



BLACON HIGH TIMES

Your news, your views, your school

Edition #1
December 2014

Inside this issue:

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Welcome! | 1 |
| Headteacher's Comments | |
| Drama Success | 2 |
| War Horse Trip | 2 |
| Product Design | 2 |
| War of the Words | 3 |
| Competition Time | 3 |
| ICT Update | 3 |
| Mock Exams | 3 |
| 'Hello from Head Girl' | 4 |
| Christmas Fun | 4 |

HOT OFF THE PRESS: FIRST EDITION!

WELCOME to the very first edition of your Blacon High School newspaper. Every month, we will be bringing you the most important news, views and stories from BHS.

The Newspaper Club has been working tirelessly to gather information for this initial edition of Blacon High Times.

There was one thing we were sure of when we first discussed having a school newspaper: we didn't want it to be just any old newsletter. We wanted it to be relevant, exciting and useful. This newspaper is for YOU. YOU are the students who make

Blacon High School what it is today, and therefore you deserve a record of your achievements where everyone can see them.

The Newspaper will be distributed every month and will be packed with important information, trip reports, exciting developments and incredible achievements from all subject areas and extra curricular activities.

This newspaper is yours, and so we want your input on what you would like to see. The Newspaper Club meets every Wednesday lunchtime in English 204, so if you would like to make a suggestion, or

even offer your services, come and drop in!

Thank you for taking the time to read this very special first edition of Blacon High Times. We are sure that, with your help, this will be a school success!

Enjoy reading,

The Blacon High Times Team



HEADTEACHER'S COMMENTS

Welcome to our first Blacon High School newspaper. Obviously, a massive thank you to all the students and staff who have enabled this to happen.

The newspaper will be a really valuable way for us all to share events and our opinions on them.

As we move towards the end of term, I would like to wish you all a very happy and safe Christmas. Enjoy every moment.

When we return in January please remember the importance of full school uniform and making sure that you are equipped for all lessons especially with a pen.

All my best wishes,

Mrs Yates

PRINCE OF DARKNESS' REIGN OF TERROR

Over the last few months in Drama, we have been rehearsing for a play called 'The Wizard of Ozzy'. It is a remake of 'The Wizard of Oz' but it has a twist: it features Ozzy Osbourne!

This play is about a young girl (Dorothy), who has lost her dog (TuTu) who...wears a tutu! Dorothy asks everyone if they have seen her and meets some friends (lion, tin man, and scarecrow) along the way. There are even some terrifying witches who have the dog! The characters have a swift pint at the pub and then...They meet up with Ozzy who puts on a brilliant party! Meanwhile, the bad witch puts a potion in all the drinks so then they all turn evil. The next morning, Dorothy and Tutu wonder if it was all a dream. But was it?

This play was part of our assessment and it was a wonderful play for Year 9 and Year 10. Lots of family, friends and staff came to watch and said it was 'fantastic'. Everyone knew their part and it was extremely successful. Well done to all those involved!

Chloe Mann, Year 9



DESIGN AND TECHN-OWL-OGY

Over the last couple of weeks in Product Design, we have been given the freedom to create anything we like in order to evidence our own ideas and thinking. I have been creating a 3D owl ornament. I designed it on a computer programme (where you draw objects, find images and trace them) and I then cut it out using a machine. It has taken me a long time and it isn't quite finished, but I am really proud of it! I think that Wood Technology is a brilliant option. You get to make things, create maps for them and research lots of different ideas. It's great fun but can be difficult and you have to put lots of hard work in. I am looking forward to completing my product and this will go towards my final mark.

Ty Wright, Year 10



ARE THEATRE TRIPS A BORE? YEAR 9 SAY 'NEIGH'

Last month, Year 9 went to London to see the play of War Horse. We have been studying this for our Functional Skills qualification. It was really useful to go and see the play as it made the book come alive!

The coach ride to London was very long, but when we finally arrived we went on a coach tour around the city. We saw sights such as Big Ben and Buckingham Palace. In the evening, we went to Pizza Express which was lovely! The time soon came to watch the play. The 'horses' were phenomenal because they were acting like real horses and the realism in the quality of how they moved was just fantastic! We were sad to see the play end, but we were all ready for bed. I was really pleased because, from my hotel window, I could see Wembley stadium where the England football team play.

The next day, we did a workshop with an actor who controlled the horses in the play.

On the journey home, Mr Stockdale and Mrs Roberts sang all the way back. It was so embarrassing and I was nearly falling asleep to their 'songs'! They even did a rendition of 'Greased Lightning'.

We were exhausted when we arrived back in Chester, but I don't think anyone will forget how the experience felt. It really helped us to understand the novel even better and this should help us succeed in our War Horse assessment. I would recommend the play to anybody – adults and children alike!

Matty Pace, Year 9



SUCCESS FOR BLACON

Congratulations to Joe Forrester and Chloe Dee, whose poems were selected for publication from the Young Writers' conflict poetry competition, War of Words. Chloe and Joe's poems were chosen from hundreds of entries from the North West. These students decided to think 'outside the box' when it came to writing about conflict, and as a reward, both students won £10 book tokens for their efforts. Well done to both of you – you've made us proud!



COMPETITION TIME

Can you write an inspiring poem about New Year's resolutions? The English department are looking for a creative and original poem from KS3 and KS4 students. Your poem can be in any format or style you choose, providing its main theme is about New Year's resolutions.

This is your chance to show off your imagination and talent for writing – winning entries will be published in the next edition of the Blacon High Times.

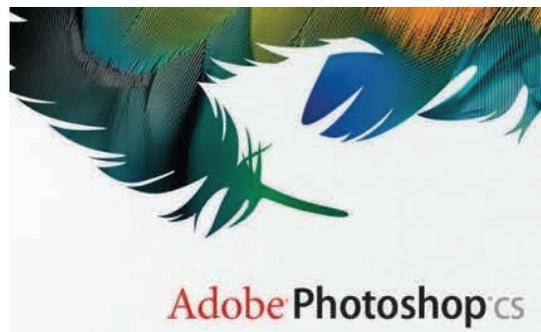
Entries from KS3 and KS4 will be judged separately by the English department. Those selected as winners will receive a prize!



ICT UPDATE

Pupils in ICT have been working on Photoshop. This is a complex programme that allows the user to edit photographs. For their coursework, students have developed their skills in creating composite images (merging several photographs into one). This will help them achieve those all-important C and above grades!

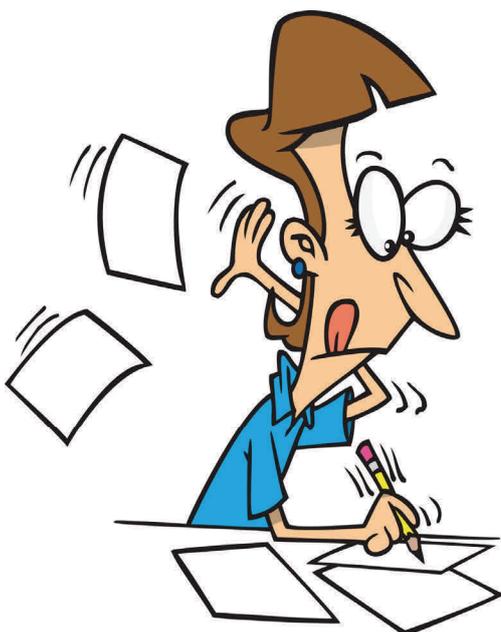
Eleanor Shone, Year 8



MOCK EXAMS

The constant tick of the clock during the exam is as annoying as the piles of revision! Mock exam week can be a chore, but the rewarding feeling you get when you see your hard-earned results is priceless. It also shows you what you need to work on the most, which reassures you for your final exams. The teachers have been a great help in the process so far, and it feels good to have such amazing support available across all subject areas. If I had one piece of advice to give to other students lower down in the school it would be this: Don't get stressed over your exams—ask a teacher for help!

Jemma Smith, Year 11



'HELLO' FROM HEAD GIRL

Hello and welcome to the first edition of Blacon High Times. My name is Georgia and I have been elected as Blacon High's Head Girl for this year. I stood for election for this post because I believe that the Head Girl needs to be just as important as the Head Boy, and I aim to make this a reality.

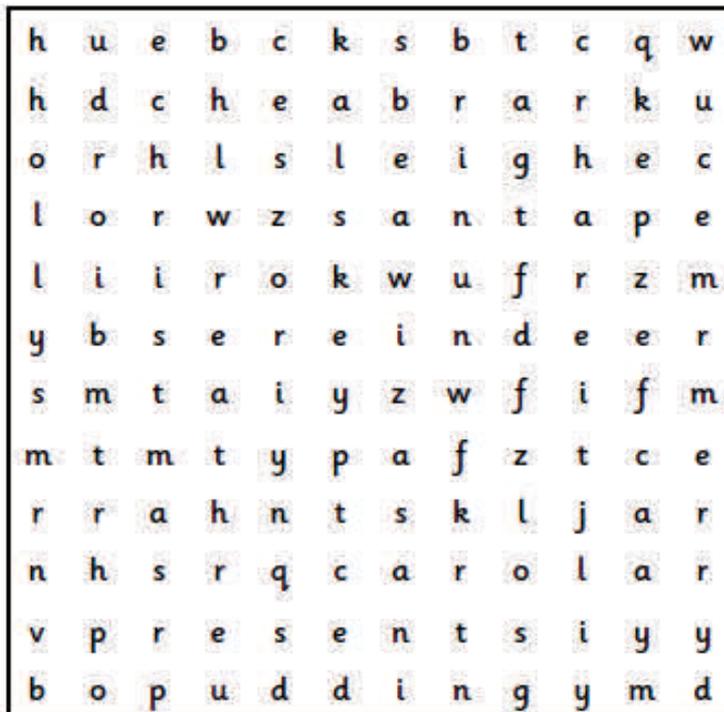
Blacon High Times newspaper is a great way to promote our activities both inside and outside of school. It is important that we show Blacon High School in a positive light because the school has come such a long way in the last few years. Unfortunately, I won't be here to experience the new build, but I can't wait to see the finished product! This is the most important thing to happen to the school in its long career, and also an extremely important event in Blacon's history. Let's ensure that we are proud of the school and area we come from, and be proud of ourselves as students!

Enjoy your Christmas,

Georgia McGee, Head Girl, Year 11



Christmas Word Search



| | | | |
|----------|-----------|----------|--------|
| carol | christmas | holly | merry |
| presents | pudding | reindeer | santa |
| sleigh | star | tree | wreath |



We hope you have a wonderful Christmas break! Whilst your hard work over term-time is extremely important, it is important to take time out to relax, too!

Enjoy completing this word search with a mince pie...or two!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to one and all!

**THE BLACON
HIGH TIMES TEAM**

