



Blacon's Blog

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

ISSUE 14 12th December 2025

BLACON
HIGH SCHOOL

Headlines - Message from the Head

This week, it was wonderful to see students performing in the Snow Queen, with many Year 7 students performing on the stage for the first time. I am incredibly proud of our Year 10 and 11 students who have been published in an anthology following their work with Dr Salisbury through the Rhyme and Reason project with the University of Salford.

We are so grateful to the Audacious Church for their amazing donation of 130 hampers and from Cheshire West and Chester for over 200 hampers to support our families at Christmas. We look forward to celebrating with parents next week for our rewards assemblies and to recognising the success of so many students in our rewards trips when they will visit the bowling alley.

As we move towards the end of term, we continue to be proud of all that students have achieved. I wish you all a restful weekend.

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.

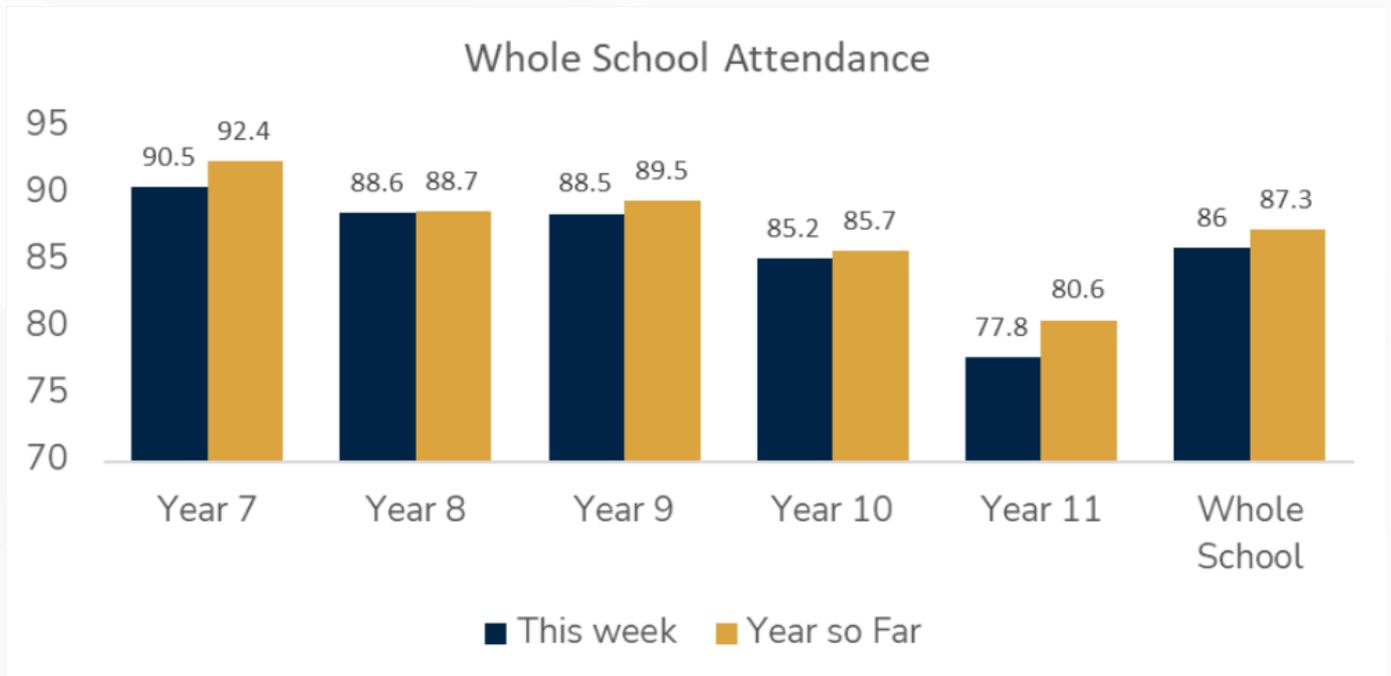
Achievement Points Week 14:



Year	Total Points
7	392
8	172
9	232
10	141
11	85

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

The attendance for the whole school so far is 87.3% with attendance for this week being at 86%. 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





BLACON
HIGH SCHOOL
ASPIRE BELIEVE ACHIEVE

STORYHOUSE ORIGINALS

Beauty and the Beast

DECEMBER ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE!

1ST - 19TH DECEMBER 25'

-  Attend school every day from Monday 1st 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!



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! ★

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-qmjmjez)

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!



Rowing Club

On Monday, our latest batch of Year 9 rowers continued their lessons. Unfortunately, they were unable to get out on the river as it was in flood following heavy rainfall over the weekend. Instead, the students focused on refining their technique on the indoor rowers. They also learned essential skills such as how to launch a boat and practiced dismantling riggers, ensuring they continue to build confidence and competence even off the water.



Dates for the Diary

- 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**



Christmas Hamper Donation



This week we would like to share our heartfelt thanks for the generous donation that Audacious Church Chester delivered to our school on Monday morning.

The Christmas hampers, assembled and delivered by members of the Audacious Church community, will be truly appreciated by many of our families, representing the kindness and generosity that the festive season inspires in us all. Students have already expressed their excitement upon seeing the bags tucked away in our offices, and it will be a real pleasure to distribute them amongst the school and our community.

Thanks to additional donations from Amazon, the church have prepared and delivered 800 of these hampers to families across Blacon.

We thank them for the donation and all the time and effort that have been put into the preparation and delivery of these hampers. On behalf of the whole school, we wish their church community all the best this Christmas.

Audacious Church has also extended an invitation to our students and their families to attend their 'Carols with the Family' service on Sunday 14th December. For more information, please scan the QR code below, or visit

audaciouschurchchester.com/christmas

Carols with the Family

Join us for a festive Carol Service with a whole load of family fun

Sunday 14th December
9am, 11am, 1pm, 3pm & 5pm

Audacious Church Chester
4 Sovereign Way, CH1 4QN

Plus
Live music, Food Trucks,
Fairground Rides, Kids Christmas Parties, Santa's Grotto with a free gift and so much more!

Book your free tickets by scanning the code or visit audaciouschurchchester.com/christmas

@audaciouschurchchester

Health and Social Care Interviews

This week some of our Health and Social Care students met with three of our Governors to conduct their coursework interviews.

These students made excellent use of this opportunity, taking the time to ask Governors thoughtful questions about two major life events and the impacts that they had on their lives in differing ways. This example of intergenerational wiring has been a pleasure to see, and we hope to hold these interviews again in the future.



One of our Governors, Judy Gilmour, had this to say about the session:

'It would be remiss of me not to write to thank the staff and students concerned with the day I have just spent in school for making it such an interesting a profitable visit.

I should like to pay tribute to the students I met. I appreciate it was no easy task for them to meet with a complete stranger to interview me about things that had happened in my life. All the students were polite, interested (and interesting) and were a credit to the school. It was lovely to meet them all and I should like you to pass on my thanks and congratulations to them. '

Lynn Loyley also sent her thoughtful comments:

'Please pass on my congratulations to the pupils and teachers involved. All the students conducted themselves well. I was impressed with Isabella's confidence, Alexis's empathy, Ayeshia's clarity, Keira's follow up questions, Aalayah's engagement and determination, Conilias's maturity, Hannah's efficiency, Mia's speaking skills, it was a genuine 2-way conversation and Ruby's compassion. Very best wishes for their future examinations and careers.'

We share our thanks to our Governors, Judy, Kath, and Lynn, for volunteering their time to these interviews.



Parental Advice—E-Bikes and E-Scooters



Dear Parents, Guardians and Father Christmas/Santa,

Has your little elf asked for an e-scooter or e-bike for Christmas?

The following is basic information on where e-bikes and e-scooters can be used within the law.

We want to make sure your Christmas presents end up in a pile like this...



...and not this



	E-Scooter *	E-Bike (pedals)	E-motorbike (no pedals)
What is it?	Any scooter powered by a battery.	A bicycle powered by a 250w max battery with pedals to propel (15.5mph)	A battery powered motorbike, moped or bike with no pedals to propel.
Under 16 in public	No *	14+ only	No
In a public area	No *	Yes, if compliant	Yes if taxed and insured
On private land - with the landowners permission	Yes	Yes	Yes
Can I use it on cycle paths?	No	Yes	No
Can I use it on the pavement?	No *	No	No
Can I use it on the road?	No	Yes	Yes
Is there a safety risk?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Is there a fire risk?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Would it be seized?	Yes *	Yes, if not compliant	Yes if not taxed and insured
What can I get instead that is legal for public use?	Commuter or stunt scooter. These can be used in public areas such as parks, skate parks and pump tracks. Always wear safety equipment.	Consider a mountain bike. A great way to commute, offering independence and exercise, use in forests and on pump tracks. Always wear safety equipment and use a bike lock.	Age dependent, if over 14 then look at an e-bike, following our guidance and doing your own research. Head to a local private track for more information
Where can I use the legal scooter or bike?	Search for pump tracks to test your skill levels and look at skills training.	Local councils offer information online for the area and clubs for mountain biking and BMX.	Motorcross Clubs.

*This does not include rental scheme e-scooters which are insured to be used by riders over 16 with a license. Refer to scheme

No one wants to seize anyone's presents!



Cheshire Constabulary



Stay safe and legal



Art Department

Here's what KS3 got up to in Art this week!

Year 7

Year 7 have been exploring mehndi patterns through the mono printing process. They have created some beautiful collages of their work in their sketchbooks!



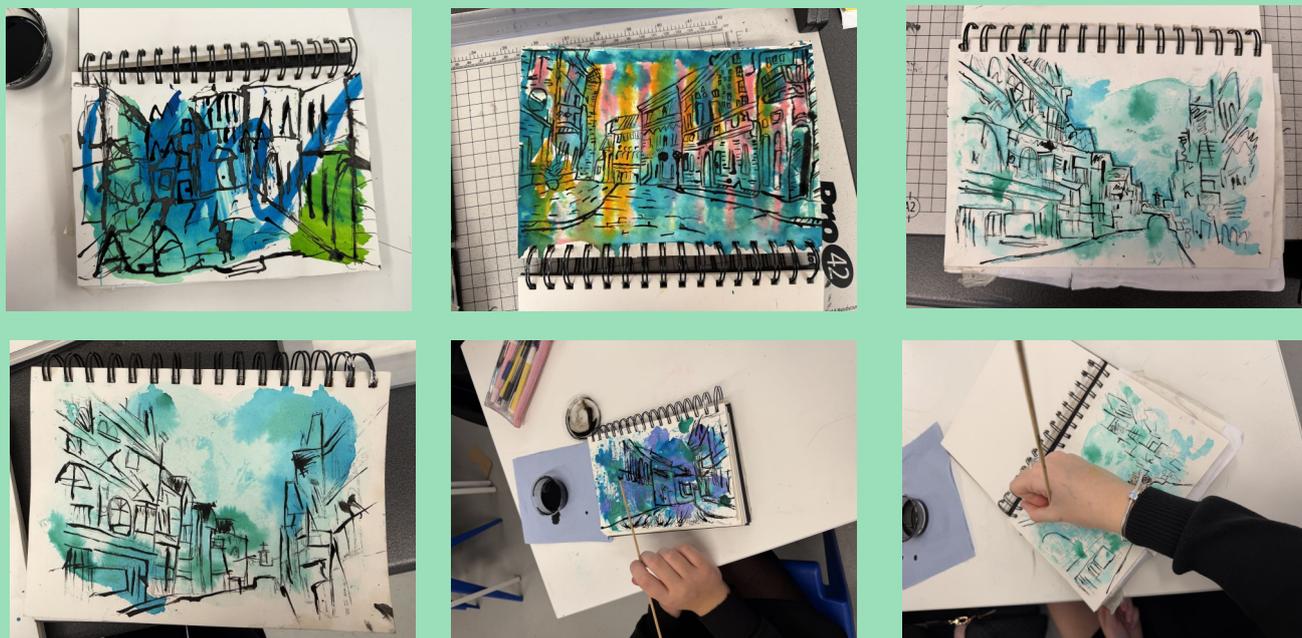
Year 8

Year 8 have been producing beautiful watercolour and pen drawings based on the illustrator Abby Diamond! They have really enjoyed experimenting with colour and drawing.



Year 9

Year 9 They are producing some brilliant work using water colour and experimental drawing with stick and ink.!



Performing Arts Department Trip to Media City

Dr Salisbury and Mrs McIntosh accompanied students to the University of Salford Media City campus on Wednesday 10th December to spend the afternoon exploring career opportunities in the Media industry. The students had worked last year on a Rhyme and Reason research project with Dr Salisbury, Mrs Thompson and professional Poet Alison Downs, creating poetry through a range of workshops focusing on wellbeing. Their poetry has now been published in an anthology alongside the work of 3 other schools in the North West. Third year Media Studies students at the University of Salford have selected 2 poems from each school and created short films using the poems as inspiration.

Our students were treated to the premier screening of these films where they experienced the joy of seeing their work brought to life on the big screen. They met with the film makers following the screening and asked questions around the skills and opportunities available in the media industry and about student life at University. Students were then invited on an immersive tour of the facilities on the campus, where they explored working with green screen to present the weather, interviewed each other on the couch in a fully equipped recording studio, took on the role of Radio DJ, observed live recordings and experienced the facilities offered in the Fab Lab, editing suites, stop-motion animation studios and the media production suites. Some students braved the constellation studio where they were transformed into digital skeletons in space through the magic of modern technology used at the university.

Students were presented with a copy of the anthology each to celebrate their creative achievements.



Victoria and Leala (Year 8) with Cameron who created the film inspired by Victoria's poem 'I Want to Talk to You About my Life).



Year 11 students with James and Sophie who created the film inspired by their collaborative poem 'Lift Me Up'.

PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT TRIP TO MEDIA CITY

Emma Bush, Director of Education at Curious Minds said: *'At Curious Minds, we believe that creativity is essential to co-develop a project that would support young people's mental health through poetry. We knew something special was about to unfold. Rhyme and Reason has been a joyful and powerful collaboration between teachers, poets and young people from secondary schools across the Northwest as well as the Arts for the Blues team from Edgehill and Salford universities. With the support of passionate educators (including Dr Salisbury and Mrs Thompson), and the guidance of inspiring poets, this project has given space for students to find and share their voices. The anthology is a vibrant, honest and moving collection of poems that speak to the hopes, fears, joys and challenges of today's young people. Each piece reflects the courage it takes to express yourself, and the healing power of being heard.'*

The project is supported by the Steph Lampl Foundation. Chris Lampl states: *'The Foundation continues the passion for poetry of our much loved daughter, sister and friend, Steph Lampl, who valued reading and writing poetry as a way to connect and express our human experience. Poetry can uplift and give our emotions form and the opportunity to engage with poetry in this way should be available to everyone. It is an honour to be able to support projects such as this. It is our hope that young people can continue to have the opportunity to creatively express themselves through poetry and share this experience with others.'*



Dr Salisbury is delighted to confirm that we will once again be collaborating with Curious Minds, the Steph Lampl Foundation, the University of Salford, Edge Hill University and professional poets to explore the life of a teenager through poetry and Drama in the Spring term as we take the project into a second year: *'Drama and poetry go hand in hand in supporting young people in exploring ways to be heard, providing them with a platform for expression and celebration. I am honoured to be working alongside so many professionals in the creative industries to support young people in being seen and being heard.'*

Job of the week

The job of the week this week is a Wind Turbine Engineer

Wind turbine technicians are responsible for installing, maintaining, and repairing wind turbines both on land and sea. They work at great heights to check blades, electrical systems, and mechanical parts, making sure everything runs safely and efficiently.

The job often involves climbing tall turbine towers, working in tough weather, and following strict safety procedures. It's a hands-on roll that helps produce clean, renewable energy.

To become a wind turbine technician, most people start with a college course or apprenticeship in electrical or mechanical engineering. Subjects like maths, physics, and engineering at school are useful. Many technicians also complete specialist training in working at height and health and safety. Being physically fit, comfortable with heights, and good at solving problems are all important for this job.

Job
of the
Week



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VYgMyBte96I>



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.

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 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>



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	

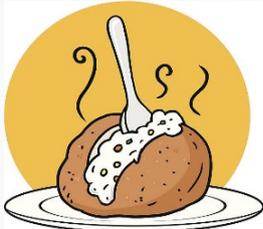
Week 1 After school clubs

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

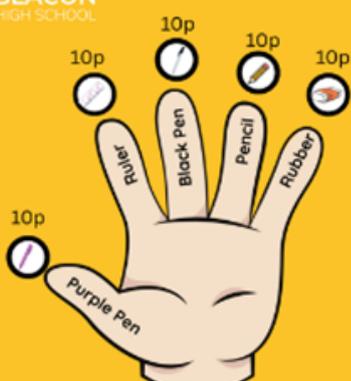


Menu for week beginning 15th December 2025

Area	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1- Week Commencing 15/12/25					
Hot Serve// Main: (£2.40) Drink: 80p Cake: 80p	Curry, Rice and Naan or Veggie Curry, Rice and Naan (V)	Christmas Dinner	Chicken Wrap or Veggie Wrap (V)	Various Pasta and Garlic Bread	Extended Break— Breakfast Batch
Panini Bar Main: (£2.40) Drink: 80p Cake: 80p	 <p>Panini Cake and Biscuits Drinks</p>				
Cold side Main: (£2.40) Drink: 80p Cake: 80p	<p>Pasta Salad bar Sandwiches with Choice of fillings Cake/Biscuits/Fruit</p> 				
POD Main: (£2.40) Drink: 80p Cake: 80p	<p>Jacket potato with a choice of 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".