



Blacon's Blog

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

ISSUE 24 - Friday 13th March 2026

BLACON
HIGH SCHOOL

Headlines - Message from the Head

As we reach the halfway point of our first Spring half-term, it has been a pleasure to see so many students continuously taking so many opportunities to enrich their learning. We were very grateful to welcome Ian Murphy into school to lead some of our KS4 artists in a creative workshop to expand their skills and portfolios, and to the Cheshire Dance team for their continued work preparing with our Year 8 dancers for the Rewind Dance performance on Monday 23rd March.

We would also like to thank the Storyhouse for their kind and thoughtful words as they commended the behaviour and ethic of our students involved in their Storyhouse Women School's Day. Our students always have a wonderful time working in partnership with the Storyhouse, and our students have all expressed how much they enjoyed the event, and got out of the talks and workshops last week.

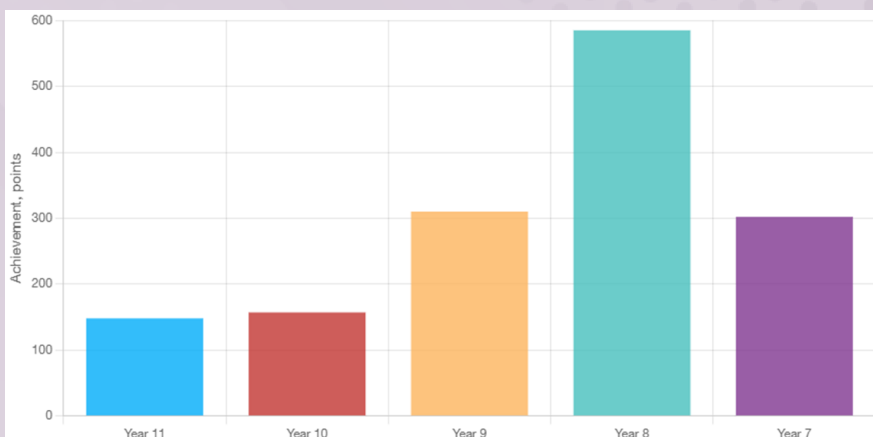
Elsewhere in the Performing Arts department, the cast of Matilda have been hard at work as they continue their show preparations. I am very much looking forward to seeing the fruits of their labour in July, and I hope that many of you will come to support them by seeing the show.

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 24:



Year	Total Points
7	302
8	585
9	310
10	157
11	148

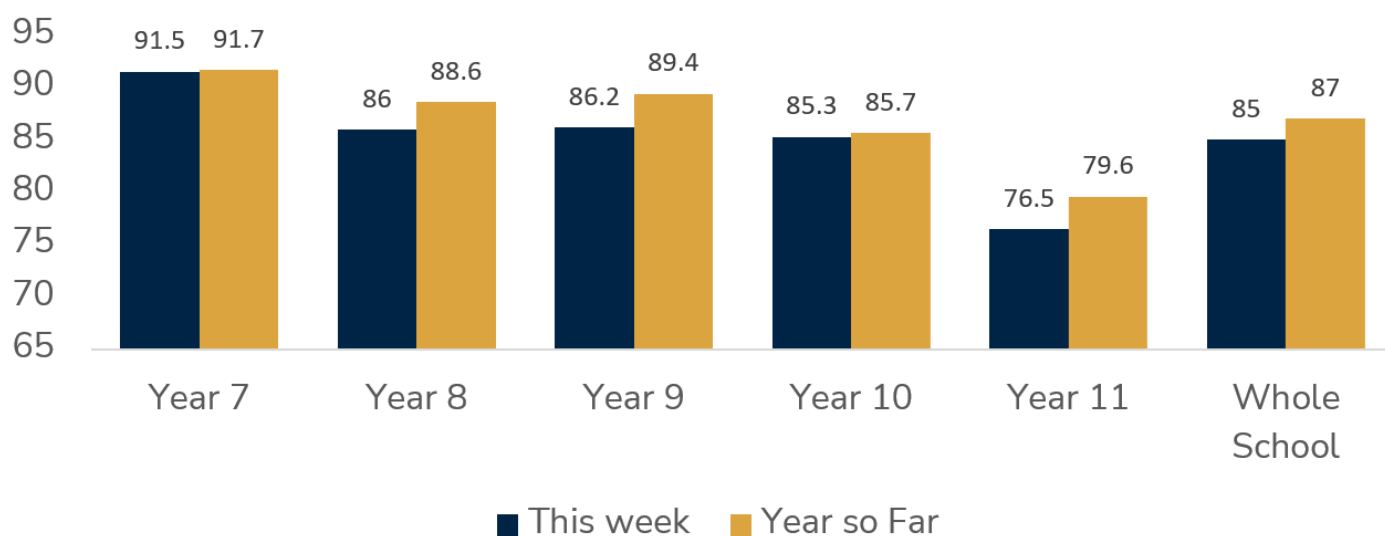
Attendance Matters - Every Hour, Every Day Counts...

The attendance for the whole school so far is **87%** with attendance for this week also being at **85%**. **We have improved attendance overall by 0.9% so far.**

Aim to be in the 100% club next 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.

Whole School Attendance



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



International Women's Day Feedback

We would like to share the positive feedback that our students received following their visit to the Storyhouse last Friday for International Women's Day.



'Please pass on my thanks to your colleagues and students for their attendance at Storyhouse Women Schools' Day on Friday 6th March.



There was a brilliant atmosphere in each of the workshops and the panel event, and your students were a credit to the school. I hope they took plenty from the day and enjoyed themselves as much as we did.'



Looking forward to seeing you soon!'

Jacob Maudsley, Schools and Education Manager, Storyhouse

We are incredibly proud of our students, who made the most of this opportunity and were excellent ambassadors for our school. We would also like to thank the generosity of Harrods Beauty Chester, who donated gift bags for our students following Mrs Hudson speaking at Chester Town Hall. The gesture was greatly appreciated, and rounded out an inspiring day wonderfully!



BLACON
HIGH SCHOOL

ASPIRE BELIEVE ACHIEVE



Thinking of buying an e-scooter or e-bike?

Get your adventures started...

...like this



...and not this



The following is basic information on where e-bikes and e-scooters can be used

	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

We want your adventures to be safe and legal



Cheshire Constabulary



Stay safe and legal



Matilda Rehearsals Continue

Our students are hard at work rehearsing for our summer show, *Matilda*. Students have been dedicating their time to drama, dance, and choir rehearsals, and it has been wonderful to see the show pulling together!



The Performing Arts department would like to remind any students in the cast that the show's rehearsal schedule is as follows:

- Wednesday after school - Drama Rehearsal
- Thursday lunchtime - Dance Rehearsal
- Thursday after school - Choir Practice

We will be in touch soon with more information about the show's run in July - watch this space!



Year 9 Vaccinations

A letter went home earlier this week to parents and carers of Year 9 students, informing them that Intrahealth will be visiting school on **Wednesday 1st April** to deliver the MenACWY and 3-in-1 teenage booster vaccine to Year 9 students.

Intrahealth ask that if you would like your child to receive these vaccines, protecting against meningitis, sepsis, tetanus, diphtheria, and polio, that you give your consent digitally by **Wednesday 25th March 2026** at the link below:

<https://nhslmms.azurewebsites.net/session/5e2fb0b8>

Information regarding these vaccines is available on the NHS website:

[MenACWY vaccine - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

[3-in-1 teenage booster overview - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

If you have any queries or wish to withdraw consent, please do not hesitate to contact the Intrahealth Immunisation Team:

Telephone: **03333 583 397 option 7, Option 2**

Email: Imms.W-Chester-CW@intrahealth.co.uk



Cheshire, Warrington and Wirral
School Aged Immunisation Service

Pre-Loved Uniform

We welcome all donations of pre-loved uniform to support our students and their families.



Any pre-loved uniform can be handed in to our Pastoral Team or dropped off at the main reception.

We politely ask that any donations are washed and in good condition.



FREE online talk by Jane Keyworth

FACE family Advice Lead Facilitator

Decreasing Depression

23rd April 7-8pm



Book online

www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Parents - Live Talks page

Dates for the Diary



Monday 16th March - Year 10 Assessments begin for two weeks



Thursday 19th March - Year 11 Progress Evening



Thursday 26th March - Year 9 Progress and Options Evening



Wednesday 1st April - Year 9 Vaccinations



Thursday 2nd April - School closes for Easter Break

A Day of Creativity: KS4 Students Dive into a Mixed Media Workshop with Ian Murphy

Our KS4 students recently had the incredible opportunity to take part in a full-day mixed media workshop led by renowned contemporary artist Ian Murphy. Known for his energetic mark-making and expressive architectural drawings, Ian brought his passion, expertise, and creative spirit into the classroom, inspiring students to experiment, take risks, and push their artistic boundaries.



From the moment the workshop began, the room was buzzing with excitement. Ian introduced students to his unique approach to mixed media, demonstrating how a combination of materials—ink, collage, paint, graphite, and found textures - can be layered together to create bold and dynamic artwork. Students were encouraged to explore freely, embracing the unpredictable nature of mixed media and discovering how different materials interact with one another.



A Day of Creativity: KS4 Students Dive into a Mixed Media Workshop with Ian Murphy

The workshop focused on experimentation and confidence-building. Students began by creating quick studies and mark-making exercises before developing their own layered pieces. Using collage elements, washes of ink, and expressive lines, they built rich surfaces full of texture and depth. It was fantastic to see students stepping outside their comfort zones, trying new techniques, and discovering unexpected results.

One of the most rewarding aspects of the day was watching students collaborate and share ideas. Ian encouraged discussion and reflection, helping students to think critically about composition, layering, and storytelling within their work. By the end of the session, every student had produced a striking mixed media piece that reflected their individual style and creative voice.

The impact of the workshop was clear—not only in the impressive artworks produced, but also in the enthusiasm and pride students showed when presenting their work. Experiences like this are invaluable, giving young artists the chance to learn directly from professionals and gain a deeper understanding of contemporary art practice.



We would like to say a huge thank you to Ian Murphy for delivering such an engaging, inspiring, and memorable workshop. Our KS4 students left the day feeling motivated, confident, and excited to continue exploring mixed media in their own artistic journeys.

6 IN '26

Join in with the National Year of Reading and take part in our 6 in '26 Reading challenge!

All you need to do is read 6 books of your choice by the end of the Summer term - go all in!

P.S. Graphic novels and manga are included in the books you can choose from.

Proud to support
The National Year
of Reading 2026.


**GO
ALL
IN.**

WIN A £10 AMAZON VOUCHER!



See Miss Redmond in the Library to join the challenge

Motivational Quote of the Week



“Whether you think you can or think you can’t, you are always right.”

Henry Ford



Henry Ford (1863-1947) was an American industrialist and business magnate. He was the founder of the Ford Motor Company, and is credited for his ground-breaking work in making automobiles more affordable for everyday Americans.

Ford was the symbol of America’s growing industrial power, going from his family’s farm in Michigan to one of the country’s first billionaires.

Letters Home to Parents

Clear communication with our parents and carers is vital to our school’s delivery of effective learning, both inside and outside of the classroom.

We keep a digital archive of all letters that we have sent to parents and carers on our school website. These can be found under News and Events - Letters, or at the link [here](#).

Letters are often sent home via Edulink One and Parentpay - it may be of benefit to register for these services if you haven’t already. Paper copies are always available where necessary.

A guide to registering to Edulink One can be found on our website [here](#). To sign up to Parentpay, please get in touch at admin@blaconhigh.cheshire.sch.uk



MFL Department—Why Study Languages?

Our Languages department have been delivering assemblies to the whole school on the importance of studying languages. Students learnt how speaking another language can open up the world of work and travel to them, impacting future careers and earnings, as well as connecting us to a world where 80% of people don't speak the English language.

We hope that students were inspired to continue their language learning journeys!

Not everyone speaks English!

A. 80% of the world's population **don't** speak it.

B. One in four adults say they REGRET not knowing another language.

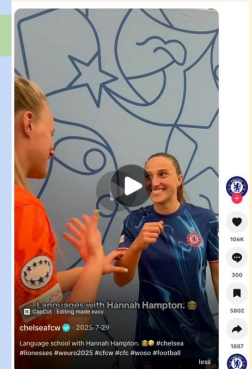
Wish I spoke Spanish as I'm missing out on so many interactions. But yes it's a wonderful country!

12:22

You can communicate with others

Some of the world's best footballers can speak multiple languages.

It helps them get on with their teammates, so they can earn lots of money playing abroad.



Cheshire Dance

Our Year 8 dancers continue to work with Cheshire Dance on their Rewind piece. We can not wait to see them perform on Monday 23rd March at the Chester Town Hall alongside Blacon's partnership primary schools!



STEM Week



This week in assembly we explored the exciting world of STEAM careers – Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics.

Students discovered how these subjects connect directly to

to the **jobs of the future** and the opportunities they could lead to. From designing sustainable buildings and developing new technologies to creating innovative products and solving global challenges, STEAM careers play a vital role in shaping our world.

During the assemblies we discussed:

- What STEAM stands for and why these subjects matter
- How technology and innovation are changing the future job market
- The wide range of careers available, including roles students may not have heard of before
- The skills young people can start developing now, such as creativity, problem-solving and teamwork

It was fantastic to see students thinking about their future pathways and the possibilities that STEAM subjects can offer. Encouraging curiosity and confidence in these areas helps prepare them for a rapidly changing world of work.

We look forward to seeing where their interests and talents might take them in the future.

Job of the week

The job of the week this week is a Speech and Language Therapist

A speech and language therapist helps people who have difficulties with speaking, understanding language, or swallowing. They work with children who have delayed speech or conditions like autism, as well as adults who may have had a stroke or injury that affects their communication. The therapist assesses each person's needs, creates a treatment plan, and works with them regularly to improve their skills. They often work in schools, hospitals, clinics, or visit people in their homes. A degree approved by the Health and Care Professions Council, HCPC, is usually required to become a speech and language therapist in the UK. This can be either a full-time undergraduate degree or a post-graduate course if they already have a degree in a related subject. Strong communication skills, patience, and the ability to work with people of all ages are important. Good science and language skills are also helpful, especially when learning how speech and communication work.



[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.

Extra Curricular Activities, Lunch and After School Clubs

Lunch Clubs



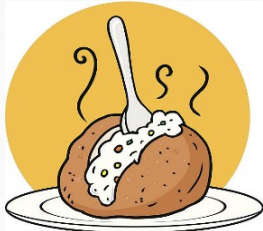
Day	Club	Years	Location	Staff member
Monday	Football	All	MUGA	
Monday	Dance	7	Studio	Miss Joynson
Monday	Maths	KS4	506	Mr Pedder
Tuesday	Book club	All	Library	Ms Redmond
Tuesday	Dance	8	Studio	Miss Joynson
Tuesday	Football	All	MUGA	
Wednesday	Football	All	MUGA	
Wednesday	Maths	KS3	502	Mrs Prime
Wednesday	Art	KS3	112	Week 1 only
Wednesday	Games Club	KS3	315	Mrs Hughes
Wednesday	History Hot Scholars	All	318	Mrs Liddell
Thursday	Creative writing	All	Library	Ms Cary
Thursday	Football	All	MUGA	
Thursday	Choreography club	KS3	Studio	Miss Joynson
Thursday	Volleyball	All	Sports hall	
Friday	Silent reading	All	Library	Ms Redmond
Friday	Football	All	MUGA	
Friday	Chess	All		Mr Green

After school clubs

Day	Club	Years	Location	Staff member
Monday	Performing arts coursework club	KS4	Studio	Dr Salisbury
Monday	Science club	7	316	Mrs Edwards
Monday	Football	KS3	3G	
Monday	Cadets	All	Containers on field	Mr Jones
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, 11	315	Mrs Hughes
Wednesday	Netball	7 & 8	MUGA	
Wednesday	Performing arts coursework club	KS4	Studio	Dr Salisbury
Wednesday	Drama club	8, 9, 10, 11	Studio	Dr Salisbury
Wednesday	Art Graphics Product Design	KS4	112	
Wednesday	Newspaper Club	All	Library	Ms Redmond
Wednesday	Home learning club	All	202	Mrs Lewis
Thursday	Performing arts coursework club	KS4	Studio	Dr Salisbury
Thursday	Basketball	All	Sports hall	
Thursday	Sports Fixtures	All	TBC	
Thursday	Home learning club	All	202	Mrs Lewis
Thursday	Dance club	9	Main hall	Miss Joynson
Friday	Badminton	All	Sports hall	


We encourage all our students to take part in at least one extra-curricular activity, to help them make the most of their time in school. Extra-curricular activities provide spaces for students to socialise, to make new friends and to try

Menu for week beginning 16th March 2026

Area	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1- Week Commencing 16/03/2026					
Hot Serve//// Main: (£2.40) Drink: 80p Cake: 80p					
Panini Bar Main: (£2.40) Drink: 80p Cake: 80p	 <p style="text-align: center;">Panini Cake and Biscuits Drinks</p>				
Cold side Main: (£2.40) Drink: 80p Cake: 80p	<p style="text-align: center;">Pasta Salad bar Sandwiches with choice of fillings Cake/ Biscuits/ Fruit</p> 				
POD Main: (£2.40) Drink: 80p Cake: 80p	 <p style="text-align: center;">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

"DON'T LET A DODGY WI-FI SIGNAL DEFINE YOUR DAY. REBOOT, RECONNECT, AND CARRY ON."

BLACON HIGH SCHOOL