



Blackfriars Newcastle Reception:  
01782 987150

# Blackfriars Bulletin



Volume 5 Issue 8



## Meet Harry



Today's bulletin is going to concentrate upon the achievements of one young man in our school – the full details of his remarkable achievement arrived too late for the BAC

but we know that you would all like to hear about what Harry from Bridgewater class has been up to.



On Saturday, December 1st, Harry made his debut as a member of the percussion section of the British Police Symphony Orchestra, in front of an audience of 2,000 at Symphony Hall, Birmingham.

He was invited onto the stage, by PC Danny Mizon, Met Police, during the

second half of the Family Matinee and performed two pieces with the orchestra, one of which was the finale, Sleigh Ride, by Leroy Anderson, complete with snow canons. Inspector Andy Chapman, Staffordshire Police, said that Harry's musicality was exceptional and that he was a true asset to the section.

Harry has worked with the orchestra before as part of the orchestra's outreach PlayOut! workshop at the school and during two of their monthly rehearsals. During these rehearsals members of the orchestra were astounded when Harry approached the keyboard and entertained them with a suite of his favourite songs, using both hands and correct harmony. Harry has never had any formal lessons, but this ability was noticed by his teacher of music, Steph Owen, hence the opportunity for him to develop his skills further as part of an orchestra.

### 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

### New students



We are delighted to welcome Lewis into the Blackfriars' fold, he has joined Bridgewater this term. Some of you may also

have met our other new students who joined us at the end of last term – we also welcome Dan and Keanu. We hope that you are all very happy here at Blackfriars.

### Trampoline



We have had some great news from Tesco this week - we have been awarded £2000 from their 'Bags of Help' funds and it has arrived in our bank account! A huge thank you to TA, Julie Fallows who wrote our successful bid and to all of you for shopping in Tesco and putting your blue tokens towards our school. The money will purchase a sunken trampoline for students to use.

## REMINDER - Progress Review Evening

Wednesday 23 January 6-8 for Bridgewater and Gladstone classes

### New Online Appointment Booking System

We are currently trialing a new self service Appointment booking system

The school has introduced a new intuitive and easy to use online appointment booking system. This allows you to choose your own appointment times with teachers and you will receive an email confirming your appointments. We are confident this will be an improvement to the previous system and welcome any feedback.

Please visit

<https://blackfriars.parentseveningsystem.co.uk>

to book your appointments.

If you do not have access to the internet, please contact Tina Davies who will be happy to add appointments on your behalf.

**Please contact us if you encounter any errors so that we can rectify them straight away**

The screenshot shows the login page for the Blackfriars Academy Parents Evening System. The page has a green header with the text 'Blackfriars Academy' and 'Parents Evening System'. Below the header, there is a welcome message: 'Welcome to the Blackfriars Academy parents' evening booking system. Appointments can be amended via a link from the email confirmation - please ensure your email address is correct.' The page is divided into two sections: 'Your Details' and 'Student's Details'. The 'Your Details' section includes a dropdown menu for 'Title', text input fields for 'First Name' and 'Surname', and text input fields for 'Email' and 'Confirm Email'. The 'Student's Details' section includes text input fields for 'First Name' and 'Surname', and a date picker for 'Date of Birth' with a dropdown for the month (set to 'January') and a dropdown for the year (set to '2010'). A green 'Log In' button is located at the bottom left of the form.

### Scholars of the week:

**Salma** is our scholar of the week. When her peers have been upset, she has sensibly notified staff and reassured and comforted them and been really thoughtful and mature in her approach. **Well done Salma**

**As you are no doubt aware**, we are due to experience poor weather conditions over the next few days. We always take warnings like this very seriously because of the needs of our students. We hope that the following information is helpful.

- Any decision on closure of the school is made by a member of the senior leadership team. That decision is not made lightly – we take into consideration local authority transport guidance – if they say the roads are too icy, we do not open; the advice of our caretaking staff about the health and safety on site – if pathways and playgrounds cannot be cleared, we cannot have staff and students on site and finally, our professional opinion about the needs of our students and the consequences of them being caught up in traffic / delays caused by bad weather
- Notification of school closure will come to you via a range of media-
  - Text message from school
  - Message posted on school website and Staffordshire County Council website
  - Signal radio 102.6MHz should also read a message
- If the school is open, please ensure that you send your child in with plenty of warm clothes and that they have had breakfast and a warm drink before they leave.

**Parent Consultation Evening** - parents/carers of Gladstone and Bridgewater  
Wednesday 23rd January

**National Numbers Day** – in aid of the NSPCC. We would like to support this initiative by asking students to come dressed in own clothes – with a number on eg, sports shirts, badge with a number etc and donate £1 towards the NSPCC  
Friday 1st February

Half Term - Monday 18th February - Friday 22nd February

**DATES TO  
REMEMBER**