎄 ✨ Make December Count! 🎄 ✨

Attend every day from the 1st to the 19th December 25 and get entered into our Panto Prize Draw!

🎫 We have 10 Family Tickets (admits 6!) to Beauty & the Beast at Storyhouse up for grabs!

🎉 We will be doing the prize drawers in the final assemblies on the last day of term. Make sure you are in the wheel of names!

★ Be here every day → Be in to WIN! ★

## Community Carols - Monday 8th December 2025

Our choir and band will be joining students from all of the Blacon Primary schools for the annual Community Carol Concert. The event will be held at Holy Trinity Church and is always a wonderful occasion that brings the whole community together. Parents and carers are invited to attend.



### Dates for the Diary

- Monday 8th December - Dress and technical rehearsal for The Snow Queen, 9am to 4pm
- **Tuesday 9th December - The Snow Queen**
  - Dress and technical rehearsal for The Snow Queen, 9am to 11am
  - Matinee performance of The Snow Queen, beginning 11.15am
  - **Evening performance of The Snow Queen, beginning 7pm**
- **Thursday 11th December - Year 11 Progress Evening, 4 - 7.30pm**

Please join us for hot pot and bread, mince pies and hot chocolate, available for students and parents from 3.30pm.
- Monday 15th December - Rewards Assemblies for Years 7 and 8
- Monday 15th December - Evening rehearsal for Christmas Celebration Show, until 5pm
- Tuesday 16th December - Performing Arts Department Christmas Celebration Show, 6-7pm
- Wednesday 17th December - Rewards Assemblies for Years 9, 10 and 11
- **Friday 19th December - Break up for Christmas at 12 noon**

## CCF Poppy Appeal Fundraiser

Our Combined Cadet Force students worked incredibly hard last month to raise funds for the British Royal Legion's annual Poppy Appeal. The group raised a total of £1994.77, and also took part in Chester Cathedral's memorial wreath laying ceremony. These students have made us very proud as superb role models and ambassadors of our school.



## Thank you to our Year 7 Litter Pickers



Three Year 7 students - Elena, Jacob, and Dylan, have volunteered to give up time at lunchtime to pick up litter, and this week they received a reward in recognition of this work. The site is looking so much better and this is linked to our work towards achieving a green flag award.

## Blacon High School Performers Spread Festive Cheer at Holy Trinity Church

On Tuesday 2nd December, a small ensemble of talented singers and musicians from the Blacon High School Choir and Band brought festive joy to the local community Festive Afternoon Tea for Blacon residents.

The pupils delivered a heart-warming programme of Christmas songs, solo performances, and even a preview piece from the school's upcoming musical, Matilda. The afternoon ended on a high note with a lively, crowd-participation rendition of 'The Twelve Days of Christmas', filling the room with smiles, laughter and plenty of festive spirit.

Their performances were warmly received, and we were delighted to receive messages of thanks from local councillors who attended the event. Councillor Sheila Little wrote:

*"Dear Miss McHale, please pass on our thanks to the students for today. Everyone said how much they had enjoyed the singing and playing as they left. The students were great ambassadors for the school, thank you again. I look forward to seeing the whole ensemble at the Community Carol Service on Monday."*

Our students represented Blacon High School with confidence, kindness and professionalism throughout the afternoon, and we are incredibly proud of their contribution to the community.



## PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT

### 2Engage workshop

A group of Year 9 students took part in a focus group to reflect on the “Risking It All” session, performed by 2Engage, which they recently participated in.

Students spoke about their key takeaways from the session and we heard from them about the issues that are currently affecting young people in our local community.

Their insights will help to inform the future projects that 2Engage develop, ensuring that the voice of young people is at the heart of our work.

Dr Salisbury, Head of Performing Arts, is extremely proud of the students and the contributions that they made during the project: *‘As an arts-based research practitioner I strive to present young people with opportunities to express their thoughts and opinions and to explore ways of supporting each other in understanding the world around them. The work of 2Engage is powerful and insightful, raising awareness of issues that affect young people through Theatre-in-Education. It’s an honour for our students to be invited to participate in this work to inform future generations.’*

Following the workshop, Ed Morris, co-founder of 2Engage said: *‘We recently had the pleasure of running a follow-up focus group with Year 9 students at Blacon High School, over two months after they took part in our PSHE theatre session. Thanks to support from the Westminster Foundation, we’re now able to gather longer-term feedback, and this group played a really helpful part in that.’*

*The students were welcoming, honest and thoughtful, and they shared some great insights about what had the biggest impact on them. Their feedback is already helping to shape our next project. We’re genuinely grateful to Blacon High and its students for their time, openness and continued support. Their voices make a real difference to the work we do.’*



## GCSE Crime and Punishment

Year 10 had great fun in their first GCSE Crime and Punishment lesson with Miss Liddell on Thursday, with a memory game looking at the Hue and Cry and the first police force. Great job Year 10!



## Blacon High School Christmas Celebration

Join us for a festive evening of music, movement and storytelling at the **Blacon High School Christmas Celebration!** This joyful variety show will showcase the incredible talents of pupils from across our **Dance, Music** and **Drama** departments.

Enjoy performances from our **School Choir, School Band, Dance Club** and **Drama Club**, as students take to the stage with a mix of seasonal favourites, dynamic routines and dramatic pieces that capture the spirit of the holidays.

The celebration will take place at **6:00pm** on **Tuesday 16th December** in the Blacon High School Hall.

**Tickets cost £3 each** and are available via Ticket source on the following link or by scanning the QR code.

[https://  
www.ticketsource.co.uk/  
blacon-high-school-pta/t-  
qmjmjez](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/blacon-high-school-pta/t-qmjmejz)

We warmly invite families, friends and members of our community to come together for an evening of festive cheer and outstanding student talent. We look forward to celebrating with you!



## MFL Trip to Lille

Last week, 26 students from years 9, 10 and 11 took off on their travels with Mrs Hassall, Mrs Thelwell and Mr Stockdale to visit the traditional French Christmas Markets in the beautiful city of Lille in northern France.

The group left school at 4am on Tuesday and returned at 10.30pm on Wednesday. It was a very long and tiring journey by coach and ferry but every minute of it was amazing! No-one was ill on a fairly choppy channel crossing, the weather was wet and cold but the students really came together as a team and were all phenomenal ambassadors for Blacon High.

Everyone gave their best shot at speaking French, lots of 'bonbons' were bought (and consumed), and they even visited a traditional nougat factory, where the students followed a fantastic demonstration, spoken entirely in French! This was the best possible practice for our year 11s, who have their GCSE French exams very soon.



The students were introduced to a traditional pizza dish, 'Flammkuchen', in an Alsacien restaurant - it wasn't to everyone's taste but there were no complaints.

Our final visit was to a French supermarket, where even more 'bonbons' were purchased! This was a hugely enjoyable educational visit for everyone and one which Mrs Hassall (Head of MFL) is sure will be repeated. Watch this space for our next adventure!



## Chester Schools Together Christmas Tree at Chester Cathedral

Decorations made by some of our students are now on display at the Chester Cathedral Christmas Tree Festival. Their contributions to the 'Chester Schools Together' Christmas tree include hand-painted air dry clay ornaments, as well as some superb lino printed illustrations. The Cathedral's annual Christmas Tree Festival runs from now until January



**Blacon High School  
Drama Club presents**

# **THE SNOW QUEEN**



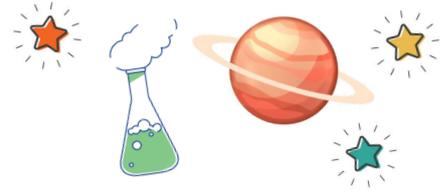
**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup>  
December, 7pm  
at Blacon High  
School**

**Directed by Julie Salisbury  
and Louise Thompson**

**Tickets:  
£5 Adults  
£3 Children  
Pay on door, cash  
only please**

## Job of the week

### The job of the week this week is a Planetary Scientist



Planetary scientists study planets, moons, and other objects in our solar system and beyond. Their job is to find out how these worlds formed, what they're made of, and whether they could support life.

To become a planetary scientist, most people start by studying science at A level, especially subjects like physics, maths, and chemistry.

A university degree in a related subject such as physics, geology, astronomy, or planetary science is essential. Many also go on to do a master's or PhD to work in research. A strong interest in space, good problem solving skills, and the ability to analyse data are all important in this career.



[youtube.com/watch=C-14fHtfjys](https://www.youtube.com/watch=C-14fHtfjys)



## Year 11 Period 6 Timetable

Week 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 11	PERFORMING ARTS ENGLISH MUSIC	PERFORMING ARTS GEOGRAPHY (6.00pm Virtual lesson Google classroom) MARKETING FRENCH HISTORY	PERFORMING ARTS FURTHER MATHS ART/ GRAPHICS PRODUCT DESIGN FOOD/ CHILD DEVELOPMENT SCIENCE IT MEDIA STUDIES RELIGIOUS STUDIES	PERFORMING ARTS MATHS	
Week 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 11	PERFORMING ARTS ENGLISH MUSIC	PERFORMING ARTS GEOGRAPHY (6.00pm Virtual lesson Google classroom) MARKETING FRENCH HISTORY	PERFORMING ARTS ART/ GRAPHICS PRODUCT DESIGN FOOD/ CHILD DEVELOPMENT SCIENCE IMEDIA RELIGIOUS STUDIES	PERFORMING ARTS MATHS	

As part of our commitment to supporting Year 11 students with their revision towards the summer exams, the school has provided students with a Period 6 timetable. This identifies the additional support on offer across the curriculum for students. All of Year 11 will be expected to attend period 6 for Maths and English from January until May and further details will be made available to parents at our Progress Evening next Thursday.

## Household Support Fund - December Holiday

We have been notified by Cheshire West and Chester Council that they are continuing to support students in receipt of free school meals during school holiday periods. The service has approved the following allocations per FSM recipient for each week during the Christmas school holidays:

- **Christmas Holidays: £17.50 per week for two weeks**

In addition, the service will also be supporting schools during the February 2026 Half Term as follows:

- **February holiday - £17.50 per week for 1 week**

Benefits Calculator Cheshire West and Chester Council also have a benefits calculator which could help maximise the income of families by identifying any benefit entitlements that are unclaimed. This calculator also assists to reduce living costs by providing details of social energy and water tariffs. Residents can access this calculator at <https://benefits.inbest.ai/cheshirewestandchester>

Should you have any questions regarding this please contact Steve Fox by email at [steve.fox@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:steve.fox@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk) or by phone on 0151 337 6822.

The Council, working alongside Edsential, has also been working hard to deliver face-to-face programmes for the winter school holidays. Children and young people will be able to choose from 23 clubs across 43 location, delivered through their HAF programme. For more information, please follow the QR code below or visit their website at: <https://eequ.org/hafcheshirewestandchester>



**FREE WINTER HOLIDAY CLUBS** powered by Edsential  
CHILDREN ELIGIBLE FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS  
ACROSS WEST CHESHIRE

Cheshire West & Chester  
**HAF**  
Holiday Activities & Food

KEEP UP WITH ALL THE HOLIDAY FUN ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES...  
Go\_cheshirewest and EdsentialUK Cheshire West and Chester Council and EdsentialUK #HAF2025  
If you would like help booking please call 07827 877820 or email HAF@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

[www.edsential.com/haf](http://www.edsential.com/haf)  
BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL...  
Please scan the QR code and contact the relevant provider using our interactive online map.

Logos: Edsential, Department for Education, Cheshire West Voluntary Action, Brio



## Extra Curricular Activities, Lunch and After School Clubs

Week 1 Lunch Clubs	Day	Club	Years	Location	Staff member
	Monday	Dance	7	Studio	JOA
	Monday	Football	All	MUGA	
	Monday	Maths	KS4	506	PEJ
	Tuesday	Dance	8	Studio	JOA
	Tuesday	Football	All	MUGA	
	Wednesday	Football	All	MUGA	
	Wednesday	Maths	KS3	502	PRR
	Wednesday	Art	KS3	112	
	Wednesday	Games Club	KS3	315	HUS
	Thursday	Creative writing	All	Library	CAV
	Thursday	Choreography club	KS3	Studio	JOA
	Thursday	Football	All	MUGA	
	Thursday	Volleyball	All	Sports hall	
Friday	Football	All	MUGA		

Week 1 After school clubs	Day	Club	Years	Location	Staff member
	Monday	Performing arts coursework club	KS4	Studio	SAJ
	Monday	Science club	7	316	EDV
	Monday	Football	KS3	3G	
	Monday	Business studies P6	11		
	Monday	Cadets	All	Containers on field	JOJ
	Monday	Home learning club	All	202	LET
	Tuesday	Performing arts coursework club	KS4	Studio	SAJ
	Tuesday	Duke of Edinburgh Drop in	9 & 10	315	HUS
	Wednesday	Performing arts coursework club	KS4	Studio	SAJ
	Wednesday	Drama club	8, 9, 10, 11	Studio	SAJ
	Wednesday	Art Graphics Product Design	KS4	112	
	Wednesday	Netball	7 & 8	MUGA	
	Wednesday	Home learning club	All	202	LET
	Thursday	Performing arts coursework club	KS4	Studio	SAJ
	Thursday	Maths P6	11		
	Thursday	Dance club	9	Main hall	JOA
	Thursday	Basketball	All	Sports hall	
	Thursday	Sports Fixtures	All	TBC	
	Thursday	Home learning club	All	202	LET
Friday	Badminton	All	Sports hall		

**Follow our twitter account @BlaconP**



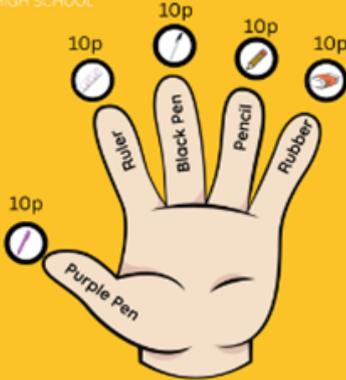
## Menu for week beginning 8th December 2025

Area	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Week 1- Week Commencing 01/12/25</b>					
Hot Serve// Main: (£2.40) Drink: 80p Cake: 80p	Sweet and Sour Chicken with Rice and Prawn Crackers or Veggie Stir Fry (V)	Sausage and Mash, Peas, and Gravy Or Veggie Sausages (V)	Burrito Or Veggie Burrito (V)	Pizza Slices	Sausage Roll, Waffle and Beans Or Veggie Sausage Rolls (V)
Panini Bar Main: (£2.40) Drink: 80p Cake: 80p	 <p><b>Panini</b> Cake and Biscuits Drinks</p>				
Cold side Main: (£2.40) Drink: 80p Cake: 80p	<p><b>Pasta</b> Salad bar Sandwiches with Choice of fillings Cake/Biscuits/Fruit</p>				
POD Main: (£2.40) Drink: 80p Cake: 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



BLACON HIGH SCHOOL  
ASPIRE BELIEVE ACHIEVE

"OPEN MINDS, OPEN HEARTS, OPEN TO EVERYONE".

BLACON HIGH SCHOOL