

# CENTRAL NEWS



**Blackburn Central**  
High School  
Aspire and achieve

**FEBRUARY 2025**

## A WARM WELCOME

Hello and a very warm welcome to the February edition of Central News. What a wonderful start to the new year we have had, with lots of students making me so proud to be headteacher at BCHS.

We held our annual talent contest, 'BCHS Has Got Talent', where I was a judge. I was absolutely blown away with the talent at our school and it was incredibly difficult to choose the winners. Well done and thank you to all who participated in the event and to the staff who organised it.

May I take this opportunity to remind parents of our forthcoming inset days, where students are not in school. These are on Tuesday 22 April and Friday 20 June. We will also be closed for Eid on Monday 31 March and Friday 6 June.

As I mention Eid, I also want to wish Ramadan Kareem to our dear families observing Ramadan. As we are about to enter this blessed month, I would like to wish you peace, joy and abundant blessings. May this special time bring you closer to your loved ones. We pray that your fasts are accepted and your hearts filled with hope and gratitude. Let us also remember in our prayers the need for peace, stability and compassion across the world. May this Ramadan inspire kindness, unity and healing for all. May you experience a month of health, peace and spiritual growth. Ramadan Mubarak to you and your family.

**Mrs Hussain, Headteacher**



## STUDENT WINS ART COMP

Year nine art student, Mysha, has won a competition hosted by the bus company Moving People, to design the artwork for their buses.

Local schools were invited to help Moving People create some exciting designs for the rear of their buses. The best three designs were then chosen to be printed and displayed on buses across the borough.

Mysha, a year nine art student at BCHS, was one of the winners and saw her design come to life when a bus came to school. Ms Sange, Mysha's art teacher, said: "It was lovely that Mysha submitted a winning design, but it wasn't surprising, she is already an accomplished artist!"





## BCHS TALENT SHINES THROUGH

We held our annual 'BCHS Has Got Talent' contest again this month and were so impressed with the wealth of talent we have at school.

The judges found it so hard to choose the three winners. Each of these talented individuals brought their unique brilliance to the stage and their performances were nothing short of spectacular!

1st place: (pictured with her brother) – A true star with an incredible voice and a performance that left us all speechless!

2nd place: (pictured with Mrs Hussain) – Your creativity and skill were on full display, leaving us all inspired and enjoying every bit of your performance!

3rd place: A true showstopper with your impressive guitar playing skills and your powerful vocals, you've earned every bit of this!

It was a very tough decision as all of our entrants demonstrated hard work, dedication and their passion truly shined through. You've all set the bar high for next year!

A big thank you to all of the staff who work tirelessly to plan these events, your hard work does not go unnoticed.



## BCHS IN THE COMMUNITY

Some of our junior leadership team represented BCHS at a special service at Blackburn Cathedral, in recognition of Holocaust Memorial Day and the 80th year since the camps were liberated. The service also remembered all people who lost their lives in genocides across the world.

The service, organised by the Interfaith Forum of Blackburn with Darwen (BwD), saw various dignitaries, including the Mayor, Leader of BwD Council and the Dean of Blackburn, give a short speech, before the religious leaders spoke of remembering lives that were lost. Candles were lit in remembrance, along with a minute's silence for those who had perished.

Ethan Woods, Deputy Youth MP for BwD, read reflections from school students across BwD, on the theme "For a Better Future". A statement written by our junior leadership team was included.





## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

A huge well done to all those students who achieved 100% attendance so far this year. There are over 100 students who have maintained the 100% throughout the academic year and over 400 students who have achieved it this term.

All of these students will receive a 100% badge and will have the opportunity to win a restaurant voucher. Attendance is celebrated in assembly and on the attendance noticeboard in school.

In addition, 30 students this term had the opportunity to participate in a free school trip to Manchester Museum. This included the very popular 'Power Up' hands on exhibition, where students could explore computer games over the decades.

We wanted to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support in ensuring your child attends school regularly. We cannot underestimate the importance of good attendance, as even small amounts of missed school can have a significant impact over time.

## TAKING HOLIDAYS?

All requests for holidays during term time must be received in writing. A holiday taken during term time could result in a penalty notice. If issued, penalty notices are issued to each parent of each child and the amount of the penalty will be £160 to be paid within 28 days (£80 if paid within 21 days). Penalty notices will also be considered for 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period.

## YOUR OPINION MATTERS!

We hope you find this information useful. We try to give you helpful information and keep you up to date with legislation, policy changes and school attendance issues. We would love to hear what you think and any ideas for improvement you may have. Please use this email to send us your comments, feedback and/or concerns: [heretohelp@bchs.co.uk](mailto:heretohelp@bchs.co.uk).

## FEELING UNWELL?

Often a child will wake up in the morning saying they feel unwell. Always try and send your child to school if they are a little 'under the weather', for example with a runny nose, headache or stomach ache. The school will always contact you if your child is unwell, which is why it is vitally important that we have your correct contact details.

Injuries are not acceptable reasons to be absent from school unless they require medical treatment. Further guidance can be found on the government website via this link: [CLICK HERE FOR NHS GUIDANCE](#)

Absence from school causes gaps in children's knowledge and understanding. As children progress through school they build on their existing knowledge, however children who have gaps struggle to grasp next steps. As well as the negative impact this has on progress, it can also lead to a lack of confidence and cause low self-esteem, stress and anxiety.



### LATENESS FACTS

If you are this many minutes late every day:	You will lose approximately this number of days' learning each year:
<b>5 minutes</b>	<b>4 days</b>
<b>10 minutes</b>	<b>7 days</b>
<b>15 minutes</b>	<b>11 days</b>
<b>20 minutes</b>	<b>14 days</b>
<b>25 minutes</b>	<b>21 days</b>

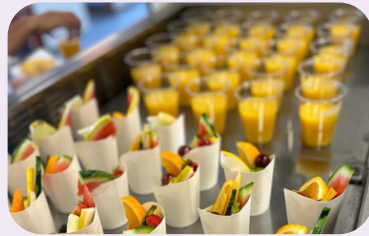




## FREE BREAKFASTS

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



## OPTIONS EVENING

Year 9 parents, a date for your diary. We will be holding our annual options and parents evening on Thursday 24 April 2025.

More information will follow next term but the evening is an important date where we set out the next steps for your children in choosing the options for their GCSEs.

Please keep the date free in your diary.



## 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.

## PSHE & RSE DATES

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

- 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.

## NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

This week is National Apprenticeship Week and as part of the initiative we are encouraging all of our students to look at the possibility of apprenticeships.

There are some amazing opportunities available, with lots of major companies running apprenticeship schemes.

As parents please talk about apprenticeships with your children and discuss any apprenticeships that people in your family may have undertaken.

Information is available from the careers service at school and you can also visit [www.nationalapprenticeshipweek.co.uk](http://www.nationalapprenticeshipweek.co.uk) for a wealth of information.

# #NAW2025