



Always Faithful with Christ

BHBS Term Times



Spring Term 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the Easter break, I am delighted to be able to reflect with you on a busy Spring term of student activity and achievement, where a range of inspirational opportunities have truly enriched students', your children's, experiences. Building on the successes of the previous term, our school community has continued to thrive both inside and outside the classroom.

Recognising and rewarding student commitment remains a central focus for us all. This term we have held specific attendance celebration events to praise many students. Over 300 students achieved 100% attendance during Spring Term 1, a fantastic achievement. It was very rewarding last week to celebrate with a dedicated group of over 120 students who have maintained a perfect attendance record since the start of the academic year in September. In addition to these attendance awards, it has been incredibly pleasing to visit assemblies and award Year 10 students in each House their Prefect Badges and Prefect Ties after they successfully completed a rigorous application process. Following this success, we are now fully engaged in the process to identify our new House Prefects and Bishop's Head Prefects.

Over the past months it has been pleasing to note that interest in our school remains high. Initial requests for Year 7 places for the September 2026 intake showed a significant increase in the number of parents naming Bishop's as their first-choice school. We have a full cohort of 220 new Year 7 students joining us in September and it is exciting for us as a school as we start to plan the transition events that these new students and their families will be involved in over the coming months.

It has also been pleasing to hear about the continued success of many of our school sporting teams over the past term. We have seen remarkable achievements across the board, our Year 7 basketball team have become county champions and our football teams have achieved stellar results; currently, all of our female football teams remain undefeated, and our Year 8 boys' football team has also maintained an undefeated record.

I have been grateful, as always, this term to our Anti-bullying Ambassadors and the students involved in the School Council. The ambassadors have been exceptionally active across the school, promoting the vital importance of the

nine protected characteristics. Simultaneously, the School Council has been working hard to collect feedback from the student body, which they presented to the Senior Leadership Team in a productive meeting last week.

During this session, the council shared insightful student perspectives regarding support for SEN students, concerns about litter across the school site, and the availability of sanitary products in student toilets. I would like to offer a huge thank you to the members of the School Council and the wider student body who have regularly given up their time to carry out litter picks, ensuring our site remains a respectful environment for everyone. These students should be incredibly proud that their voices and dedicated actions are driving positive change across the school and the wider community. I also wish to thank you for your support with the messages I have shared on their behalf regarding access to the school site.

The creative and adventurous spirit of our students has been on full display, with a particular highlight being the successful ski trip to Austria, where 45 students participated in an exciting residential. Closer to home, students' creative talents were showcased during the February production of *The Addams Family*, which highlighted the dedication and skill of numerous students across four highly successful nights. Our Physical Education curriculum has also received a significant boost; following the completion of building work, students are finally utilising our fantastic new fitness suite, which is already having a positive impact on their health and engagement, please see the PE section of Term Times and the News page of the school website for photos of this fabulous resource.

To support future pathways, Year 10 students recently benefited from a Mock Interview morning, generously supported by volunteers from across the local community and they also participated in a "Skills for Life" drop-down day focused on essential topics including sexual health, drugs education, CPR, and addressing misogyny. Key Stage 3 students have enjoyed the opportunity to engage in specialised sessions led by the Army and Navy.

Our Year 11 cohort is currently demonstrating great determination and focus, they have completed a final round of mock examinations and their practical examinations in Drama, PE, and Food courses. After Easter our diligent Year 11 students will be preparing hard for Language speaking exams, Art exams and then final GCSE exams. We wish them all the best with their revision and preparations.

As a school we firmly believe in genuine partnership with our parents and carers. I am pleased to announce that we will shortly be establishing a Parent and Carer Forum. This initiative will provide meaningful opportunities for our community to take an active role in driving the school's progress, creating a space for

collaborative dialogue and a shared ambition for our students' success. Further details on how you can participate will be shared after the Easter break.

It has been a busy, yet successful term at Bishop's. Staff and students alike are looking forward to a well-earned break, and I wish you all a relaxing Easter.

Mr T Williams
Headteacher



Term Dates 2025/26

Summer Term 2026

Term Starts; Monday 13th April 2026

Bank Holiday; Monday 4th May 2026

Half Term: Monday 25th May 2026 – Friday 29th May 2026

Term Ends: Friday 17th July 2026

Inset Day: Monday 20th July 2026 (school closed)

Term Dates 2026/27

Autumn Term 2026

Term Starts:	Thursday 3 rd September 2026
Inset Days:	Tuesday 1 st September 2026 (school closed) Wednesday 2 nd September 2026 (school closed) Friday 23 rd October 2026 (school closed)
Half Term:	Monday 26 th October 2026 – Friday 30 th October 2026
Inset Day:	Monday 7 th December 2026 (school closed)
Term Ends:	Friday 18 th December 2026

Spring Term 2027

Term Starts:	Monday 4 th January 2027
Half Term:	Monday 15 th February 2027 – Friday 19 th February 2027
Term Ends:	Thursday 25 th March 2027

Summer Term 2027

Term Starts;	Thursday 8th April 2027 – please note
Bank Holiday;	Monday 3 rd May 2027
Half Term:	Monday 31 st May 2027 – Friday 4 th June 2027
Term Ends:	Friday 16 th July 2027
Inset Day:	Monday 19 th July 2027 (school closed)

Ashley House

House Summary

Number of House Points since the last Term Times: At present, Ashley House sits 3rd in the overall House Points standings with an impressive total of 35,463 points. Every contribution from students continues to push the house forward—well done to everyone who has earned points this term.

House attendance to date: Attendance remains a real strength for Ashley House. With an outstanding 93.51% attendance, Ashley students are currently top of the school, demonstrating excellent dedication to their learning and school life.

A message from Mrs Collingbourne

It has been another busy and positive term for Ashley House, and I am incredibly proud of the way our students continue to represent the house across school life. From academic achievements and excellent attendance to sporting success and charitable work, Ashley students consistently demonstrate commitment, resilience and kindness. Thank you to all students, staff and families who continue to support our house community.

Ashley House continues to show fantastic commitment and pride across the school community.

Student Achievements this term

We are delighted to introduce our new Year 10 Prefects, who will play an important role in supporting the house and acting as role models for younger students. Congratulations to:

Sophia B, Sharon K, Sophie C, Alex E, Ellie B, Liv H, Ollie L, Diya F, Oscar Z and Rufus W.

Congratulations to students who have recently been recognised through the Bishop's Award:

Stage 1: Oskaras V

Stage 2: Issie C

Ashley House

Sporting Achievements

Ashley House students have also been performing brilliantly in sport:

Swimming: Tom R

Cross Country: Lucy T

Cadets

A special congratulations goes to Elesha L-P and Rhiannon E, who successfully completed an impressive 40km walk in full cadet kit—a fantastic demonstration of resilience, determination and teamwork.

Music

Issie C achieved a Merit in Grade 5 Clarinet, finishing only a few marks away from a Distinction—an excellent accomplishment.

Well done to all Ashley students for continuing to represent the house with pride. Let's keep the momentum going for the rest of the term!

Ashley House

A message from the Charity Committee

We are organising a charity raffle in support of the Young at Heart Foundation and would be very grateful for any donations of raffle prizes. Items such as gift vouchers, treats, or small electronics would be greatly appreciated. All proceeds from the raffle will go directly to the charity.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Ashley Charity Committee

The Ashley House Charity Committee would like to thank everyone for their continued support of our fundraising efforts this term. We are always grateful for the enthusiasm shown by students when taking part in events and helping us raise money for important causes. Keep an eye out for upcoming charity activities and opportunities to get involved—every contribution makes a difference.

Well done to all Ashley students for continuing to represent the house with pride. Let's keep the momentum going for the rest of the term!



Thank you to all students, staff and families who continue to support Ashley House. Your encouragement and involvement play an important role in the success of our students and the strength of our house community. We look forward to celebrating even more achievements and opportunities together in the coming months.

Mrs Collingbourne

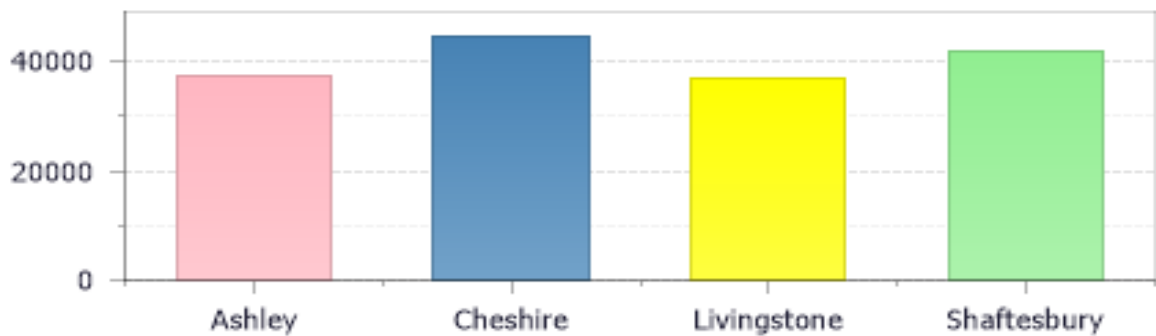
Head of Ashley House

Cheshire House

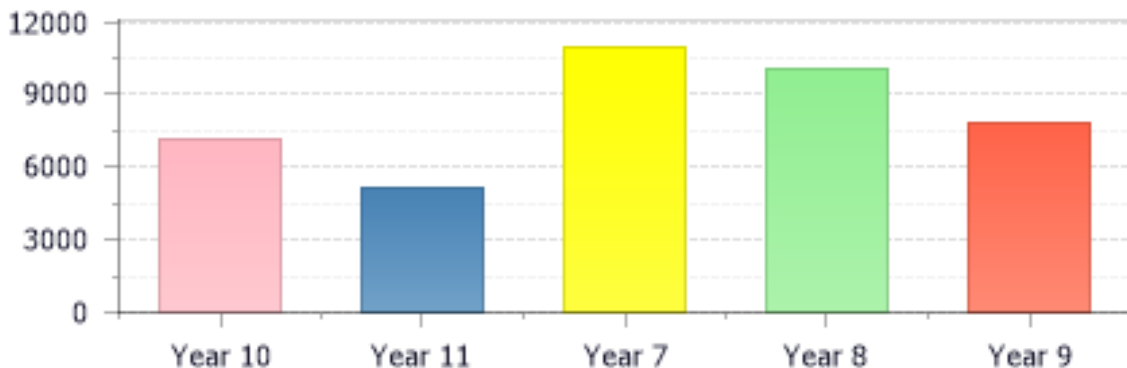
House Summary

House points

Cheshire House have now taken the lead with House Points. On the 25/3/26 our total was 44692 so we are ahead of Shaftesbury who are in second place with 42132. This of course can all change, so we are not complacent.



Our current Year 7 and Year 8 are clearly working really hard and are leading the way. It might look like our Year 11 are trailing but they have a clear focus on revision and their final exams.



Attendance

Historically Cheshire students tend to lead the way in terms of having excellent attendance. Although we are not currently in first place in comparison to the other houses, we have achieved second place and attendance for the House overall has improved so we are currently at 92.94% attendance. As we have (hopefully) left the flu season behind us, we are very hopeful that we will continue to see improvements in attendance over the next term.

Cheshire House

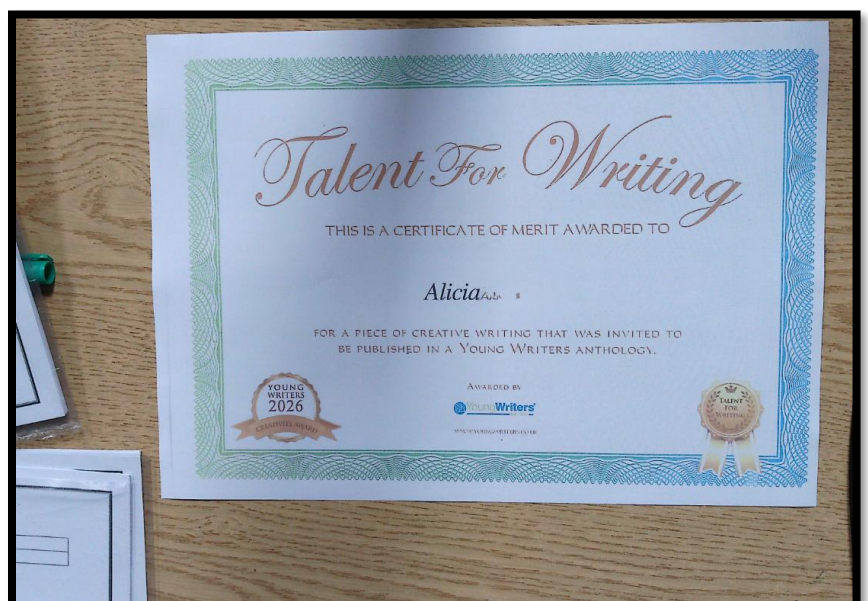
Student Achievements this term

Student achievements this term have been wide and varied. The most notable achievements include our Year 10 students who have been successful in achieving the role of prefect. These students have met the demanding requirements necessary to be a prefect. They have excellent attendance and punctuality with virtually no sanctions.

Cheshire Prefects	
Molly W	CRY
Lyla W	CRY
Eleanor C	CLY
Lois M	CLY
Taliah E	CLY
Josh S	CLY
Cybela M	CLY
Johnny Varey	CLY

They have been awarded their badges and ties and moving forward will be supporting during House communions, assemblies and working with younger students in the House during form times.

Another notable success in Year 10 is Lissy H in CLY. She has again been recognised for her writing. She has been awarded a certificate for her writing, and her work will be published in a young writers' anthology.



Cheshire House



The beautiful painting above is by Saina L in CRX and has been submitted for the Royal Academy of Arts Young Artists Summer Show. Saina is a wonderful Artist and completed this watercolour painting in her own time without any direction from the Art department or staff members. She named it Rascal which in itself is just adorable.

We find out if she has been shortlisted at the end of May ... We will keep you posted!

Livingstone House

House Summary

Number of House Points since the last Term Times: 32787 to date

House attendance to date: 91.76%

Student Achievements this term

Amelie (LRX) went back to her first swim competition since her knee injury in February 2025. She had not been training at the same standard for 9 months, but managed to get a personal best, with her injured leg only being at $\approx 65\%$ strength. She came 4th place in the 50m freestyle and beat a 20 year old!

Harry (LLB) taught himself to play the piano and over the Christmas break was playing 'Carol of the bells' on repeat.

Ciara (LRY) passed the qualifying stage on Sunday 11th January in Bath, to take part in the regional Gymnastics competition being held in Birmingham.

Lavenia (LLZ) was made Junior Mayor at Hereford City Hall on Monday 19th January. The ceremony was held in the Council Chamber and was attended by the current and previous Mayors, the High Sheriff of Herefordshire, Mrs Robertson, Mr Williams and many of Lavenia's family and friends. It was a wonderful evening and a fantastic opportunity for Lavenia.



Livingstone House

At the City of Hereford Club Championships back in December, Megan (LLA) had a great weekend of swimming, achieving 4 gold and 4 silvers, resulting in overall 2nd place for her age group.

She is also competing in the Worcester County Championships having qualified for 7 events across 3 weekends. So far, she has achieved personal best swims in all events, with 4 more to go.

Isla-Mae (LLZ) received a Certificate of Merit for creative writing, and her work has been published in an anthology of student writing.

On 22nd February Ciara (LRY) took part in a round qualifier for the South-West Trampoline competition. She qualified and came 1st place in her category, along with 1st place as a team.

Finn (LRB) took part in an in-house karate competition at his club and won a silver medal in semi-contact.



The following students have also achieved their Bishop's Award Stage 1:

- Harriet LRB
- Hugo LRB
- Harry LLB
- Lily LLB

Many congratulations to them all. Please share your child's achievements with me via email: erobertson@bhbs.hereford.sch.uk

Livingstone House



House News

And finallyduring the February half term our Livingstone Mascot, Livingstone the Giraffe, went to Dublin and had a lovely time visiting Trinity College, St Patrick's Cathedral, Christ Church Cathedral and, of course, the Guinness Factory. He also enjoyed his walking and bus tour, finding out lots of history about the city. The photos show him on the iconic O'Connell Street, where the General Post Office was the Centre of the 1916 Easter Rising. It was very cold on occasions, but the weather was otherwise kind.

Shaftesbury House

House Summary

Number of House Points to date: 40,200

House attendance to date: 92.86%

Student Achievements this term

Hollie (SLB) is part of the U12 lads club jets winning team, who went on to win the junior girls league.

Isabel (SRY) did an amazing job as she was awarded swimmer of the month for February by Hereford Swimming Club. She has only been swimming since December 2025!

We have some amazing rugby news, with both Thomas R (SRB) and Thomas M (SLB) being part of the winning team for Ledbury Rugby Club in the U12 Defender Cup.

Theo (SRB) represented the Hereford RAF squadron as part of the annual Inter Squadron cross-country championship. He did an amazing job, coming 4th out of 52 participants in the U15's competition.

Huge congratulations to Millie (SLA) for recently winning player of the match in her recent football game for Cheltenham.



Shaftesbury House

Following club championships, Evie (SRA), was awarded first place in the girls 11/12 age group - this is based on points earned over the events she took part in. One trophy & 7 medals – she will need a bigger trophy cabinet soon!

Gabriella (SLA) has been a true inspiration for Shaftesbury. Through her determination she passed her grade 1 flute exam. We are all very proud, well done.

Joshua (SRA) has kindly been sharing his Lego creativity. We look forward to the next instalment.

More swimming achievements, with Noah (SLY) achieving personal bests in both his 1500m and 800m swims, getting two bronze medals.



The following students have also achieved their Bishops Award Stage 1:

- Bethany SLB
- Edith SLB
- Remy SLB
- Marnie SLB

Stage 2:

- Gabriella SLA

The following students were recognised as Anti-Bullying ambassadors:

- Amelia SRA
- Xander SLX

Many congratulations to them all. Please share your child's achievements with me via email: satkinson@bhbs.hereford.sch.uk

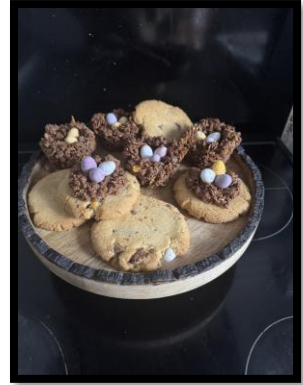
Shaftesbury House

House News

Shaftesbury House are raising money for Close House Youth Projects this year. Our incredible house prefect Chelsey (SRX) does a lot of volunteering for them, so it has been great supporting an organisation linked to our house!



Finally, Summer (SRX) has been raising money for her further education by selling some amazing baked goods. She has been recognised by the community in local social media posts. A true asset to Shaftesbury House.



Shaftesbury Mascot Elsa the Lion:

If you are going away at all and would like to take Elsa, please let Mr Atkinson know so we can follow the adventures of Elsa!

Creative Arts

Art, Craft and Design

The Spring term has been a very exciting one with the introduction of brand new projects into our curriculum.

Year 7 have spent this term continuing to explore the Formal Elements of Art. We have focused on line and tone by responding to the work of Max Ernst and his development of surrealist insects. We have had beautiful outcomes showing strong use of drawing, textural rubbings and collage techniques being explored.



Year 8 are exploring how Artists have used recycled materials to create Art. With a continued focus on Identity, we have responded with an African Mask focus using 3D constructive methods to making. Design pages showcased presentation skills in line with GCSE expectations which allowed students to understand what would be needed if Art were a subject they would consider in the future.



Creative Arts

Art, Craft and Design

Year 9 have continued their journey of exploring careers within the arts, and the job options that are available to them post 16. After completing a project exploring the work of Printmakers in the autumn term, Year 9 have spent the spring term exploring the role of an illustrator – specifically Tim Burton and Paride Bertolin. Working in a variety of media, developing gothic style portraits and designing illustrative monsters in the style of our chosen Artist have been a huge hit. We are now working towards developing these in 3D with clay – watch this space!

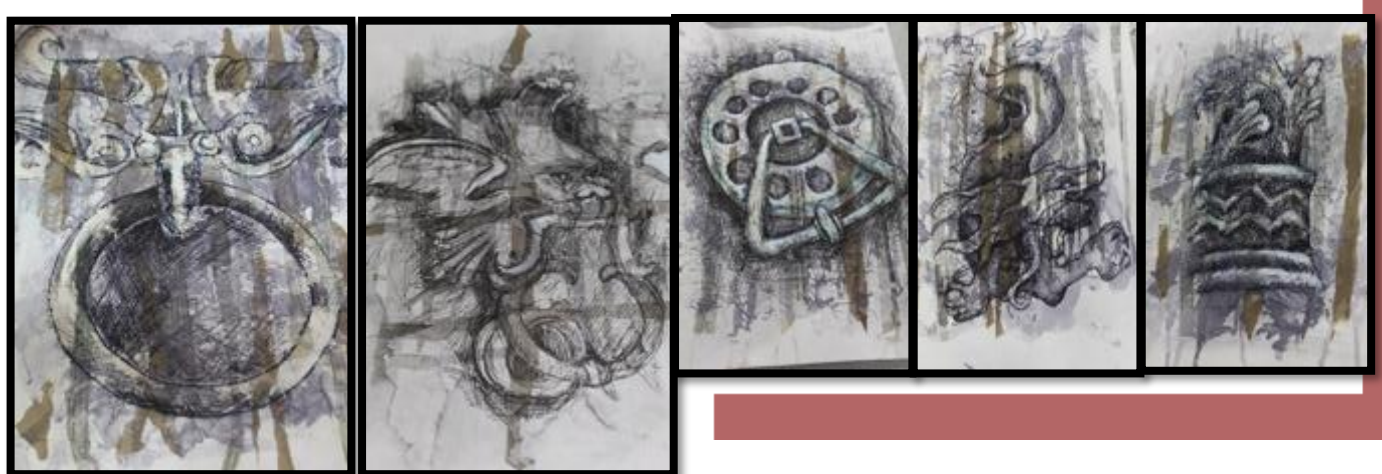


Creative Arts

Art, Craft and Design

Our KS4 Art students were given an amazing opportunity to spend the day working with award winning Visual Artist Ian Murphy. Ian brought his portfolio of work into school to share with the students and talk through his creative working process. He then shared a whole range of new skills and techniques for the students to explore and experiment with, and we had some beautiful outcomes from the workshop. We were also able to invite a Team Leader from Hereford College of Art to enjoy the day with us, who also spoke with the students about the options available to them post 16 and what HCA can offer if they were to choose that direction.

Such a fantastic day and so many new skills and techniques learnt and explored. The students worked so well and made us all incredibly proud with their professionalism and engagement with a visiting Artist. We look forward to welcoming the next!



Creative Arts

Music & Drama

The Spring is a busy period for the team. Both subjects are finalizing NEA work from the Year 11s with a typically eclectic palette of musical or dramatic performance- musical pieces ranging from Haydn to Foo Fighters and drama scripts ranging from Tennessee Williams to Shelagh Stephenson. These are prepared to be sent off or observed by visiting examiners.

Key Stage 3 have been busy too. Music classes have focused around Fanfares, Reggae and Pop Music whilst Drama have been covering Romeo and Juliet and Dennis Kelly's play 'DNA'. All schemes of work are designed to emulate their respective GCSE courses ensuring students are familiar with the expected formats.



Outside of lessons our attention turned from December's Carol Service, where we raised over £1500 for St Michael's Hospice, to our school production. This year we took a trip to New York's Central Park and a distinctly dark humoured telling of one normal night with 'The Addams Family'. Four nights, two casts and over four hundred audience members later our talented company can be delighted with themselves after a long run of rehearsals and using up Hereford's complete supply of white make up.

As ever the Creative Arts Team endeavored to employ students in every area. Responsibilities for set design, prop making, stage management, costume, lighting, sound, and playback were all undertaken by our students whilst staff watched from the audience. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who participated at whatever level in this hugely enjoyable run and I hope many happy memories were made. Special mention must go to Mrs Goodall and Mrs Collingbourne for their many hours of rehearsals and planning to make sure this was possible. Discussions are under way to see if a show is possible next year- if it is, watch this space.

Creative Arts



Design & Technology

Over the 24th and 25th of February, 80 Design & Technology students enjoyed an unforgettable visit to the Williams Racing F1 Factory, where they experienced first-hand the world of Formula One engineering and innovation.

During the visit, students took part in a fascinating factory tour, giving them the opportunity to see a range of both historic and modern race cars up close. Seeing the vehicles used in the world's most advanced motorsport sparked a great deal of excitement and curiosity, and many students were particularly interested in the technology and engineering that goes into designing a competitive F1 car.



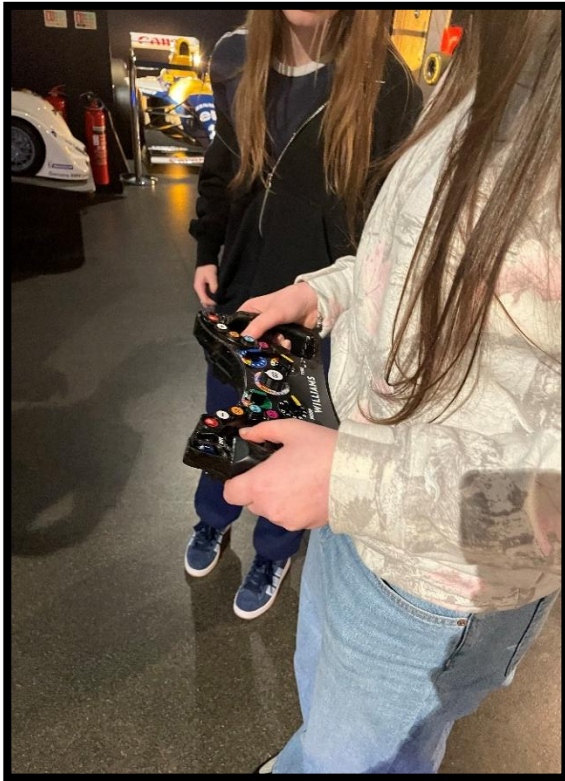
A key part of the trip was the interactive STEM workshop, where students explored the concept of crumple zones. Working in teams, they designed and built their own structures before putting them to the test in a crash simulation. The activity was both engaging and educational, allowing students to apply their problem-solving and design skills in a practical way.



One of the most popular experiences across both days was the chance to race on the professional F1 Esports Series-style simulators. The immersive racing setup created plenty of excitement and friendly competition among the students. On 24th February, Megan won the series, while on 25th February, Theo took the top spot with an impressive performance on the simulator.

Overall, the trip was a fantastic success. Students represented the school brilliantly and thoroughly enjoyed every aspect of the experience, from learning about engineering principles to competing on the simulators. It was a memorable visit that left many feeling inspired about the possibilities within motorsport, design and engineering.

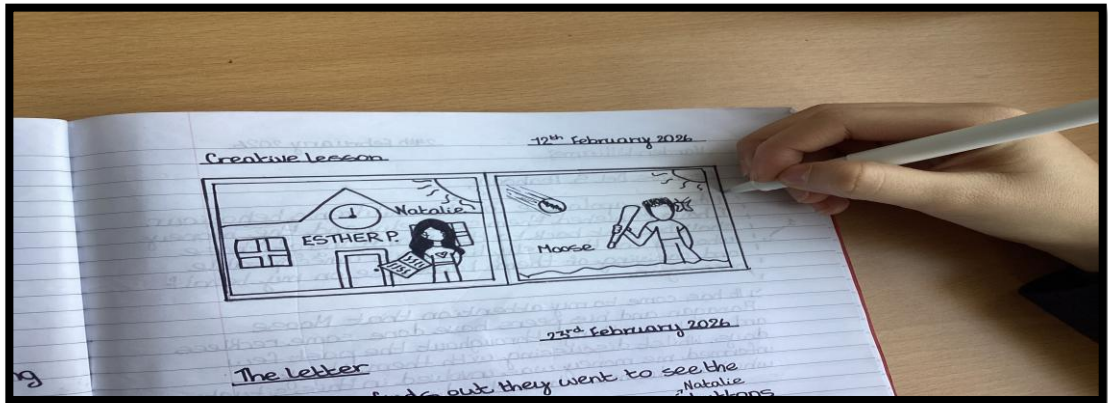
Design & Technology



English

Year 7

Year 7 have been studying 'Al Capone Does My Shirts' and have enjoyed doing lots of activities designed to bring the novel to life.



"I think English has been great fun this year, especially 'Al Capone...' and all the group work."

"I find popcorn reading a good way to read as everyone gets involved and it makes the text more memorable."

"I have found English very interesting this year. In particular, learning about the notorious Al Capone and Alcatraz prison."

"I love English as we get to engage in teamwork activities."

English

GCSE English

Year 11 have been revising hard for their GCSE mock exams in English Language and Literature. Here, students are creating revision resources for 'Blood Brothers,' exploring characters, themes and context.



Below: students were asked to draw one of our poems for a Love and Relationships Anthology poetry starter. R2 to the first person to email Miss Griffiths with the correct answer to this one!



Pupils 2 Parliament

Our young parliamentarians met once again this term.

They debated the future of GCSE and 'A' level qualifications and whether students should be able to do these online. As ever, they were led through the topic by the incomparable Dr Roger Morgan.

To be involved in our next debate, please see Mr. Merrick.



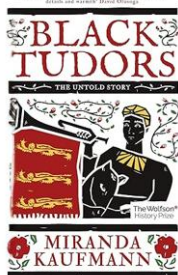
Humanities

Year 7

Year 7 Historians have been investigating how diverse Tudor England was and have learnt about the story of John Blanke the trumpeter for King Henry VIII.



Why is this picture so special?



Humanities

Year 8

In Year 8 our History classes have been studying the legacy of slavery for UK cities, with a particular focus on Bristol and Edward Colston. We asked our students "Should we remove and rename our monuments or streets when they are connected to slavery?"



Our Geographers have been studying the physical geography of Antarctica with a focus on the enquiry below.



ASSESS the challenges people might have if they were living in Antarctica

Not a challenge at all

A moderate challenge

A huge challenge

Challenges of living in Antarctica :

Point...
E.g. With minus temperatures throughout the year.

This means that...

This leads to...

Humanities

Year 10



Our Year 10 Historians have studied, in depth, the Battle of Hastings of 1066. Addressing key misconceptions such as the Battle not actually being fought in Hastings!

The History team are very excited that the Bayeux Tapestry is coming to London this year and we are planning to organise a trip to visit it, watch this space!



Humanities

Year 11

Our Year 11 Geographers conducted their fieldwork this term on this enquiry question:

How effective is the transport strategy in Tupsley?



Data collection included questionnaires, traffic surveys and looking at the role of Beryl bikes in the area.

This fieldwork will be assessed on their GCSE Geography paper three.

Humanities

History Store

Mrs Hill is very excited that BHBS is the first secondary school in Hereford to be working with the History Store, Hereford's museum and archives centre.

There are many exciting documents to be found such as resources on a previous headmaster and a biscuit from the First World War....definitely not edible!

The History team will be planning some visits with this great facility we have here in Hereford.



Biscuit from the First World War

George Henry With (1827 – 1904)

G.H. With was Headmaster at Blue Coat boys' school for almost 25 years from 1851. His time at the school, whilst influential was only one aspect of his importance.



During this period man became even more interested in looking at the stars, and telescopes used a large metal mirror at the bottom. This was usually made from an alloy of copper and tin with arsenic added to the reflective surface, but it tarnished quickly and needed polishing often.

Mr. With was one of the first to begin producing mirrors for telescopes that were made from glass, with a single silvered surface. These did not need to be polished like the metal version and so enabled more amateur astronomers to pursue their interest as telescopes became reasonably priced.

Creation of a mirror involved a machine to obtain the rough curvature on the glass, and then hand polishing using varying grades of abrasives, until a fine one is used. The surface is then silvered. This process could take over a week to do, usually longer.



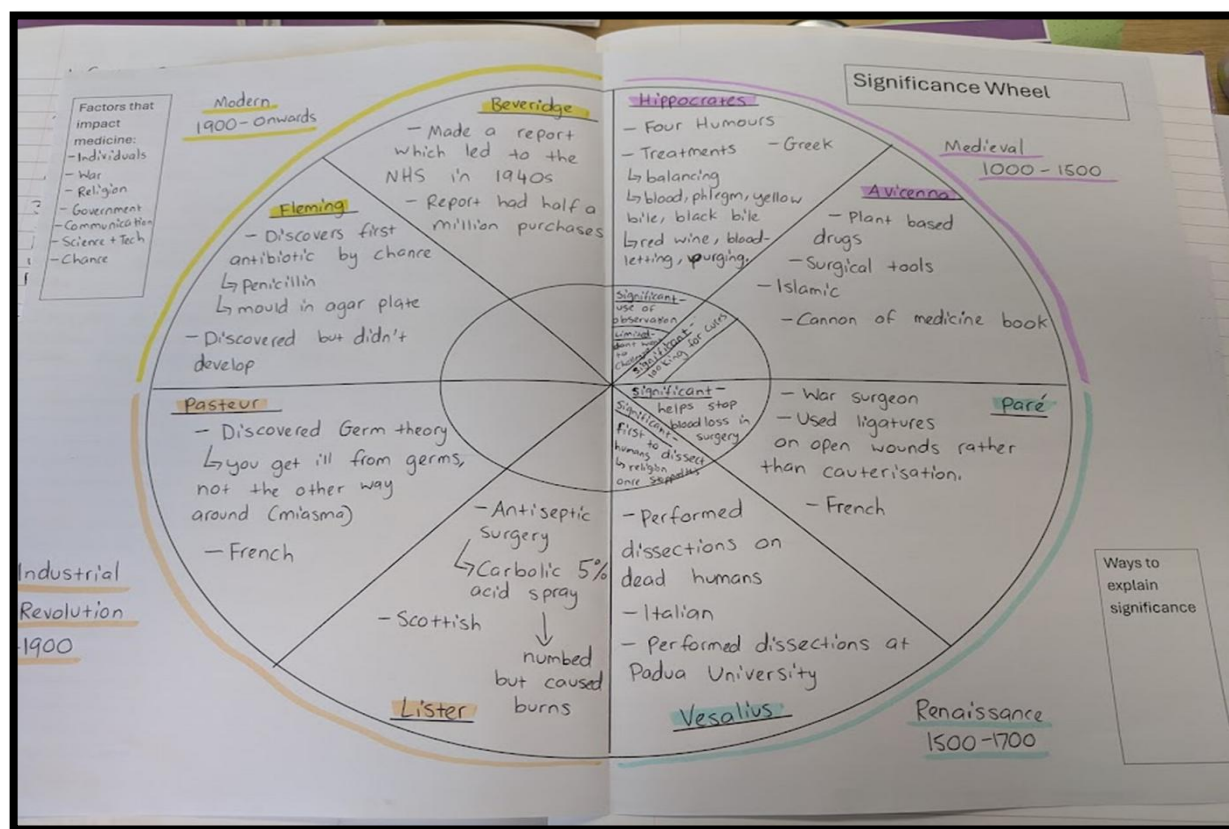
Humanities

Preparation for exams



The exam board for GCSE History and GCSE Geography is AQA

Our Year 11 students have been preparing for their mocks this March. This is excellent preparation for their upcoming GCSEs this May and June. Teachers will be feeding back soon and setting targets to help our students receive the best grade possible.



The Humanities team will continue to offer revision sessions to help our students.
Monday: History teams revision with Mr Atkinson
Wednesday: Geography teams revision with Mrs Williams
Friday: After school History revision with Mrs Hill
There will be lunch time and break time sessions running too with Mr Banks and Mrs Robertson

Maths and Computing

Maths

It has been another very busy term in the Maths department, with Year 11 in particular working extremely hard. Many students have been attending after-school revision sessions and all of them have recently completed a second set of mock examinations in the hall. We are delighted to see significant improvements in many students' grades since the last round of mocks. With one final push, we are hopeful that this will be another excellent year for results at Bishops. Many students have impressed us with their resilience and determination to achieve the best qualification they can. We wish them the very best of luck for their examinations in May and June.



Meanwhile, students in Years 9 and 10 have taken part in the **Intermediate UKMT Maths Challenge**, with several achieving fantastic scores:

Year 10

Gold: Charlie H, Liam A, Roy D, Milana M, Phoebe P, Etienne H-J, Macy H

Silver: Oscar Z, Sofia G, Jacob S, Elsa B, Reuben L, Layla B, Tom D

Bronze: Ruby L, Noah W, Javen H, Grace H, Ellie B, Johnny V, Rufus W, Robert B

Year 9

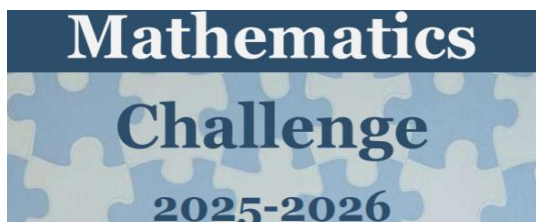
Gold: Lola W, Taya L, Arlo S, Myles J

Silver: Romy A-D, Lucas J, Noah B, Cyprian M, Izzy F, Juno B

Bronze: Romeo M, Theo P, Allie G, Chihurumnanya N, Florrie H, Aleeyah C, Justina H, Freya W, Logan H, Aiden B, Dhani H and Kristina K

Students in **Years 7 and 8** will be taking part in the **Junior Maths Challenge** in April.

Maths and Computing



This year, some Year 9 students have also entered a competition run by Edge Hill University. We are very pleased that two teams have successfully completed **Stage 1** and have been selected to progress to **Stage 2**. At each stage, teams must work together to produce a creative and mathematically rigorous solution to a challenging problem. Teams that are successful in Stage 2 will be invited to the university to present their work, with final winners and runners-up receiving cash prizes.

The successful teams are:

9A1: Taya L, Chihurumnanya N, Imogen M, Noah B and Cyprian M

9B1: Juno B, Dhani H, Arlo S, Mabel E and Adiya D

These students deserve particular praise. Although the competition was introduced during lesson time, the majority of their work has been completed independently in their own time.

Maths and Computing

Computing



Above are some examples of original comics created by our **Year 11 Creative iMedia** students. The class has now submitted both pieces of their NEA coursework and are focusing on preparing for the final component of the course: the summer examination.

We look forward to seeing what the next cohort of students will create. This year, Year 9 students have completed modules in both **Creative iMedia** and **Computer Science** to help them decide which subjects to choose for their options. Any students who are unsure about which course might suit them best are encouraged to speak with **Mr Carpenter**, who will be happy to offer advice. Assessment results from these modules may also help inform their decisions.

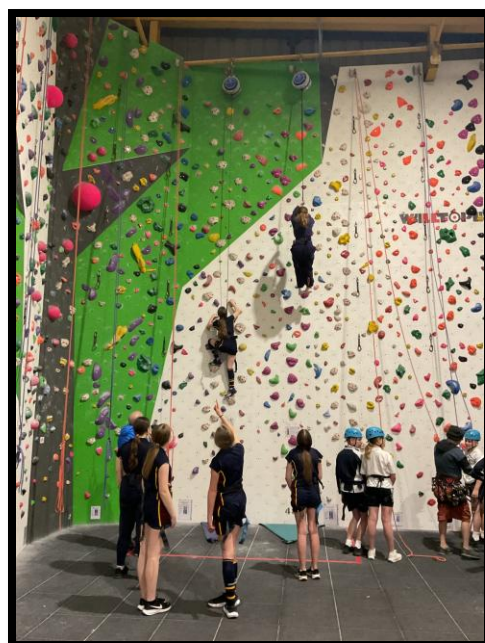
Physical Education

Sporting Success & Enrichment

♀ Year 8 Climbing Trip

Our Year 8 students recently visited Green Spider Climbing for a confidence-building climbing session. Climbing is an excellent activity for developing resilience, problem-solving skills and physical self-trust. By tackling manageable challenges and pushing beyond their comfort zones, students demonstrated determination, teamwork and perseverance throughout the session.

“At first I didn’t think I could reach the top, but once I did it made me feel really proud of myself.”



Year 7 Basketball Champions

A huge congratulations to our Year 7 basketball team, who were crowned **County Tournament Winners**. The team showed outstanding teamwork, skill and sportsmanship throughout the competition — a fantastic achievement!

“We worked together in every match and kept encouraging each other.”
A.K.V (ALB)

Physical Education

Table Tennis Club

Our Table Tennis Club currently has space for new participants. Students are welcome to attend two free taster sessions, come along and try your skills out every Tuesday after school in the gym.

We are proud that students have progressed to represent BHBS in competitive fixtures.

Recently, our Year 7/8 team competed in a tournament at Weobley, where they performed exceptionally well against older opposition.

"Table tennis club is really welcoming — you don't have to be an expert to join."
– Year 7 student



Football

The football season is in full swing. Our Year 8 boys team had a superb tournament performance. They remained undefeated throughout, demonstrating excellent teamwork and commitment.

"Our boys gave 100%." – Mr Hothersall.

Our female teams are all currently undefeated! A fantastic achievement.

BHBS recently hosted Herefordshire's biggest ever girls' football festival, with 17 schools from across the county taking part.

The event was for Year 3–4 pupils and was played in the true Spirit of the Games, where the aim is for everyone to leave smiling, happy, and proud of their efforts.



Our fantastic Sports Leaders ran the event, showing great organisation, leadership and encouragement throughout the day. They did an amazing job supporting the teams and helping the festival run smoothly.

Physical Education

👉 Fitness Suite Reopening

We are delighted to announce that our **new state of the art Fitness Suite has opened**. The improvements, following recent building works, have created a more modern, spacious environment that will allow even more students to benefit from high-quality fitness provision.

We are very excited about the opportunities this enhanced facility will bring. With new equipment now installed, students will be able to take part in a wider range of strength, conditioning and health-focused activities as part of both curriculum lessons and extracurricular clubs.

We look forward to seeing students making the most of the upgraded space and continuing to develop their confidence, knowledge and physical wellbeing.



Religious Studies

'And let us not grow weary of doing good,
for in due season we will reap,
if we do not give up'



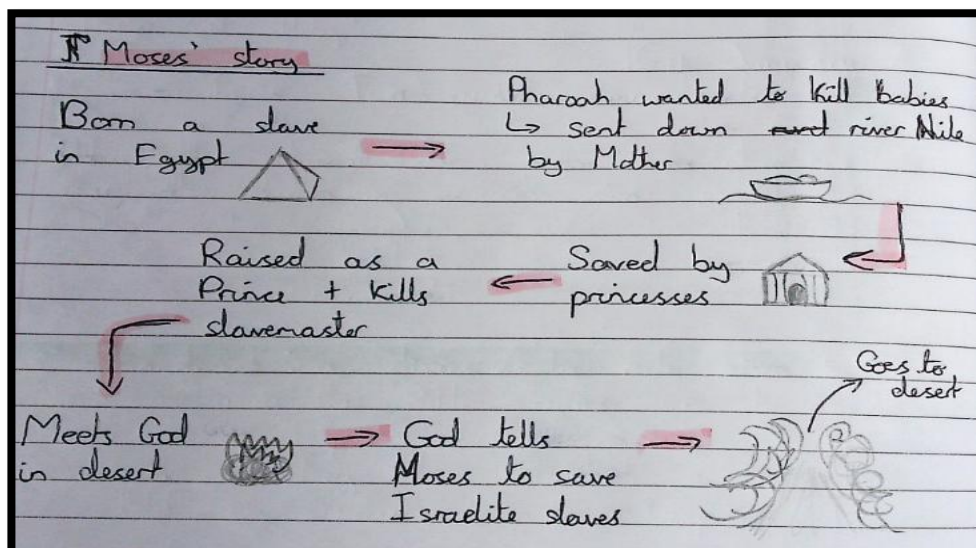
Galatians 6:9

Year 7

This term in Year 7 Religious Studies, students have been exploring prophethood in the Abrahamic religions: Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Students learned what a prophet is and why prophets are important figures who share God's message and guide believers on how to live. Students studied key figures including Adam, Abraham, Moses, David and Muhammad, examining the stories associated with each prophet and how they are understood in different religious traditions. Through these lessons, pupils developed their understanding of similarities and differences between religions, explored how religious texts are interpreted, and considered how faith can influence identity, community and moral decision-making.

The Ten Commandments

1. You shall have no other Gods before me.
2. You shall not make idols.
3. You shall not take the name of your Lord in vain.
4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it Holy.
5. Honour your father and your mother.
6. You shall not murder.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.
10. You shall not covet.



Religious Studies

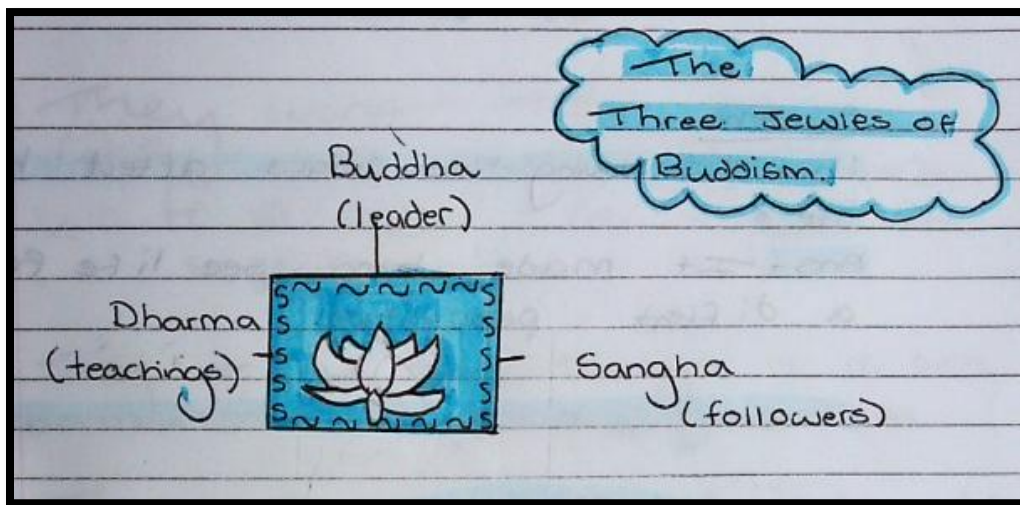
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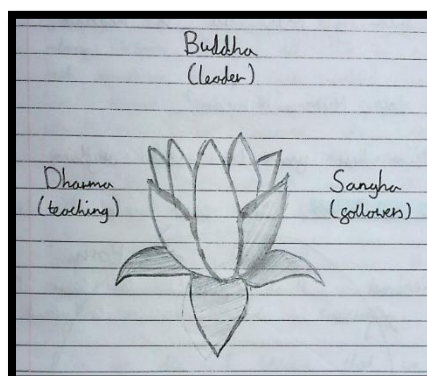
Year 8

This term in Year 8 Religious Studies, students have been studying Buddhism, focusing on the life of Siddhartha Gautama (the Buddha) and the key beliefs of the religion. Students explored how the Buddha's experiences of suffering led him to search for enlightenment and develop teachings to help people overcome suffering.



Students learned about the Three Jewels of Buddhism – the Buddha, the Dhamma (teachings), and the Sangha (community) – as well as important teachings such as the Four Noble Truths, the Noble Eightfold Path, and the Five Moral Precepts. These teachings show how Buddhists aim to live ethical lives and achieve nirvana, escaping the cycle of rebirth.

Through this unit, students developed their understanding of how religious beliefs influence values, actions and ways of life.



Religious Studies



Year 9

This term in Year 9 Religious Studies, students began by studying Shariah law in Islam, exploring how Islamic teachings guide Muslims in making moral and legal decisions. Students learned about the sources of Shariah, including the Qur'an and Hadith, and considered how Islamic law can influence daily life and ethical choices for Muslims.

Students have since begun the AQA GCSE Religious Studies unit on Christian Beliefs. So far, lessons have focused on Christian teachings about the nature of God and the creation of the world. Students explored different Christian interpretations of the Genesis creation accounts and discussed how some Christians understand the relationship between religious beliefs and scientific explanations such as the Big Bang and evolution.

Through these topics, students are developing their understanding of how religious beliefs influence values, identity and ways of life, while building the knowledge and skills needed for GCSE Religious Studies.

Religious Studies



Year 10 and 11

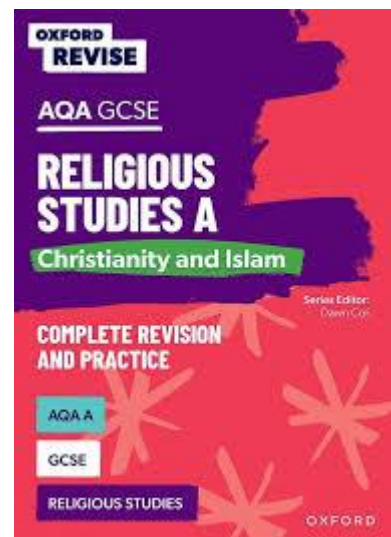
Year 10 have completed their work on Muslim Beliefs and will be moving on to explore and evaluate issues around religion, relationships and family life.

Year 11 are working hard to prepare for their exam in May and we wish them lots of luck. Students have been completing a variety of practice questions, knowledge re-call activities and huge numbers of SENECA tasks. Well done to all of them.

Year 10 Option group has now finished the Christian and Muslim Practices part of the course. This builds the foundation for the next unit which is Religion and matters of life and death. Building upon knowledge explored in Year 9, students will evaluate some key topics linked to Sanctity of life.

Year 11 Options students are continuing to prepare for their Exam. They are working hard with Mrs Barker to re-visit and revise all the key topics in preparation for the exam in May.

Please buy a revision guide to support your child with their Religious Studies. Available from the school shop.



Skills for life

Year 7

This term, Year 7 students have explored key life skills including goal setting, resilience, celebrating success and learning from mistakes. They have also discussed important safety topics such as substance risks, gangs, exploitation and basic emergency first aid. These lessons help students build confidence and make informed decisions. <https://www.safe4me.co.uk/portfolio/child-criminal-exploitation-county-lines/>

Year 8

Year 8 students have explored how skills, qualifications and choices link to future careers. Lessons also examined the relationship between money, happiness and mental wellbeing, alongside topics such as budgeting, online safety, legal responsibilities and the risks of gambling. <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/coping-with-life/money-and-mental-health/>

Year 9

This term, Year 9 students have been developing personal strengths and setting health goals using SMART planning. They have explored aspirations for the future, as well as important discussions around body image, media influence, mental health and wellbeing, helping them develop resilience and strategies to support themselves and others.

Skills for life

Year 10 and 11

Year 10 and 11 have been doing their PSHE sessions at Form time. This term topics in Year 10 have included stress and anxiety, learning effective strategies for managing mental health. They have examined the positive impact of physical activity on mental well-being, as well as the harmful effects of substances. Discussions also focused on the legal consequences of substance misuse, the importance of proper nutrition, sleep, and the role of vaccination and immunisation in maintaining health. Students have gained a deeper understanding of how making informed health choices can positively impact both their physical and mental wellbeing.

A huge thank you to all the external people who come to support the work we do with Year 10 on the Drop-down day. Our students thought the day was hugely informative and supportive.

The students watched a production called Unacceptable which focussed on, raising awareness around sexism, misogyny and sexual harassment. The production was aimed at raising awareness, kick-starting conversations and promoting cultural change around sexism, sexual harassment and sexual violence.



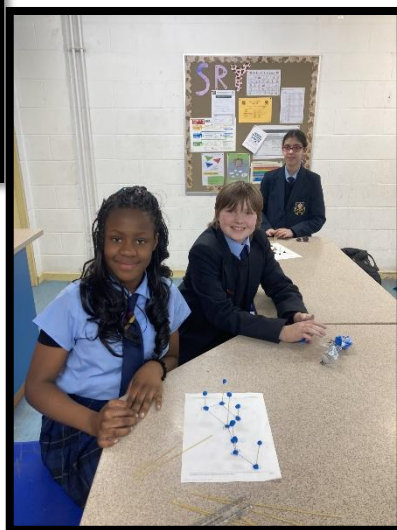
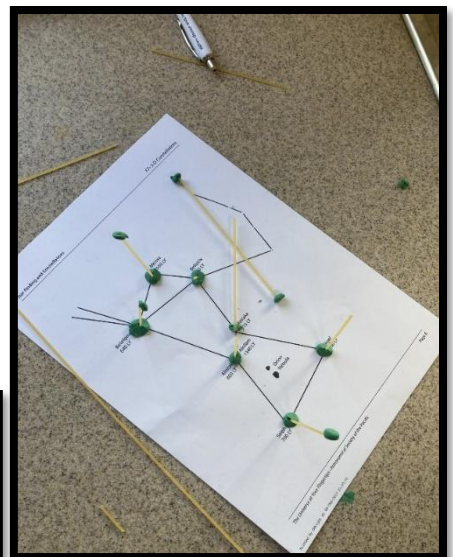
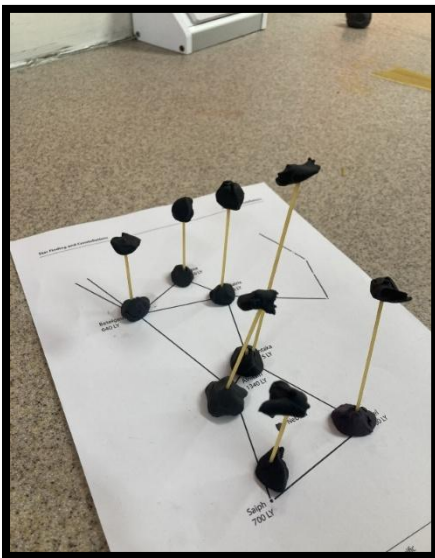
Science

STEM club article: Spring 2026

Now that it seems Winter is finally drawing to a close, so is the mini topic about space that STEM club has been studying.

Constellations, as seen from Earth are unique, in the sense that, as 3-dimensional structures they appear as we see them only because the Earth is where it is in the universe. Viewed from a different perspective, for instance, if the Earth suddenly moved to somewhere else in the universe, the constellations would appear so very much differently, than they do from where we are and our view of the universe would be completely different.

It is possible to measure the distances that these stars are from us using the frequency of light and then build a 3D model of the constellations. That is what STEM club has been up to. The length of spaghetti represents the distance from Earth, the plasticine at the top of the spaghetti represents the stars of that particular constellation. Viewing the models from different angles gives you an idea of what these constellations could look like from somewhere else in the universe.



Languages

Easter Traditions in France and Spain - culture and knowing about our similarities and our differences is an important part of language learning. So, here is some information about Easter.

Easter is celebrated across Europe, but each country brings its own flavour, history, and customs to the season. France and Spain—two of the UK's closest neighbours—offer wonderfully different ways of marking this important time of year.

Easter in France

In France, Easter is known as *Pâques*, and it's a time filled with family gatherings, church services, and—of course—chocolate. One of the most charming French traditions is the story of the *cloches volantes* ("flying bells"). According to legend, church bells fall silent from Good Friday to Easter Sunday as a sign of mourning. Children are told that the bells have flown to Rome to be blessed by the Pope, returning on Easter morning to scatter chocolate eggs and treats in gardens across the country.

Chocolate is a big part of French Easter celebrations, but instead of the UK's chocolate bunnies, French chocolatiers often create beautifully decorated chocolate bells, fish (*poissons*), and hens. Many towns also hold Easter egg hunts, and families enjoy a traditional Easter meal—often featuring roast lamb (*gigot d'agneau*).

Easter in Spain

Spain's Easter celebrations, known as *Semana Santa* ("Holy Week"), are among the most spectacular in Europe. The week leading up to Easter Sunday is marked by dramatic religious processions that fill the streets of cities and towns. Participants, known as *nazarenos*, wear traditional robes and carry candles, crosses, or large floats (*pasos*) depicting scenes from the Passion of Christ. These processions are solemn, emotional, and deeply rooted in Spanish history.

While the week is more focused on reflection than chocolate, food still plays an important role. Popular Easter treats include *torrijas* (similar to French toast, soaked in milk or wine and fried with cinnamon), *monas de Pascua* (decorative cakes often topped with chocolate eggs), and *potaje de vigilia*, a traditional meat-free stew eaten on Good Friday.

Languages

Language Lessons

Year 11

Year 11 are getting ever closer to their GCSE exams, and these will begin with the speaking exam in late April. For this, students have an important date on 19th March, when they are given, by the exam board, the 2 themes from which they must choose one. This will be the theme for their picture task and conversation in the exam. This means that they have about a month to focus their revision and speaking practice.

Year 8

Our Year 8 French students have just been looking at free time activities, and we have looked at online activities – what they use their phones for. It is interesting to see how words have appeared in French for activities such as scrolling, downloading, online chatting, posting photos etc. We now need to talk about “influencers”! Parents who studied French a few years ago might notice words which you did not learn at school in your child’s book! It is fascinating how languages evolve and change in the face of progress.

Year 7

As we have watched the Winter Olympics and Paralympics, our Year 7 students have been trying to talk about sports and the activities which they do. We have also looked at the game of “pétanque”, a very French activity. We hope to try to get a competition set up in the future (once we have better weather), to see if there is a champion amongst our students.

Uniform Expectations

General Uniform

- **Blazers** - are compulsory and should be **worn at all times** in the building unless a member of staff gives permission for them to be removed.
- **Jumper** - Jumper – Navy blue
 - A navy blue v neck jumper may be worn under a blazer, the jumper must **not** have buttons or emblems of any type.
 - Jumpers are **an optional** item and are not a replacement for the blazer.
- **Tie** – only one shirt button should be seen **below the tie**. This creates a consistent and appropriate length.
- **Shoes** - Black (no colour visible on the outside including the sole), smart, safe and sensible (with a heel **not** exceeding 2 inches).
 - Shoes should be polishable
 - Trainers and canvas shoes **are not** allowed.
 - There should be no sports brands identified on the outside of the shoe.
 - Boots are not acceptable.
- **Shirt** - Pale blue
 - Tucked in all the way round on the waist
 - Top buttons are to be **used at all** times, so please make sure that the neck size is appropriate.
 - The shirt can be long or short sleeved in length.
 - No brands or logos are permitted
 - Shirts are not permitted to be button down collar

Uniform Expectations

- **Skirt** - Regulation tartan school skirt

*All skirts have a minimum length of 20", in exceptional circumstances **only** the **school will** authorise and sell, an 18" skirt – alternatives are **not** acceptable

*Skirts must not be rolled up.

*The bottom (hem) of the skirt must be as close to the top of the knee as possible.

*Adjustments to the length of the skirt **are not** permitted

- **Trousers** - Black straight cut.

*Casual or drainpipe style trousers **are not** acceptable this includes jeans, cords, and denims

- **Socks** - black socks (ankle or knee length).

***No coloured** patterns and motif/logos visible when shoes are worn.

*Tights must be plain black and they must have no rips or holes.

*Plain black socks **may be worn underneath** the tights.

- **Warm coats** should be worn to and from school.

*They can be worn in the building but **must be removed** when entering a classroom and placed over the chair.

- Hoodies are **not permitted** to be worn on the school site.
- Tailored unisex shorts are also available from the school shop which have the school initials.
- **No other** designs are acceptable.

Exams and Uniform

Full school uniform is expected in all school exams. Failure to attend appropriately attired could result in not being able to complete the exam

Uniform Expectations

Hair

Hair should be neat, tidy and of natural colour and in a non-extreme style.

The school reserves the right to judge what is considered natural or extreme.

There should be no evidence of colouring of any kind

Students with long hair should tie it back during particular lessons for safety reasons.

All beards should be trimmed and neat in appearance.

Hair will be cut no shorter than a grade four on the top of the head. Patterns or lines are not acceptable in the hair or eyebrows.

If you are in any doubt please contact the school before any new style is introduced.

Any student wishing to wear headwear for religious reasons must ensure that it is navy. No other colours are acceptable.

Jewellery

One small pair of gold or silver stud earrings can be worn in the lower lobe of either ear, but no more than one earring in an ear.

*Hoops style earrings are not acceptable

*Studs must not have patterns, colours or designs

Rings, bracelets and necklaces are not allowed.

Facial or body piercings are not allowed.

*Any other forms of jewellery must not be worn.

Only badges and flashes provided by the school can be worn on the blazer, with the exception of poppies for Remembrance.

Uniform Expectations

Make-Up and Cosmetics

Staff should not be able to see the use of make-up. If make-up can be seen it means it is not discreet enough for our school environment.

Nails should be natural in colour with no nail varnish.

False nails or acrylics are not allowed, there are no exceptions to this.

False eyelashes/extensions/eye liner are not allowed.

Should a student arrive at school incorrectly dressed every effort will be made to solve the issue, failure to accept the support may result in normal school sanctions being applied.

The School's decision on all queries is final.



School Shop

To place an order with the school shop please [click here](#) or email schoolshop@bhbs.hereford.sch.uk . We will contact you directly to arrange collection.



Should your son or daughter require a lift key for medical reasons, we require a letter confirming the reason why and a £10 deposit which will be refunded when the key is returned.

We have been asked by local residents to ensure parents/carers do not park across driveways or park on raised kerbs when dropping off or collecting students.



We respectfully request that parents/carers refrain from driving on the school site at the start (8.15am - 9.00am) and end of the school day (2.45pm - 3.20pm). Too many vehicles on site causes congestion and increases the chance of an accident, with so many students either entering or leaving the buildings.

Easter 2026

St Paul's and St Andrew's with Hereford URC

ALL WEEK

EXPLORE OUR
EASTER
TRAIL

Explore our Easter Trail using the QR codes in and around the churchyard at St Paul's and St Andrew's to explore the events of the first Easter. Perfect for families, you will need a smartphone to access this. There may be a prize for those who get to finish!

PALM SUNDAY 29 MARCH

10.00am Joint all-age service meeting at Hereford URC to walk to St Paul's for 10.30am service

6.00pm St Andrew's Holy Communion

JESUS THE MESSIAH



Monday 30 March

6.30pm St Andrew's: Jesus the Messiah who heals, including prayer for healing

Tuesday 31 March

6.30pm Hereford URC: Jesus the Messiah who saves, gospel presentation



Wednesday 1 April

6.30pm St Paul's: Jesus the Messiah who lives, film screening of 'The Case for Christ' with discussion. All welcome, no booking required

Maundy Thursday 2 April

6.00pm St Paul's Church Community Centre: a shared meal and celebration of the Last Supper. Booking required, contact St Paul's*

GOOD FRIDAY 3 APRIL

10.30am St Peter's Church: joint churches Walk of Witness around High Town

2.00pm St Andrew's: An Hour at the Cross

EASTER SUNDAY 5 APRIL

7.00am St Paul's: Early Morning service outside

8.30am St Paul's: Easter BCP Communion

10.00am St Paul's: All-age Celebration with Communion

11.00am St Andrew's: All-age Celebration with Communion

* beneficeoffice@stpaulshereford.org.uk
01432 655063