



Ms Antoniewicz and Mr Gathani write:

Maths

Year 11 completed their Maths mock exam in November, and we want to congratulate them on their hard work and determination. Sitting a full exam is a valuable experience, and they now have a clear understanding of what to expect in the summer. The mock results have highlighted both strengths and areas for improvement, giving students a strong foundation for focused revision in the months ahead.

Well done Year 11 – keep up the excellent effort!

Over the Christmas term Year 7 to Year 10 students are encouraged to practise on [IXL](#) or [MyMaths](#), focusing on the areas they want to improve. Regular practice will help build confidence and ensure everyone is ready to start the New Year strong. Keep up the great work and keep practicing!

Wishing you all a wonderful winter term!

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Students,

Last week our School Improvement Partner came to visit our school. She was very impressed by everything about Blanche Nevile and in particular, the children. She met with a group in Primary and a group in Secondary. Both groups told her how happy they are in school and how much they enjoy their lessons. It was lovely to hear such positive feedback from our students and we are delighted that they are so enthusiastic about their school.

It's been a busy end to the term with plenty of trips and visits, particularly in Humanities, and not forgetting Y8 & 9 learning circus skills! After such a long term and with so many activities lots of our students are now very tired and looking forward to a well-deserved holiday. If they get bored during the break, please direct them to a bit of Maths practise or reading a book or graphic novel...a little learning goes a long way!

I wish all our students and their families a very happy Christmas and I look forward to seeing everyone back on Tuesday, 6th January.

Jo Davey

Interim Headteacher

Mrs Demirci writes:

Humanities

As we reach the end of term, classes have been going out to visit historical sites to add depth to their understanding of different time periods. Year 9 visited Kenwood House, Year 8 went to Hampton Court Palace, and Year 7 have been to the Tower of London. We have been lucky to have some great tours and workshops to discuss our learning, and even have the chance to dress up! The students have represented the school brilliantly - well done everyone!



Careers

Last week Years 8 and 9 visited Jacksons Lane Arts Centre for a special careers event. We had a tour of the theatre and studios, and a presentation on different jobs that are available in performing arts. In the afternoon we tried out circus skills with professional performers! We hope to work more with the team in the future.

Ms Christian writes:

Art & Design

Designer Roman Pitts-Brennan and artist Maral Mamaghani have been working with some of our year 10 and year 11 Art & Design students to develop their Identity Projects.

The lucky students have been creating work inspired by Maral, Roman and Christine Sun Kim's 1810THAT exhibition.

Wow! what an outstanding experience to be working with such amazing Deaf artists!

We are very grateful to The Wellcome Collection in London for this opportunity. We will look forward to seeing the year 11's work in the Annual BNS Year 11 Art & Design Exhibition in 2026.



The 1880THAT exhibition continues at the Wellcome Collection until 6 April 26

<https://wellcomecollection.org/exhibitions/1880-that>

Ms Burke writes:

English



This half term, 10B have continued their study of *Noughts and Crosses*, and I have been incredibly impressed with their work and enthusiasm. They have produced thoughtful diary entries, taken part in powerful role-play activities exploring bullying and the treatment of Callum and Sephy, and have even begun discussing politics and how it links to the novel.



8C have also been working brilliantly. Their engagement and ideas have been fantastic — they have developed strong contextual understanding and analytical skills, and have really immersed themselves in *Romeo and Juliet*, its characters, themes, and storyline. They are clearly on a strong flightpath towards GCSE English Literature success!



My Year 11 one-to-one students have been excellent too. This term, they have focused on Language Paper 1, strengthening both their creative writing and analytical skills, ensuring they are exam-ready. They have studied a range of extracts, including *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens, which has helped them to sharpen their analytical responses and broaden their exposure to different literary styles.

I am really looking forward to the spring term and seeing all the wonderful work they will all produce!

Ms Wallis writes:

English

It's been a fun, full term of discussions, role-play, reading, creative writing and DRAMA!

Year 7 have finished reading 'The Secret Garden' by Frances Hodgson Burnett. It's a long novel so they did really well to consider how some of the characters changed from the beginning to the end. It's been amazing to read their pieces of creative writing and how they are able to use the 'show not tell' writing techniques.



Ms Willis writes:

English

Year 10B

This half term, 10B have continued to explore *Dystopian Fiction* through the novel *Noughts and Crosses* by Malorie Blackman. Alongside studying the text, students have been developing their Functional Skills in English, learning how to respond to blogs, emails as well as writing diary entries, emails and notes. All students have worked well and will receive a Unit Award on completion of this unit.



Year 10 and 11

This half term, 10A have continued to study the novel *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio. The class has explored different contexts which has been incorporated with drama. Students have discussed the importance of friendship and created posters of their own to explain what qualities make a good friend. Students will receive a Unit Award Certificate on completion of this unit.



Life Skills

This half term, Year 7 students have continued to learn and navigate their new school environment. They have also discussed British Values, exploring their significance in everyday life. At the end of this unit, all students will receive a Unit Award Certificate.



Students across the rest of Key Stage 3 have continued to explore British Values in greater depth. This work is helping them to understand the importance of Accountability and personal choice as they develop independence and prepare for adulthood.



This half term, all Key Stage 4 students continue to be introduced to Peer Mediation, developing skills to support them in becoming responsible advocates and positive role models for younger students. Through this work, students are learning how to listen effectively, resolve conflicts, and promote respectful communication within the school community. All students will receive a Unit Award Certificate at the end of this unit.

Ms Donovan & Ms Groome write:

Science – years 10 and 11 Enterprise Group

The Enterprise group have been meeting since September, following a scheme devised by an organisation called Young Enterprise.

The students have been finding out about the roles that exist in businesses and how those roles match up with the skills or interests that they have.

As part of the programme, the students have developed their own company name, logo and a product that they can make and sell to others.

Year 8 have continued to read some of the Greek myths and at the end of each story **have thought about the moral of the stories.**



Year 9 have finished reading 'Dracula' by Bram Stoker and were all able to include creepy Gothic features in their creative writing. They also discussed some of the overall themes of the text that reflected the time at which it was written. Well done everyone.



The students' first experience of this was on Thursday 18th December where they ran a Christmas shop, selling the Christmas cards and biscuits that they have made to staff and students here at Blanche Nevile.

After the Christmas break, the Enterprise Group will then be working towards an amazing opportunity to devise and sell a product to the general public at Spitalfields Markets in February.

Watch this space for more details in the New Year!

IMPORTANT DATES

Christmas Holidays :

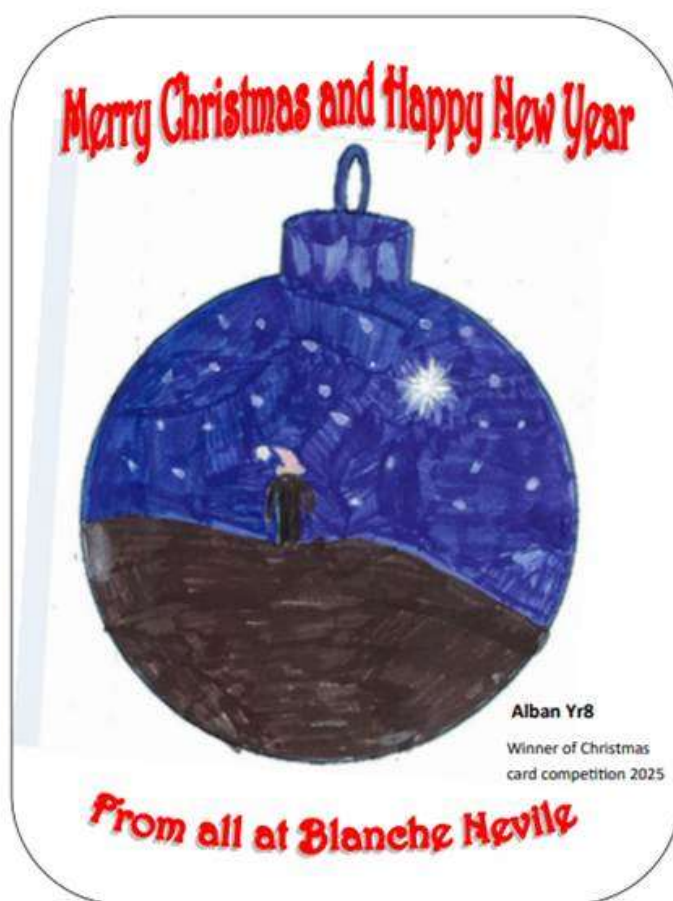
Half day Friday 19th Dec 25 (close 12.30)

Return to school Tuesday 6th Jan 2026

Please note Monday 5th Jan 26 - school is closed to students for a staff training day

Monday 12th Jan – DTP/Men vaccinations for Year 9 students

The winner of our Christmas Card Competition – Alban, year 8



Headteacher Update from Ruth Griffiths, Chair of Governors

Ms Doobeh and Ms McCarthy will be in post as our new Co-Headteachers after February half term. Ms Davey will continue to work with them in Blanche Nevile until the end of the Spring Term.