

HEAD'S HERALD

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

VOLUME 8 DATE 1ST NOVEMBER 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are well and were not inundated with too many trick or treaters this week.

We have had a brilliant but busy week in school. Our new heating system is up and running and is both efficient and effective. It has been like the tropics in the building of late so I apologise if the young people have complained it is too warm. We are looking to regulate this going forward but as it is a new system we are just getting used to it.

The 'Boteler Orangery' is nearly complete. This extension will act as a multi-purpose venue but will be fully operational at lunch time as a dining room. It will serve exactly the same food as the main dining room, it just enables the queues to be much shorter. Many thanks for your patience with this. It would have been finished much sooner, but they sent the wrong colour steel so I sent it back. The students have been excellent working around all the building that has been going on.

We have had some slight changes in staffing changes. Mrs Horton Cover Supervisor and Mrs Steele Cover Manager have secured Teaching Assistant positions with in the school through a competitive interview process and these roles will start next week. We have been interviewing over the past couple of days and we have appointed two new members of staff. It is amazing that we have so much interest in the school as I know that recruitment is difficult for some at present. All candidates speak so highly regarding the Boteler Family and just want to be a part of our wonderful organisation.

A huge thank you for your support around the new jewellery sanctions. This has worked incredibly well. Apologies for the inconvenience of having to come in and collect the items, but hopefully this has acted as a deterrent for your child not to wear the items in school going forward.

We have a few dates coming up I just want to share with you.

8th November is the Boteler Old Boys Dinner which I attend with our Head Students. This is a traditional event where past Boteler Grammar School/Richard Fairclough students gather as Alumni to meet. It is a historic occasion and a wonderful opportunity for the Head Students to be a part of the Boteler legacy.

11th November is our Remembrance Service in School at 10.30. If you feel you would like to attend then please let Miss Owen know asap cowen@boteler.org.uk. The deadline for letting her know is Wednesday 6th November 2024 at 12 noon.

18th November is Year 8 Parents' Evening. Letters will be sent in due course.

I know this weekend that many of you will be attending Bonfire and Firework displays. Please just reiterate to your children about the safety aspect of fire and fireworks.

I appreciate they may say they know this already, however, in all the excitement it is easy to forget and make mistakes. We want everyone to have a wonderful time, but also to be safe. Please ensure you keep your pets indoors too at this time.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards

Beverley Scott-Herron
Headteacher

Teacher Time, Task Time, Team Time

All of our students this week have had assemblies focused on 'attention'. At our school we have two very clear calls that every teacher uses. These are:

Teacher Time

This call means the teacher is ready to share new information and teach/model new ideas to the class. All students are acutely aware that during teacher time they should be looking at the teacher and everything should be out of their hands and they should be sat up straight. There is no talking on teacher time so students can pay full attention.

Task Time

Once the teacher has delivered the new knowledge for the lesson and then checked for understanding, the teacher will set the students off on their task. This is called 'task time'. The teacher will direct students to apply their knowledge in a period of silence. This practice ensures students are readied for assessments and not shocked or uncomfortable in assessment situations. There is no talking on task time.

We have further reinforced to students that any queries in lessons such as misunderstanding, missing equipment etc. should only be addressed between student and teacher, not student and peers.

Team Time

Lastly, in the more practical subjects, and in very brief activities in classroom lessons we also have Team Time. During this brief period of 1 -2 minutes students discuss various queries posed to them by teachers. During team time only the question set should be discussed.

If you have any queries regarding the above please do not hesitate to contact Mr Kinsey.

YEAR 11 WRITTEN MOCK EXAMS START

18TH NOVEMBER – 2ND DECEMBER

**PLEASE SEE THE MOCK EXAM TIMETABLE AS OTHER SUBJECTS ALSO HAVE
MOCK EXAMS (E.G. HOSPITALITY/ART) STARTING W.B.4TH NOVEMBER**

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT: WHY DO MOCK EXAMS MATTER?

We take mock exams very seriously at Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School. Students often ask me what is the point of mock exams and do they really matter. My response is that they do matter a great deal and they have real purpose. So, my top four reasons that mock exams can help students make sure they're on the path to exam success:

Practicing under exam conditions

Pressure can do funny things to students. For some, it can lead to nerves, anxiety, frustration and sloppy mistakes, resulting in a poor performance. For others, pressure allows them to concentrate more, work harder and perform better. It takes time and practice to perform well under pressure. If the final summer exams are the first-time students experience these conditions, it is lottery as to how they react.

Mock exams are a great opportunity for students to figure out and practice what works best for them. Techniques to manage exam nerves could include actively slowing down, channeling any nerves into helpful behaviour or listening to some relaxing music beforehand.

Identifying topics that need attention

Doing mocks early enough in the year gives students time before the real thing to target areas that need improvement. Mock exam results can identify how best to spend the coming months for students. Once these areas are identified, it is then a case of putting in the hours. It is not enough to think about what they need to do better, it is the action and the doing that really makes a difference.

Being comfortable and confident enough to ask someone else for help, be it a teacher, parent or carer, is a big part of having a growth mindset. Mock exams can be used as a way of getting students to feel comfortable receiving feedback, which paves the way for further improvement and learning.

Practicing effective revision strategies

Mock exams let students practice revision strategies that are proven to be more helpful and discover what works best for them. There are several memory strategies that have been found to be effective. Researchers have found that the following strategies are useful: spacing out revision sessions (so that there is enough time to forget and then re-learn); teaching the material to someone else (this forces you to think about the material in a clear and structured way); and switching between topics every now and then (which helps build on previous revision sessions).

Improving Knowledge

Getting students to test themselves is an effective way to improve knowledge and ability to recall information. Researchers have found that students who did a practice test after a period of revision did better on the final exam than those students who didn't do the mock exam and had just spent the whole time revising.

Instead of seeing an exam as a potentially threatening event or as some sort of judgement on their ability, it would be great if we could help students to see their mock exams as a handy way of improving their knowledge and memory.

Also, if students have a particularly bad mock exam, better to have the shock in the mock, than the final exam. It can act as a call to action that perhaps they need to do more work, change revision strategies and develop skills needed to perform under pressure.

In Summary

Mock exams are incredibly beneficial for students. They can help students to start revising early, to practice effective revision strategies, to improve their knowledge, to familiarise themselves with pressure, and act as a guide moving forward.

Start preparing now Year 11 and make your Mock Exams count!

YEAR 11 – MOCK TIMETABLE NOV/DEC 2024



WEEK	Date	Morning	Break	Morning	Lunch	Afternoon
1	Mon 4 Nov	08.55	10.55	11.15am	13.15	14.00
	Tues 5 Nov	SPANISH Speaking Mocks – Your teacher will allocate your date and time				
	Weds 6 Nov	SPANISH MFL Speaking Mocks – Your teacher will allocate your date and time				
	Thurs 7 Nov	ART ALL DAY 2 groups rooms 25/26 Your teacher will allocate your date and time				
	Fri 8 Nov	MUSIC Solo Performance : The teacher will allocate your 20 min performance time ART ALL DAY 1 x group room 25 Your teacher will allocate your date and time				

WEEK	Date	Morning	Break	Morning	Lunch	Afternoon
2	Mon 11 Nov	08.55	10.55	11.15am	13.15	14.00
	Tues 12 Nov	DANCE Practical Performance (gym) Hospitality Practical :GROUP 1				
	Weds 13 Nov	Hospitality Practical: GROUP 2				
	Thurs 14 Nov	Hospitality Practical: GROUP 3				
	Fri 15 Nov	Hospitality Practical: GROUP 4 SPANISH MFL Speaking Mocks – Your teacher will allocate your date and time				

WEEK	Date	Morning 08.55	Break 10.55	Morning 11.15am	Early Lunch 12.15	Afternoon 13.00
1	Mon 18 Nov	ENGLISH LANGUAGE Paper 1 1 hour 45				GEOGRAPHY Paper 1/2 1 hour 30
	Tues 19 Nov	MATHS Paper 1 Non Calc 1 hour 30				HISTORY Paper 1 1 hour 15
	Weds 20 Nov	DT/GRAPHICS 2 hours				BIOLOGY Paper 1 1 hour 15/ 1 hour 45
	Thurs 21 Nov	RELIGIOUS STUDIES Paper 1 1 hour 45				FRENCH/SPANISH Writing 1 hour 15/ 1 hour
		Morning 08.55	Break 11.10	Morning 11.25	Early Lunch 12.25	Afternoon 13.00
	Fri 22 Nov	SPANISH Listening & Reading 35/45 mins/ 45 mins/ 1 hour		GEOGRAPHY Paper 3 45 mins		HOSPITALITY 1 hour 20

WEEK	Date	Morning	Break	Morning	Early Lunch	Afternoon
2	Mon 25 Nov	ENGLISH LANGUAGE Paper 2 1 hour 45	10.55	11.15am	12.15	CHEMISTRY Paper 1 1 hour 15/ 1 hour 45
	Tues 26 Nov	MATHS Paper 2 Calc 1 hour 30				HISTORY Paper 2 1 hour 45
	Weds 27 Nov	PHYSICS Paper 1 1 hour 15/ 1 hour 45				French Reading and listening 35/45 mins/ 45 mins/ 1 hour
	Thurs 28 Nov	COMP SCIENCE PAPER 1 2 Hours		RELIGIOUS STUDIES Paper 2 50 mins		ENGLISH LITERATURE 1 hour
		Morning 08.55	Break 11.10	Morning 11.25	Early Lunch 12.25	Afternoon 13.00
	Fri 29 Nov	MATHS Paper 3 Calc 1 hour 30				HISTORY paper 3 1 hour 20

WEEK	Date	Morning	Break	Morning	Lunch	Afternoon
1	Mon 2 Dec	COMP SCIENCE PAPER 2 1 hour 45	10.55	SPORT 1 hour 15	13.15	MUSIC Listening 1 hour

Whole School Attendance

Thank you so much for your support regarding your child's attendance, I am pleased to report that with this support, the school is making great strides forward in relation to attendance against national benchmarks. More importantly, we are continuing to ensure all students are safe and accessing a full education.

We will be celebrating the performance of students from half term 1 during the Rewards and Recognition assemblies w/b 4th November 2024, with attendance a key part of this.

Please continue to encourage your child to be the best they can possibly be in all aspects of school. We do have some further incentives in the lead up to Christmas and will advise the students about the Big Christmas Raffle. This is what we will be sharing with them:

- Do you have a positive aggregate of conduct points? (House Points minus Behaviour Points?)
- Do you have 96% + for half-term 2? (Fresh start for all. Attendance of 96% = 1 entry, 98% = 3 entries and 100% = 5 entries)

... Then you could win one of the following prizes:

- Amazon Fire HD tablet
- Bluetooth Wireless Earbuds worth £89.99
- Uefa Champions League Football
- A fancy Chrome Trim Parker Pen
- £20 cinema voucher
- £10 ASOS voucher

... and more.

Mr Leonard is also trying to secure a cinema booking for the last day of the term, where students will be invited if they meet the above criteria.



Huge congratulations to 367 of our students who are currently on 100% attendance since the beginning of September. This is a huge achievement and we thank you for your continued support.

Recording of an absence

Please remember to call school each morning and speak with Miss Mannion regarding your child's absence. If your child is absent and you haven't let school know, this absence will go down as unauthorised until an explanation has been given.

ABANDONED BUILDINGS

Vulnerable children and young people are repeatedly accessing derelict buildings in Warrington.

Please talk to them about the dangers of doing this!

Their lives and safety may be at risk.



If you have any details of buildings that need securing, please contact communitysafetywbc@warrington.gov.uk

ABANDONED BUILDINGS

Breaking into abandoned buildings isn't an adventure, it's a danger.

- They can be physically unsafe
- Unknown adults are often present
- Drugs and alcohol are being used
- Crime is occurring there

You and your mates could be at serious risk.

Keep out, keep safe





CAREERS FAIR 2024

ON TUESDAY 5TH NOVEMBER WE ARE HOLDING OUR ANNUAL CAREERS FAIR. WE HAVE MANY VISITING EXHIBITORS FROM DIFFERENT EMPLOYMENT SECTORS, FURTHER EDUCATION, HIGHER EDUCATION AND APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITIES. STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO ASK QUESTIONS AND DEVELOP THEIR POST-16 PLAN.

Students in Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 will visit our careers fair next Tuesday.

We have over 30 employers/education establishments joining us and the fair gives students the chance to develop their knowledge of what is available to them post 16.

Students will have a booklet to complete and questions to ask to ensure that the event is meaningful.

Post 16 Year 10 and 11

Please find attached this week's list of current Apprenticeship vacancies in and around Warrington - New vacancies are highlighted in green.

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](#)

Please note vacancies can be withdrawn before the advertised closing date at the discretion of the employer.

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.

- 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.

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.

Register now to confirm your place.

Scan below

[Register Here or](#)

THE CHESHIRE AND WARRINGTON PLEDGE

WARRINGTON Borough Council

Please use the following link to book on.

In here is a link to all the employers who are attending and what opportunities there are available.

You need to register using the link.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/warrington-careers-fair-your-future-your-choice-move-on-public-sign-up-tickets-976060973647>

PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

Welcome back to all students, parents and carers after the half-term break.

Thank you to all who completed the parent evaluation form for the Leading Parent Partnership Award (LPPA). Your input is essential in helping us strengthen our partnership with parents and carers.

As we begin this half term, I want to bring to your attention the events we have planned:

Year 8 Parents' Evening on Monday 18th November: A link to book appointments will be sent out later today. If you encounter any difficulties accessing the link, please don't hesitate to email Mr. S Mason smason@boteler.org.uk for assistance.

2nd Parent Forum on Thursday 28th November: We'll be focusing on Arbor and SAM Learning to help parents and carers make the most of these platforms. Arbor is our main communication channel for keeping everyone updated on important school news, events and student progress. SAM Learning is our new online homework platform, designed to support students' learning beyond the classroom. We encourage you to attend for guidance on accessing and using these valuable resources effectively.

Year 7 Parents' Evening on Monday 2nd December.

We're looking forward to a productive half term and thank you for your continued support.

Remembrance Day

Students have been learning about Remembrance Day during their Collective Worship form time sessions delivered by Mrs Hoey. As part of this, students have written things down that they are thankful for, and notes to the Unknown Soldier and anyone who has been a part of the World Wars or recent conflict around the world.

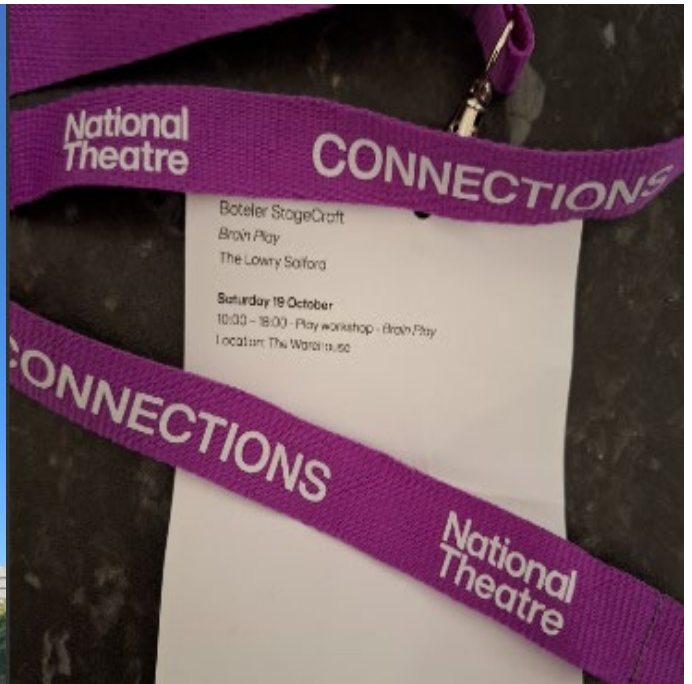
Mrs Guttridge and Mrs Callis have created a post box for students to post their notes through, which is a part of our school's remembrance display created by Miss Roberts.





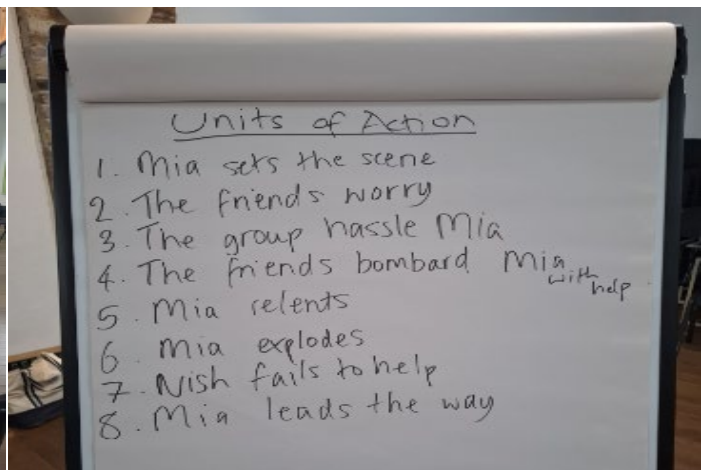
On Saturday 19th October I had the pleasure of travelling to London to attend a workshop run by the National Theatre as part of the Connections Festival. The workshop was held at The Warehouse venue near the main theatre. Many teachers and youth workers from around the country attended.

We worked with a Director, Freyja Winterson and met the playwrights, Chloe Lawrence-Taylor and Paul Sirett.



It was a great opportunity to learn about the background of the play and share ideas on staging the production. As part of the workshop we worked on different scenes and workshoped ways of creating the adult characters which will be puppets managed by our Performers and Stage Management teams.

I'm really looking forward to sharing these ideas with the members of Boteler StageCraft during rehearsals. **Ms Armstrong, Leader of Drama and School Productions.**



Sports fixtures for half-term 2

Wednesday 6th November

Year 8 girl's football team away @ Birchwood

Tuesday 12th November

Year 8 boy's football team away @ Beamont
Year 10 boy's football team away @ Padgate

Wednesday 13th November

Year 7 girl's football team away @ Cardinal Newman
Year 11 boy's football team away in Cheshire Cup @ The Heath, Runcorn

Tuesday 19th November

Year 7 boy's football team away @ Bridgewater
Year 9 boy's football team away @ Birchwood

Tuesday 26th November

Year 8 boy's football team away @ Beamont
Year 10 boy's football team away @ Padgate

Wednesday 27th November

Year 9 girl's football team away @ Beamont

Tuesday 3rd December

Year 7 boy's football team away @ Bridgewater
Year 9 boy's football team away @ Birchwood

Wednesday 4th December

Year 8 girl's football team away @ Birchwood

Tuesday 10th December

Year 8 boy's football team away @ Beamont
Year 10 boy's football team away @ Padgate

Wednesday 11th December

Year 7 girl's football team away @ Cardinal Newman

Tuesday 17th December

Year 7 boy's football team away @ Bridgewater
Year 9 boy's football team away @ Birchwood

Sport and Performance Extra-curricular timetable

Our extra-curricular timetable offer will not change for half-term 2; all clubs will remain running and keep running up until Christmas. Please see below for all of the information! The only slight change is at lunch times; the field is now closed so the Ball Hall will open, but this will run open via a rota system to ensure all year groups get an equal opportunity of playing.

Trainers MUST be worn, but PE kit is not mandatory.



	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
LUNCH	FOOTBALL (YEAR 7 AND 8 ONLY)- BALL HALL BTEC SPORT COURSEWORK (YEAR 10-11)- ROOM 29	FOOTBALL (YEAR 9 ONLY)- BALL HALL BADMINTON CLUB (ALL YEARS) – BALL HALL DANCE CLUB (YEAR 10 AND 11)- GYM	FOOTBALL (YEAR 10)- BALL HALL TRAMPOLINING (ALL YEARS)- BALL HALL BOTELER STAGE CRAFT REHEARSALS (YEAR 7-10)- DRAMA STUDIO	FOOTBALL (YEAR 7 AND 8 ONLY)- BALL HALL DANCE CLUB (GIRLS)- GYM DANCE CLUB (BOYS)- DRAMA STUDIO	FOOTBALL (YEAR 9 AND 10 ONLY)- BALL HALL
AFTER SCHOOL		BOYS FOOTBALL TRAINING / FIXTURES (YEAR 7-10)- FIELD	GIRLS FOOTBALL / NETBALL FIXTURES (ALL YEARS)- VARIOUS BOTELER STAGE CRAFT REHEARSALS WEEK 1 ONLY (YEAR 7-10)- DRAMA STUDIO BOTELER STAGE CRAFT ART CLUB PROP DESIGN WEEK 2 ONLY (YEARS 7-10)- ART ROOMS FOOTBALL TRAINING (YEAR 7 ONLY)- FIELD	BASKETBALL TRAINING (ALL YEARS)- BALL HALL RUGBY FIXTURES AND TRAINING (ALL YEARS)- FIELD GIRLS FOOTBALL / NETBALL TRAINING (ALL YEARS)- BALL HALL DANCE CLUB (ALL YEARS)- GYM VOLLEYBALL (ALL YEARS)- BALL HALL	

SOCIALISE | PLAY | COMPETE



**SIR THOMAS
BOTELER**
CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL
THROUGH GOD, WE CARE

DANCING IN DECEMBER

SHOWCASING A VARIETY OF YEAR GROUPS AND DANCE STYLES
FROM ACROSS THE DECADES - INCLUDING CHRISTMAS SONGS!



12TH DECEMBER 2024 18:00

AT SIR THOMAS BOTELER CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

WILL INCLUDE SHORT INTERVAL WITH REFRESHMENTS SERVED BY THE PSB
£2 PER TICKET - TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM THE MAIN SCHOOL OFFICE

WESTY YOUTH

FREE PIZZA
POOL TABLE
PING PONG
FOOTBALL TABLE
HOT CHOCOLATE
GAMES

FRIDAYS 6-7PM

WESTY COMMUNITY CENTRE

WA4 1TA (next to Westy Park, Latchford)