



# BTHCC Newsletter



June 2025



***Welcome to the fresh new look of our college newsletter! We've reimagined the layout, refined the design, and packed it with even more engaging content to keep you informed and inspired. Whether you're catching up on the latest college events, celebrating student achievements, or diving into exciting features, our revamped newsletter is here to bring you closer to everything happening at Blessed Thomas Holford.***

## ***Father Pat celebrates 50 years of priestly service***

Huge congratulations to Father Pat on reaching 50 years of priestly service! This Golden Jubilee is a testament to a life dedicated to faith and service. Your dedication has been a source of inspiration and guidance for many. May you continue to be blessed and may your ministry continue to thrive for many more years.

**There's been so much going on at BTH, and we're excited to share it all with you. There's plenty to mark in your calendar, with key dates, exciting events, and important reminders all packed into this edition of our newsletter.**

*CS Hogg*

Mrs C S Hogg





# Dates for the diary

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION/WHO
16th - 27th June	<b>ASSESSMENT WEEK</b>	Year 10
19th - 23rd June	<b>BATTLEFIELDS TRIP</b>	Year 10
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>YEAR 11 &amp; YEAR 13 LEAVERS MASS</b>	Main College Hall - 6pm
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>YEAR 13 PROM</b>	Hilton - Manchester
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>FIELD EVENTS SPORTS DAY</b>	Year 7 - 10
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>YEAR 11 PROM</b>	AJ Bell Stadium
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>YEAR 12 RETREAT DAY</b>	Off - site
Monday 30th June	<b>INSET DAY</b>	College Closed to students



# Dates for the diary

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION/WHO
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	<b>WELCOME EVENING 'NEW' YEAR 7 COHORT</b>	Sports Hall
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	<b>TRANSITION DAY 'NEW' YEAR 7 COHORT</b>	Year 6 primary school children
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>MINI DASH - SHREWSBURY DIOCESE</b>	SVP Group
7 <sup>th</sup> - 11 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>YEAR 12 WORK EXPERIENCE WEEK</b>	Year 12
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>FEAST DAY - ANNA WANG</b>	Form groups of Anna Wang
9 <sup>th</sup> - 11 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>HIGH ADVENTURE TRIP</b>	Year 7
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>SPORTS AWARDS EVENING</b>	Year 7 - 9 invitation only
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>WHOLE COLLEGE MASS</b>	Sports Hall



# Dates for the diary

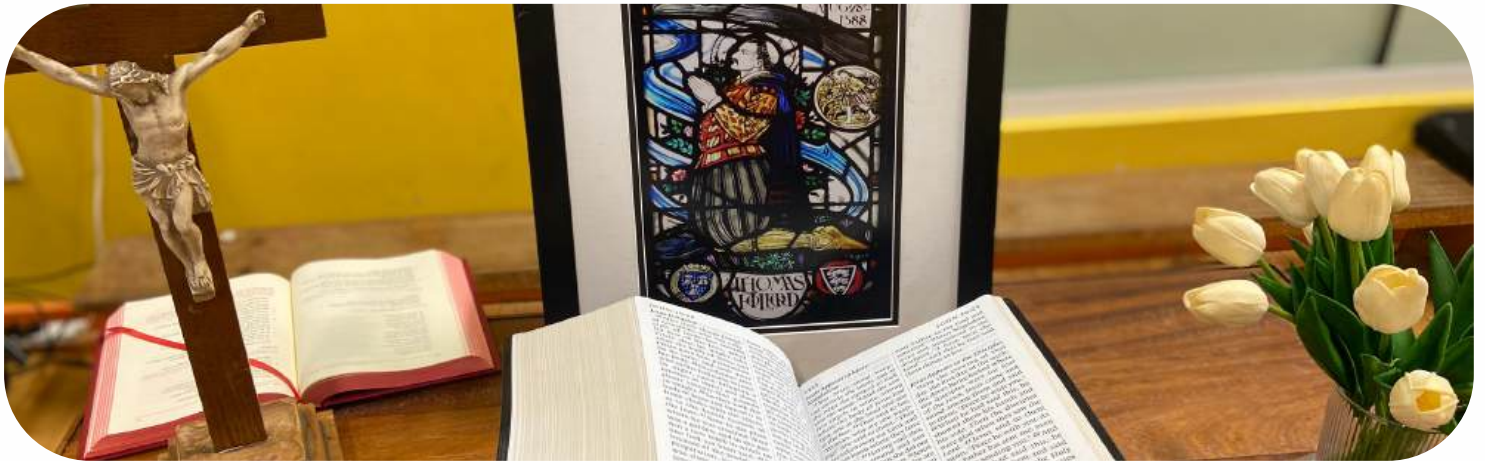
DATE	EVENT	LOCATION/WHO
14 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>YEAR 12 CAREERS WEEK IN COLLEGE</b>	Year 12
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>PRIZE EVENING</b>	Key stage 3 & 4 - invitation only
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>YEAR 12 MOCK INTERVIEWS</b>	Year 12
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>FUN FRIDAY - INFLATABLES AND SILENT DISCO</b>	All year groups
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	<b>END OF YEAR REWARD TRIP</b>	Blackpool Pleasure Beach
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	<b>SPORTS DAY</b>	Whole college
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	<b>BREAK UP FOR SUMMER</b>	

# BTHCC Catholic Life

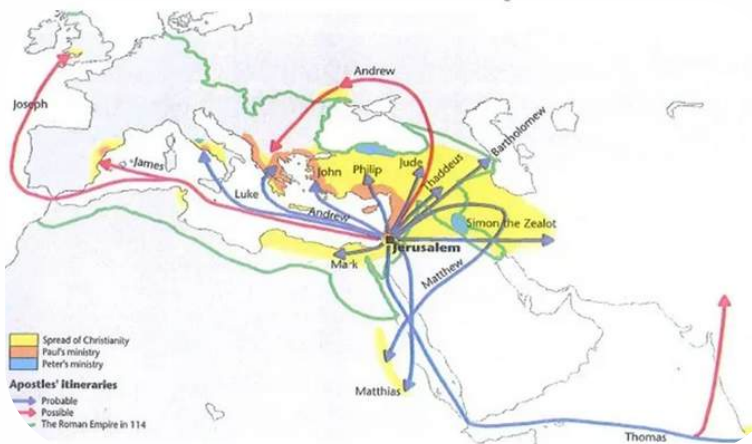


## Celebration of the Word

Our weekly gathering 'Celebrating the Word' led by Mr Fishwick this week. A celebration which focusses on God speaking to us through the scriptures and which creates space and form for our response.



This weeks Celebration of the Word was about being Gods disciples.



### Jesus Appears to His Disciples

<sup>19</sup> On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." <sup>22</sup> And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."



# Friday Family Mass



Our weekly gathering 'Friday Family Mass' is in the 'The Heart of BTH' where all students, staff and members of our wider college family have a weekly opportunity to celebrate Mass at 8.15am on Fridays.



Following the celebration of Mass the congregation joined together for complimentary refreshments and an opportunity to discuss how they will go forth, transformed by the word.



This is our new crucifix created by Leanne Northover an ex teacher here at BTH.



Join Us  
in  
Celebration

FRIDAY



# Year 12



Some of our students spent the day at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic primary school in Partington on a project. They worked with a range of different age groups of children, sharing great leadership and encouragement to them. They also followed the instructions really well and came up with really great creative ideas.





JOIN THE COMPETITION


# CREATE OUR NEW COLLEGE PRAYER

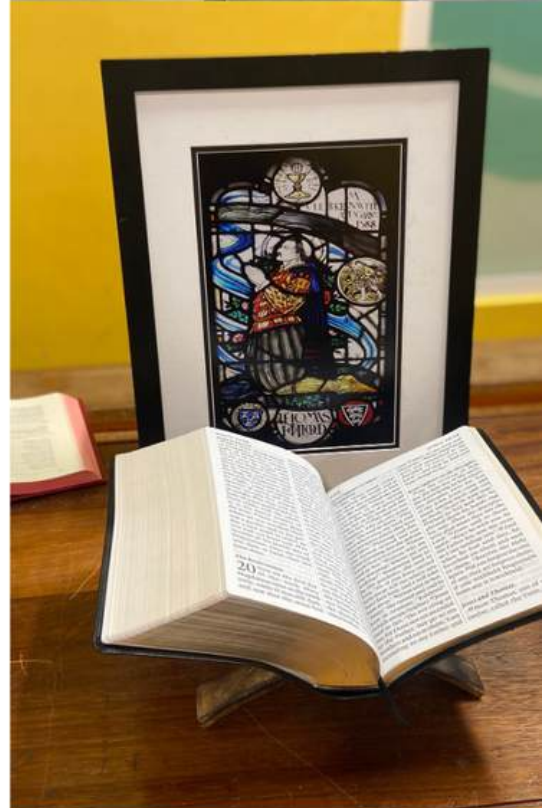
Calling all students, staff, governors, clergy and parents! Here's your chance to shape the heart of our college community. We are searching for an inspiring new College Prayer—a reflection of our values, hopes, and spirit.

Enter before 3pm on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June



Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College

May God's love be our guide 





# CREATE OUR NEW COLLEGE PRAYER YOUR NEW PRAYER NEEDS TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:



1

## Our Mission

**'May God's love be our guide'**

Reflect – In 1 Corinthians 13:4–8 love is described as patient and kind. Love does not envy or boast and it is not proud.

Love always protects, always hope, always preserves.

What does this mean for our BTHCC family?



Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College  
May God's love be our guide 

2

## Our BTH Way

Be Kind. Work Hard.  
Develop my Whole Self.

### Our Mission at Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College

As a member of the Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic family we pray

**'May God's love will be our guide'**  
as we follow the BTH Way to:

**Be Kind - Work Hard - Develop My Whole Self**

We achieve this through prayer, celebrating the sacraments and living the values of Catholic Social Teaching.



3

## How do we achieve this?

Through prayer, celebrating the Sacraments and living the values of Catholic Social Teachings.



4

## End your prayer with 'Blessed Thomas Holford. Pray for Us.'



Thomas Holford, the son of a minister, was born in 1541 near Nantwich, Cheshire, at Aston in the parish of Acton. He was raised as a Protestant and became a schoolteacher. He was martyred at Clerkenwell in London.

Reflect – God never ignores a prayer; but His answer may surprise you.

Your prayer needs to be a minimum of 150 words but no more than 300 words. You do not have to use big or fancy words. God will know what you mean.

# BTHCC Leavers



## Year 11 and Year 13

Congratulations to our Year 11 and Year 13 students who have worked so diligently in preparation for the exam season.

We are so very proud of you and would like to celebrate and give thanks for all you have achieved.



## Year 11 and 13 Leavers Mass



Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College  
May God's love be our guide 



A celebration of your journey  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June  
6pm - Main college hall  
Refreshments and cake served afterwards



## *The Year 8 boys football team are **TREBLE** winners.*

Congratulations to the students who won the Trafford cup winning 3-2 in a close final. Goal Scorers: Mattia , Durkan and Abell . POTM: Cox, Robinson and Plowman. One more final to go!



**Congratulations to former BTH student Christy who has signed for Stockport County**



**Congratulations to former BTH student Remi who has signed a professional contact with Altrincham football club**

# Year 10 Sports Awards Assembly



# Sports Leaders



Today our Sports Leaders co-ordinated the activities for a Year 5 and Year 6 Tri-Golf competition. It was a great event for pupils to achieve their personal best & work together as a team. Well done to all 11 school teams and thank you to our Sports Leaders who did an amazing job.



# Greater Manchester Athletics

We had 6 students representing Trafford at the Greater Manchester Athletics Championships on Saturday.

Y8

Amelie Hardy 200m (28.62s) – 4th in the final

Y9

Luca Basalo-Cortes – 300m (41.13s) – 4th

Y10

Alannah Bowes – 200m (28.28s) – 3rd in the final

Tia Unwin – 100m (13.74s) – 5th in the final

Leo Paton – 200m (25.12s) – 5th in his heat. 0.4s off making the final

Jack Clifford – Javelin (26.21m) – 6th



# BTHCC Food and Nutrition



## *Healthy Eating Week*

Last week was 'Healthy Eating' week here at BTH and we asked Year 8 students to design a dish and the 3 winning dishes were served in the canteen during the week.



**Year 9 have been working hard in Food and Nutrition, they have had a practical assessment where they chose either to make chicken tacos with homemade flat bread or mac and cheese and garlic flat bread.**

# BTHCC Music



*Some of our Year 9 music students practising Bohemian Rhapsody with their bands.*



**Year 7 ukulele**



# BTHCC Knit and Stitch



Ysabella has been crocheting again, and this time has created a lifelike octopus. Amazingly, she didn't use a pattern, but you can find tutorials for this sort of 3D crochet on the internet and YouTube. Well done Ysabella.



Miss Elliot has also been having a go - a complete beginner a few weeks ago- she has now made a cute hat and scarf for a toy rabbit - a great idea to start off small.



Random Acts of Crafted Kindness!

Random Acts of Crafted Kindness still meets weekly to do any type of textile craft that you might like to try, knitting, crochet, sewing or weaving - you name it! And we have lots of supplies of wool, needles and hooks to loan out so you can practice.

# BTHCC Careers



*Year 8 having an inspirational talk from the Royal Air Force.*



*Our Year 9 Apprenticeship and T Level Talk.*

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## Year 12 Mock Interviews



**We need your help!**

*We're hosting Year 12 Mock Interviews on the morning of Thursday the 17<sup>th</sup> of July.*

*This activity is aimed at Year 12 students to give them help and guidance to prepare for the future, particularly when they are applying for jobs. By giving the students, a realistic 'interview experience' and enabling them to gain an understanding of how they should present themselves at an interview, we're aiming to equip students with the skills they'll require for future success.*

*If you could help support us with the interviews and would like more info please email [Careers@bthcc.org.uk](mailto:Careers@bthcc.org.uk) or [I.hussain@bthcc.org](mailto:I.hussain@bthcc.org)*

# Meet some of our SEND Team



## Mr Cox-Darling

I am Mr CoxDarling, and I am the **SENDCo** here at Blessed Thomas Holford.

I've been teaching for over 20 years. Having taught in Primary schools in Australia, moving to the UK in 2006 and teaching secondary in both London and Wolverhampton. Since 2019 I have been leading on SEND, achieving my SENDCo qualification in 2020.

I enjoy knitting, Lego and listening to a good podcast.

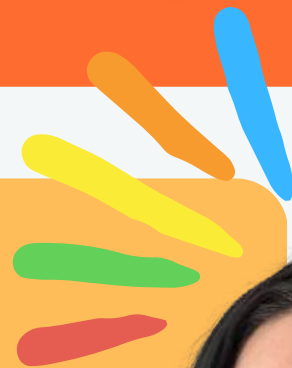
Fun Fact: I grew up in the Australian Desert and had a kangaroo, emu and an Australian Magpie as a pet.

## Mrs Walton

I am Mrs Walton and the **SEND Transition Lead at Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College** and I work closely with the Heads of Year 7 and SENDCo to plan and deliver a unique and robust transition programme for all students with SEND.

I support both the children and their families throughout this exciting but often challenging time, I will visit primary schools, meet with staff and the children as well as arrange extra visits and be present at induction events.

I am committed to delivering the best transition support for new students and I am always a friendly face for the children to see once they join our BTHCC family.





## The issue of pornography

In today's digital world, children and young people are increasingly exposed to online content that may not be age-appropriate—pornography being one of the most concerning.

As part of our commitment to safeguarding and supporting the wellbeing of our young people, we want to help parents and carers understand the risks and how you can protect and support your child.

## Why is this important?

Children can come across pornography accidentally, through pop-ups, social media or even on mainstream websites. Others may seek it out due to curiosity or peer pressure.

## Early exposure can have serious impacts:

- **unrealistic expectations:** pornography often presents unhealthy and unrealistic portrayals of relationships, consent and bodies.
- **mental health concerns:** it can lead to confusion, anxiety, shame or compulsive behaviours.
- **impact on relationships:** it may affect how young people view intimacy and gender roles.
- **addiction risk:** repeated exposure can become compulsive, impacting learning, relationships and self-esteem.

## What if my child has seen pornography?

- **Stay calm:** reacting with anger or shame can close down communication.
- **Ask open questions:** "What did you see?" or "How did it make you feel?"
- **Reassure:** let them know they're not in trouble and you're there to support them.
- **Guide and educate:** use the moment to teach them about healthy relationships, respect and safe online use.

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In this issue:

- Pornography
- Sleepover safety

## HOW CAN PARENTS AND CARERS SAFEGUARD THEIR CHILD FROM PORNOGRAPHY?

### Have open conversations

Talk to your child about healthy relationships, consent and online safety. Create a safe space where they feel able to ask questions.



### Use parental controls



Install filters and use built-in controls on devices, browsers and apps to block inappropriate content. Regularly review these settings.

### Educate on media literacy

Teach your child to think critically about what they see online. Help them understand the difference between real relationships and harmful portrayals.



### Be present online

Know which apps, websites and games your child is using. Use them together when possible, and model healthy digital behaviour.



### Encourage balance

Support offline interests—sports, arts, reading—to reduce screen dependency.



If you need further advice and support, here are some helpful resources:

[Thinkuknow](#) – age-appropriate advice for children and parents.

[NSPCC](#) – support and tips for online safety.

[Common Sense Media](#) – reviews and guidance on digital content.

# SPOTLIGHT ON SAFEGUARDING

## Sleepover safety

As children grow into teenagers, social independence becomes increasingly important. Sleepovers can be a fun and positive part of adolescence, helping to build friendships and social skills. However, it's also important to consider safety, boundaries and communication—especially as children begin to stay overnight in other households.

## Why sleepover safety matters

While most sleepovers happen safe and well, there are potential risks to be aware of:

- lack of supervision or unknown adults present
- exposure to inappropriate content or behaviour (e.g. alcohol, pornography, vaping)
- peer pressure or unsafe dares/challenges
- online risks if phones/devices are used without supervision
- emotional safety: conflicts or exclusion among peers.

## KEY QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER BEFORE SAYING YES

BEFORE AGREEING TO A SLEEPOVER, IT'S IMPORTANT TO ASK THE OTHER PARENTS THESE QUESTIONS:

✓ **WHO WILL BE SUPERVISING?**  
Will an adult be present all night?

✓ **WHO ELSE IS ATTENDING?**  
Will boys and girls be mixed? Are older teens involved? Will there be other visiting adults?

✓ **WHAT ARE THE RULES IN THE HOUSEHOLD?**  
E.g. device use, curfews, sleeping arrangements.

✓ **HOW CAN YOUR CHILD CONTACT YOU?**  
If they don't have their own phone, are they able to contact you at any point in the evening?

## 5 TIPS TO KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE AT A SLEEPOVER



### Have a clear conversation

Talk to your child beforehand about expectations and how to handle uncomfortable situations. Reassure them that they can always contact you.

### Set boundaries around devices:

Discuss appropriate phone or internet use. Encourage your child to avoid sharing photos or videos during sleepovers.



### Stay informed



Connect with the host parent to confirm plans and supervision. This is important for your child's safety.

### Consider a check-in with your child

A call to your child during the evening can reassure both of you.



### Have a 'Plan B'

Make sure your child knows they can contact you to come home, even late at night, and that you'll support them if they are ever uncomfortable.

The Enlightened Parent

**Remember:** It's absolutely acceptable to say "no" or "not yet" if you're not comfortable.

Sleepovers can be a positive experience—but only when your child's safety, comfort and your peace of mind are protected.