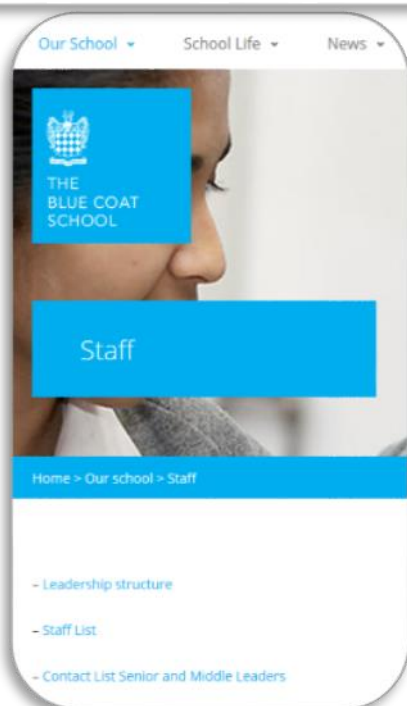




<https://www.bluecoatschoolliverpool.org.uk/our-school/staff/>



Headteacher's message

Our school has many strengths which help to ensure that by all measures we are able to provide an educational experience among the very best in the country.

Quite rightly, we often highlight the talent of our students and staff and how well they work together to ensure that great teaching supports great learning. But of equal importance is how well we work with you as parents to ensure that your views contribute to the very best experiences for your children. We are extremely fortunate that you value this as much we do. Your engagement with our parent surveys is excellent and directly contribute to what we know are our strengths and where we can be even stronger.

Our joint work is also strengthened by the many positive individualised conversations that school staff and parents have to ensure that we always do everything we can to ensure your child gets the most out of The Blue Coat School. To support this excellent communication, we offer a variety of means for parents to contact school staff such as through students planner's, by calling school, using our school website or by using the key contacts link at the bottom of this newsletter. Thank you for working with us so positively through these channels to support your children.

Mr M A Pennington
Headteacher

General notices

Assessment Fortnight: Year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 assessment weeks take place in the weeks of 3 June and 10 June. Assessments will take place in normal timetabled lessons.

School uniform standards: As a helpful reminder to parents, the provider of school branded uniform is Trutex schoolwear, London Road, Liverpool. If you require clarification on any aspect of uniform please refer to the information detailed [here](#). Thank you for your support in helping our students maintain high standard of uniform at all times.

Year 9 HPV immunisation: The Year 9 immunisation catch up will take place on Monday 17 June. This is to allow the school nurses to ensure all students have the opportunity to be immunised. If your child is getting immunised it is advisable that they wear a short sleeve shirt and bring a snack and a drink of water with them.

Quick links

[Term dates](#)

[Online calendar](#)

[Clubs and Societies](#)

[Requests for absence](#)

[Expectations](#)

[Examinations](#)

[Key contacts](#)

Key events summer term 2019

Monday 3 June:	Y7, 8, 9, 10 & 12 Assessment fortnight begins
Friday 17 June:	Y11 book return
Monday 24 June:	Y13 book return
Thursday 27 June:	Y11 & Y13 proms
Friday 28 June:	Sports day
Monday 1 July:	KS3 awards afternoon
Wednesday 3 July:	Y6 common induction day
Thursday 4 July:	Open evening
Monday 8 July:	KS4 awards afternoon
Wednesday 10 July:	Dance show



Shirley hall refurbishments

Our project to refurbish Shirley Hall is well underway and we are delighted with the progress that has been made so far:

- The organ has been moved for major restoration works and will be returned to school in the autumn term.
- Internal decorations are almost complete and with the subtle colour scheme providing a fresh, modern feel whilst still showcasing the historical decorative features of the ceiling, walls and woodwork.
- Roofing works have begun and scaffolding has been erected in preparation of more extensive aspects of this work.
- Specifications of audio-visual equipment are nearly complete and will ensure that the space provides all the facilities that would normally be expected in a modern day meeting, assembly and performance space.

We look forward to sharing more detailed photographs with you over the coming weeks.

Attendance

Whole school attendance this academic year currently stands at an outstanding 97.12% and has improved from this point last year when the figure was 96.47%. This improvement is great credit to parents in ensuring that your son/daughter attends school as much as possible to give them the best possible platform to learn and develop.

We really appreciate your support by communicating with us using the [online absence request form](#) in advance of any known absences and the prompt response you offer to our follow up letters about unexplained absences.

Year 13

Friday 17 May saw the Year 13 students leave Blue Coat School and embark on the next steps in their lives. To mark the occasion the students had an opportunity to reflect upon their achievements, friendships and many other memories of their time at the school during a service in the school Chapel and speeches in the Robert Styth Study Library.

We wish each of them the best of luck in their A Level examinations and look forward to further celebrating their achievements at Prom in June and on results day in August.

Year 12 Careers, Information, Advice and Guidance

To help prepare students for their next steps, whether that be university, apprenticeships or the world of work, Year 12 students will be participating in mock interviews from 26 - 28 June. These interviews will provide students with the opportunity to participate in a formal interview with a professional and receive verbal and written feedback for them to reflect upon.

This event is incredibly beneficial for the students and we are grateful to the Old Blues, who have volunteered to help our students prepare for their future.

Extra-curricular activities

Our extra-curricular programme offers students a wide range of opportunities to share their interests, develop friendships and new skills. Many also offer an insight into possible career choices or lifelong pursuits. Recent parent feedback indicated that it would be helpful to signpost you to where you can find out more information about the extra-curricular opportunities your son/daughter can take part in.

You can read more [here](#) and this link will also now be available in the Quick Links section of every Parent newsletter.

Key Stage Awards Afternoons

Years 7 and 8 awards afternoon takes place on Monday 1 July and for Years 9 and 10 on Monday 8 July. We invite you to join us in the recognition of our students' academic, extra-curricular and out of school achievements.

The respective celebrations will take place at 2.30pm in the School chapel and we welcome your arrival from 2.00pm. The events should conclude by 3.30pm.

Year 8 and Year 11 Option choices

Thank you to all Year 8 and Year 11 students and their parents for the prompt return of Option Forms. We are really pleased to have successfully accommodated all students' choices for September 2019. Students and parents in year 8 should be aware that it is no longer possible to request changes to Latin, Spanish or Art because of the current size of the groups in these subjects.



Sport

It has been a busy season for our sports teams. Year 8 football team were narrowly defeated in the Liverpool Cup semi-final and the Merseyside Cup semi-final, playing both games within a week of each other after Easter and with key players out injured. In Cricket, the Year 9's have progressed into round 3 of the Harold Bailey Cup and Year 7, 8 and 10 are now in the Lancashire Plate tournament.

Congratulations to our netball and hockey teams: Year 8, 9 and 10 netball teams are undefeated this season and all achieved 1st place in the Liverpool League with Year 11 coming a close 2nd. In Hockey, Year 7, 9 and 10 retained their Liverpool titles in the City Championship, and Year 8 and 10 also came first in their respective leagues.

Well done to all of the students who participate in the sports teams and thanks to the PE staff for supporting the students in their achievements.

Berlin trip

Blue Coat students enjoyed the History trip to Berlin, accompanied by staff. The trip was packed with memorable experiences; seeing the historic and impressive sights such as the Olympiastadion, Brandenburg Gate, visiting Sachsenhausen concentration camp and also reading about different parts of German history in the museums and attractions.

The itinerary was closely aligned with the students' GCSE history course so they were able to link previous studies to the learning and experiences on the trip.

Bordeaux French Exchange

20 of our students in Years 7-10 took part in our annual French exchange with our partner school Notre Dame Sevine in Bordeaux. This was our 10th visit and some of our students have enjoyed this experience so much that they have participated 3 times! During our time in Bordeaux, our students stayed with French families and really embraced the French culture and language. Our students said:

"The entire exchange improved my accent and understanding of French culture and language. I would highly recommend this!"

"The French exchange was a great opportunity to practise and improve my French accent and vocabulary."

Throughout the trip, the maturity of our students impressed us hugely with their excellent behaviour and their willingness to adapt to a different culture and truly embrace the French language. Teachers at our partner school and host families also commented on how well behaved our students were. They certainly were great ambassadors for The Blue Coat School. Our French students visit us in June and we look forward to welcoming them to Liverpool.

English Book Club

The book club is going strong and has recently welcomed some newcomers who alongside existing members are now well into their first novel.

The Club is open to all students of Years 7 and 8 and we would be delighted to see some more new faces! Students don't need to worry that they have missed too much, existing club members will be able to update on the story so far.

Club is on every Friday at 12.30pm, or 1.00pm (depending on key stage lunch times).

Chess Club

This month our two chess teams visited Liverpool Chess Club's home ground to play their final fixture for this season. The standard of chess was excellent, and some brand new players came away with very strong wins, as did some of our more seasoned veterans!

Our A team drew their fixture and our B team won theirs which meant we came 4th in Division 1 and 2nd in Division 2 which for a debut entry into the league is a fantastic result.

The teams also had the opportunity to play Woman FIDE Master Maria Rodrigo Yanguas – a Spanish Master who has been playing in Liverpool for the last 6 months, and International Master Gary Quillan, a local player.

May sees the end of our internal league which we trialled this year. There's currently just 10 points between 1st and 2nd place so there's still all to play for! The league has definitely been a success and well done to all students who participated and got involved this year.



Class of 2019

On Friday 17 May we said goodbye to Year 13 and hello to the Class of 2019. Earlier this week our youngest cohort of Old Blues gained an insight into our international alumni network, from the diverse and successful career paths our Old Blues have chosen to pursue to our oldest known Old Blue, 103 year old Kendrick Rannard.

We look forward to keeping in touch with the Class of 2019 and sharing their many successes with you in the years to come.



Blue Coat Organists at Neston Music Festival

Blue Coat School's two top student organists are starred at Neston Music Festival playing solo recitals. Simon Cheung performed his first solo organ concert ever at St Mary's Neston Parish Church and Daniel Greenway helped closed the Festival event by also at playing at St Mary's.

This is only the second Neston Music Festival and the first time Blue Coat School music students have individually performed. Daniel and Simon, both Year 12 students, were invited to play by Scirard Lancelyn-Green, secretary of Liverpool Organists' Association, after performing at the Blue Coat School Gala Organ Concert, at Liverpool Anglican Cathedral, in January.

Mr Lancelyn-Green said: "We're very pleased to present these two young organists who are studying one of the most complex and demanding of instruments. There is a great shortage of organists and after completing their studies they will take up positions in a few years."

Well done to Simon and Matthew.

Parents' Association Quiz Night

This year's greatly anticipated Parents' Association Quiz Night was held on Friday 10th May. This event was 'sold out', and 13 eager teams enjoyed a mixture of questions from Geography and Science to TV and Film. There were also 2 children's rounds and a picture round with individual prizes for each winner. A new introduction this year was a 'stand up Bingo' round which was good fun. Congratulations go to team 'Childwall 99' who narrowly beat Team 'What on a tie break question'.

This event raised almost £800. Thank you to everyone who came along to support us, our Quizmaster Mr Caulkin and to all of the Year 12 students who helped on the night.



Parents' Association

This month the PA are happy to announce a donation of £500 to the DT department to part fund- together with the Development Office, an extra-curricular Drone Club.

Thank you to everyone who has donated prizes for our Summer Raffle. (It's not too late if you still have a something to give).

Tickets and a full list of prizes and donors will be sent home before 14 June and the draw will be made by Mr Pennington on 12 July.

Our next, and final PA meeting for the year, is on Monday 17 June at 7pm.

For more details contact us at parentsassociation@bluecoatschool.org.uk