

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Students,

As we come to the end of another academic year, we would like to take this opportunity to reflect on what has been an incredible year for Blanche Nevile School.

This year has seen many changes across the school. We hope these developments have had a positive impact on our community, and we are excited about what the future holds. As we continue our journey, our focus remains on building consistency, strengthening our provision, and ensuring that Blanche Nevile continues to go from strength to strength.

Looking ahead to next year, we are particularly excited to launch our new vision and values with parents, carers, and students. These will help us clearly communicate our ambitions for Blanche Nevile and our aspirations for the future, ensuring that our whole community is united in our shared goals.

We are immensely proud of all that our students have achieved this year. Their hard work, resilience, kindness, and enthusiasm have contributed to making Blanche Nevile a happy, welcoming, and vibrant place to learn. Every success, whether large or small, deserves recognition, and we are proud of each and every one of them.

As we celebrate the end of the year, we also say a fond farewell to two valued members of our staff team. We would like to thank Tracey from the office and Debbie, our School Business Manager, for their many years of dedication, commitment, and service to the school. They have both made a lasting contribution to the Blanche Nevile community, and we wish them every happiness and success in their future adventures.

Finally, we would like to thank our students, staff, parents, and carers for their continued support throughout the year. We wish everyone a restful and enjoyable summer break, and we look forward to welcoming you back in September for another exciting year at Blanche Nevile School.

Laila Doobeh - Co Headteacher, Secondary

Ms Willis writes:

English and Life Skills

Life Skills

This half term, students across Key Stage 3 and 4 have....

- **Years 7a, 7b and 8a** completed their Unit Award in 'Visiting a local bowling alley' and also completed their Unit Award in 'Buying an item of food in a café or restaurant'
- **Years 7b and 8b/c** completed their Enterprise project 'Organising an Afternoon Tea'

Well done all! ☺



- **Year 9** are continuing to learn about independent travel, time keeping and road awareness in the local community
- **Year 10b** – planned and prepared a trip to a restaurant. Some students went to Nandos – a trip was planned for a year 10 student who won Jack Petchey. Well done Year 10, you have worked hard this year!

Students are continuing to develop a wide range of essential life skills, including:

- Navigating routes and researching the best ways to travel
- Understanding travel costs and budgeting
- Reading menus and calculating food prices
- Teamwork and collaboration
- Road safety awareness
- Planning and preparing
- Using timetables and managing time effectively
- Communication strategies – clarification skills

Let's keep up the great work - you have all done brilliantly this year! 🚌🗺️😊

English

Year 10.11a - this half term, students have worked extremely hard to complete all of the work required to achieve their Unit Award in **Exploring Dystopian Fiction**.

As part of this unit, students have studied *Noughts & Crosses* by Malorie Blackman and explored its key themes, making thoughtful comparisons with their previous learning of *Romeo and Juliet*. They have demonstrated increasing confidence in analysing characters, themes and the social issues presented in both texts. You have all worked incredibly hard this year, 10A, and should be very proud of everything you have achieved. Well done! 😊

Year 10b - this half term, most students sat their Functional Skills English examinations. I have been extremely impressed with the commitment, resilience and hard work they have shown in preparing for and completing their exams.



In addition, students have had the opportunity to take part in a Poetry Competition in collaboration with the Royal Association for Deaf People (RAD), exploring the theme '**Deaf Identity**'. This has provided a fantastic opportunity for students to express their thoughts, experiences and creativity through poetry. Well done to everyone for a fantastic half term! 😊



Ms Burke writes:

English

8C have worked incredibly hard this year and have studied poetry, Shakespeare, non-fiction and modern prose, developing key GCSE English skills through analytical, creative and persuasive writing, as well as speaking and listening activities. They have explored how writers use language, structure and context to shape meaning, while building confidence in annotation, critical discussion, analysis and extended written responses. These units have provided a clear foundation for the knowledge and skills required for success at GCSE. They have been a fantastic class and are set to make a great start to Year 9.

10B have also been brilliant this year. They have worked hard on Functional Skills reading, writing, and speaking and listening, both independently and collaboratively. They have completed a range of topics, including *Noughts & Crosses*, the purposes of texts, exam skills, and a variety of reading and writing tasks. They have demonstrated an improved understanding of the Functional Skills assessment criteria and have all shown determination and resilience throughout the year. They are set to make a great start to their final year at Blanche Nevile. Bring on Year 11!

Ms Groom and Ms Donovan write:

Science

In science this term year 7 classes, and some year 8 and 9 classes, have focussed on the development of their investigative skills. As a result they have carried out some really interesting practicals which have looked at ice-cream making, bridge building, shampoos and their effect on the environment and making plastic from potatoes.

We have also made wormeries which have made us think carefully about the importance of worms in nature. The students have engaged really well with these tasks and have shown real interest in the ideas covered.

We also had a very successful trip to London Zoo where we got to see some amazing animals and some students showed great leadership skills by guiding the rest of us around the zoo.

If you are interested in trying some experiments at home over the summer, the University of York run The Centre for Industry Education Collaboration

<https://www.york.ac.uk/ciec/resources/primary/>

They have some fun experiments that could easily be carried out at home without specialist equipment.

Have a lovely Summer!

Mrs Demirci writes:
Humanities and Careers

Humanities



This half term we have organised visits to a variety of places of worship for our Religious Studies learning. Students visited New West End Synagogue in central London to see the historic building that has been at the heart of the Jewish community for over 100 years. Students asked excellent questions and saw all the important features used in worship. We also have visits planned to the East London Mosque with Al-Isharah, Bhaktivedanta Manor, and St. James Church in Muswell Hill, some of which have been postponed due to the heatwave.

Careers



We are always sad to see our Year 11 students leaving in summer, and this year is no exception! This cohort have been a real joy to teach over the years and we will miss them a lot! We wish them luck in their next steps at college and beyond, and hope they will come back to visit us to let us know how they are getting on.

Ms Christian writes:
Art & Design

Year 11 BNS Art & Design Exhibition

We are so proud of our year 11 Artists and Designers who exhibited their work at the annual exhibition in school.

The students worked tirelessly to set up and host the exhibition; greeting their guests and professionally and politely answering questions and explaining their work. Wow! Each of the students were an absolute credit to the school – well done Abid, Aran, Jackson, Klaudia, Lucia, Maisie, Malachi, Priya, Sana and Zach, you were amazing!



Whittington Health **NHS**

Speech and language Therapy Team in Blanche Nevile School for Deaf Children Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

We wanted to share some updates from the Speech and Language Therapy Team.

Staffing Updates

We are writing to update you about some changes that are happening in the Speech and Language Therapy Team at Blanche Nevile. These changes will affect both Primary and Secondary Departments.

Frederikke Dixon will be going on maternity leave in August, so will not be working at Blanche Nevile Primary or Secondary next academic year. She will return in September 2027.

We are hopeful that Frederikke's role will be covered and discussions for recruitment are ongoing and an update will be shared as soon as possible.

We are excited to have a new therapist join our team next year.

Hayley Rogers will be joining us as a Specialist Speech and Language Therapist with Deaf Children working at secondary from September 2026. Hayley is a highly experienced therapist who has been working with deaf children for many years and we look forward to welcoming her to Blanche Nevile.

Nadia Hawkins-Gaboc will continue to work full time in her role as a Specialist Speech and Language Therapist with Deaf Children across both departments.

Finally, the speech & language therapy team is reviewing recent speech & language therapy reports. Your feedback is really important to us so we would like hear how you feel about your child's Speech & Language Therapy Report.

Please can you fill-in the following questionnaire. It should take no longer than 3-5 minutes.

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/t/M4JQTG/>

Many thanks, **Wendy Martin**, Clinical Coordinator, Speech and Language Therapy Service for Children who are Deaf (Camden, Islington, Haringey) Email: Wendy.martin4@nhs.net

ATTENDANCE NEWS

Dear parents/carers,

As a school, we believe that good attendance is essential to support our students' progress, wellbeing and communication skills.

We strongly encourage parents to book medical appointments outside of school hours and ask that only the necessary time off is taken. For example, if your child's appointment is at 9am, we would expect parents living within reasonable distance to bring their child to school for the afternoon session. Only the necessary time will be authorised, though individual circumstances will be taken into consideration.

Please note that Blanche Nevile School does not authorise holidays during term time. We strongly encourage families to plan all holidays and travel within the 13 weeks of school holidays each year.

Under the Education Penalty Notices England Regulations 2013, as amended by the Education Penalty Notices England Amendment Regulations 2024, local authorities **must** issue a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) to parents or carers where a child accumulates 10 or more sessions (5 days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school-week period. This includes absence taken immediately before or after a holiday period, which will be treated as unauthorised if leave has not been granted.

Any absence taken either side of the school holidays will be considered unauthorised unless supporting evidence is provided.

Our term dates can be found here <https://blanchenevile.org.uk/primary/term-dates/>

Please see NHS guidance below on when to keep your child off school

Is my child too ill for school?



Does your child have a high temperature (38°C or more)?

YES Keep them off school until it goes away.

NO Follow the guidance below.

Your child can usually go to school with a mild cough or cold if they are otherwise well. If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school or nursery on the first day and give them the reason.

Should go in	Should go in (let the school know)	Seek treatment before returning to school	Keep them off (at first)
A cough, cold or sore throat Fine with slight cough or common cold symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat or headache, as long as they're otherwise well and do not have a high temperature. Threadworms Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.	Cold sores Encourage them not to touch the blister or kiss anyone while they have the cold sore, or to share things like cups and towels. Conjunctivitis Fine unless they are feeling very unwell. Seek advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly. Head lice & nits You can treat head lice and nits without seeing a GP. Hand, foot & mouth disease If they seem well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly. Slapped cheek syndrome Once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious. Let the school or teacher know if you think your child has slapped cheek syndrome.	Impetigo They'll need treatment from a pharmacist or GP, often with antibiotics. Keep them off school until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotic treatment. Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and not to share things like towels and cups with other children at school. Ringworm See your pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case you should see a GP. It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment. Scarlet fever They'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks. Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics. Chickenpox Keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.	Ear infection If your child has an ear infection and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away. Measles They'll need to see a GP. Call the GP surgery before you go in, as measles can spread to others easily. Keep your child off school for at least 4 days from when the rash first appears. They should also avoid close contact with babies and anyone who is pregnant or has a weakened immune system. Vomiting & diarrhoea Stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea due to illness for at least 2 days (48 hours).

Feeling worried or anxious: It's normal for any of us to feel worried sometimes. We may get a tummy ache or headache, or have problems eating or sleeping. Avoiding school can sometimes make a child's worries about going to school worse. If your child is struggling, please speak to school as soon as possible to explore available help. If your child is still struggling and it's affecting their everyday life, you should contact GP or school nurse.

To find out more, search www.NHS.uk for the specific illness or infection, or 'Is my child too ill for school?'

IMPORTANT DATES

School returns on Friday 4th September for all students
Flu nasal spray immunisations in school on 17th September