

# CENTRAL NEWS



**Blackburn Central**  
High School  
Aspire and achieve

**JULY 2025**

## HELLO & WELCOME

Dear BCHS Community

As we come to the end of another remarkable academic year at Blackburn Central High School, I want to take this opportunity to thank all our families for your unwavering support, encouragement and partnership throughout the year. Your involvement has played a vital role in helping our students thrive and we are truly grateful.

This year has been filled with incredible achievements - from academic successes and sporting triumphs to creative accomplishments and community initiatives. Our students have continued to inspire us with their resilience, ambition and kindness and I couldn't be prouder of everything they have achieved. Many of these highlights are celebrated in this newsletter and I hope you enjoy looking back on what has been a truly memorable year.

As we now look ahead to the summer break, I want to wish all our families a safe, restful and happy holiday. Whether you're travelling, spending time with loved ones, or simply enjoying a well-earned rest, I hope the summer brings you joy and renewal.

**School will finish at 12.30pm on Tuesday 22 July and will reopen to students on Wednesday 3 September with Year 7 starting at 8.30am and Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 at 10.30am. Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 September are staff training days with no students in school.**

Thank you once again for being such an important part of our school community. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year ahead.

Best wishes,  
**Mrs Shanaz Hussain, Headteacher**



## ICE HOCKEY STAR

Congratulation to our year 8 student, Billy, on his amazing ice hockey achievements.

Billy and his team, Leeds Junior Knights Ice Hockey Team, recently won the league and national competition for under 14s. He trains three times a week and has done since primary school. His commitment and determination has been rewarded and we are all so proud of him!

In the summer Billy's team will face teams from America.

Well done Billy and Leeds Junior Knights.





## ATTENDANCE AWARDS

We are delighted to announce that BCHS has received two national accolades for school attendance.

For two consecutive terms we have been awarded the 'National School Attendance Award' by the FFT, where we came in the top 25% of similar secondary schools in England for our attendance.

We have undertaken lots of work this year to improve attendance and would like to say a huge thank you to pupils and staff for getting on board with our work in achieving these awards. Parents, please keep stressing the importance of regular attendance, it really does make a huge difference to a young person's learning journey.



## CHEF IN THE MAKING

One of our year 10 hospitality and catering students has secured a job at CDJ Riverside Restaurant in Lower Darwen.

Jack, who wants to pursue a career in the restaurant trade, is working at the restaurant three times a week and is thoroughly enjoying it.

Owner Dan Jolley is also delighted with his level of skills and knowledge. Keep up the great work Jack!



## NEW HEAD STUDENTS

After a rigorous application process, we are thrilled to announce that we have appointed a new head boy and girl for school, plus a deputy head girl.

All lead students were invited to apply for the positions and the application process involved writing a letter of application. Shortlisted students were then interviewed by the senior leadership team and had to write and deliver a short speech on a topic of their choice.

The successful head students were Asfa and Husnayn and Filza was appointed as deputy head girl. All three demonstrated strong oracy skills and spoke confidently. Their commitment to BCHS was evident in their communication of the desire to take on a leadership role and give back to school.





## ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

On 1 July three of our most able students (Zainab, Maheen and Shahbaaz) were invited to take part in a round table discussion with the Commander of the National Cyber Force and Deputy Director for People for the National Cyber Force.

Our students excelled in displaying their oracy and interpersonal skills. They showed their maturity and capability when asking and answering questions during the panel discussion, watched by an audience of officials, including members of the Ministry of Defence.

The students have taken part in the Mega Hub and TeenTech projects, aimed at increasing awareness and understanding of careers in the cyber sector.



## SPORTING SUCCESS

A huge well done to our year 8 and 9 rounders teams for their success this term.

Our year 8 girls finished third in the borough and our year 9 team had a high winning success rate. Great work!



## RECORD BREAKERS

Year 8 students took part in the Jamie Oliver World Record breaking challenge on Tuesday 1 July for the largest cookery lesson.

The students watched a live link on screen to make their own fresh pasta dough with a tomato, garlic and basil sauce, finished with grated cheese.

Together with everyone else who took part, BCHS made history by becoming record breakers!



**JULY 2025**



**Blackburn Central**  
High School

Aspire and achieve

## **OPEN EVENING**

The date is set for our annual open evening and will take place on Thursday 18 September 2025 from 4pm-7.15pm.

As per previous years, there'll be a wealth of activities taking place in all of our subjects, as well as guided tours and talks from our headteacher.

Save the date if you're interested in coming.



## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

134 students in year 10 took part in work experience last month. Employers in our local area showed their generosity by opening their doors and giving time to our students and we thank them all whole heartedly.

Our young people worked in HR departments, pharmacies, car garages, nurseries, primary schools and lawyer offices, to name but a few. We received many positive and heart-warming comments from employers; our students should feel very proud of themselves.

On returning to school, students reported an increase in confidence. Some students have been offered positions of work during their holidays or when they leave school - they truly made a fantastic impression on the employers. Next year, work experience will take place during the month of May. If you are willing and able to accommodate a young person, please contact [treeves402@bchs.co.uk](mailto:treeves402@bchs.co.uk).

## **ALUMNI REUNION**

We were very pleased to welcome back some of our alumni at our first ever BCHS alumni event.

Leavers from 2013-2022 were invited to afternoon tea and networking.

We were able to hear all about what students have done since leaving BCHS and are so proud of their achievements, both personally and professionally.

Our leavers are now doctors, radiographers, civil and mechanical engineers, teachers and successful business owners. Well done to all our visiting alumni and we look forward to seeing you again soon at future events.

If you are an alumni of BCHS and would like to be a part of the Alumni Committee or find out how you could get involved in careers education at BCHS, please email [treeves402@bchs.co.uk](mailto:treeves402@bchs.co.uk).

## **MUSEUM TRIP**

A group of our students had a fantastic time exploring the Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester.

From interactive exhibits to hands-on learning about innovation, engineering and the city's industrial past, it was an inspiring experience for all.

Thank you to our staff for making this enriching trip possible.





## MEMORABLE SEND OFF FOR YEAR 11

This year's prom and leavers' assembly were truly fitting farewells for our remarkable Year 11 students. Both events were filled with laughter, emotion and celebration as we marked the end of an important chapter in their school journey.

The prom was a spectacular evening — stylish, joyful and full of energy. Students arrived dressed to impress and enjoyed a night of music, dancing and memories with friends and staff alike. It was a wonderful way to celebrate their hard work and resilience over the past five years. We then had Leavers' Assembly, which brought moments of reflection, gratitude and plenty of nostalgia. With heartfelt speeches, funny memories and a few tears, it reminded us all of just how far this group has come — and the bright futures that lie ahead.

We are incredibly proud of the Class of 2025 and everything they've achieved. As they move on to new adventures, we send them off with our warmest wishes and every confidence in their continued success. Good luck Year 11, you'll always be a part of our school family.



## COOKERY LESSONS

Our free cookery lessons were a great hit, with parents and students alike, relishing the opportunity to learn new skills.

On the menu was a cheese, tomato and onion puff pastry plait, followed by a moist lemon sponge.

All of the creations looked delicious.



## FREE UNIFORM

Rummage Rescuers is holding a free school uniform pop-up shop on Saturday 9 August from 10am-2pm. The pop-up shop, which will be at the Thomas Street branch, will have a range of free uniform items for you to take. If you have any clean, preloved uniform that you would like to donate to the shop you can drop it off at 6<sup>th</sup> floor, Duke Street or at any family hub/children's centre by 31 July 2025.





## **ATTENDANCE STARS**

We are proud and thrilled to recognise and celebrate the students who achieved 100% attendance this academic year. Their commitment to learning, responsibility and perseverance has been truly commendable. Being present every day is no small feat - it shows dedication and a strong work ethic that serves students well in school and beyond.

Thank you to all those who achieved 100% for setting such a positive example for your peers. Keep up the fantastic work! These students will be celebrated and rewarded in the end of year assembly.

### **Why is good attendance important?**

- Better academic performance – students who attend school regularly perform better in class and in assessments.
- Consistent learning – regular attendance helps you stay on track with lessons and reduces the stress of catching up.
- Stronger social connections – being present helps you build stronger relationships with classmates and teachers.
- Life skills for the future – punctuality and commitment are key traits that will benefit you throughout life and in your future career.

We encourage everyone to aim for excellent attendance next term.

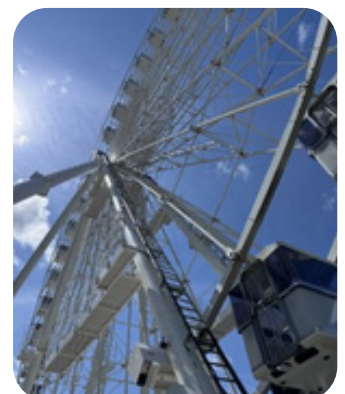
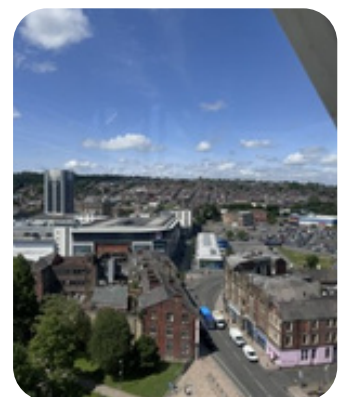
## **FOUNDATION CLASS VISITS BLACKBURN'S ICONIC BIG WHEEL**

Excitement was in the air this term as the Year 7, 8 and 9 foundation classes embarked on a memorable trip to Blackburn's much-loved Big Wheel attraction. The outing, designed to give the young learners a new perspective of their local area, was a delightful mix of fun and education.

The children, many of whom were experiencing the towering wheel for the first time, were wide-eyed with wonder as they stepped into the transparent pods. Accompanied by their teachers, they enjoyed panoramic views of Blackburn from the top of the ride, spotting familiar landmarks and learning about the town's layout.

"The children were so excited to go on the Big Wheel - it was all they could talk about for days" said Mrs Crawford, the trip organiser. "It's a fantastic way to help them connect with their local community, see their hometown from a whole new angle and overcome some of their fears."

With plenty of smiles, laughter and learning along the way, it was a trip the foundation class won't forget anytime soon.





## DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Earlier in the month our year 10s successfully completed their bronze Duke of Edinburgh award - what an amazing achievement for all of them.

Over two days the group completed a total of 18.8 miles, demonstrating successful map reading and navigation.

With temperatures soaring, a lot of the pupils hit "the wall" mentally but pushed through and showed an abundance of resilience.

We are incredibly proud of them all. Big thanks to Mr Sharrock for all of his work in co-ordinating the activities.



## SEASIDE TRIP

Year 8H went on a trip to Lytham St Annes to gain a better understanding of UK coastlines. It was filled with adventure, exploration and plenty of fresh sea air.

They began their day by exploring the sandy beach, where they were very excited to see some jellyfish. After a stroll along the pier, they tucked into delicious fish and chips and discovered the rock pools. It was a fun-filled day that combined learning with laughter, and one we won't soon forget!



## CHESS COMPETITION

We held the first ever Blackburn with Darwen interschool chess competition, with 15 competitors from BCHS, Darwen Vale and QEGS.

BCHS was represented by six students and we're very proud to report that our student Nathan reached the final, but just lost out in a very close match to a competitor from QEGS.

Well done to all who took part, it was great to see so many chess experts!

