



THE BISHOP OF HEREFORD'S BLUECOAT SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr T Williams

23rd May 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It feels only moments ago I was writing at the end of the spring term to wish you all a peaceful Easter break. A short, very sunny, first summer half term has passed by very quickly. Although it has passed by quickly it has been a very busy and successful term for our school community.

Our Year 11 students have made an impressive and mature start to their GCSE exams, many of them have now reached the halfway point. The student's determination to achieve can be felt around the school, many students have come into school early to take advantage of the daily breakfast offer in the conservatory and students have taken full advantage of the pre-exam revision sessions with teachers. This dedication, maturity and resilience will pay off. Today we have held some events with students to celebrate their time at Bishop's, a Church service at St Paul's was followed with year group photos, sport events and lunch on the field. Year 11 return after half term for just over 2 weeks of lessons and exams before they enjoy a well-deserved rest before the Prom on the 4th July.

The short term has been packed fully of sporting achievements that I summarise below, huge congratulations to all of the students involved in all of our events and team fixtures, especially those that made it through to finals.

On behalf of staff and students can I thank you all for your support, our school site is much safer at the start and end of the day following the request from the student council that we try to reduce the amount of traffic entering the school site. If you could continue dropping your child a short walking distance from the school site it will continue to ease congestion and enhance all students' safety. A brief reminder that all students who cycle to school should do so wearing a helmet.

Below I have included a few additional messages and reminders on behalf of school colleagues.

- **Year 10 Exams** – Mrs Bunston has shared information with students and parents about upcoming Year 10 exams, it is important that students prepare fully for these assessments, if students have any questions or queries related to papers or revision they can contact their teachers in the first instance. Queries relating to examination arrangements should be direct to Mrs Bunston.
- **Year 10 Work Experience** – A message from Mrs Williams - We have Year 10 students going out to work experience for a week from 23rd June. It has been difficult to secure placements for everyone this year. If you know of any friends or family who

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may be willing to offer a placement in any industry, please can you let me know? I would be very grateful for any offers!

- **The Shake Off-** The hugely successful event returns to Bishop's on Friday 20th June at 7pm, it is a unique evening of student music making alongside professional band, The Hey Yahs. Expect party tunes of all descriptions, surprises and dancing. Proceeds from this event go to supporting our school council initiatives. Tickets are available through links on the school website.
- **USB Memory Sticks** – to further enhance our digital security the school will be limiting the use of USB memory sticks over the next few months. Please note that students will no longer be allowed to use USB memory sticks from September 2025, instead they will be directed to use their personal Microsoft One Drive allocation.
- **Student Uniform** – Over the past few weeks we have had to remind students of our expectations regarding school uniform. For clarity, a reminder that school blazers are compulsory uniform items and jumpers (sweaters) are optional, therefore in warmer weather we expect all students to be wearing their school blazer and perhaps refrain from wearing a jumper and or coat. Regarding jewellery, in line with our policy, students are allowed to wear up to one pair of gold or silver stud earrings in the lower lobe, no other jewellery items are allowed. If, next term, we do have a spell of extremely warm weather we will confirm, in a separate communication, that we are making further temporary changes to our uniform expectations regarding blazers.
- **Enrichment Week** - We are very much looking forward to this summer's Enrichment Week, which is fast approaching! Enrichment week is a dynamic week involving off-timetable activities and non-uniform for the whole of Key Stage 3 (years 7-9); during the week, year 10 are also out on exciting work experience placements, and year 11 will be off-site having finished off their exams! Our activities for Key Stage 3 involve a range of great opportunities for students to develop new skills including independence and teamwork, and includes: making smoothies, archery, textiles, inflatable fun, theatre workshops, team building exercises, and even more. We even have a range of day trips available for each year group, as well as some students out on residential trips. We hope all of these activities will be enriching experiences and lasting memories for all the children involved. A huge thank you to all the staff for their time and efforts in the pre-planning of Enrichment week. The dates for this year's Enrichment Week are the 23rd-27th June 2025.
- **Sporting success** – finally, huge congratulations to Bishop's students on their success in sport leagues, cups and events. The table below shares some of the amazing sporting success over the past weeks. The teamwork, dedication and determination shown by so many students is fantastic – well done from all of us.

Team	Final Result / Details	Outcome
Year 7 Boys Football	3-1	Winners
Year 7 Girls Football	12-0	Winners
Year 8 Boys Football	6-4	Winners
Year 8 Girls Football	0-1	Runners up
Year 9 Girls Football	5-5 (lost 2-3 on penalties)	Runners up
Year 10/11 Girls Football	3-4	Runners up
Year 10/11 Boys Football	Scheduled for 3rd June at Edgar Street.	

I wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable bank holiday and half term, we look forward to seeing students return for the second half of the summer term on Monday 2nd June ready for an 8:50am start.

Kind regards



Mr T Williams
Headteacher