

# Newsletter

## 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Welcome to our end-of-term newsletter.

### Year 7 & 8 Activity Days

It was the Year 7s turn this week to experience a day off timetable to take part in a Careers Day, exploring a range of career sectors in workshops run by employees of Babcock,

As with the Year 8 group, this was followed by a trip to Ashton Court for team-building and adventure on their High-Ropes and zipline course. Our end-of-term reward trip for Year 9, 10 and 11 also took place at Ashton Court, celebrating those pupils whose high attendance and commitment to their work really demonstrates our Bridge Values.

As always, the behaviour of our pupils on the trip was amazing and I hope they all had a very memorable experience.

### Parent/Carer evenings this week

Thank you to all of those parents/carers who have attended one of our parent/carers-teacher evenings and/or stay-and-plays this week in Early Years through to Year 7. Building and maintaining the home-school relationship is so important to how children can progress through school – your support is really appreciated and valued.

These evenings also enable us to get some parent/carers feedback. We were delighted to see that overall satisfaction is extremely strong, with over 90% of parents responding positively across most questions. The highest-scoring area is “*My child feels safe at this school*” at 98.2% positive, showing excellent pastoral confidence. Your feedback showed us that we can still do more with regard to “*Dealing with concerns*” and you have my assurance that this will remain a priority for the school next term.

### Attendance

We have seen improvements in attendance this year in a number of areas. Attendance in primary year groups this term is up by nearly 1% on the same time last year. We have been very proud of Jade, Emerald, Ruby, Crimson and class, all of whom have had 100% attendance days this week. However, Platinum class take the top prize – 100% every day this week!! Hopefully more classes can follow their lead at the start of term.

In secondary, Year 8 are leading the way, having improved attendance by nearly 2% on last year.

We also have an amazing **373** pupils who have **100% attendance** for the term – and a number of families with 100% attendance, thanks to the great support of parents/carers to get everyone into school every day. Every day in school makes such a



difference to positive well-being and really helps the mental health of our children and young people.

## Additional Staff Training Day

A reminder that there will be an **additional staff training day on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November**.

With a training day already scheduled for Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, this means that **all**

**pupils will return to Term 2 on Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> November** after the autumn holiday.

Hopefully everyone has received the communication from Sue Elliott, CEO, regarding the appointment of Mr Nick Butler as BLC's Interim Headteacher from the beginning of next term. I am sure you will give him the same support you have given me as he takes BLC on the next stage of its journey.

## Goodbye!

Finally, I want to say a couple of words to everyone, as this is my last day at BLC.

I have worked here since 2018 and, as I said to all of our staff this morning, this is a school that very quickly gets under your skin and is such a special place to work. I can honestly say that the staff and students are the best that I could ever have wished to work with and that the opportunity to lead this amazing school for so long has been an absolute privilege and an honour.

A student asked me today to rate my time here from 1 to 10 - I think they were surprised when I replied 10 out of 10! As with every job, there are highs and there are lows but the overall experience here is so inspiring, varied and uplifting – the potential of all of the young people, the skill and dedication of the staff and the support of the community all come together to build a warm, inclusive and fun ethos. My personal highlight will always be the cheer from the leadership team in 2021 as the Ofsted inspector delivered the news that the school was "Good" in all areas.

I am sure Mr Butler will further build on these foundations that are already here and I wish you every success in the future.

With best wishes,

Mr Maule