



UNITY

Easter Newsletter

Streets Ahead

Welcome to the Spring Term edition of Unity Magazine. I am pleased to report that we have had a busy and productive term. Staff and students have been working hard, particularly Year 11 in preparation for their forthcoming GCSE examinations, which are only a few weeks away.



In addition we have been preparing for the move to Blackburn Central High School in September. We are confident that the building work will be finished on time and plan to launch the new school uniform with students and parents/carers on Thursday 28th March.

In getting ready for the move to the new building, we are introducing changes to the pattern of the school day for the Summer Term. It will be a great deal of hard work, but I am sure it will pay off handsomely in our brand new building.

At the end of the Spring Term we say goodbye to two colleagues who are moving on to further their careers in other schools; Ms Ward, Deputy Headteacher, leaves us to become Deputy Headteacher at a larger school in Tameside, and Mr Cotton, Head of Science, leaves to take up a post teaching Physics in a Sixth Form College in Preston. We would like to thank them both for their massive contributions to the success of Blakewater College and wish them well in their future careers.

**- Mr Chambers
Headteacher**

BBC Radio Lancashire

Friday 9th March saw a group of seventeen Blakewater College Year 8 students visit BBC Radio Lancashire.



A big thank you to all who supported the Year 8 trip. The students' feedback has been positive and enthusiastic; with Kiel a star in the making! Gerald Jackson, who has worked at the studio for a long time, was fantastic with the students giving them a history tour and then allowing them to see and use some of the high tech recording equipment. Finally, they took part in Sally Naden's lunchtime show as a live audience.

I am currently making arrangements for Gerald to visit us as he would like a further opportunity to work with our students to mentor the finished project.

- Mrs Sillitoe

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Pitching In

**We are the
Champions!**

**Community
Cleanup**

Media City

Funky Fungi

Schools' Cohesion

BCHS Cohesion activities have been carried out to help pupils of Blakewater College, Crosshill and Beardwood make new friendships before the opening of the new school in September 2012.

On Monday 6th February there was a football cohesion tournament for Year 8 & 9 students from Beardwood, Blakewater College and Crosshill. It was a great opportunity for them to take part in a team activity and get to know one another.



On Wednesday 29th February, fifty students from Beardwood, Blakewater College and Crosshill participated in a dance workshop led by Miss Becky from Street Crazy. The students came together to practice a large dance sequence, that they successfully performed at the end of the session.



So far all events have been a huge success, the students have had fun and felt it was a great way to meet new people. The next Cohesion Event is for Year 10 and will take place on Wednesday 28th March. There will be many activities happening on this day including, football, ice skating and a trip to the cinema, which should be great fun for all pupils involved.

- Mr Leathert

April 2012 Exam Timetable

Date	Start	Subject	Duration	Year
Mon 23 Apr	8.40am	Expressive Arts Pres	3 days	11
Thur 26 Apr	8.40am	Urdu Oral Exam	2 days	11
Mon 30 Apr	8.40am	Spanish Oral Exam	2 days	10
Mon 30 Apr	8.40am	End of Year Exams	5 days	7-10
Tue 8th May	8.40am	Urdu Written Exam	2 days	11
Tue 8th May	8.40am	GCSE Written Exams	to 29th June	10-11

Pitching In

Eight Blakewater College students are attending the six-week Pitching In programme at Ewood Park.

This referral project was developed and delivered by Blackburn Rovers Community Trust to support school attendance. Targeted students will take part in a series of workshops and activities at Ewood Park, which are designed to highlight the importance of good school attendance, whilst at the same time, raising aspirations and building confidence and motivation.

Through each session the students develop key skills in literacy, numeracy and ICT. Each session also includes a professional football coaching activity at the Blackburn Rovers Indoor Centre.

At the end of the six week session, Blackburn Rovers will continue to work with students through Ewood-based and in-school follow-up sessions. Continued improvement in attendance at school will be rewarded at a Presentation Evening, which will take place at Ewood Park and will be attended by one of our first team players; who will award students who have successfully completed the Pitching In project with certificates, match tickets and prizes. AQA Unit Award Accreditation will also be available to students selected for the project.

- Mr Chinery



We are the Champions!

On Wednesday 14th March the Year 8 7-a-side team came back as the BDSSA Year 8 Football Tournament Champions!

Having had a tough draw in the league stage against Beardwood, Pleckgate, St Bede's and Our Lady & St John we knew we would have to be at the top of our game to succeed in the tournament. In the first close fought game we won 1-0 against Our Lady's, and then won 1-0 against both Pleckgate and St Bede's. A 0-0 draw with Pleckgate secured our place in the final.

The boys were ecstatic but needed to control their nerves in a tough test against Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School. The score stayed 0-0 until in the last 3 minutes, when the ball looped up high off a defensive clearance, dropped down and was lashed in with a rasping left foot volley from Jordan. Blakewater took the lead 1-0.

We continued to push forward, with Reece scoring straight from a corner, deceiving both defenders and goal keeper, and bringing the final score to 2-0.

It was a great all round display from the team of Shoab, Mubashir, Jordan, Reece, Liam, Ahmed, Keiran, Lewis, Hussain, Kacper, as they were unbeaten throughout. Well done boys, another trophy for the cabinet!

- Mr Leathert



Media City

A group of year 8 Blakewater College students were invited to the BBC Lab in Media City Salford for a practice School Report day on 5th February.

When we arrived we were introduced to the BBC crew who we'd be working with, and then we were split into 4 teams, each with a BBC mentor: Studio, School Desk, Sports Desk and Technology Desk.

Then began the hard work which included brainstorming, discussions and research to decide the hot topics of the day, which consisted of the move to the new school, using a Wii console in PE and Cyber Bullying. A script had to be written and interview questions thought up. After some training we rehearsed, and finally we had the live broadcast at 2.30pm.

It was a good day enjoyed by everyone who went and the BBC Crew.

Community Cleanup

This term our Blakewater College COPE group took part in a community clean up scheme made possible by the Wildlife Trust and the Westbury Gardens United Reformed Church.



The project has been ongoing for several weeks and hopefully will last much longer if it can be extended to cover other venues. Blakewater College are working on a bid for a trailer and equipment so that the students will not have to borrow equipment.

- Mr Burns

Project LIFE - Funky Fungi

Fungi are beautiful, fascinating, essential to our ecosystem, and are valuable in commerce as many industries require fungal activity eg. alcohol, bread and cheese making.

You will be familiar with mushrooms and toadstools which are types of fungi, but the ones which cause disease are nearly invisible.

Some fungi can also cause human diseases; Fungal diseases are mostly hidden and diagnosis is often missed, around 300 million people worldwide are affected, in many different forms of illness, some of which are deadly.

Showcase your artistic talents on the subject of "Funky Fungi", bag yourself up to £1200 for you and your school and help us to educate people about the dangers of fungal infections.



Entering is simple

1. Use Project LIFE's online resources - images and videos - to help you visualise the intriguing fungi and how they may cause illnesses.
2. Design a piece of creative artwork or music on this theme. You may enter a piece of composed music (for instrument(s) or song), or a piece of creative artwork - this may be in media such as watercolour, oils, charcoal, textile, lithographs (no photography or video entries).
3. Submit your design online. Ensure you've read the terms & conditions.

Entry Information

We invite entries from students in Year 9 to Year 13 (Ages 13-18). Entries will be judged by media type - Creative Artwork and Music. Entries will be judged by an independent panel of art, music and healthcare professionals.

Shortlisted entries will be eligible for work experience in music or art and your piece will be performed or displayed.

The submission deadline is midnight on 29th April 2012. Project LIFE Student Art Competitions 2012 will be restricted to the North West of England and North Wales. All entries must be submitted via the Project LIFE website. Students may enter more than once.

More info can be found at www.projectlifecompetition.org

- **Miss Haworth**

Term Dates

We wish to remind parents/ carers that school will close on Friday 30th March 2012, at 12.15pm and re-open on Monday 16th April at 8.30am (8.00am for breakfast club).

Summer Term 2012

Opens Monday 16 Apr

May Day Monday 7 May

Closes Friday 1 June

Opens Monday 11 June

Closes Wednesday 18 July

Inset Day 5 Monday 23 July

Animation 12

ICT are currently offering the opportunity for students to take part in the Animation 12 competition.

KS3 will have a few weeks off timetable to complete a one minute animation, their entries will be submitted to Manchester University as the host of the competition.

Winners have received laptops, PSP's and certificates from the University in previous years. The competition is run to encourage students to study computer science/ programming in further/ higher education.

- **Mrs Wells**

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