

FRIDAY 12TH JANUARY


# Weekly Newsletter



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Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College

May God's love be our guide 

# Happy New Year

As we welcome our students back after the Christmas festivities, we focused on what we imagine the character of the Magi would be during our weekly Celebration of the Word. We believe they travelled, were well read, inquisitive, curious, questioning, hopeful, filled with wisdom and always ready to go on an adventure. At BTHCC we want our family to feel enthusiastic about the future and want to find out more about themselves and the world they live in. We invited our students to challenge themselves this term by setting a goal they could achieve, feel proud, and celebrate. To do this we talked about having a positive mindset, a good sleep routine, less screen time, healthy eating, reading, and exercise so we can be the best versions of ourselves. By taking time to reflect on their studies and tackling any barriers that may be hindering their progress by reaching out to loved ones, friends and teachers for support and advice. We are eager to watch them grow over the next few weeks as our students have so many God given talents and we as a College have masses of opportunities available to the students to allow them to flourish.

It is a significant time for Year 13 and Year 11 as they prepare for their journey on to the next stage of their education so we have talked about how they can use this essential time to prepare and be ready.

Yr. 12 and Yr. 10 have now fully immersed themselves into their chosen pathways, so it is imperative that they now enjoy their subjects with good attendance and being fully present in the lesson participating and challenging themselves.

Year 9 will be choosing their option choices later this term with more information to follow while Yr8 and 7 still have the opportunity to find their pathways and explore new learning and subjects.

On our new website you will be able to be involved in your child/ren learning by following the curriculum maps [Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College - Curriculum Maps \(bthcc.org.uk\)](http://bthcc.org.uk). We would also recommend looking through you children exercise books to see the progress they are making and together we can ensure your child shines at BTHCC.

Students can complete Home Learning before school from 8 a.m. and after school Monday to Friday 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. in the library where support will be available should they need it. The Sachel One app can support your child with their home learning and the parent log in enables parent/carers to see the activities that have been set and completed.

Please do try to ensure your child attend college every day if possible. Evidence shows the impact that regular attendance makes on wellbeing, mental health, academic success and friendship.

At Blessed Thomas Holford 'Everyone is a Reader.' We offer a wealth of fiction and non-fiction in our school library which students are welcome to use before school, during break and lunch time and after school. Students have their own individual login to reserve and borrow books using our online library service Accessit. Further details of our library offering can be found using the QR code below:



Each day is a new day and at this time of the year there is much talk about new resolutions and fresh starts. We have invited our young people to challenge themselves and as St Catherine of Sienna said 'Be who God called you to be and you will set the world on fire!' The BTHCC family have so much to offer and together we can ensure each child believes in themselves, aims high and we celebrate their many achievements.

"The journey of life and faith demands a deep desire and inner zeal. Sometimes we live in a spirit of a 'parking lot'; we stay parked, without the impulse of desire that carries us forward," he said.

The Magi teach us that we need to set out anew each day, in life as in faith, for faith is not a suit of armor that encases us; instead, it is a fascinating journey, a constant and restless movement, ever in search of God, always discerning our way forward,"  
Pope Francis

***Lord Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world.***

***You came to reveal the glory of God to all people.***

***As we celebrate the feast of Epiphany, we ask you to shine your light upon us. Help us to see your presence in our lives and in the world around us.***

***Give us the courage to follow you wherever you lead, and to share your love with all those we meet.***


***We ask this in your holy name. Amen.***

Thank you for your continued support and may I wish you a very happy new year.

Mrs Clare Hogg  
**Headteacher**



Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College

May God's love be our guide 

8th December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you of some proposed changes to the structure of the college day here at BTHCC. They are:

8:55am	Students to be on site
9am – 9:25am	Together for Good with Form Tutor
9:25am – 10:20am	Lesson 1
10:20am – 11:35am	Lesson 2 Students will be given a 15-minute break before or after this lesson
11:35am – 12:30pm	Lesson 3
12:30pm – 1:30pm	Lunch for all students Enrichment activities will be timetable Year groups will have access to the canteen at different times to prevent long queues
1:30pm – 2:25pm	Lesson 4
2:25pm – 3:20pm	Lesson 5
3:20pm	End of School Day for all Year Groups

Should the changes be approved, they will come into force from September 2024.

This increase will ensure that we are working towards meeting the Department of Education's new minimum expectation of a 32.5-hour school week.

We believe that these changes will be beneficial to the BTHCC community and will have a positive effect on your child's education.

The information in this letter has also been sent to the local authority, the diocese, local schools, public transport, staff, parishes, and governors. We will work together so that there is minimal disruption.

I appreciate that these changes may affect you in terms of childcare or working arrangements, and you may have questions related to your child's education. For this reason, I would like to invite you to please share any feedback that you have by sending it to [structureofday@bthcc.org](mailto:structureofday@bthcc.org)

We will release the results of the consultation by 23rd January 2024 and will share the outcome in our college newsletter.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs C S Hogg

Tel: 0161 768 6030

Urban Road Altrincham Cheshire WA15 8HT

E-mail: [blessedthomas.admin@trafford.gov.uk](mailto:blessedthomas.admin@trafford.gov.uk) Web:

[www.bthcc.org.uk](http://www.bthcc.org.uk)



What's going on - Week 15th-19th

# MONDAY

Year 9 & 10  
Headteachers Talk

# WEDNESDAY

## Word

Room 54 at 8.30am

# FRIDAY

College Mass  
- 8.15am G3

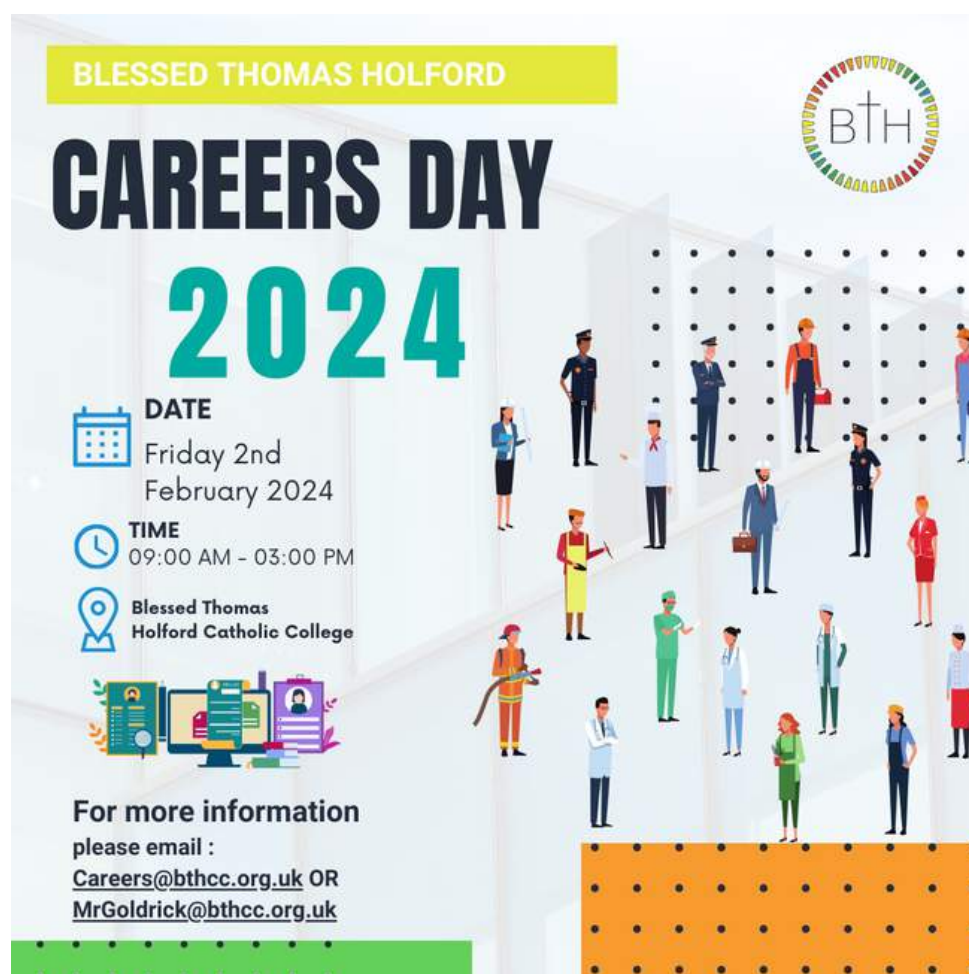


# Advent Appeal



We just want to say a huge huge thank you for all your donations for our Advent Appeal. The foodbank have informed us that it went to help a lot of people over the Christmas period.

# Careers Fair



## Careers Fair Friday - 2nd of February 9am-3pm

We are seeking a range of organisations to promote careers within their sectors and possible pathways to employment or further education. If any parents/carers would like to be involved or know any businesses or organisations that could attend our Careers fair then please do get in touch. We want to offer a wide range of careers and pathways to the students so they can see what opportunities are on offer to them after leaving school.

This is a fantastic opportunity for employers to seek out young talent and is a great chance to develop your company's reputation through public interaction and brand awareness.

If you are interested please get in touch with  
[laurahussain@bthcc.org](mailto:laurahussain@bthcc.org)



# Family Bingo Night



On Thursday 8th of February 2024, we will be hosting a 'Family Bingo Night' in the main school hall.

This is an event for students, families and the wider community. Entrance tickets are £5 for adults and £3 for children, which will include a FREE game. Tickets can be purchased on Scopay.

Doors will open at 6:30pm with 'Eyes Down' at 6:45pm.

The cards for each game will be on sale on the night at a cost of £2 per game. There will be 6 games during the evening with lots of prizes up for grabs. Food/Refreshments will be on sale during the evening and all funds raised will go towards St Luke's Hospice. A raffle will also be held – if you are able to donate a prize for this it would be greatly appreciated.

I do hope you will be able to support us at this event.

\*All students must be accompanied by an adult



# RSE

A reminder that this half term in Personal Development, pupils are completing their RSE unit and parents can access the online parent portal using the following info:

Below is the website link, username and password to access this.

Website:

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/>

Username:

holford-wa15

Password:

bth-family-55

If you have any questions please email the RSE lead [misscrone@bthcc.org.uk](mailto:misscrone@bthcc.org.uk)



Last year we took some of our pupils down to Oldfield Bank Nursing Home to read to the residents and listen to their wonderful stories of their childhood and school days. Gladys is a resident at the home and will be turning 100 on January 22nd. The staff are looking to get 100 cards from the local community to help Gladys celebrate her big day.

We have bought some blank cards that will be arriving this week and we will be asking the students to help wish Gladys a **HUGE HAPPY BIRTHDAY**.

We will also be taking the 'Capriccios' down on the 22nd to sing Happy Birthday to Gladys and the students will present her with a bouquet.



# Poetry

## THROUGH THEIR EYES

POETRY COMPETITION FOR 11-18 YEAR-OLDS

Young Writers Poetry Competition (11-18 year olds)  
'Through Their Eyes'

The challenge is for pupils to write a poem from someone or something's point of view.

Be Creative, Tackle important issues, Encourage opinions,  
Explore Empathy, Express themselves.

Please collect an entry form from Mrs Rowe in the Library.



# SEND



It's been a term of exciting changes for the SEN department. The biggest of the changes is the introduction of 'the DEN', which is an area in school for all pupils to access. The Den is split into three areas, an intervention room, a zen area for pupils to use to regulate, and a safe space for pupils to access at break and lunchtimes when overwhelmed. We are extremely proud of this space and we have grand plans to create an outdoor area to complement the space inside.

Last term also saw our first SEN drop in morning, this provided an opportunity for Parents to come into school and meet the SEN team as well as access an informative talk by Trafford Autism advisor Jackie Tarpey on how to work with school to support young people with Autism. We will be running a further SEN drop in session after half term with a focus on supporting pupils with dyslexia/literacy difficulties, please keep an eye out on social media and the weekly bulletin for a date.

**We also have a NEW email address for parents/carers to email which is monitored by all the SEN team**

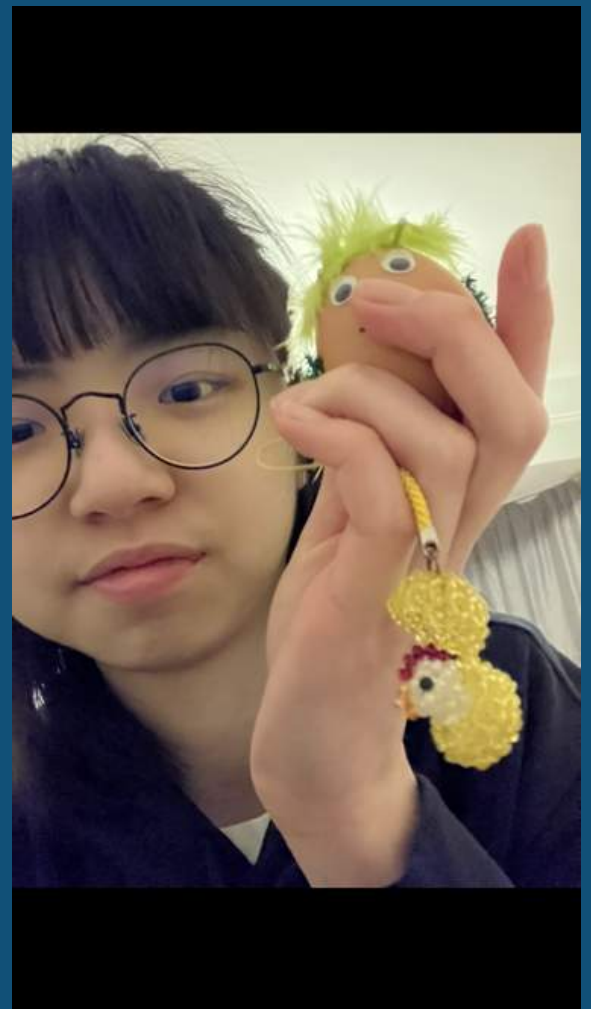
**[send@bthcc.org](mailto:send@bthcc.org)**

# Psychology

In Psychology, our Year 12's are about to start our annual 'egg babies' project. It is part of the Attachment topic in Psychology, where we 'test' the theory that sensitivity towards your baby forms an attachment with them.

Students get a 'baby' (or a boiled egg!) and they have to 'create' their baby. They are then tasked with carrying their baby with them everywhere, taking pictures to show how they are taking it out and about with them. The theory is that by having to care for it will form a bond with it. You wouldn't think 17 year boys would like this so much but they do 😊

Below are some of the PAST egg babies and what they did with them...



# Extra-Curricular

## Timetable

Date : January-Feb  
Term 3

Time/Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8.15am-8.45am			Wednesday Word – 8.30am-8.40am, Room 54		Friday College Mass – 8.15am-8.40am, G4 (Prayer Space)
3pm	Maths Games and Lego – Mr Wilde and Miss Moloney Rm 57 Year 7/8 (3-3:45pm)  Science Club Lab 10 (3-4pm) Ms Hunt	English Creative Writing E2 (3-4pm) Mr Collins  Equality and Diversity Club 30 (3-4pm) Miss Penny- Collins every other week  DT – Year 9 invite only Miss Ginsburgh	Maths Sixth Form workshop S2 (3-5pm)  Year 10 Art Club Miss Penny Collins Rm 30 (3- 4pm)  Knit and Stich Club Rm32 Miss Akintoye (3-3:45pm) Week every week  French Culture Club Miss Ludlow Rm 3 (3:10- 3:45pm)  Textiles club room 23 3pm-4pm- Invite only	Debate Club (3:10) Miss Price  GCSE Art – Yr10/11 Rm 30/31 Miss Anderson (3- 4pm)  Food and Nutrition Rm 26 – Yr 8/9 Miss Metcalfe  Global Students – Yr7-9 Rm 32 (Each fortnight) Miss Akintoye (3-3:45pm) Starts week commencing 5th October every week	
					

# EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES - JANUARY TERM



# Music Extra-Curricular Timetable



Date : January-Feb  
Term 3

TIME/DAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8.15AM-8.45AM	INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE (MAX THREE IN A ROOM)	INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE (MAX THREE IN A ROOM)	INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE (MAX THREE IN A ROOM)	INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE (MAX THREE IN A ROOM)	INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE (MAX THREE IN A ROOM)  8.15AM - MASS IN PRAYER SPACE
LUNCHTIME	CAPRICCIO SINGERS ROOM 17	PIZZICATO 'UKULELE CLUB ROOM 12 MUSIC THEORY CLUB ROOM 11	Y12 PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT WITH MRS WHITFIELD		CONSORT RECORDER CLUB RM 17
3PM	YEAR 11 GCSE MUSIC LESSON		'CONCERTO' CONCERT BAND (ROOM 11)	FREE REHEARSALS	BAND PRACTICE (PRE-BOOK THE PRACTICE ROOMS)

High School Musical rehearsals all week

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES - JANUARY TERM

# Physical Education

## Extra-Curricular Timetable

### GIRLS

Date : January-Feb  
Term 3

TIME/DAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8.15AM-8.45AM	BASKETBALL SPORTS HALL ALL YEARS (CL/SDP)	TABLE TENNIS FITNESS SUITE ALL YEARS (KRE/CHO)	INDOOR CRICKET SPORTS HALL ALL YEARS (OH/JR)		DODGEBALL SPORTS HALL (JR)
3.10PM - 4.15PM	NETBALL COURTS AND SPORTS HALL ALL YEARS (KRX/SDP/CL)	LACROSSE 3G PITCH (OHA)	DANCE FITNESS SUITE (CHO/SM)	BASKETBALL SPORTS HALL ALL YEARS (KRE/CHO/KRX)	
				ULTIMATE FRISBEE MUGA ALL YEARS (AMC)	



## EXTRA-CURRICULAR

## ACTIVITIES - JANUARY TERM

# Physical Education

## Extra-Curricular Timetable

### BOYS

Date : January-Feb  
Term 3

TIME/DAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8.15AM-8.45AM		MULTI SPORTS SPORTS HALL ALL YEARS (OHA/SCR)	INDOOR CRICKET SPORTS HALL ALL YEARS (AT/JR)	BASKETBALL SPORTS HALL YEARS 7/8/9 (SHU/SPG)	DODGEBALL SPORTS HALL (JR)
3.10PM - 4.15PM	DODGEBALL OLD GYM ALL YEARS (SHU/OHA)	LACROSSE 3G PITCH ALL YEARS (JR/OHA)	BASKETBALL SPORTS HALL ALL YEARS (AT/SPG)		
			RUGBY 3G ALL YEARS (SCR)	ULTIMATE FRISBEE MUGA ALL YEARS (AMC)	



## EXTRA-CURRICULAR

### ACTIVITIES - JANUARY TERM





Every Monday  
after school 3-4 pm  
in Room 10

See you there!

See you there!

## Instrumental and Vocal Lessons

Dear Parents / Carer, I am writing to let you know that at Blessed Thomas Holford there are additional music peripatetic lessons which are available for pupils. These can be arranged directly with the individual peripatetic teachers. This letter provides the information you need to enable your child to arrange instrumental or singing lessons with a peripatetic music teacher at Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College. Music lessons are

available as follows:-

Electric Guitar & Bass

Mr Birkett

Flute, Saxophone and  
clarinet

Miss Thackray

Voice

Miss Horan

Violin and Piano

Mr Rankin

Piano and voice

Mr McCusker

Drum Kit

Mr Needham

If you would like your child to commence private music lessons please complete your details on the Music Agreement form. The cost of weekly lessons is £15 for half an hour. The music peripatetic teacher will invoice you at the beginning of each term and you must pay the teacher directly, usually into their bank account.

[Link to the letter](#)

Coffee Morning  
Wednesday  
10th January  
10am  
Sixth Form Café



TEAM  
PTR



What a great  
coffee  
morning we  
had with our  
'Friends of BTH'  
discussing  
plans for our  
upcoming  
event! Looking  
forward to our  
next meeting  
already!



# Trafford Thrive



Manchester University  
NHS Foundation Trust

## Trafford Thrive in Education **COFFEE MORNING**

Parents, carers, and family members welcome

- To introduce you to the NHS Mental Health Support Team known as *Trafford Thrive in Education*.
- Get to know us and learn about how we support BTH and your young people.
- Get some ideas and some resources to help you support your young people.
- Have an informal chat and ask questions over coffee and biscuits!
- Taking place at BTH on Friday 2nd February 09.30-10:30, meet at reception in the sixth form building.



**Let us know you are attending**



# I'M GOING TO INVENT THE WORLD OF TOMORROW

IT STARTS  
ON SATURDAY

University of  
**Salford**  
MANCHESTER

## Science & Engineering

Join a free Saturday Club for 13–16 year olds.

The Science&Engineering Saturday Club at the University of Salford is an excellent start for aspiring biologists. This year's focus is animal conservation in the wake of climate change. Club members will get an opportunity to meet and work with university experts in zoology, animal cognition and the biodiversity of the planet, as well as current university students. You will also experience hands on conservation work, and try wildlife photography and journalism!



Find out more

@natsatclub  
[saturday-club.org/join](https://saturday-club.org/join)

Club location:  
The University of Salford  
43 Crescent, Salford, M5 4WT

Club times:  
Saturdays, 10:00 – 12:00

Supported using public funding by



**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

# Important Notices

## ATTENTION FOR YEAR 11 PARENTS

**Monday 24th June - Year 11 Leaver's mass celebration. 6pm at school.**

**Saturday 29th June - Year 11 Prom at the JB Bell Stadium.**

## Weather Forecast



The weather for next week is looking cold so please can the students make sure they are wearing appropriate coats and planning their journeys to school to take into account the cold weather and possible transport delays.

### **JOB VACANCIES AT OUR COLLEGE.**

- \*Teacher of Maths
- \*Teacher of RE
- \*School Caretaker
- \*Attendance Officer
- \*Admin Officer
- \*Pastoral/Reconciliation  
Co-ordinator Hub
- \*Sixth Form Student  
Support Officer

Join  
Our  
Team



APPLY NOW

<https://www.bthcc.org.uk/vacancies>

We have some job vacancies within our college so take a look at our vacancies page on the website  
<https://www.bthcc.org.uk/vacancies>



# Important Notices

## Year 9 and 10 Headteachers Talk

Reminder: Monday 15th January  
Main School Hall

Welcome refreshments start at 5.30pm  
Talk will start at 6pm

## Donut sale on Monday



We have a Kripsy Kreme donut sale on Monday over break times. They will be £1 a donut. Selling on the stage in the hall.

Well done to  
our Year 7  
football team  
who won their  
Manchester  
Futsal  
competition  
and qualified  
for the finals.





Promoting the segregation of certain groups, or discrimination against them, because of who they are. This has been illegal in the UK for a long time – but some people still try to promote the exclusion of others, which can cause a huge amount of distress.

[@national\\_online\\_safety](#)