



Blanche Nevile Secondary School Newsletter

February Half Term
17th-21st February 2025
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Ms Worthington writes:

PSD

Students are learning about different aspects of a healthy life.

Year 7 are discussing the recommended amounts of food, sleep, water and use of devices. Students are being asked to reflect on the benefits of meeting the recommendations and what happens when we don't!

Year 8 are learning about feeling ill and preventative health services

Year 9 are learning about healthy relationships including positive and negative influences.

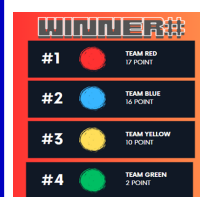
Years 10/11 are learning about making safe choices around drugs, alcohol and smoking/vaping and strategies to be assertive if experiencing peer pressure.

We have also started a daily MINDFULNESS practise with students experiencing a range of different mindfulness activities they can use at home.



Ms Donovan writes:

Science



For Energy Saving Week in January, the Science Department ran a quiz for students and staff.



Congratulations to Red House, who won overall with 17 points!

Energy saving is crucial both at school and at home, as it helps reduce energy bills and supports a more sustainable environment for future generations.

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Students,

It is hard to believe that we are already now half way through the academic year. As you will see, our students have experienced a very broad curriculum with many enrichment opportunities such as trips, external guest speakers and special weeks. This week students enjoyed workshops on Online Safety lead by ECP Safeguarding Ltd.

There is a lot to look forward to next half term, and please note some of the key dates listed in this newsletter.

I would like to thank all parents and carers for your support - it is always valued and appreciated.

I would also like to thank all of our wonderful students for working hard and always trying their best.

Our wonderful staff at Blanche Nevile - thank you for all you do each and every day!

Wishing you all a happy and safe half term break

Karen Khwaja
Interim Headteacher

Mr Stavrou and the Art & Design team write:

Art & Design

Year 8 trip to the V&A Museum

Year 8 students recently visited the Victoria and Albert Museum in London to explore the Japan Exhibition. This experience tied into their Art curriculum, focusing on Japanese culture. The exhibition covered areas such as pottery, ceramics, architecture, anime, and traditional clothing. Students had the chance to appreciate both historical and modern aspects of Japanese art.

The trip allowed them to connect their classroom learning with real-world examples. It was an inspiring day that enhanced their understanding of different art forms.

Students also learnt key Japanese Sign Language to add to this enriching experience. We learnt that the form of the JSL sign for 'Sakura', the cherry blossom tree symbol, is very similar to the BSL sign for 'packed lunch'!

We thank both students and staff for their support in making the trip a success and our most sincere thanks to the V&A Education Team for selecting our school for this exciting and enriching cultural experience.



Mr Stavrou writes:

BSL

We are proud to announce that our Level 1 and 2 BSL courses are in full swing, with students gaining confidence in communicating through sign language. These courses are designed to provide essential skills for everyday conversations and foster a deeper understanding of Deaf culture.

A big congratulations to our students who have recently completed their BSL Level 1 exams! We are proud of their hard work and commitment. Keep up the great work, and we look forward to celebrating more achievements in the coming months.

Thank you for your continued support. We are excited for what's ahead and look forward to another successful term!



Mrs Demirci writes:
Humanities

Year 10 and 9 students visited the Imperial War Museum this week to see the Holocaust Galleries.

Students had the opportunity to discuss what they already know about the Holocaust, before touring the rooms of the gallery and finding objects of interest.

We were particularly moved by the stories of individual people and families.

It was a very emotional visit for all students, and they finished the visit with a much more detailed understanding of the events of that time.



Ms Antoniewicz and Mr Gathani write:
Maths

This half term KS4 have taken their mock exams for GCSE and Function Skills. The results will let them know which areas to revise for.

Next half term students will be finishing their Entry Level Certificate Tasks and preparing for the reals tests in March 2025.

As usual, please keep encouraging your child to say/sign their times tables and to keep practicing their multiplication and division skills on our fantastic IXL website on <https://www.ixl.com>



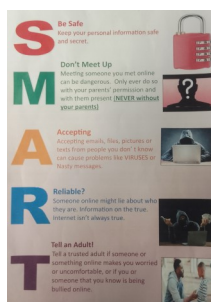
Please take every opportunity you can to help your child become familiar with telling the time and money - whether it's online shopping or using money in shops.

KS4 GCSE students should be working on the GCSE Booster tasks on 'MyMaths'.

Wishing you a good half term!

Ms Davidson writes:
IT

The students have been making E-Safety posters to highlight the dangers young people often face online.



Ms Willis writes:
English

Year 9a This half term students have been learning about Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King and how they both changed lives of black people in the 1950s and 1960s. Students will be learning about persuasive language through Martin Luther King's famous speech, 'I have a dream' and they will write their own 'I have a dream' speech. Keep up the good work 9a!



Year 10a In English this term students have continued to learn speaking and listening skills, starting a conversation on a 1-1 basis. Students are now starting to read a variety of maps and they have to try to find and point to identified areas that are being finger-spelt by the teacher. Students are also learning how to ask each questions to teacher based on the maps they are looking at. They have to try to ask up to 3 questions. Keep it up year 10 - you are working hard!



Year 10b This half term students have been introduced to our topic for the term 'Opinions and Debates'. They are currently learning different roles within debating. They are also learning appropriate vocabulary needed for holding a debate.



Life Skills

Years 7/8 are learning 'An Introduction to Independent Travel'. Students are researching how to independently navigate their way to identified places they will be visiting next term. They will be learning time management skills, road safety skills, managing money and using maps to find routes.



Years 9a/10A are learning how to read a menu and how to navigate to a restaurant they will be visiting in the summer term. They will also be learning how to order and ask for information in a restaurant.

Year 10b students have been learning presentations about a topic of their choice for an organised visit to a Deaf organisation in the summer term.

REMINDER

Please send your child into school with spare hearing aid batteries.

Important Dates

Feb half term	Break up 14.2.25 Return to school 24.2.25
Open Morning for Blanche Neville Primary parents of years 5 and 6	24.2.25
Online Safety training/support for parents	26.2.25 11.00-12.00
Vaccinations : DTP/MenACWY (year 9's) HPV (year 8's) Flu catch up (all years)	28.2.25
Ramadan	28.2.25-30.3.25 Above dates TBC
World Book Day	6.3.25
Sign Language Week	17.3.25-23.3.25
BSL Recognition Day	18.3.25
Early closing for Easter	Break up 4.4.25 12.30pm Return to school 23.4.25
INSET days for staff (School closed to students)	22.4.25 22.7.25