

# CENTRAL NEWS



**Blackburn Central**  
High School

Aspire and achieve

**AUTUMN 2024**

## A WARM WELCOME

Hello and welcome to the autumn edition of Central News. Students have settled in very well to the start of the new academic year and I feel particularly proud of our new year 7s and the way they have embraced their new environment. It's a huge adjustment going from primary to secondary but they have all taken it in their stride. I'd like to say a big thank you to parents for ensuring children had the correct uniform and equipment for the start of term too.

Our year 11s will be sitting their mock exams after the half term break. Please could we ask parents to encourage their children to revise over the holidays and to remind them of the importance of being prepared. Staff are working hard to support students and are always on hand to answer any concerns they may have. We also publish suggested weekly revision timetables on our social media accounts and in school to help them.

Next term is set to be a busy one, where we have lots going on, including our annual awards evening when we welcome year 12s back into school to celebrate their success at BCHS. In the meantime, I wish you all a wonderful half term and look forward to seeing children after the break.

**Mrs Hussain, Headteacher**



## HISTORICAL VISIT TO YORK

Over 100 year 11 historians went to visit the city of York as part of their learning on Norman England. Firstly, they visited Clifford's Tower, a well preserved Motte and Bailey Norman castle, which was vital to the Norman's control of York. Next they went to Jorvik Viking Museum to look at what York was like before the Norman invasion and conquest.

The students were then allowed some shopping time on the historic 'shambles', which is one of the best preserved medieval streets in Britain. Finally, they ended the day at the magnificent York Minster. This was built by the Normans to show their wealth, power and their close relationship with God, to justify their conquest of England and intimidate the people in the north.



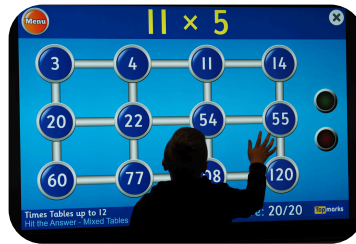


## HUNDREDS FLOCK TO OPEN EVENING

It was wonderful to see so many people come and visit BCHS at our annual open evening. Hundreds of you came to experience our school for yourselves and got to see a glimpse of our first class facilities and inclusive approach to education.

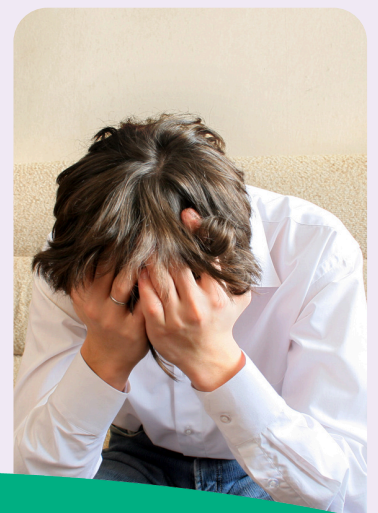
Both staff and students alike worked so hard to set up activities in all of our subject areas and give tours around school. Amongst the many activities on offer, visitors got to sample school dinners, try their luck in our escape room, conduct science experiments and make mathematical mocktails.

The deadline for high school applications is 31 October 2024. BCHS is currently an oversubscribed school, so if you want your child to come to BCHS we would urge you to put it as your first choice to have the strongest chance of getting a place. Full details of our admissions policy can be found on our website.



## TROUBLED TEEN WORKSHOP

Our first "Troubled Teen" workshop took place on 26 September - an informal get together for parents to have drinks and snacks and get advice, raise concerns and discuss issues with fellow parents. The parents who attended really enjoyed the evening and found it very useful. We discussed the teenage brain, mental health issues, behaviour at home and the struggle of getting teenagers out of bed! It was comforting for parents to share their experiences and for them to realise lots of other families are experiencing the same frustrations. We explored effective communication strategies and the importance of establishing boundaries. Due to the success of this workshop, another one will be planned later in the year.





## PSHE & RSE DATES

Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) lessons will take place on the following dates:

- Wednesday 13 November 2024 - RSE
- Thursday 12 December 2024 - PSHE
- Friday 10 January 2025 - PSHE
- Monday 3 February 2025 - RSE
- Tuesday 18 March 2025 - PSHE
- Wednesday 30 April - PSHE
- Thursday 12 June - RSE

RSE is compulsory for all secondary school pupils. The subject is taught sensitively at BCHS and provides students with the knowledge to make informed decisions about their wellbeing.

## MEGA MACHINES DAY

Engineering students in year 11 attended the MEGA Machines Day as part of our MEGA Programme in partnership with IN4 Group and Blackburn with Darwen Council.

The group took part in an immersive, action-packed day, designed to introduce students to various aspects of artificial intelligence (AI) technology, including generative AI, prompt engineering and machine learning. They also learnt about new jobs and opportunities in a varied career field that is linked with cyber, computer science and engineering.



## MUMS & DAUGHTERS CLUB

Our first Mums and Daughters club of the school year took place on 25 September. Attendees took part in model making with air-dry clay and we saw some real artistic talents!

All activities are free and open to any daughter of BCHS and female relative e.g. mum, auntie, sister, grandma - all are welcome. The next club is 18 December from 3:30pm -4:30pm where the theme will be cooking. All ingredients will be provided and will be halal - please just bring a container to take home your food. Spaces are limited - please email [mrathore524@bchs.co.uk](mailto:mrathore524@bchs.co.uk) to book your place.



## ARBOR SIGN UP

We still have almost 20% of parents who haven't downloaded the Arbor app. Arbor is our main way of communicating with parents about important school updates and your child's education.

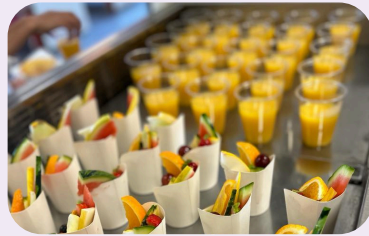
To sign up, go to [login.arbor.sc/](https://login.arbor.sc/) and click forgot password. Then enter the email address you have registered with school to reset your password. We have had some parents with multiple children having trouble seeing all of their children's profiles. If you experience difficulty please email [info@bchs.co.uk](mailto:info@bchs.co.uk).



## FREE BREAKFASTS

A reminder for parents that we run a breakfast club from 8am-8.30am each school day. Any BCHS student can come and get a free breakfast. There are lots of options to choose from including:

- Cereals
- Toasted bagels
- Fruit pots
- Crumpets
- Hot drinks



## BCHS PRESENTS...

BCHS Has Got Talent will return for another year and we are looking for students who would like to audition to take part.

If you think you have what it takes to participate then we want to hear from you. Put your name down on the audition list in drama or art and auditions will take place the week we return after half term. We can't wait to showcase the incredible talent we have at BCHS!



## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Do you have something that you would like to see featured in the next edition? Maybe your child is doing something in the community or has achieved something that you want us to recognise? If so, please send an email to [sobrien@championtrust.co.uk](mailto:sobrien@championtrust.co.uk). You can also keep up to date with our latest news on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter - simply search for Blackburn Central High School and hit that follow button.

## CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

We'll be taking part in Christmas Jumper Day again this year on Friday 13 December, with all money raised going to Save the Children. We are looking to form a student fundraising committee - please see Mrs Reeves if you'd like to join it.



## JUNIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM NEEDS YOU!

Our Junior Leadership Team (JLT) is looking for new recruits from year seven.

The team meets weekly to discuss important school developments, including menu changes, event planning and general student issues within school. Members also act as school representatives in the wider community.

If you think you have what it takes to join the team, ask your form tutor for an application form. Once completed, please hand back to Mr Whittle in HU2.

