



Blackfriars Newcastle Reception:  
01782 987150

# Blackfriars Bulletin

Volume 6 Issue 1



A very warm welcome to all of our parents and carers, both new and regular readers of the fortnightly bulletin that attempts to keep you up to date with all that is happening in Blackfriars. In every bulletin, we will feature stories from the classes; announce our



'Scholars of the week' ( an award given to a student / students who have stretched their learning muscles and learnt something new – that might be learning to eat independently or recite a passage of Shakespeare – all learning is valued at Blackfriars); give you forthcoming dates; important information that will help you to support your child; details of local events that we think you might find of interest and key safeguarding information. If you have any suggestions of anything else that you would like to see in the bulletin, please get in touch.

We were delighted to welcome 19 new students on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September. In the Immersive Pathway, we have Oliver (and Cassio who actually started towards the end of the summer term and so missed out on a mention!). In the Exploratory pathway, we were joined by Lorna, Sienna, Natalia, William, Tyler, Dillan, Rachel, Ethan, Imogen and Matthew. Joining classes in the Questioning Pathway were Kayla, Alex, Henry, Rebecca, Oliver, Rebecca, Sky and Kenzie who also started towards the end of the summer term and so missed out on a mention!

**Read all about our brilliant exam results in our next newsletter**

## Safeguarding Contact Information

Staffordshire

First Response :  
0800 1313 126  
Outside office hours:  
0845 6042886

Stoke-on-Trent

Advice and Referral Team:  
01782 235100  
Outside office hours:  
01782 234234

Cheshire East

Referral Team :  
0300 123 5012 Option 2  
Outside office hours:  
0300 123 5022

Shropshire

Referral Team:  
01743 254 259  
Initial Contact Team:  
0345 678 9021  
Outside office hours:  
0345 678 9040

## Adult Safeguarding referral numbers

Staffordshire: First Response –  
0845 604 2719  
Stoke on Trent: Adult Social Care –  
0800 561 0015

blackfriarsacademy.org.uk

## Free School Meals

All parents are encouraged to think about whether they might be entitled to claim for free school meals – even if your child does not eat them (the school receives extra funding through the pupil Premium grant for each child who is registered for FSMs). You can apply on-line by using the link <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Educational-awards-benefits/FreeSchoolMeals/Apply-online.aspx> or by searching for Staffordshire County Council, Free School Meals

## Post 16 Uniform

Reminder to our Years 12 and 13 only. To mark the change of key stage the post 16 uniform is different to our main school uniform and it can be obtained on-line from <https://myclothing.com/years-1213-only/26537.school>

It consists of :

Black/grey trousers, knee length skirt  
Black school shoes

(trainers are not allowed unless a doctor's note is provided)

White polo shirt (with logo)  
Black zip up fleece (with logo)  
House colour T-shirt (please check home school diary for which house your child is in)

We have had a busy three days, Wednesday we spent in our classes exploring the school and the routines that will support students throughout the year, getting to know classmates and the staff who will work with them most closely. On Thursday, we had our first of six PSHE days. Our theme this half term is 'All about me' and everyone had the chance, in their different classes, to explore this theme in depth. Gladstone students engaged in a philosophical enquiry. This resulted in an opportunity for some of our oldest students to think about whether identity is a fixed or moving idea – are we the same as when we were born? Will we always feel like we do now as teenagers. Portmeirion worked on developing their interpersonal skills and individual and class identities. They have even developed a class playlist!! O'Cliff and Dudson have taken part in sensory integration and interaction work in order to get to know their peers. Royal Doulton have explored what it is to have an identity by roleplaying different characters stranded on a desert island. Moorcroft developed descriptions of themselves by looking in the mirror to see what they looked like and then played the game of 'Who am I'. They also made sand jars with their targets for the year. Bridgewater explored the identity of their new post 16 provision and the roles that the older students will have in supporting the younger ones. Wedgwood focussed on writing their own names before having fun in the photo booth. Spode also explored their faces with mirrors before choosing their own colour and objects of reference.

Today, everybody has been in their House groups meeting different students and staff and developing the identity of their House. A very busy start to what is going to be a very exciting year.



**11<sup>th</sup> September** – Open Morning 10.15am – please recommend us to other parents and carers who have Year 6 children and are looking for a very special education provided in a very special school by exceptional staff!!

**16<sup>th</sup> September** – Tempest photography are in to take individual and class photos – please ensure that your child is wearing their full school uniform

**23<sup>rd</sup> September** – Coffee morning for Year 7 parents and carers – an informal optional event for parents and carers to meet each other and class TAs to hear how their child has settled in and to share any initial concerns.

**October** – Individual dates will be sent to Year 7 parents and carers EHCP Reviews – this gives us an opportunity to review your child's EHCP targets in the context of our school

**25<sup>th</sup> October – 1<sup>st</sup> November** – ½ term October holiday

**19<sup>th</sup> November** – Grandparents Lunch - an invitation for grandparents (or that someone special in your child's life) to join us for lunch

**6<sup>th</sup> December** is an INSET day – chosen specifically because the students are exhausted by this time in the term and this will give them an opportunity to have a long weekend and re-charge their batteries

Don't forget that the school calendar is available on our website:

<http://www.blackfriarsacademy.org.uk/>

