

CENTRAL NEWS



**Blackburn Central
HIGH SCHOOL**

Aspire and achieve

SPRING 2024

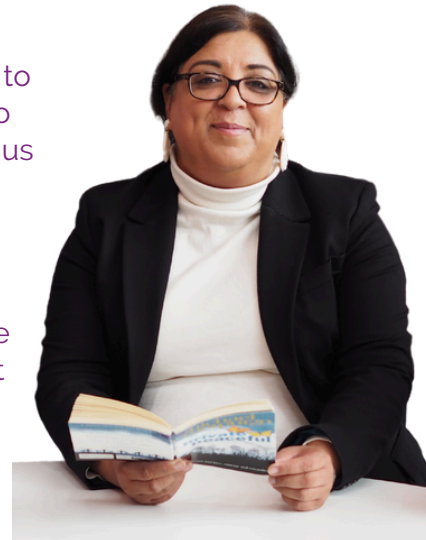
WARMEST GREETINGS

A warm welcome to the Spring edition of Central News. Every term I always want to start by expressing how busy our students and staff have been, and this term is no different. We have had so much going on in school and students have impressed us with their commitment to learning. Our year 11 students have started their GCSEs and I am so proud of them. Their conduct in exams has been exemplary and their dedication to doing their best has been evident. Keep up the good work year 11s.

There are some important notices in this edition of Central News regarding mobile phones and lunch times. Please could I ask that you ensure you read them so that you are familiar with changes going forward?

Have a wonderful half term, I hope you're able to rest and have a peaceful break.

Mrs Hussain, Headteacher



MOBILE PHONE POLICY

As of next term (starting Monday 3 June) no electronic device, including mobile phones and smart watches, will be allowed to be used, seen or heard in school, both in class and at break and lunch.

This new policy comes into place following guidance issued from the Department for Education. We want students to be fully focused on their learning and enjoy their social time at school without being distracted by phones.

We recognise that students may need their phones when travelling to and from school, but if they then choose to bring them into school they must be turned off and put away. Should we see a child with their electronic device we will:

- Confiscate it immediately.
- The first time it is confiscated a student will be allowed to collect it at the end of the day from reception.
- In the case of subsequent instances, parents will be informed and will be required to pick up the device from reception at their convenience. Reception is staffed from 8am-4pm, Monday-Thursday and 8am-3:30pm on Friday.
- Should a parent need to contact their child in the event of an emergency situation, please phone reception on 01254 505700.



We appreciate your support with rolling out this new policy.



APPRENTICESHIPS

A large group of our year 9 students visited Training 2000 this week to learn about the wide range of apprenticeships on offer through the company, plus the first class facilities they have on site.

They toured various departments at Training 2000, including engineering, dental nursing, business administration and accounting. Whilst in these departments they learnt about the requirements for each apprenticeship, plus the potential career paths.

A big thanks to Training 2000 for hosting this event for us, it was very useful for our students.



DIARY DATES

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

- Wednesday 12 June 2024 - PSHE
- Tuesday 9 July 2024 - 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.

ADDITIONAL DATES

Monday 17 June 24 - Eid closure

Thursday 27 June 24, 5-6pm - New year 7 starters parents information evening

Wednesday 3 July 24, 3-4pm - Mums & Daughters Club

Wednesday 3 July 24 - New starters transition day

Thursday 4 July 24 - Leavers prom

CHANGES TO LUNCHTIME

On Monday 11 June two lunch periods will be reintroduced for students. As a school we are very receptive to student and parent feedback and after trialling one lunch period for several months, it has become evident that the popularity of our homemade food is creating longer queues than we would like.

Two lunch periods will enable our catering staff to serve students more swiftly and will help to ease the queues. Full details will be shared in school after half term.





ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Excellent attendance underpins a child's future achievement, self-confidence and aspiration. You may think the odd day missed won't have an impact but our attendance ladder below shows just how much learning is missed when a child is off. For instance, 9.5 days off throughout the school year translates to 48 lessons, a huge amount!

At BCHS, excellent attendance is celebrated in lots of different ways. Every half term ALL students who have achieved 100% attendance are recognised in a celebration assembly and are rewarded a sweet treat. The names of those students are also displayed on our attendance notice boards and they are all given a certificate in recognition of their commitment and resilience.

In addition, every half term a group of students with 100% attendance are chosen at random to go on a reward trip. Those with the most improved attendance are also included in the draw. The next trip is to Manchester Science Museum, which will include the exciting "Power Up", a hands-on, fully interactive gaming experience.

School opens at 8am for breakfast club, where all students can come and have a FREE breakfast provided by school. The school day starts at 8.30am. Please ensure your child arrives at school promptly.

DAYS MISSED		LESSONS MISSED
0	100%	0
3.8	98%	19
7.6	96%	38
9.5	95%	48
19	90%	95
28.5	85%	143
38	80%	190

WATCH OUT, MOPEDS ABOUT!



Some of our senior students travel to school on a moped. Please could we ask those of you who drop your children off at school in a car to be mindful of these riders when entering the school car park.

YEAR 10 DIARY DATE

Blackburn College is holding an open event on Thursday 13 June, 4.30pm-7.30pm. It will be ideal for year 10s who are moving into year 11 this September and are starting to think about their next steps after school.

Head to the Beacon Centre (building number seven) to sign in on the day and you'll be directed to the subject area you're interested in.

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SCIENCE LEADS THE WAY

As part of our careers curriculum, we work closely with the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) to organise 10 UCLan experiences for our students each year.

The final visit for this academic year took place on 8 May when a group of students visited the Young Scientist Centre at the university and took part in several workshops. The visits are an excellent way for students to find out about the wealth of courses available at UCLan, plus the potential career paths students can take afterwards.



OH I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE

A group of our year eight students went on a trip to St Annes last week to gain a better understanding of UK coastlines. They had a great time exploring the beach and sand dunes, collecting sea shells and walking along the promenade. No coastal visit would be complete without savouring local delicacies, so the students tucked in to fish and chips, finished off with an ice cream.



ANNUAL OPEN EVENING

The date has been set for our annual open evening, where we open our doors to prospective students and their families. The event will take place on Thursday 19 September from 4.15pm-7pm.

Last year's open evening was our busiest to date. We're hoping to welcome even more people into school this year, to show them just how fantastic our school is.

www.bchs.co.uk

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WHOLE SCHOOL BLACKPOOL REWARD TRIP

Our annual whole school reward trip to Blackpool will take place this year on Friday 13 September.

Students who are eligible to attend will have already received a letter. All money needs to be paid by 5 July, ideally on Scopay, or at the finance office. Full details are in the parental letter.

Permission and medical forms must also be signed by a parent and returned to school.



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. 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.

HOME RUN

Our year seven cricket team got off to a fantastic start this week when they beat Pleckgate in their first match of the season.

Our year eight team also won their first match - let's hope the winning streak continues!



PARENT COMMUNICATIONS

We still have a number of parents who have yet to download our communication app, Arbor.

Arbor is our main method of communication with parents, plus a portal where you can find more information about your child's time at school, for instance see their timetable, their attendance, behaviour and progress.

If you haven't yet signed up please go to: <https://login.arbor.sc/> and enter the email address that you have provided to school and click on 'Forgot your password'. This should then enable you to sign up.

If you have any problems please email info@bchs.co.uk.



Arbor

www.bchs.co.uk