



### Headteacher's message

My colleagues and I often talk about how privileged we are to work with your children whose talents, attitudes and ambition rival those of any students in any school across the country. It is hugely rewarding to be a part of the leadership and teaching that helps support your children achieve academically, personally and socially.

To achieve this requires a huge effort from the teaching and support staff at The Blue Coat School whose work to support your children's learning and development so often exceeds anything that can be reasonably asked for. For example, since January of this year, as a result of the generous and additional contributions by staff we have been able to provide opportunities to participate in a stunning school show, engage with international students, perform in a gala organ concert, enjoy international trips to New York and Folgarida and participate in a wide range of clubs and competitions many of which you can read about in this Newsletter.

I take this opportunity to thank my colleagues for very often going above and beyond to provide such a rich and varied range of opportunities that give your children an excellent Blue Coat experience and also to thank you for the many acknowledgements and thanks that you kindly share with us about these contributions.

Mr M A Pennington  
**Headteacher**

### General notices

**Founders' week** is taking place this week beginning 11 March 2019. We are always looking to develop even more new ideas to celebrate the impact of our founders on The Blue Coat School today and welcome any suggestions from parents who can do so by contacting the Headteacher's PA through: [j.holmes@bluecoatschool.org.uk](mailto:j.holmes@bluecoatschool.org.uk).

**Year 9 immunisations** for DTP & Meningitis are provisionally scheduled for Monday 29 April. We will share information and consent forms with parents over the coming weeks.

**GCSE and A Level exam timetables** for Year 11 and Year 13 students are available to view on the school website using the Examinations quick link below. Students will be provided with their own individual schedule in the coming weeks.

#### Quick links

[Term dates](#)

[Online calendar](#)

[Requests for absence](#)

[Expectations](#)

[Examinations](#)

[Key contacts](#)

#### Key events Spring term 2019

11 March	Founders' celebration week
15 March	Y12 Progress Reports issued
22 March	Y9 Full Reports issued
27 March	Tod Scholarship interviews for Y12 Y12 Parents' evening
28 March	Deadline for return of Y8 & Y11 Options forms
29 March	Y7 & Y10 Progress Reports issued and Y8 Full Reports issued



### Student Resilience

How resilient is your child? As one of our recent assembly themes, we have explored resilience with every age group so that students continue to develop a better understanding of what it means. Whether working in class or at home, it is vital that we support and encourage students to learn how to try and try again until they achieve success. We want all of our students to be resilient in all that they do because this transferable quality will help them achieve anything they want in any subject or area or life. As we continue to share how well your child's resilience is developing through our termly reports, we are increasingly providing students of all age-groups with the opportunity to talk about their development of this trait with their form tutors.

### Key Stage 5

Recently sixth form students took part in student focus groups to explore their understanding of respect, consent and empowerment. Students explored what common misconceptions teenagers had about these areas and the pressures that they often faced in a technological, media focused world. As a result, further sessions are currently being planned to support, educate and guide the sixth form students as they prepare to take their next steps into adulthood.

### Chemistry Olympiad

Well done to all students who entered the Chemistry Olympiad. There were some very good scores and we look forward to participants receiving awards. Particular congratulations go to one of our Year 13 students for gaining the top Blue Coat mark.

We are very grateful to Mr Cowan for running sessions on Thursdays after school in N10 to prepare students who wish to participate in the Cambridge Chemistry Challenge next term. All Sixth form Chemistry students are welcome.

### Physics Olympiad

We are very pleased that students continue to participate in this highly prestigious competition supported by our Physics department and are grateful to Mr Caulkin who continues to support the School.

Particular congratulations go to one of our Year 13 students who achieved a Gold award in the recent competition.

### Intermediate Mathematical challenge

The Intermediate Maths Challenge for Years 9-11 took place on Thursday 7 February and Blue Coat students gave an impressive performance achieving 36 Gold, 67 Silver and 71 Bronze certificates. Particular congratulations go to a Year 11 student who achieved 'Best in School' and a Year 10 student who achieved Best in Year; both have qualified for the Intermediate Mathematical Olympiad.

Additionally a Year 9 student who achieved 'Best in year' together with 33 other students qualified for the Intermediate Kangaroo. Well done to all students and good luck for the follow-on rounds on Thursday 21 March.

### Founders' Week Key Stage 3 English Writing Competition: A letter to the future

As part of Founders' celebration week, we are holding a letter writing competition for Year 7 and 8 students. Letters will be included in an imaginary time capsule written by today's students, to students in the future. Students can hand their entries to their English teacher by Monday 25 March 2019.

### Chess Club

Two students attended the English Chess Federation's Northern Junior Championships over half term. The event was held over two days with competitors playing up to 6 matches. Well done to them both for attending this high profile event, for sharing their experience with the rest of the club, and for taking up such an interesting opportunity. These students will now receive a ranking and grade from the English Chess Federation and will be able to compete in other events.

Chess club continues to offer weekly opportunities to develop new skills, strategies and friendships at lunchtime on Monday and Friday in W09 and Tuesday in W08. New members are always welcome.



### Pipe-up campaign

The dismantling of Blue Coat School's historic Father Willis organ in Shirley Hall in February was celebrated by a large photograph in The Daily Telegraph of Monday 25th February, by award-winning national photographer Charlotte Graham. It showed some of the organ's 10,000 parts, including 1,224 pipes covering the Hall's floor. The organ will be restored by its Liverpool builder, Henry Willis & Co, and is due to be completed in the autumn.

The Pipe Up campaign, established to help fund the new Blue Coat Organ Scholarship by inviting people to sponsor the Father Willis organ's pipes, is now well underway after its launch at the Gala Organ Concert in Liverpool Anglican Cathedral in January. The concert featured six nationally-acclaimed organists with links to Blue Coat School and the Blue Coat School Senior Choir and Chamber Choir. The Blue Coat Scholarship will include tuition for internal and external students on the restored Father Willis organ, the School Chapel's Walker organ and their 'big brothers' at the two Liverpool cathedrals.

If you would like to support our Pipe Up campaign by sponsoring an organ pipe, ranging from £10 to £250, you can do so online by clicking [here](#).

For more information about this project or other ways you might be able to support other exciting projects currently underway at the school please contact the Development Team whose contact details can be found [here](#).

### Reaching out to our Old Blues

On Thursday 28 February we enjoyed catching up with our London based Old Blues from the Class of 1957 through to the Class of 2015, and hearing their tales of Blue Coat days gone by. This annual event provided the perfect opportunity to update our alumni on some of the exciting projects Blue Coat will be involved with in 2019, as well as how they can support our expanding careers programme.

### Ski trip to Folgarida

26 Blue Coat students accompanied by Mr Phelan, Mr Ainsworth and Miss Baker, thoroughly enjoyed their time in the ski resort of Folgarida, located in the Val di Sole, in the beautiful Dolomite mountains during February half term.

The students learnt new skills in their 6 days of skiing tuition and also enjoyed a variety of activities from ice skating, bowling, quizzes, karaoke and a disco and established new friendships with students from 5 other schools.

### Economics trip to New York

Year 13 Economics students enjoyed their time in New York over half term.

The students, accompanied by Miss Hutchings, Mr Farrell and Mr Watkins, visited Wall Street and the New York Stock Exchange whilst immersing themselves in the city and its historic and current financial impact on the wider world.

### Duke of Edinburgh

Confirmation of the Bronze, Silver and Gold dates for spring and summer term are detailed below:

#### Bronze

Saturday 2 March  
Saturday 23 to Sunday 24 March  
Saturday 30 to Sunday 31 March

#### Silver

Monday 24 – Wednesday 26 June  
Friday 5 – Sunday 7 July

#### Gold

Friday 24 – Sunday 26 May  
Thursday 11 – Sunday 14 July

Full detail of the Duke of Edinburgh programme can be found on our [school website](#).

## Parents' Association

Members of The Parents' Association were delighted to lend a hand during this year's fantastic School production of The Addams Family. We served refreshments and popcorn and also organised a Raffle each evening. We would like to thank Spire and Silk Rd restaurants, as well as Liverpool FC for donating prizes. Congratulations to all of the prize winners. Over the 3 nights we raised over £500 which will be donated towards the staging of the much anticipated 2020 show.

This month the PA has donated;

- £625 towards The Challenge Carousel problem solving initiative for KS3 students.
- £500 towards a state of the art sewing and embroidery machine for the DT department.
- £1620 to the Music department for choir and orchestra folders, as well as £1200 for new drum equipment.

The next PA meeting is Monday 1 April 2019 and new members are always welcome.

## Save the date: Quiz Night Friday 10 May 2019

Our annual PA Quiz night with celebrity host Mr Keith Caulkin MBE will be held on 10 May this year.

Full details will be announced via Parentmail before Easter. This is a fun quiz for all of the family, with some great prizes, so why don't you organise a team and join us.

All proceeds will be donated back to the school.

