



THE BLUE COAT SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

BLUE COAT STUDENTS ENJOY INSPIRING EVENING AT THE LIVERPOOL PHILHARMONIC



On **Thursday 12th March**, Blue Coat School students attended an unforgettable evening concert at the **Liverpool Philharmonic Hall**, beginning at **7.15 pm**. The visit offered a rich cultural experience, giving pupils the chance to hear a world-class orchestra perform live in one of the country's most esteemed concert venues.

What Was Performed

Students were treated to an exceptional programme performed by the **Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra**, conducted by **Adam Hickox** with celebrated Liverpool-born pianist **Paul Lewis**. The evening's repertoire featured:

Schumann – Genoveva: Overture
Beethoven – Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor, Op. 37 (soloist: Paul Lewis)
Berlioz – Symphonie fantastique, Op. 14
[\[bachtrack.com\]](http://bachtrack.com)

The concert offered a powerful mix of drama, emotion, and orchestral colour—from Schumann's striking overture, to Beethoven's deeply expressive concerto, finishing with Berlioz's dramatic and imaginative symphonic masterpiece.

A Memorable Experience

Students were fully engaged throughout the evening, many expressing awe at hearing such iconic works performed live. Staff praised their enthusiasm, curiosity, and impeccable behaviour. Several pupils commented that the performance of *Symphonie fantastique* was a particular highlight, especially its vivid storytelling and unforgettable finale.

This visit forms part of Blue Coat School's ongoing commitment to enriching students' cultural and musical education. Experiences like this not only deepen musical understanding but also inspire young musicians to pursue their own artistic journeys.

A warm thank-you goes to the staff who organised the trip and to the Liverpool Philharmonic for hosting our students for such a remarkable night of music.



YEAR 7 'ALL ABOUT FUTURES' CAREERS DAY

Year 7 students recently took part in an engaging and thought-provoking experience of the workplace, delivered by Unilever in collaboration with All About Futures. The event brought together all 30 students for a day dedicated to exploring future pathways, careers, and the skills needed to succeed in the modern world.

Thirty students participated in a series of interactive workshops themed around Unilever, gaining insights into how a global business operates, exploring diverse career pathways, and developing the employability skills that support career readiness.

Throughout the day, students were encouraged to think about their interests, strengths, and ambitions, while learning about the wide range of opportunities that could be available to them in the future. Activities focused on helping students understand how the subjects they study in school connect to real-world careers and the many different routes people can take after secondary education. The session also encouraged students to ask questions, challenge assumptions about jobs, and consider careers they may not previously have thought about.

The atmosphere on the Mezzanine was lively and positive, with students showing curiosity, enthusiasm, and maturity in their discussions. It was particularly encouraging to see students beginning to reflect on their own aspirations and to recognise that the choices they make in school can help shape their futures.



ECONOMICS SOCIETY SUCCESS

Last Friday the Economics Society had its largest attendance yet, with over 30 students attending a talk from Old Blue **Hashim Shah** on *How geopolitics is impacting commodity trading*. Hashim explained the role of traders in valuing assets and actively managing risk, contrasting this with longer-term investing. He outlined different areas of the trading industry—including banks, hedge funds, proprietary trading firms and commodity trading houses—and the strategies they use, such as fundamental analysis, technical analysis, algorithmic trading and arbitrage.

Students also learned about the key skills needed for a career in trading, including numeracy, risk management, decision-making under uncertainty and emotional discipline. Hashim discussed current market conditions, including how tensions in the Middle East and disruptions around the Strait of Hormuz are pushing oil prices way above \$100 per barrel and may contribute to rising global inflation. He concluded with advice on career pathways, noting that quantitative trading typically requires a strong mathematics background, while commodity trading welcomes a wider range of degrees such as economics, geography, history or politics.



BLUE COAT STUDENTS SHINE AT NATIONAL READING QUIZ

On **Friday 13th March**, eight talented students from **Years 8 and 9** proudly represented Blue Coat School in the **National Reading Quiz**, hosted this year at **Wirral Grammar School**. The event brought together teams from schools across the region, all competing in a challenging test of literary knowledge, teamwork, and quick thinking.

Throughout the competition, our students demonstrated impressive enthusiasm for reading and a strong command of a wide range of books—from classics to contemporary fiction. Their teamwork, strategic thinking, and calmness under pressure were noted by staff and organisers alike.

The atmosphere was supportive and engaging, with all teams sharing a love of literature and celebrating each other's achievements. Our students particularly enjoyed collaborating across year groups and extending their knowledge beyond the classroom.

Blue Coat School is incredibly proud of the professionalism, positivity, and dedication shown by all eight pupils. Opportunities like the National Reading Quiz help nurture a lifelong appreciation of reading and highlight the academic curiosity that our students bring to every challenge.

Congratulations to the team for representing the school with such maturity and enthusiasm, and thank you to Wirral Grammar School for hosting a fantastic event.

Team B came 5th and Team A came 14th out of 22 schools



BLUE COAT BOOK SWAP

Last week, to celebrate World Book Day, Mrs Conway launched the Blue Coat Book Swap - a chance for students to bring in books they have read at home and no longer want, in exchange for a pre-loved book donated by another student. It is a great way to refresh your reading library and be eco-conscious and sustainable by re-using books.

Students should bring them to Mrs Conway in W22 and they can rifle through to find something new to read!



BLUE COAT STAFF TAKE ON THE LIVERPOOL HALF MARATHON – GOOD LUCK TEAM!

This weekend marks an exciting challenge for several members of staff as they lace up their trainers and represent Blue Coat School in the **Liverpool Half Marathon**. We are proud to cheer on this fantastic group of entrants: **Mr Emery, Ms Baker Ms Hatton-Balliard, Mrs Brindle-McDowell and Mr Wainwright.**

The team have been preparing in their own ways—some seasoned runners, others taking on their very first half marathon—and each of them embodies the determination, positivity, and resilience that we value so highly in our school community.

The Liverpool Half Marathon is known for its vibrant atmosphere, iconic city landmarks, and supportive crowds. Our staff will be joining thousands of runners as they tackle the 13.1-mile course, showing not only personal commitment but also modelling healthy lifestyle choices and goal-setting for our students.

We wish **the staff** the very best of luck on race day. Whether they are chasing a personal best or simply aiming to enjoy the experience, the entire Blue Coat community is behind them.

Good luck, Team Blue Coat—run strong and enjoy every mile!



VISIT FROM LORD STOREY – “LEARN WITH THE LORDS” EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME

On **Friday 13th March**, the school welcomed **Lord Storey** to the **Chapel** for a special visit as part of the **House of Lords' educational outreach programme**, *Learn with the Lords* for an engaging and inspiring session aimed at deepening students' understanding of Parliament, democracy, and public service.

This unique opportunity brought together the **History, Economics, and Politics departments**, offering students a chance to hear directly from a member of the House of Lords about his experiences, responsibilities, and work in national decision-making. Lord Storey is highly regarded for his long-standing commitment to education, and his visit sparked thoughtful discussion and broaden students' perspectives on how policy is shaped in the UK.

The session included insights into the role of the House of Lords, how laws were debated and scrutinised, and why civic engagement mattered. There was also time for students to ask questions, making this a valuable interactive learning experience.

All staff and students were warmly encouraged to attend. Many came along to take advantage of this fantastic chance to learn from a prominent figure in UK public life and to extend classroom learning into the real world.





BLUE COAT WELCOMES FRENCH EXCHANGE STUDENTS FROM BORDEAUX



Blue Coat School was delighted this week to welcome a group of pupils from **Bordeaux** as part of our long-standing French Exchange programme. The exchange, which continues to be a highlight of the Modern Foreign Languages department, offers students a wonderful opportunity to immerse themselves in French culture, practise their language skills, and build international friendships.

During their stay in Liverpool, the visiting students will experience life both in school and with host families, giving them a rich and authentic insight into British culture. Our French guests will join lessons, explore the school site, and take part in a range of activities designed to help them connect with their Blue Coat partners.

A full programme of cultural visits is planned, including trips to some of the city's most iconic landmarks, allowing the Bordeaux pupils to experience the history, music, and vibrancy that Liverpool is known for. Equally, our own students are looking forward to travelling to Bordeaux later in the year, where they will enjoy the warmth, food, and heritage of this beautiful French region.

The exchange continues to be a valuable part of our curriculum—helping students grow in confidence, develop independence, and deepen their understanding of the wider world. Many past participants have described the experience as unforgettable and a pivotal moment in their language learning journey.

A big thank-you goes to the staff, host families, and the MFL department for their hard work in organising and supporting this year's exchange. We warmly welcome our visitors from Bordeaux and hope they enjoy every moment of their time at Blue Coat.



YOUNG PERFORMERS SHINE AT LEEDS LUNCHTIME ORGAN MUSIC

Young organists from across the North of England will take centre stage this March in a special lunchtime concert at Leeds Cathedral, presented in conjunction with the Royal College of Organists' education programme.

Taking place on Monday 16 March at 1.15pm, this free recital forms part of the established Leeds Lunchtime Organ Music series. The event offers audiences the opportunity to hear outstanding emerging talent performing a diverse and technically demanding programme on the cathedral's impressive instrument.

Representing the Junior Royal Northern College of Music, Lorcan will perform Henri Mulet's dramatic *Carillon-Sortie*, a brilliant and virtuosic work inspired by the sound of pealing bells.

Blue Coat School, Liverpool is strongly represented in the programme. Lucas performs Olivier Messiaen's radiant *Joie et Clarté*, a work demanding both precision and expressive depth.

Jessica will play Noel Rawsthorne's gentle and lyrical *Berceuse*. The concert concludes with a lively duet from Amelia Yu and Jessica Ke: Andreas Willscher's rhythmically vibrant *Toccata alla Rumba*, bringing the recital to an energetic close.

This free event highlights the strength of young organ performance in the region and reflects the ongoing commitment of the Royal College of Organists to nurturing the next generation of musicians.



UPDATE FROM MISS ROWE – LIFE IN DAKAR

I'm continuing to really enjoy life in Dakar, Senegal. I'm loving teaching here, and the students are incredibly appreciative and motivated, which makes every day rewarding.

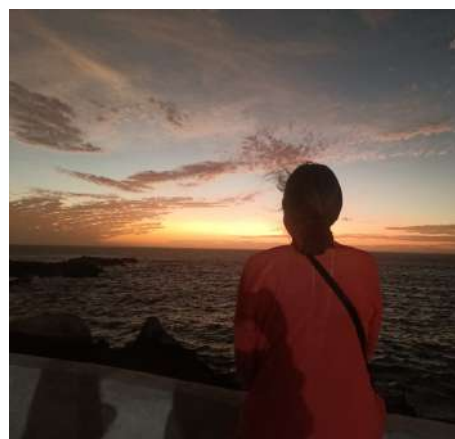
Outside of school, I've also found it very meaningful to spend time helping street children. Once a week, I visit the House of Hope, which supports girls who would otherwise be living on the streets. I've been getting to know these lovely girls by playing games, chatting, and sharing food together. It's been such a privilege to build those relationships.

Last night, I joined a team delivering food, drinks and medical aid to boys living on the streets. It was a humbling experience and a powerful reminder of how important community support is.

I'm also enjoying learning the local language, Wolof, which is very different from both French and English! Recently, I taught a lesson comparing Dakar and Liverpool. We discovered there are lots of similarities — a shared love of football, great food and friendly people. We even sang You'll Never Walk Alone together and practised the Scouse accent!

We recently hosted Iftar at our Engage Centre, which was lots of fun. I was also invited to break the fast by the sea with the students — it was so special to be together, watching the sun set over the water. Sending my best wishes to everyone back home!

Miss Rowe



CELEBRATING TECHOGNITION: RECOGNISING OUR INCREDIBLE TECHNICIANS

This year, our technicians are proudly celebrating **TECHOGNITION** - a national celebration dedicated to recognising the vital contribution of technical support staff in schools and further education colleges.

TECHOGNITION shines a spotlight on the skilled professionals who work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure lessons run smoothly, equipment is prepared and maintained, and both staff and students are supported every day. From setting up practical experiments and maintaining specialist resources to troubleshooting issues and enabling high-quality learning experiences, our technicians play an essential role in school life.

Their expertise, dedication and professionalism make a real difference to teaching and learning across the curriculum. TECHOGNITION gives us the perfect opportunity to say thank you and acknowledge the impact they have on our whole school community.

To find out more about the national campaign, visit:
[#TECHOGNITION - Celebrating School and FE College Technicians | Preproom.org | UNISON](#)

#TECHOGNITION
13th March 2026

SIR ALAN TOD TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIPS – APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

We are delighted to share details of the **Sir Alan Tod Travel Scholarships 2026**, an exciting opportunity available exclusively to **Year 12 students** at The Blue Coat School. The scholarship, established through the generosity of the Tod Trust, aims to support students in broadening their horizons through meaningful educational travel.

The scholarship honours **Sir Alan Tod**, Treasurer of The Blue Coat School from **1955–1968** and founder of the Tod Trust. In **1980**, the Trustees made a substantial donation to the school to ensure that future generations could benefit from enriching cultural and educational experiences abroad.

What is the purpose of the scholarship?

The Tod Travel Scholarship is designed to help students:

- Expand their cultural awareness
- Support and enhance current academic studies
- Prepare for future educational or career pathways
- Challenge themselves and gain independence
- Find inspiration through real-world experiences

What should applications include?

Students applying for the scholarship must provide:

- Details of their intended travel destination(s)
- The purpose and educational value of the trip
- Total estimated costs, proposed travel dates, and duration
- Full name, form, and email address for each applicant
- Travel must take place during the 2026–27 academic year.

Key Dates

- **Application deadline: 12.30pm, Monday 23rd March 2026**
- Where to send applications:
Email written applications to Mr Sexton and Caroline Tod-Richardson at office@bluecoatschool.org.uk
- **Interview invitations sent by:** Monday 13th April 2026
- **Interview date:** 3.30pm, Wednesday 15th April 2026
- **Confirm interview attendance by:** Friday 24th April 2026
- All applications will be carefully reviewed by Mr Sexton and Caroline Tod-Richardson. Shortlisted applicants will be invited for a brief interview to discuss their proposed travel plans.

This is a unique chance for students to design a personalised educational experience, explore the world, and enrich their learning far beyond the classroom. We strongly encourage all interested Year 12 students to apply and make the most of this remarkable opportunity.



ENRICO (7CU)



HANA (8FR)



NATHAN (8SE)



OLLY (8FR)



MAYA (9CU)



ENRICO (7)



SPORTS ROUND-UP

It has been an action-packed week of sporting success across multiple teams and age groups. Our students have shown fantastic determination, teamwork, and competitive spirit. Here is the latest roundup of results:

Handball

Our handball teams delivered an impressive set of performances across both U13 and U15 levels:

U13 Blue Coat 8-7 KLA

A tightly fought match with excellent defensive discipline and quick attacking play.

U13 Blue Coat 7-2 Liverpool College

A confident win showcasing great teamwork and accurate finishing.

U15 Blue Coat 12-7 KLA

Strong tactical play and fast breaks helped secure a well-deserved victory.

U15 Blue Coat 17-8 Liverpool College

A dominant performance with outstanding communication and control throughout the match.

Basketball

A busy week for our basketball teams, competing at both regional and national levels:

U19 Blue Coat 51-83 Hills Road (Cambridge)

Despite a determined effort, the team bowed out at the **quarter-final stage**, showing great resilience against strong opposition.

U13 Jnr NBA Blue Coat 23-34 Wirral Grammar

A tough game, but valuable experience gained at this competitive level.

U13 Jnr NBA Blue Coat 43-38 Great Sankey

A brilliant win, with strong defence and impressive scoring under pressure.

Badminton

Our badminton teams continued to perform strongly in the **North West Finals**:

KS3 Boys – 3rd place overall, narrowly decided on a count-back of games.

KS4 Boys – 3rd place in the NW Finals, reflecting consistency and commitment across the squad.

Both teams should be incredibly proud of their achievements at this high level.

Netball

A fantastic set of results for our netball squads:

Year 11 Team – Won all matches and were crowned tournament champions @ ABS

An outstanding achievement demonstrating skill, composure, and teamwork.

Senior Team – Won 1, lost 1, finishing 2nd overall

A strong performance in a competitive field.

Congratulations to every player for their hard work and dedication. Your performances continue to make the school proud, and we look forward to more exciting fixtures ahead.



KEY DATES

Date	Event
Saturday 14th March 2026	Sixth Form Maths Quiz at LJMU
Monday 16th March 2026	Y8 Careers Day
Tuesday 17th March 2026	Mentors in Violence Prevention Graduation at St George's Hall
Thursday 19th March 2026	Gymnastics Trip to M&S Bank Arena
Friday 20th March 2026 - Saturday 21st March 2026	Y9 DofE Bronze practice expedition
Monday 23rd March 2026	Y12 Work Experience Week and Liverpool Good Food Schools Awards
Wednesday 25th March 2026	Easter Music Concert 7pm at St Nicholas' Church
Thursday 26th March 2026	Open Day
Thursday 26th March 2026	Term ends at 3:30pm
Friday 27th March 2026 - Friday 10th April 2026	Easter Break
Monday 13th April 2026	Students Return
Tuesday 14th April 2026	Y9 Parents Evening - 4:15pm
Thursday 16th April 2026	DofE Insight visit
Tuesday 21st April 2026	A level recital and exam recording - 6.30pm
Thursday 23rd April 2026	Classical Association Lecture 6.30pm - 8.15pm
Friday 24th April 2026 - Saturday 25th April 2026	Y9 DofE Bronze Assessed Expedition (Chorley)
Tuesday 28th April 2026	Y7 Parents' Evening - 4:15pm
Wednesday 29th April 2026	Junior Maths Challenge
Wednesday 29th April 2026	Y9,10,12 theatre trip 'Miss Saigon' (Liverpool Empire)



SUPPORT THE EXPERIENCES THAT HELP SHAPE STUDENTS

From clubs and competitions to creative projects and performances, our students gain so much from extracurricular opportunities, and your support keeps them going.

A contribution of just £10 per term (£30 per year) per student makes a real difference. Plus, every £10 donation earns a chance to win £50 in our monthly raffle!

See Parentmail for payment details and give today, together we can keep our enrichment programme rich, varied, and open to all.



The Liverpool Blue Coat School Foundation

DEDICATE A PLAQUE ON OUR CHAPEL PEWS



We invite alumni, families and friends of the school to leave a lasting mark on our community by sponsoring a personalised plaque on a chapel pew.

For £100, you can dedicate a plaque in your name or in memory of a former student, becoming a meaningful part of the school's history for generations to come. This is a unique opportunity to honour a loved one, celebrate your connection to the school, and support the ongoing care of our cherished chapel.



Email: foundation@bluecoatschool.org.uk for more information





THE LIVERPOOL BLUE COAT SCHOOL

GOLF DAY 2026

WOOLTON GOLF CLUB



FRIDAY JULY 3RD 2026

**12.30PM REGISTRATION
2.00PM TEE OFF
7.00PM DINNER & SOCIAL**



£320/team or £80/player

INCLUDES:
LIGHT LUNCH,
ROUND OF GOLF
2 COURSE MEAL (PUB STYLE)
ENTRY TO ADDITIONAL COMPETITIONS:
CLOSEST TO PIN
LONGEST DRIVE



£25 for dinner only

REGISTER NOW!
seo@bluecoatschool.org.uk
 Friends, family and colleagues welcome
 (This is an adult only event)



All proceeds will go towards Blue Coat School Development Fund



The Liverpool Blue Coat School presents:

MUSIC FOR EASTER

**at THE PARISH CHURCH
OF OUR LADY AND ST NICHOLAS**

*With performances from
The Liverpool Blue Coat School Organ Scholars
and Chamber Choir*

**Wednesday 25th March,
7.00-8.15pm**

**Venue: The Parish Church of Our Lady and St Nicholas
Old Churchyard, Chapel Street, Liverpool, L2 8TZ**

**Tickets £7.50 and can be purchased
through Parentmail, scan this QR:
or [use this link](#)**



Email seo@bluecoatschool.org.uk for more information



www.bluecoatschool.org.uk



[Bluecoatschoolliverpool](https://www.instagram.com/bluecoatschoolliverpool)



[LiverpoolBCS](#)



[Bluecoatschoolliverpool](https://www.facebook.com/bluecoatschoolliverpool)

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ESSENTIAL ONLINE SAFETY

Children and young people use the internet every day to learn, play, and connect, but the online world is not always safe. For adults, it can be hard to keep up with the risks, including harmful content, cyberbullying and scams. These 10 tips provide clear and practical advice to support safer and healthier digital habits, helping young people to make informed, secure choices when using technology.

1 START EARLY CONVERSATIONS

Begin talking about online behaviour from the moment children start using devices. Use age-appropriate language and revisit topics regularly, making it clear they can speak to you about anything that upsets or confuses them. Keeping these chats open helps build trust, so children are more likely to come to you when needed.

2 PROMOTE SAFER SHARING

Children can overshare without understanding the risks. Remind them that photos, locations, or messages can be copied or shared beyond their intended audience. Explain how even private messages or group chats can be saved and/or misused. Talk about what is appropriate to post, message, and who it's safe to share with.

3 ENCOURAGE DIGITAL BALANCE

Many apps and games are designed to keep users engaged through rewards, likes, or constant updates. These features can make it hard for children to switch off. Talk openly about how these systems work and help children recognise when it's time to take a break. Building in tech-free routines supports a healthier balance and awareness of their screen time.

4 CREATE A SAFE SPACE FOR CONCERNS

When children come to you with a concern, respond with interest and care, rather than with alarm. Keeping your reaction measured helps them feel safe and supported. This doesn't mean ignoring serious issues; it means showing that you're there to help. When children trust that they can speak openly, they're more likely to feel supported through unpleasant online experiences, and to ask for help in future.

5 STAY INFORMED AND CURRENT

With emerging technologies like AI moving and changing so quickly, it's important to stay updated on how children are using new platforms, apps and games. Ask them to show you what they use and let them take the lead as you explore together. This opens up valuable conversations and helps you stay ahead of emerging risks and trends.

6 TEACH CRITICAL THINKING

Talk to children about how to recognise unreliable information or scams online. With AI-generated videos, photos, and stories becoming harder to spot, help children question what they see and encourage them to look for evidence, check sources, and ask questions. These skills will help them avoid risks, make smart choices, and develop healthy habits for the future.

7 SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES

Involve children in conversations about device usage so they feel included. Agree on digital rules such as screen-time limits, age-appropriate apps, and no devices in bedrooms overnight. Use parental controls to block or filter harmful content and explain that rules are there to protect and support them, not to spoil their fun.

8 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Children often copy the behaviour of adults around them. Show them what balanced, respectful, and mindful use of technology looks like, such as avoiding scrolling during family time and speaking kindly in messages. If you expect certain behaviour from them online, make sure your own habits reflect the same standards.

9 EXPLORE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Show children how to use privacy tools on apps, games, and websites. Teach them to use strong passwords, block or report others in response to problems, and avoid sharing personal details. Explore settings together so they feel confident and in control, and explain that these features are there to help them stay safe online.

10 KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP

Familiarise yourself with tools and organisations that support online safety. The National College offers online safety guides and webinars which provide tips on staying safe. Websites like Report Harmful Content and CEOP can be used to report when something goes wrong. Show children how to report or block users, and where to go if they feel unsafe. Make sure they know that asking for help is always the right thing to do, and be prepared to support them.

Meet Our Expert

Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforces and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

See full reference list on our website

#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®