

HEAD'S HERALD

HIGH EXPECTATIONS | HIGH ASPIRATIONS | HIGH STANDARDS | YOU WILL SUCCEED

VOLUME 3 DATE 20TH SEPTEMBER 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are well.

We have had an excellent week on the whole and the sunshine has definitely helped.

We had a Fire Alarm due to a fault in the kitchen, but everyone exited the building safely. There are a few things that I want to look at going forward so that we are even tighter on the protocols. Please can you reiterate with your child the importance of engaging with the directions around fire safety as they are so important. I will be doing another Fire Drill in the next couple of weeks just to ensure that I am happy with the safety protocols.

Our Year 7 students had their Inauguration Service on Tuesday night at St. Elphins Parish Church. It was a wonderful event, and it was so amazing to have so many students and parents/carers attend. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, and the Year 7 students are well and truly part of the Boteler Family.

Our new food provider, Harrisons have been doing an excellent job and the feedback from the students has been positive. I am still working on a couple of teething issues (e.g.) ensuring that the students at the back of the queue still have the same choice as the students at the front of the queue. The selection and standard of food has dramatically improved and we are really pleased. If there are any issues around the food provision, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I am sorry there is still so much building work going on in school. The new Orangery (dining room) is behind schedule due to some issues with the steel work that I was not happy with. We are just about managing the volume of students, but once this is completed it will really help the queue times. We do get everyone through, but I would prefer it to be more efficient. Those who attend clubs at lunchtime have access to the fast lane, which gets them through a little but quicker.

If there is anything else I can help or support with you, please do contact me and I will do my best.

Kind regards

Beverley Scott-Herron
Headteacher



SAM Learning

We have launched SAM learning with the vast majority of students over the past week. A handful of Key Stage 3 classes remain outstanding as they are yet to have their log-in lesson in ICT which will happen next week.

Please explore the site when you get the opportunity. You will see there are a wide range of tasks and challenges for our students to engage with. If you have any log-on queries please do not hesitate to contact me at ckinsey@boteler.org.uk.

Mobile Phones

Further to previous parental guidance and requests for support regarding children's use of mobile phones, we include some additional tips that can be considered at home. We know parental guidance with mobile phones is crucial in today's digital age to ensure children use their devices responsibly and safely, and if you need any further support, please contact the safeguarding team here at school.

1. **Set Limits and Boundaries:** Establish clear rules regarding when and how long your child can use their mobile phone each day. Consider implementing screen-free times, such as during family meals or before bedtime, to encourage healthier habits.
2. **Monitor Usage:** Keep an eye on your child's phone usage to ensure they're not spending excessive amounts of time on their device or accessing inappropriate content. There are various parental control apps available that allow you to monitor and manage your child's smartphone activities.
3. **Educate About Online Safety:** Teach your child about the importance of internet safety, including how to protect their personal information, recognise online threats like cyberbullying and phishing, and navigate social media responsibly.
4. **Lead by Example:** Be a positive role model by demonstrating responsible phone usage yourself. Limit your own screen time and prioritise real-life interactions over constant digital engagement.
5. **Encourage Open Communication:** Create a safe and non-judgmental environment where your child feels comfortable discussing their online experiences and any concerns they may have. Encourage them to come to you if they encounter anything inappropriate or upsetting online.
6. **Establish Tech-Free Zones:** Designate certain areas of your home, such as bedrooms or study areas, as tech-free zones to promote offline activities and reduce distractions.
7. **Promote Balance:** Encourage your child to engage in a variety of activities beyond their mobile phone, such as outdoor play, hobbies, and spending time with friends and family.
8. **Set Appropriate Content Filters:** Utilise parental controls and content filters to block access to inappropriate websites, apps, and content that may not be suitable for your child's age.
9. **Discuss Consequences:** Make sure your child understands the consequences of misuse or excessive phone usage, such as loss of privileges or restricted access to their device.
10. **Stay Informed and Updated:** Keep yourself informed about the latest trends, apps, and online risks that may affect your child's digital well-being. Regularly update your knowledge and adapt your approach as needed to ensure effective parental guidance with mobile phones.

Every Minute Counts – Good punctuality is important

Good punctuality is essential for fostering a positive learning environment, promoting personal growth, and preparing students for success in academics and life. Unfortunately, a number of students continue to be late for school without good reason. As above with mobile phones, please work through the below points in order to support school in providing the very best opportunities for your child.

1. **Establishing Discipline:** Punctuality helps students develop discipline and a sense of responsibility. Arriving to school on time requires planning, organisation, and commitment, all of which are valuable life skills.
2. **Maximising Learning Time:** Being punctual ensures that students make the most of their learning opportunities. Arriving late can result in missed instructions, important announcements, or introductory discussions, which can hinder academic progress.
3. **Respect for Others:** Punctuality demonstrates respect for teachers, classmates, and school staff by showing that you value their time and the learning environment. Lateness causes disruption!
4. **Building Reliable Habits:** Consistently being punctual in school helps students encourage habits of reliability and dependability, which are highly valued traits in academic, professional, and personal contexts.
5. **Reducing Stress:** Arriving late to school can cause stress and anxiety for students as they rush to catch up with work. Being punctual reduces this stress and promotes positive routines, where attention is then on learning.
6. **Developing Time Management Skills:** Punctuality encourages students to manage their time effectively and allocate sufficient time for commuting to school. These skills are essential for success both in school and beyond.
7. **Improved Academic Performance:** Studies have shown a correlation between punctuality and academic achievement. Students who regularly attend school on time are more likely to be engaged in their studies, participate in class discussions, and perform well academically.
8. **Preparing for the Future:** Punctuality is a valuable skill that extends beyond the school years. Employers, colleges, and universities place a high value on punctuality, as it is indicative of reliability, professionalism, and respect for others.

We are encouraging students to 'make every minute count'. Please don't forget about the U code that we have communicated out, with the Local Authority informing us that this will be used when considering more formal attendance intervention.

100% Attendance

Huge congratulations to 567 of our students who are currently on 100% attendance since the term started. This is a huge achievement and we thank you for your continued support.

Please remember to keep a track of your child's attendance on the Arbor app. If you have any questions, please contact me on smannion@boteler.org.uk or 01925 636414 ext 179.

Personal Development

Open Evening

On Thursday 26th September we are holding our Open Evening. If your child is in Year 8, 9, 10 or 11 and would like to help at the event they need to collect a letter from Mrs Mawby or our Head Ambassador at lunch times by the KS3 toilets.

Trips

On Monday during tutor time students were taken through our new Trips catalogue, informing them of the trips that we are offering over the next few years. You can view it here: www.boteler.org.uk/bwc

On this webpage, you can also view or Boteler Wider Curriculum timetable. Please encourage your child/ren to attend clubs and councils.

Year 11 Post 16

Students will be receiving their predicted grades over the next week for all their subjects as on their college applications they need to input this data. Please support your Year 11 child in attending the open events and applying for college.

Year 11 need to book onto College and 6th form Open Evenings to discover what courses they can study next year. The earlier they apply the better.

Warrington Vale Royal – [Year 11 Open Evening | Warrington & Vale Royal College \(wvr.ac.uk\)](http://www.wvr.ac.uk)

Priestley College – www.priestley.ac.uk

Cronton College – www.cronton.ac.uk

Year 11 students have received the following assembly from Priestley and Warrington Vale Royal Colleges this week

www.boteler.org.uk/pathways/useful-information-and-links

Apprenticeships

For more information about apprenticeships go to [find an apprenticeship](#)

For more opportunities go to: <https://www.candwopportunities.co.uk/apprenticeships/>

For more information on post-16 and post-18 choices, how they compare and where they can lead click here - [Get the Jump: explore your education and training choices | National Careers Service](#)



Funded by
UK Government

Your Future, Your Choice, Move On - Careers Fair

Warrington Youth Zone (WA2 7NG)

Wednesday 13th November 2024 - 15:30 - 19:00

Free and open to all in the local area, especially those in Year 9 – 13 including parents/ carers.

With over 50 stands, meet with; employers, colleges, universities, training providers and voluntary organisations from varying sectors, including digital, healthcare, finance and the services.

Whether you are deciding on subjects to study or careers to pursue, this is a great step to help you to explore your options.

- Learn about apprenticeships, T-Levels and A Level progression routes

- Find out more about going to university and interact with local universities

- Seek out part time jobs, volunteering placements or work experience opportunities.

Register now to confirm your place.

Scan below



Register
Here
or

THE
CHESHIRE AND
WARRINGTON
PLEDGE



WARRINGTON
Borough Council

Parent Forums

We are excited to announce a series of upcoming Parent Forum events designed to support your child's success at school. We understand that each family has unique needs, and we want to tailor these sessions to provide the most value for you. The relationship we have with our families is crucial to our success and we want to provide you with the information you feel you need.

To help us achieve this, on Monday we will send a link to a Microsoft form via the Arbor Parent App. We kindly ask that you complete this form by **Thursday 26th September**. Please select 5 topics from the list below that you would be most interested in attending. These sessions will be designed to provide you with insights and practical tools to support your child's learning and well-being. If there is a topic that is not listed, then please do share this with us as we want to be as accommodating as possible. Even if we are unable to put on a Forum, we at least will be able to sign post you.

Parent Forum Dates:

- 3rd October 2024
- 28th November 2024
- 6th February 2025
- 20th March 2025
- 22nd May 2025
- 10th June 2025

Please select 5 options from the following topics:

1. **Exam Preparation and Study Skills**
Tips and strategies to help your child prepare for exams and develop effective study habits.
2. **Understanding the Curriculum**
A deeper look at what your child is learning and how you can support their progress.
3. **Shared Learning Goals: How to Set Goals Effectively**
Learn how to set realistic and achievable learning goals with your child.
4. **Arbor and Homework Support - SAM Learning**
Guidance on how to use Arbor and SAM Learning and how to support your child with homework.
5. **Well-being and Mental Health: Stress Resilience and Balancing School Life**
Practical advice for supporting your child's mental health and managing stress.
6. **Technology and Digital Safety**
How to keep your child safe online and manage screen time effectively.
7. **Inclusive Workshop: Process for SEN and Supporting SEN at Home**
Understanding the support available for Special Educational Needs (SEN) and how to assist at home.

Your feedback will help us design Forums that best meet your needs and support your child's educational journey. If there is anything else that I can support you with, please do not hesitate to contact me on smason@boteler.org.uk

We look forward to seeing you in October.

Years 7 – 11 Childhood Flu Immunisations

Please click on the following links to view letters from the School Immunisations Team regarding the upcoming Flu Immunisations

Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 letter – <https://t.ly/BPHn7>

Year 11 Parent/Carer letter – <https://t.ly/DLmgL>

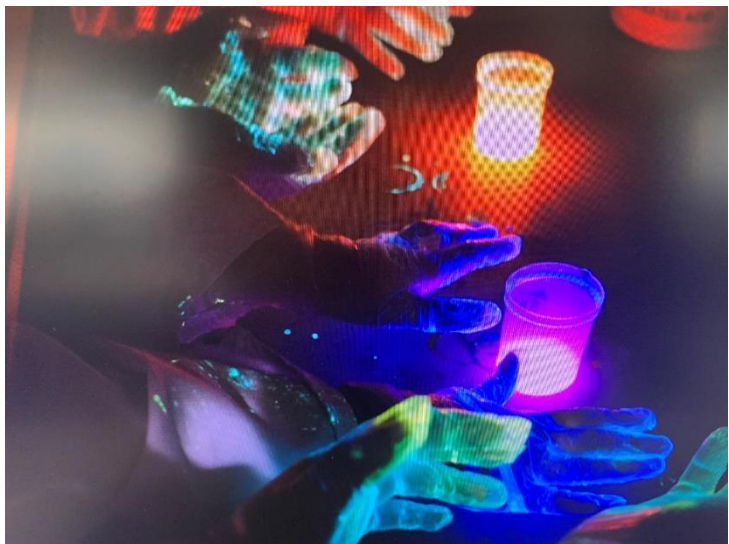
Year 11 Student letter (aged 16) – <https://t.ly/pTO3k>

If you have any questions, please contact the School-aged Immunisation Team on 01925 946808

Ocean Science Experience

On 10th of September 27 of our Year 11 students embarked on an oceanic adventure that would take them into the understanding of bioluminescence, how squid have evolved into amazing the beasts we see today and how the Indian Ocean is cooling the Earth's atmosphere.

From January to July the students had attended our extracurricular course in marine biology, attending 1-hour sessions after school each Tuesday. They were able to explore how the oceans work, how they drive the Earth's weather systems, and what happens to the water as it gets deeper and colder. They studied the plankton, the basis of life in the oceans, corals and coral reefs, a wide range of marine animals such as jellyfish, starfish, crabs, lobsters, shellfish, urchins, shrimps, octopus, cuttlefish, squid, along with the deep sea and hydrothermal vents as well as what could kill you in the sea, in the marine toxin section. It is not a course for the faint hearted as it is very demanding but just as rewarding.



To celebrate the completion all our budding marine scientists were given a taste on what it is like to study in a marine science university setting by attending a workshop day held in the world-famous School of Ocean Science, Bangor University, North Wales. The really brilliant aspect of this trip is that the day was laid on JUST FOR US.

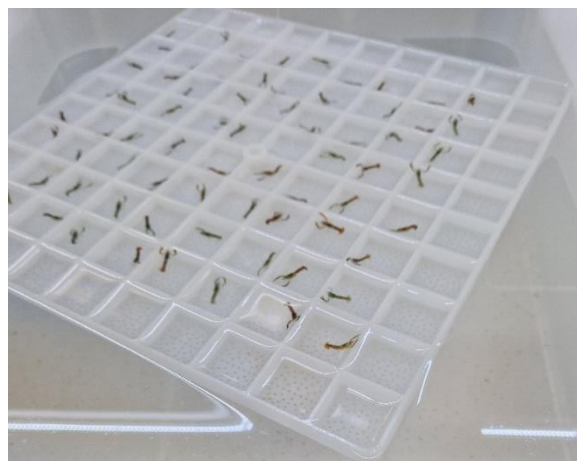
First the students were given a guided tour of working labs, here they saw the phytoplankton being grown for harvesting, then they went to look at experiments involving baby lobsters and growing them for release into the wild to ensure sustainable fisheries. Again, our students were able to walk past tanks full of scallop shells being used as bases for oyster larva to attach to and grow.

Then they went into the main teaching laboratory. Here one group dissected a squid, looking at form and function, how they have evolved investigation and the adaptations the species show today. The other group looked at experiments to see how animals mix chemicals in their cells to produce light. Then they swapped around so everyone had the same brilliant experience.

After lunch our students were treated to videos and a discussion on what it is really like to go on an ocean science research cruise. Not the cruise we think of, but a scientific expedition that took place to determine how the Indian Ocean feeds into the Southern Ocean and by doing so taking away all the thermal energy absorbed from the tropics. Understanding this is vital to understanding how the oceans play a pivotal role the climate crisis we are facing now.

Our students were amazed to find out what happens on such a cruise and the amount of people required and as such, huge amount of skills needed. Hopefully one day some of our students will find themselves on such an adventure.

A fantastic experience, our marine biology course is now well established, and our hosts commented when we were boarding the bus home, 'looking forward to next year'. This was a testament to the high standard of behaviour and the huge enthusiastic response all day from our students.



LGBTQ+ COUNCIL

WEEK 1 FRIDAYS
LUNCHTIME
ROOM 26

HOWEVER
YOU IDENTIFY:
EVERYONE
IS WELCOME



LGBTQ+ COUNCIL ★ WEEK 1 FRIDAY LUNCHTIMES ★ ROOM 26
LGBTQ+, QUESTIONING OR AN ALLY - HOWEVER YOU IDENTIFY, EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

NEED TO TALK? MEMBERS OF STAFF YOU CAN SPEAK TO:



LGBTQ+ COUNCIL LEAD
& GRAPHIC DESIGNER
MISS ROBERTS



LEADER OF PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT
& TEACHER OF MUSIC
MRS BUTCHER



SAFEGUARDING OFFICER
& ASSOCIATE DEPUTY HEADTEACHER
MR LEONARD



VISIT THE PROUD TRUST WEBSITE FOR ADVICE,
INFORMATION & DETAILS OF LOCAL GROUPS:
WWW.THEPROUDTRUST.ORG

YOU CAN ALSO TALK TO ANY TEACHER,
TEACHING ASSISTANT, SUPPORT STAFF - EVERY
SINGLE MEMBER OF STAFF IS HERE FOR YOU.

Calling all Jigsaw enthusiasts

*St Elphin's, St Barnabas & Holy Trinity Churches
invite you to join them at St Elphin's Church,
Church Street, Warrington, WA1 2TL for a*

Jigsaw Festival

20th - 22nd September 2024

Friday: 12.00 - 5.00pm

Sat: 10.00 - 4.00pm

Sunday: 1.00 - 4.00pm



Other Stalls include:

Refreshments

Cake Stall

Chocolate Tombola

Jams Stall

Knitted goods

Candles

Stained Glass

Admission £2.00 - includes free raffle ticket
(free re-admission with programme over the 3 days)

Proceeds to be split between the 3 churches