



Blacon's Blog

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

ISSUE 18 - 23rd January 2026

BLACON
HIGH SCHOOL

Headlines - Message from the Head

We are pleased to share Issue 18 of our weekly blog. Thank you for working with us to support good attendance, we have improved by 0.8% from last year. It was a delight to welcome so many students in from our five partner Primary Schools this week to take part in a Dance workshop with Rewind, the young people had a fantastic time learning songs and dances with Matt Baker and the team. Years 7 and 8 have entered a national competition in partnership with 'Show Racism the Red Card', we look forward to hearing the results very soon.

We ask you to continue to support your children in Year 9 as they prepare for their assessments and in Year 11 as they begin their second round of mock examinations on the 2nd February. Home Learning Club is available three times a week after school, with spaces for students to work in the library, Bistro and Home Learning club at lunchtimes too. Breakfast Club is open to all students each day if your child would like to come in from 8.00.

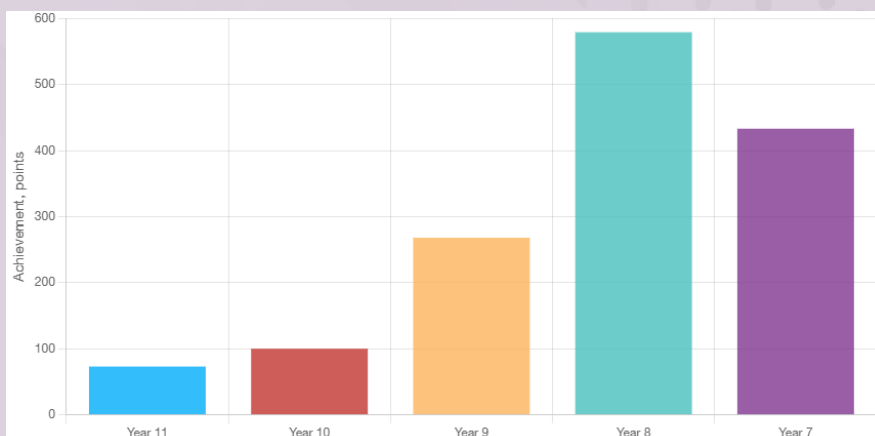
We have been doing a big clean up of the site and will be working with Student Parliament on how we can reduce waste and improve on litter so that we are all enjoying the best learning environment at all times. Finally, if anyone is able to donate 3 tonnes of bark, we are looking to refresh our borders and to recreate a memorial garden which was in the old school. We would appreciate any donations of bark or plants, trees and stones to help with this project. Enjoy the weekend.

Rachel Hudson, Headteacher

Rewards for this week

Congratulations to students for all of the achievement points given out this week. Congratulations to Year 8 for achieving the highest number of points for the second week in a row.

Achievement Points Week 18:



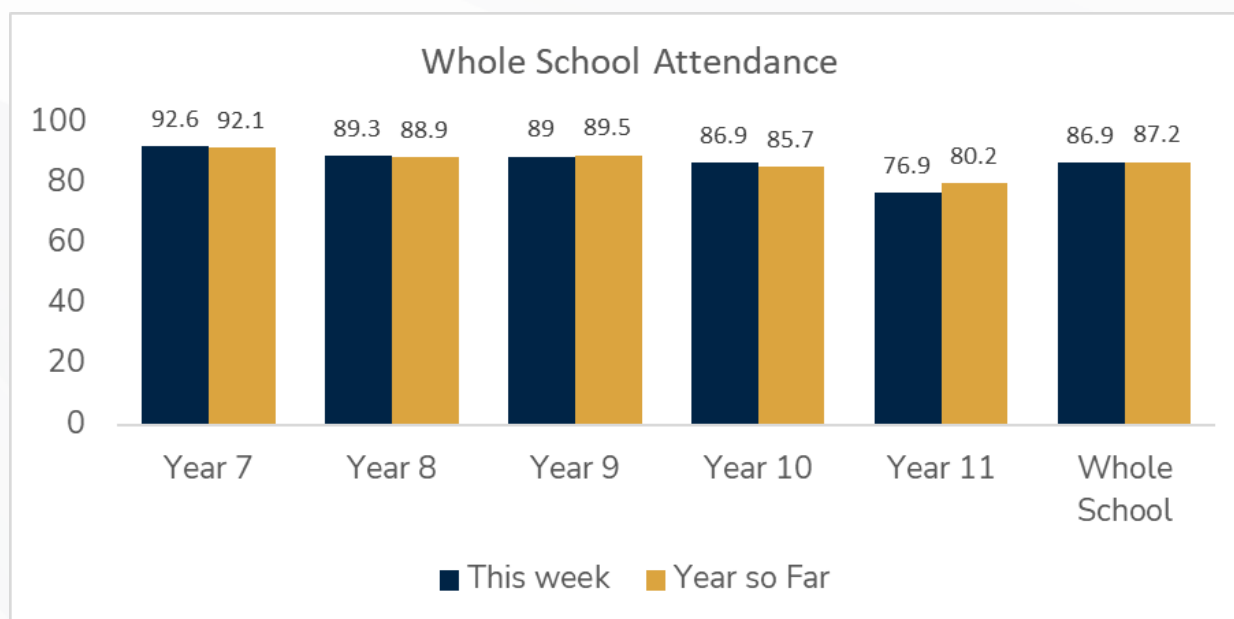
Year	Total Points
7	433
8	579
9	268
10	100
11	73

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

The attendance for the whole school so far is 87.2% with attendance for this week being at 86.9%. **We have improved attendance overall by 0.8% so far.**

Aim to be in the 100% club this half term to be entered into our end of term prize draw!

Days off cost grades and affect next steps so please work with us to ensure your child attends.



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



Autumn Term 100% Attendance Club



A big congratulations this week goes to 18 of our Year 7 students, all of whom finished Autumn term with 100% attendance! These students have all been awarded with a pin to wear on their blazers in recognition of this achievement.

School attendance is important for equipping our young people with skills for life. We hope to continue celebrating successes like this with you throughout the rest of Spring Term.

Free After School Creative Arts Club

Studio Sessions @CCSW

Cheshire College – South & West, Chester Campus, Eaton Rd,
Handbridge, Chester CH4 7ER

A creative after-school club for students passionate about **Art, Photography, Media, Film, TV, or Games Development**. Explore ideas, develop skills, and make the most of professional facilities in a relaxed and inspiring environment.

When:

Tuesdays, 4–5pm starting Tuesday 26th January.

Come and experience our fantastic facilities for yourself!

- **Dark Room** for photography
- **Kiln Studio** for ceramics and sculpture
- **Media Suite** for film, editing, and digital production

Book now:

We are pleased to share that Cheshire College are launching Studio Sessions, a FREE creative after school activity for young people interested in Art, Design, Photography, Crafts, Games Development and more.

Places for the club will be allocated on a first-come, first-serve basis—to book, fill out their form [here](#).

Rewind Project - Cheshire Dance

This week our school was bursting with energy as we welcomed one class from each of the Blacon primary schools for a truly special morning of dance and creativity!

Through the Rewind Project, our Year 8 dancers joined forces with over 120 primary school children to take part in inspiring workshops led by Matt Baker from Theatre in the Quarter and the fantastic Cheshire Dance team.



The sports hall came alive as we learnt one of the show's amazing songs and began exploring dynamic dance movements for the brand-new Rewind production, which will take to the stage this March. The enthusiasm and teamwork from everyone involved was incredible to see.



It was a fantastic opportunity to bring Blacon schools together, celebrate creativity, and give young performers a taste of what it's like to be part of this production. We can't wait to see how it all comes together in the final show!

Dates for the Diary 2026

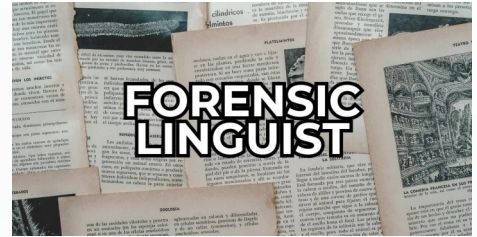
- 27th January - Mind of the Student Day
- 29th January - Year 8 Progress Evening 4 - 7.30pm
- **Friday 30th January - Training Day - School closed to students**
- 2nd – 13th February – Year 11 Mock Examinations
– Year 9 Assessments
- **13th February - School closes at 4pm for Half Term**
- 23rd February - School opens after Half Term

Job of the week

The job of the week this week is a Forensic Linguist

Forensic linguists use their knowledge of language to solve crimes. They study written and spoken language to work out who might have written a message, whether someone is telling the truth, or if a statement has been changed. Forensic linguists often help the police, lawyers, or courts by analysing texts like ransom notes, online messages, or recorded conversations.

Their work can be very detailed, involving spotting patterns in how people speak and write. To become a forensic linguist, a person usually needs a degree in linguistics, English Language, or a related subject. After that, it is helpful to study forensic linguistics at post-graduate level. Good skills in analysing language, understanding how people communicate, and being able to write clear reports are essential. Forensic linguists also need to be accurate, patient, and able to explain their ideas clearly to people who aren't language experts, like police officers or judges.



[Job of the Week - Youtube](#)



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 are expected to attend period 6 for Maths and English from January until May each Monday and Thursday and this is on student timetables.

Newspaper club!

Do you want to get involved in running the school newspaper?

We're looking for students to get involved in all aspects of creating a newspaper, from photography to writing to editing. Have your say and spread the news!



Every **Wednesday, 3:10pm-4pm**
in the Library (Room 220)
with Miss Redmond

First club:
Wednesday 28th January 2026



AI risks: parent/carers factsheet

What is AI?

Artificial intelligence (AI) is the use of computer systems to solve problems and make decisions. It's already a part of everyday life – for example, AI is used to give you personalised suggestions on social media, shopping sites or route-planning apps.

Generative AI takes a written prompt and runs it through an algorithm to generate new, 'natural'-seeming content. Tools include:

- › Chatbots such as ChatGPT, Google Gemini and Grammarly, which generate text
- › Text-to-image programs like DALL-E and Midjourney, which create images
- › Text-to-video programs, which create videos

AI technology is developing rapidly, and these tools will only improve over time. For example, they'll be able to create more convincing images or videos.

Many AI tools are free to access, and some can be used to generate inappropriate content.

What are the safeguarding risks to my child?

AI might be involved in:

- › **Hacking and scams** – text-generation tools can write convincing emails and text messages to trick children into giving people access to their social media or banking accounts
- › **AI-generated child sexual abuse images** – some text-to-image tools or image-altering apps (often called 'nudifying' apps) could be used to create sexually explicit pictures of children – this might be for sexual gratification or as a means of bullying another pupil
- › **'Deepfake' pornography** – putting a real person's face into pornographic videos for sexual gratification or to humiliate the person being put in the images. AI technology is used to alter the person's facial expressions to make the video look more convincing
- › **'Catfishing' and 'sextortion'** – criminals can use AI-generated profile pictures to appear younger than they are to befriend and groom children and young people, and then ask for information and/or images from them (e.g. nude or semi-nude photos). They can then use this to extort the child or young person into giving them money
- › **Fake news and misinformation** – text-to-image tools can be used to create convincing fake photos of world events, which could be used to promote certain beliefs (including hateful ones)
- › **AI chatbot relationships** – some AI tools allow children to chat and build a relationship with a fake person. These relationships can become very intense, and the AI may make dangerous or inappropriate suggestions



AI Parent and Carer Factsheet

Signs to look out for

If your child is facing a safeguarding issue online, they might:

- › Spend more time online, or more time offline
- › Be up late online, or complain of being tired because they were online all night
- › Receive a lot of messages and notifications on their phone
- › Have stronger emotional responses or outbursts when they are online – they may get unusually angry, upset or distant after checking their phone or using their computer/tablet
- › Be secretive about their use of the internet or a device – they may refuse to show you their phone or device, or refuse to tell you what they get up to online

What can we do at home?

We talk about the risks of AI in school, but this is always more effective if the conversations happen at home, too.

You can help keep your child safe by:

- › **Talking about AI** – you can talk about both what it's good for, and where it can be more dangerous
- › **Being aware of what they're doing online** – most social media apps have ways for parents/carers to monitor their child's activity
- › **Listening to them** if they tell you anything that's worrying them – don't blame them for anything that's happened

Notice: Request for Bark

Can you help?

We need 3 tonnes of bark to refresh our outside borders and to recreate a memorial garden. If you know anybody, or can help in any way, please contact the main school office on **012443 71475** or at admin@blaconhigh.cheshire.sch.uk

Any donations are always welcome.

Art and Technology Department

Show Racism the Red Card Competition

This week, our Year 7 and Year 8 students took part in an exciting national competition in partnership with Show Racism the Red Card, combining creativity, football and an important social message.

The competition challenged students to use art and design to stand up against racism through sportswear design.

- Year 7 students were asked to design a football boot
- Year 8 students were tasked with designing a T-shirt

The winning designs from each year group are sent to an independent judging panel, with finalists invited to a special awards ceremony at a Premier League stadium, where prizes are presented by current and former professional footballers, and for Year 7, the ultimate prize is having their boot design featured in the FC27 video game!

The competition shows how skills in art and design can lead to careers in areas such as fashion, product design, graphic design and even the gaming industry.



Year 9

This week, our Year 9 students have been exploring the work of contemporary artists Mr Doodle and Lucinda Rogers, developing their understanding of how artists use line, pattern and observational drawing in different ways.

Year 10

Year 10 have been working on creative outcomes for their Nature project. They have been combining their research and experimentation with a variety of materials to create some fantastic outcomes.



Have Your Say on SEND Services

**Have Your
Say on SEND
Services!**

**Voices
that
Shape
SEND**

**The
Big
One**

**PCF
CWaC**
Parent Carer Forum
Cheshire West & Chester

PCF Survey 2026

**Does your child or young person (age 0–25)
have SEND or additional needs?
We want to hear from you!**

**Your feedback will shape future SEND services across health,
education, social care and the community, and will be included
in the SEND Strategy 2026/27**



Have your say....

The survey will open on January 5th 2026.

You can complete the survey by scanning the QR code
using the link below or email info@pcfcheshirewest.org

Closing date February 6th 2026 - Don't miss out!



www.pcfcheshirewest.org/survey26

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 @BlaconPE



Menu for week beginning 26th January 2026

Area	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1- Week Commencing 23/01/2026					
Hot Serve// Main: (£2.40) Drink: 80p Cake: 80p	Katsu Curry and Rice	Mac and Cheese with Bacon	Sausage Roll, Sauté Veg, Beans or Gravy	Fajitas	Inset Day
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

"EVERYONE'S FIGHTING THEIR OWN BATTLES. BE KIND, ALWAYS."