

THE BLUE COAT SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

REMEMBRANCE DAY AT THE BLUE COAT SCHOOL

On Tuesday 11 November, the Blue Coat School community came together to mark Remembrance Day with dignity and reflection. Students and staff gathered in the school quad to honour the courage and sacrifice of all those who have served, including the Old Blues who gave their lives in times of conflict.

The ceremony began with a reading and a two-minute silence, observed impeccably by the entire school. The stillness of the quad was a moving tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice for the freedoms we enjoy today.

Following the silence, the Last Post was played live in the quad, a moment that resonated deeply with all present. The haunting notes served as a poignant reminder of the bravery and selflessness of those who never returned home.

This year's commemoration also saw the launch of our new Battlefields video, a project created to honour the memory of former students who served in both World Wars. The video captures the stories, names, and faces of Old Blues who gave their lives, ensuring that their legacy continues to inspire future generations.

As always, Remembrance Day at Blue Coat was a time of reflection, unity, and gratitude, a moment to remember the past, and to recognise the values of courage, service, and peace that continue to define our school community.



SIXTH FORMERS JOIN LIVERPOOL'S CITY REMEMBRANCE SERVICE



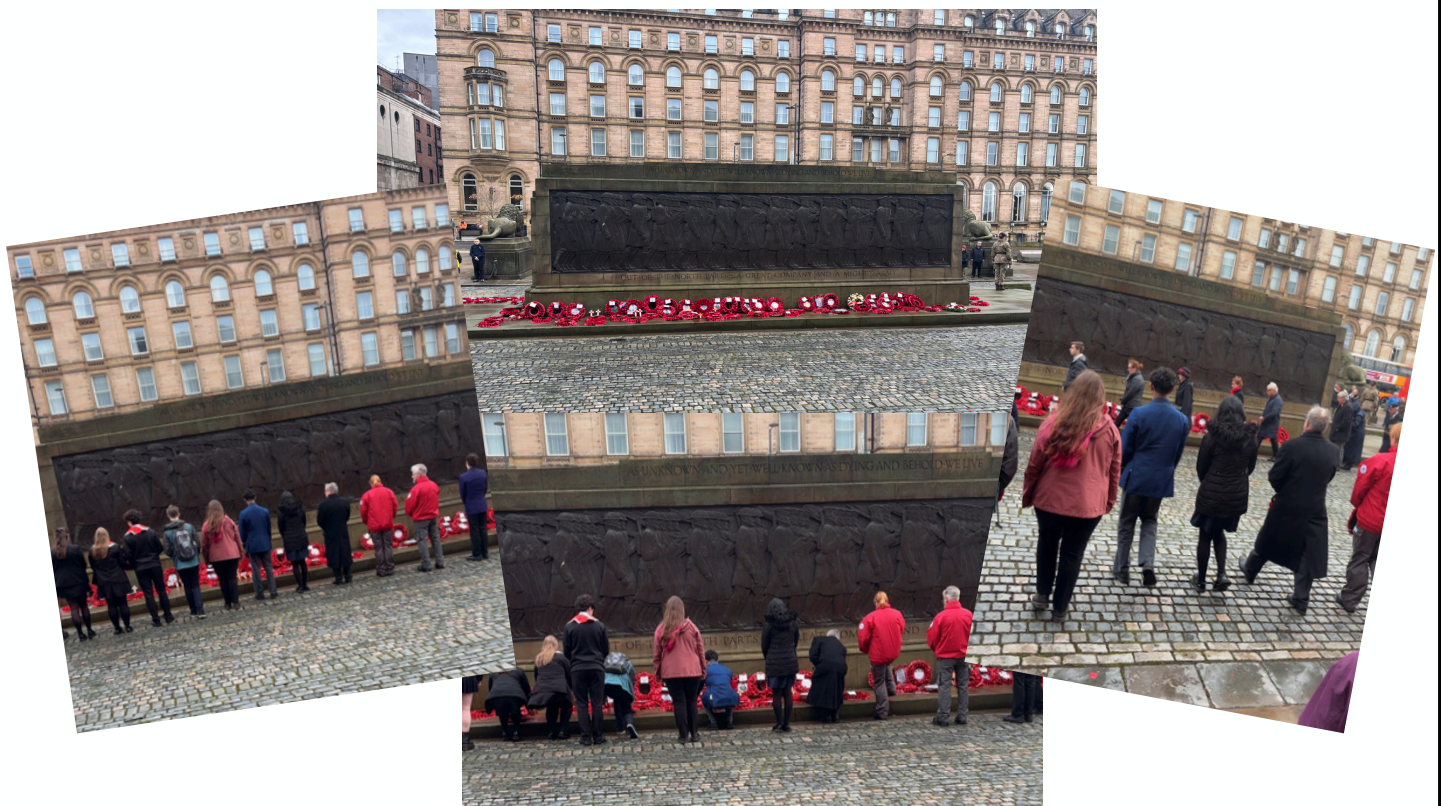
On Tuesday 11 November, a group of Blue Coat School Sixth Form students represented the school with pride and respect at the Liverpool Cenotaph for the city's annual Remembrance Service.

Standing alongside veterans, civic leaders, and community representatives, our students took part in the act of remembrance to honour all those who served and especially those who gave their lives in conflicts past and present. The service included the laying of wreaths, the playing of the Last Post, and a two-minute silence observed across the city centre.

Liverpool's role in both World War I and World War II was one of courage and endurance. As one of Britain's most important ports, the city was a vital supply line for the Allied forces, but also a major target for enemy bombing. During the Liverpool Blitz (1940–41), more than 4,000 civilians lost their lives, and the docks and surrounding areas suffered severe destruction. Yet, despite this, Liverpool's spirit never faltered. The city became known for its resilience, compassion, and unwavering contribution to the war effort.

Our Sixth Formers' attendance at the service connected them with that proud history. They stood not only to remember those from Liverpool who served, but also to represent the Old Blues who fought and fell for peace and freedom.

Their participation reflects the values that remain at the heart of The Blue Coat School- respect, service, and remembrance.



CONGRATULATIONS TO AARAV – REPRESENTING GREAT BRITAIN AT THE EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS!

We are delighted to share that Aarav proudly represented Great Britain at the European Biathlon, Triathlon and Laser Run Championships in the Under-13 category. Competing against some of the best young athletes in Europe and as one of the youngest in his age group - Aarav performed exceptionally well.

In his first event, Aarav was the first GBR athlete to finish his initial run and shoot, an outstanding achievement and a sign of his growing skill and determination. Although he didn't medal this time, his performance has been described as "amazing", and it highlights his enormous potential as he moves into the upper year of his age category next season.

These multi-discipline sports demand not only athleticism but also focus and resilience:

- Biathlon combines running and swimming, testing endurance and transitions between land and water.
- Triathlon adds shooting to the mix, requiring precision under pressure.
- Laser Run is the exciting finale of Modern Pentathlon, blending running and laser pistol shooting - a true test of stamina and control.

Aarav's participation at this level is a remarkable accomplishment, and we are thrilled that he has also qualified for the World Championships later this year.

We commend Aarav for his dedication, maturity, and commitment to both his sport and his studies. He even took schoolwork with him while away to ensure he stayed on track.

A huge well done to Aarav - and our best wishes as he prepares for the World Championships in December!



YEAR 7 STUDENT WINS BLUE COAT CHRISTMAS CARD DESIGN COMPETITION!



Congratulations to Benton in Year 7, whose beautiful artwork has been chosen as the winning design in this year's Blue Coat School Christmas Card Competition!

Benton's design captured the festive spirit perfectly, combining creativity, warmth, and a touch of Blue Coat tradition. The judges praised the design for its originality and the care taken in every detail - a wonderful example of our students' artistic talent.

The official Blue Coat Christmas cards featuring Benton's winning design are now available to purchase for £5 per pack, with all proceeds going towards the school's fundraising initiatives. It's a perfect way to share festive greetings while supporting our community.

Well done, Benton, and thank you to everyone who entered and helped make this year's competition such a success!



SHAPING OUR VISION & VALUES – HAVE YOUR SAY

The Blue Coat School is refreshing its vision and values to ensure they reflect who we are today and where we're heading. Over recent weeks, ideas have been gathered from students, staff and trustees, producing a set of proposals that honour our heritage while looking confidently to the future.

For more than three centuries, Blue Coat has stood at the heart of Liverpool's story, guided by the motto Non Sibi Sed Omnibus — Not for oneself, but for all. The review aims to keep that spirit alive: a community that is inclusive, ambitious and outward-facing; proud of its traditions and ready for tomorrow.

Draft Vision Statement

At The Blue Coat School Liverpool, we are a beacon of excellence, inclusivity, and opportunity — a community where every student feels safe, valued, and inspired to achieve their best. Rooted in our motto Non Sibi Sed Omnibus — Not for oneself, but for all — we combine tradition with innovation, honouring our history while embracing modern learning and diverse opportunities. We celebrate individuality, promote equality, and encourage every student to express themselves with confidence, kindness, and curiosity. Our vision is to nurture integrity, ambition, and compassion, empowering young people to reach their full potential and make a positive difference in Liverpool and beyond. Together, we enjoy, achieve, give back, and succeed — forging futures through excellence, resilience, and community spirit.

Vision headers

Option 1 – Belong, Learn, Flourish

A welcoming Liverpool community where everyone feels safe, valued and proud to belong; students flourish through curiosity, creativity and kindness.

Option 2 – Excellence Through Community

We forge futures and strive for excellence - diverse, inclusive and proud; built on kindness, confidence and curiosity.

Option 3 – Rooted in Tradition, Inspired by the Future

Safe, inclusive and ambitious; proud of our history and inspired by our future, nurturing talent so students thrive.

Values straplines

Option 1

Kindness & Aspiration: Be kind. Work hard. Dream big. Together we achieve and make a difference.

Option 2

Community & Character: Proudly Liverpool - diverse, united, and thriving with confidence, kindness and excellence.

Option 3

Belonging & Growth: Together we flourish - safe, valued and proud to shape a better world.



Parents and Carers: Invitation to Contribute

Parents and carers are warmly invited to review these proposals and share reflections, preferred phrases, and suggestions for refinement.

Please send feedback by **Friday 21 November** to Kathy Crute-Jain at k.crute-jain@bluecoatschool.org.uk

Thank you for helping to shape the next chapter of Blue Coat's vision, keeping our community's values clear, lived and inspiring for every student.



SUPPORT OUR YEAR 11 MOCK INTERVIEWS

The Blue Coat School is preparing for our annual Year 11 Mock Interview Programme, and we are looking for volunteers from our parents, alumni, and wider community to help support this important event.

These interviews give our students a valuable opportunity to practise essential communication and presentation skills in a realistic, professional setting, building confidence as they prepare for sixth form, apprenticeships, and future careers.

All interviews will take place virtually via Microsoft Teams.

If you have experience in any professional field and can spare a few hours to conduct short, friendly interviews with our students, we would be delighted to hear from you. Your insight and feedback make a real difference in helping our students refine their skills and aspirations.

★ Top Tips for a Successful Mock Interview ★

Prepare, but don't memorise – know your key points about your experiences and goals, but let the conversation flow naturally.

Dress the part - professional presentation helps set the tone and builds confidence.

Show enthusiasm- genuine interest in your subject or career path always stands out.

Listen carefully – take a moment to think before answering; clear, considered responses make a strong impression.

Ask questions – mock interviews are a learning experience, show curiosity about the role or interviewer's field.

If you would like to volunteer or find out more, please contact mockinterview@bluecoatschool.org.uk.

Thank you for helping our students take this important step toward their future success.



1st - 5th December
5.30-7.30pm
30 minute slots



ROAD SAFETY REMINDER – KEEPING OUR BLUE COAT COMMUNITY SAFE

As we enter the darker mornings and evenings of the winter months, we are reminding all parents, carers, and students to take extra care when travelling to and from The Blue Coat School. The level of traffic around the school site, particularly at drop-off and pick-up times has increased, creating potential risks for pedestrians and cyclists.

We ask for everyone's cooperation to help keep our community safe. Please avoid stopping on double yellow lines, blocking entrances, or performing quick turnarounds near the gates. If possible, park a short distance away and walk the final stretch - a small step that makes a big difference to visibility and safety for all.

Students are also reminded to stay alert, use designated crossings, and wear reflective or light-coloured clothing where possible during darker hours.

Together, we can make the journey to and from school safer for everyone. Thank you for your continued support in keeping our Blue Coat community safe and considerate on the roads.



CURRICULUM REVIEW AT THE BLUE COAT SCHOOL



The Blue Coat School is currently undertaking a whole-school curriculum review in response to the Department for Education's national curriculum and assessment review. This work ensures our curriculum remains ambitious, inclusive, and forward-looking - combining tradition with innovation.

The DfE review highlights priorities such as reducing assessment load, strengthening oracy, broadening access to rigorous subjects, supporting SEND learners, and developing life-ready skills like digital literacy and citizenship.

At Blue Coat, our review focuses on breadth, balance, progression, and inclusion, while embedding our core values of kindness, ambition, and service. Consultation with staff, students, and trustees is underway, and proposed changes will be shared with parents and carers very soon.

Rooted in our motto, Non Sibi Sed Omnibus — “Not for oneself, but for all” — this review will help ensure every student continues to belong, learn, and flourish in a changing world

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK: POWER FOR GOOD

This week, The Blue Coat School is joining schools across the country to mark Anti-Bullying Week 2025, themed “Power for Good.” The campaign encourages everyone—students, staff, and families—to use their voice and actions to stand up against bullying and create a community where everyone feels safe, respected, and valued.

At Blue Coat, we believe kindness, courage, and compassion are the foundations of a strong school community. This year's theme reminds us that each of us holds the power to make a positive difference. Whether through words, actions, or support, we can all be a Power for Good.

One of the most effective ways to stop bullying is to become an active bystander. That means not staying silent when you see someone being treated unfairly.

You can:

- Speak out:** Tell the person behaving unkindly to stop, if it's safe to do so.
- Offer support:** Check in with the person who's been targeted and let them know they're not alone.
- Report it:** Speak to a teacher, tutor, or another trusted adult straight away.

Being an active bystander turns bystanders into upstanders—people who take action to make a difference. Small acts of kindness, courage, and empathy can transform our school culture and ensure that everyone feels they belong.

Let's all embrace the theme “Power for Good” this week and every week. Together, we can build a community where respect and kindness always win.



SAFEGUARDING AT BLUE COAT – THE ROLE OF OUR DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEADS (DSLs)

At The Blue Coat School, the safety and wellbeing of every student is our highest priority. A key part of this commitment is the work of our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) trained members of staff who ensure that any concerns about a student's welfare are identified, addressed, and supported quickly and effectively.

The DSL team is responsible for leading the school's safeguarding practice, supporting staff in recognising signs of concern, liaising with external agencies when necessary, and ensuring that students always have someone they can turn to. They play a vital role in maintaining a safe, caring environment where every young person can thrive.

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is: **Mrs J Baker**

Students, parents, and carers can contact the safeguarding team directly via:
safeguarding@bluecoatschool.org.uk

or by speaking to any member of staff, who will ensure the concern is passed to a DSL immediately. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and at Blue Coat, our DSL team ensures that every student is heard, supported, and protected.

Our Commitment:

WE ALL SHARE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THE SAFETY AND WELLBEING OF EVERY STUDENT IN OUR CARE. TOGETHER, WE CREATE A SAFE, SUPPORTIVE, AND PROTECTIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL

DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD

Mrs Baker

Assistant Head Teacher

DEPUTY DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD

Mrs Edwards

Assistant Head (SEN/OC)

SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS

Mrs Marshall
Head of Year

Mrs Satter
Assistant Head of Year

Mr Barnwell
Head of PE

Mrs Jones
Head of Art

Mr Baxton
Head of IT

Mr Eggoose
Head of PE

Mrs Eggoose
Head of PE

WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN:

TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS IT IS SAFE TO DO SO.

IS IT AN EMERGENCY?
Is the child at risk of immediate harm or has been harmed?

YES

Speak in person to the DSL/DDSLs' or Safeguarding Officers straight away. If a member of the Safeguarding Team is not available staff can call Children's Social Care or the police if appropriate.

Then record using: safeguarding@bluecoatschool.org.uk

For help outside of school
NSPCC: 0800 800 500

NO

Report using the safeguarding email: safeguarding@bluecoatschool.org.uk

Include the nature of your concern (abuse category), reasons for your concern and any actions you have taken.

Report online abuse:

All disclosures **MUST** be reported. Confidentiality **MUST** never be promised to the child

All safeguarding or child protection concerns must be reported to the Safeguarding Team via safeguarding@bluecoatschool.org.uk

If you have any concerns regarding the safety of the building please email: estates@bluecoatschool.org.uk with the subject line 'Safeguarding Concern.'

Allegations or concerns regarding staff/adults **MUST** be made in person directly to the Headteacher- **Mr K Sexton** (or via email: head@bluecoatschool.org.uk if not considered high risk). If the concern regards the head teacher, report to Chair of Trustees: chairoftrustees@bluecoatschool.org.uk

The Local Authority Designated Officers (LADO) for concerns about adults are: **Pauline Trubshaw and Catherine Ballans: 0151 351 1662 / 0687 LADO@liverpool.gov.uk**

Remember: Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility!

Use Professional Curiosity, Report concerns, and Ensure that all students have a Safe Learning Environment.

IN AN EMERGENCY CALL THE POLICE: 999

Children Social Care: Any member of staff can contact children's social care directly when no member of the safeguarding team is available
 Liverpool CAS: 0151 459 2606, Sefton: 0345 140 0845, Knowsley MASH: 0151 433 2600, Halton ICART: 0151 907 8305,
 St Helens Contact Care: 01744 676767, Warrington MASH: 01925 443322, Wigan MAST 01942 828300,
 Wirral Integrated Front Door: 0151 408 2008 (referrals must always be followed up in writing on the relevant multi agency referral form).



Brought to you by



What you need to know about...

PHISHING



What is it?

'Phishing'

Phishing is a form of cyber-attack where victims are targeted in the form of spoof emails, phone calls or texts. These are commonly carried out by an attacker posing as someone else to influence individuals into giving out sensitive data such as payment details and passwords. Phishing usually takes place via email, where the attacker manipulates a message to make it appear to be from someone else, therefore deceiving the victim into doing as they say. Hackers try to deceive you into downloading malicious code and will aim to extract small pieces of information at a time.

Know the Risks

Loss of personal data

If a young person has been the victim of a successful phishing attempt, hackers may gain access to their personal data and destroy/corrupt it. Some hackers may ask for a ransom in order to get files back, whilst others may simply destroy it or even publish it on the dark web.

Targeted phishing

If a hacker can trick children with a phishing attack, the chances are that they'll be back for more. They may begin asking for 'harmless' information, then move on to sensitive information such as passwords and entry codes. Many phishing attacks start with the attacker offering to help the victim with a common problem to build enough trust to ask for information such as passwords.

Hidden entry

If an attacker manages to successfully execute a phishing attack on a victim, they have essentially found a 'way in', or backdoor into their online security. Even if they do not notice any changes, the hacker may be monitoring/controlling their computer without their knowledge.

Safety Tips

Backup your files

Always create a backup of your files to an external hard drive or USB before any potential damage or destruction. If you regularly perform backups, you may only have to backup any files recently added/updated since the last backup.

Disconnect the device

If you think a child has been a target of a phishing attempt, firstly disconnect the device from the network by switching off the Wi-Fi in settings or unplugging the ethernet cable. Alternatively find the router and unplug it. This will prevent any malware from accessing any internet services.

Scan your system

Always perform regular and full malware scans; this will check for any potentially harmful programs installed on your computer. Scans are most effective when the antivirus is up to date so it's crucial to keep on top of the latest security downloads.

Check official websites

If you're unsure about a message you receive, don't click any links or follow any instructions. Check the official websites online and don't give out any personal information that you don't need to. Even if the message seems like it's from someone you know, if anything seems suspicious, or matches any of the criteria above, simply do not open it...

Look out for...

Suspicious URLs

Sometimes links and attachments aren't always what they appear to be and could send you to a site completely different to what was expected. Hovering over a hyperlink will display the actual website. Some links are shortened, so the actual website address is hidden behind a generic link, such as goo.gl/7h28. Never click shortened URLs.

Odd sense of urgency

Cyber criminals will put fear in their victim's mind in an attempt to push them into giving away personal information. They may act as if they're trying to help create a false sense of 'trust' or pressure users into giving information 'before it's too late'.

'Too good to be true'

If you receive an email saying you've 'Won a new phone' or a 'Holiday Abroad', it is likely to be a phishing email. Hackers engineer emails and trick targets into believing they've won something, as it puts a false sense of trust towards the hacker.

Our Expert Emma Davis



Emma Davis is a cyber security expert and former ICT teacher. She delivers cyber awareness training to organisations nationally and has extensive knowledge and experience of managing how children access services and apps online.

GETTING YOUNG PEOPLE ENGAGED WITH WOOLTON PICTURE HOUSE



Following summer community meetings, there's a new initiative to engage young people (ages 15–25) in shaping the future of Woolton Picture House. Small, informal meetings will be held to gather their ideas on film programming, events, and activities. Proposed plans include:

- 🎬 A Young Filmmakers programme with practical sessions and festivals
- 👛 Work skills training for cinema roles and customer service
- 🎟️ A youth membership scheme offering discounted tickets

📅 Meeting Dates:

Sunday 23rd November 2025 – 11am & 3pm

Sunday 30th November 2025 – 11am & 3pm

Young people are invited to share their thoughts, even if they're unsure what they want.

🎄 DESIGN A CHRISTMAS MUG COMPETITION 🎄



Calling all students in Years 7-9!

Get festive and show off your creativity by designing a mug that celebrates Christmas, represents our whole school, and creatively showcases our House System:

Curie • Franklin • Roscoe • Seacole • Turing • Tod

🏆 Prizes 🏆

Winning designs will be printed on mugs
House points awarded for every entry!

📅 **Deadline: Friday 5th December** 📅

UPCOMING EVENTS



WINTER MARKET AND CHOIR REHEARSAL

Tickets are now on sale for the event, priced at £3 – [please follow this link](#)

There are a few stalls available priced at £20 - open to all the Blue Coat community to book

Tombola: Items needed for the tombola, please drop at reception. For example: (new) toiletries, bottles, chocolates, sweets, books, etc

Raffle: Prizes are also needed for our Christmas raffle – vouchers, gifts, experience cards.

If you would like to book a stall or donate a raffle prize please email: seo@bluecoatschool.org.uk

SUPPORT EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We're so proud of the amazing extracurricular and enrichment activities that make Blue Coat life so vibrant — from clubs and competitions to creative projects and performances!

To keep these fantastic opportunities thriving, we're asking each family to contribute £10 per term (£30 per year) per student. Every penny helps us continue offering the broad range of experiences for our students.

Every £10 contribution earns you one entry into our monthly raffle for a £50 cash prize (or equivalent value) — our way of saying thank you for your generosity!

Payment details are on Parentmail, so please check your messages and make your contribution as soon as you can.

Your support truly makes a difference, helping us keep our enrichment programme strong, exciting, and open to every student.