

# Monthly Newsletter

October 2021



**Blackburn Central**  
**HIGH SCHOOL**

Aspire and achieve

## WELCOME BACK!

It has been a great start to the new academic year, with everyone settling back well into familiar routines and hard work. I am delighted by the standards I have seen across the school this month. I showed a visitor around lessons this morning and we were both so impressed with the quality of learning that was taking place in each classroom. Whilst we all accept that the pandemic has had an impact on education, we are proud of how well our students have returned to school since the summer break. They have shown great resilience and determination.

As you may be aware, OFQUAL has released the details of how they intend examinations to run. We will be sharing this information on our Raising Achievement Evening next week and it's vital that all of our year 11 parents attend.

Two things that have stood out for me over the last couple of weeks are the return of assemblies and the return of our extra-curricular programme. It has been so lovely to speak to whole year groups and share some of their individual and collective achievements with them – we are seeing record number of positive achievement points being awarded for hard work and effort too which is great! I have also enjoyed seeing our students being given the opportunity to participate in activities outside of the curriculum. This is such an important aspect of a child's development and I am so pleased that we are able to return to our extra-curricular activities.

As always, thank you for your support. If there are any problems, we would appreciate that you contact the relevant person in school straight away. We will always try our best to reach a solution and this will ensure your concern is seen and avoid any miscommunication. By working together we can ensure your child's success!



**Mrs S Hussain**  
Headteacher

## THE MONTH AHEAD

### Sat 2 Oct

Grandparents' Day 10am - 12pm

### Thur 7 Oct - Fri 8 Oct

Year 7 Waddow Hall Residential

### Wed 13 Oct

Blackburn is Hiring - Careers event at Ewood Park

### Fri 15 Oct

'But, what is Engineering?' webinar with BAE Systems

### Thurs 21 Oct

Year 11 Blood Brothers Trip

### Fri 22 Oct

Inset Day - School Open for Staff Only

### Mon 25 Oct - Sun 31 Oct

Half Term



## IT'S GOOD TO GROW

Blackburn Central High School is taking part in Morrisons' 'It's Good to Grow' scheme.

It's Good to Grow is a token collection scheme that allows schools to collect for free gardening equipment to get kids outdoors and growing. Between 6th September and 24th October 2021 for every £10 spent in store or online at Morrisons customers will automatically receive one Grow Token to donate to your chosen school.

Find out more about the scheme at:  
<https://www.itsgoodtogrow.co.uk/>



## EDUCATING BCHS

Star of 'Educating Yorkshire', Musharaf Asghar, gives inspiring speech to BCHS students.

Musharaf, AKA 'Mushy', joined BCHS on Thursday 23 September to give a keynote presentation about how he overcame his difficulties with a stammer which held him back in his school career.

Mushy talked us through the techniques he used to ground himself and help keep focused. One technique was to wear headphones whilst he spoke, an idea his teacher had seen on 'The King's Speech'. Mushy told us he would also call up call centres just to be able to chat to people, because they often weren't allowed to hang up.

Mushy reminded us that life is not a competition, he said "The only person you are in competition with is yourself."



## RIVER BROCK

GCSE Geography students visit the River Brock.

On Thursday 16th & Friday 17th September Year 11 GCSE Geography students visited the River Brock to undertake a fieldwork enquiry, which is a crucial part of their GCSE course.

The visit also tied in perfectly with their current classroom study of the topic of rivers. The weather was kind to us and students really enjoyed using their prior learning to make connections with their physical environment.

Their study involved measuring the width and depth of the River Brock along its course. Despite some initial reservations about getting in the river, students soon got stuck in and were knee deep in the river conducting their measurements.

After lots of hard work in the morning, students got to have some fun in the afternoon by putting their map skills to the test in an orienteering challenge.

A great example of how learning can definitely be lots of fun!





## BCHS MEETS OXBRIDGE

Cambridge student and BCBS alumni, Zeba Phoplunkar, inspires BCBS students.

Cambridge Medicine student, Zeba Phoplunkar joined some of our Year 10 and 11 students on Friday 24 September to help with everything from revision techniques to career pathways.

Zeba had dreams of studying at Cambridge from Year 8 at BCBS, she told our students how she would research tips for a successful UCAS application, and how to nail the all-important interview stage.

Our students told Zeba how they had aspirations of becoming dentists, surgeons and teachers, amongst a wide selection of other careers.

Mrs Sinclair, one of Zeba's BCBS teachers said "Zeba deserves the world, she has put so much hard work and effort in at every step of the academic stage. Zeba's story goes to show that if you have a dream you really can achieve it."



## PANDEMIC POETRY

Students' poetry officially published!

You may remember reading 'Dear Virus, With Love' last year, a poem written by a group of then Year 10 pupils.

The poem revisits the heartbreak we all experience when we were first locked down, isolated and scared.

We're very excited to announce that their work will be published in upcoming anthology 'Pandemic Poetry - Futures of Hope'.

You can read 'Dear Virus, With Love' in July's newsletter, available [HERE](#).

Congratulations to all of our fantastic students involved!

## INSIDE BLACKBURN CENTRAL

Blackburn Central High School hosted our annual Open Evening, and this year we were back in person!

We welcomed over 150 prospective students and their families to our school on the evening of Thursday 30 September.

This was an opportunity to meet our Headteacher, Mrs Hussain, our passionate subject teachers and for families to have a good look around our school facilities.

There were lots of practical activities that our visitors got involved with, including following The Yellow Brick Road in the English department, tackling puzzles in Maths and extracting DNA from strawberries in science.

Students and staff at BCBS were extremely excited to welcome two special guests to our Open Evening, Mayor Councillor Derek Hardman, of Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council, and Mayoress Mrs Colette Hardman.

Mayor Hardman said "It's great to be back in person, and to meet so many families tonight. Zoom meetings are OK, but you can really get a feel for the atmosphere when you're in the building."

If you weren't able to make our Open Evening, we're also hosting a Parent's Only tour of the school on Friday 1 October, 10.00am - 12.00pm

Alternatively, join us at our Parents and Students tour on Saturday 2 October 10.00am - 12.00pm. To book a place on either event, please contact Mrs Royle on 01254 505700



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