



Blackfen School for Girls

Raising aspirations - releasing potential.



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www.blackfenschoolforgirls.co.uk

2nd June 2025

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you all had a wonderful half term break. I can't quite believe that we are approaching the end of the academic year and that it's been a year since I first started at Blackfen School. It's been such a privilege to get to know this amazing community. I'm especially proud of how maturely our year 11s and 13s have approached their final examinations and how well attended our revision classes have been.

I would like to express my gratitude to parents and students for how supportive they have been of our mobile phone ban in school. It's been absolutely lovely to see the KS3 and KS4 girls take to playing cards, Uno and Dobble before school and at break and lunch. Thank you also to the staff who have adapted their teaching in order to ensure that phones are not required in lessons. I really do think the clarity of the absolute ban has helped the girls make the transition to zero phones seen during the school day and that the atmosphere in school is better for it.

As it's been a year since I joined Blackfen, we will be releasing another parent and pupil survey soon so that we can gather your views on what is going well and what we need to further improve. Please do use the survey to give us honest feedback and, where you feel able to, please take the opportunity to share positive comments. We appreciate we are by no means perfect, but it's always nice for me to be able to pass on praise that comes from parents directly to the relevant staff. I look forward to your feedback and sharing it with the governing body to improve our provision at Blackfen.

Finally, let the second half of the summer term begin: it brings induction for our new cohort of year 7s, primary school visits, fond farewells for year 11 and 13, many more exams, work experience, sports day and Discover-it's certainly busy until the summer break.

Carrie Senior
Headteacher

Carrie Senior
Headteacher

1 - Morning and afternoon public examination start times

Students in Year 11 and Year 13 taking public examinations before Easter and in the Summer term should note the following arrangements for morning and afternoon start times. There is no late admittance to public examinations:

Morning examinations: Line up outside examination rooms at 8.45am

Afternoon examinations: Line up outside examination rooms at 12.45pm

Mobile phones, mobile devices and digital watches must be handed in at the beginning of all GCSE, BTEC and A Level examinations. They are kept safely for the duration of the examination in individually numbered bags, placed at the end of each row of examination tables.

Year 11 'Top Tips'

We recommend Year 11 students to attend their *Top Tips* sessions before morning and afternoon exams. These 30-minute boosters are delivered by teachers to help students stay calm and focused, as well as supply exam hints and guidance. Teachers will provide further details in this term's final lessons.

Morning Top Tips: 7.45 am – 8.15 am before every morning examination.

Afternoon Top Tips: 12.15 pm – 12.45 pm.

Year 11 students leave Period 3 at 12 noon and collect a lunchtime snack from the Food Cube (*not the Canteen or Glasshouse*) to take with them to their Top Tips session. Students are advised to have something light to eat and drink before afternoon examinations. Bottled water - with the label removed - is allowed in examination rooms, but no other still or fizzy drink.

Masterclasses: As from Monday 9th June, some subjects will also be offering 2-hour *Masterclass* sessions to review learning (usually in Period 3 – Period 4). Teachers will provide further details this term.

2 - Examination contingency days for all students sitting public examinations

The examination *contingency days* are arranged by the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) on behalf of all of the examination awarding bodies and apply to all students taking BTEC, GCSE and A Level (or equivalent) examinations. Contingency days will be used in the event of "sustained national or local disruption" during the Summer 2025 examinations. In these circumstances, the awarding bodies whose examinations are running at this time will have the option to postpone their examination and to rearrange it for one of the contingency days, so that students affected by the incident have a fair and equal chance to gain their qualifications.

The contingency dates for Summer 2025 examinations are as follows:

- Wednesday 11th June - afternoon
- Wednesday 25th June - all day

All examination candidates at Blackfen School must be available to sit GCSE, A-Level and BTEC examinations from the date of their first examination until Wednesday 25th June 2025. This decision is

not a school decision and it applies to all candidates, in all schools. Parents, carers and students must ensure that telephone and email details held by the school are accurate and updated, as necessary, so that students can be contacted quickly, should one of the contingency days be activated.

3 - Collection of A Level examination results / Year 12 GCSE examination results / Year 12 Level 3 BTEC unit results

- A Level examination results are published and will be available for collection on **Thursday 14th August in the Sixth Form Learning Zone from 8.00 am - 9.30 am**. Results that are not collected at this time will be posted home to students. It is not possible for students to collect results on behalf of their friends. Parents/carers may collect results on behalf of students as long as suitable identification is provided, for example, a driving licence photo card or passport and this arrangement has been agreed and processed by the Exams Office before the end of this term.
- Level 3 BTEC unit results for current Year 12 students will be available for collection on **Thursday 14th August in the Sixth Form Learning Zone from 9.30 am - 10.30 am**. Results that are not collected at this time will be distributed to students at the beginning of term in September.
- GCSE Mathematics examination results for Year 12 students will be available for collection on **Thursday 21st August from 9.00 am - 10.30 am in the Performance Space**. (See 'Collection of GCSE results', below).

4 – Collection of GCSE results

GCSE examination and BTEC Level 2 results are published and will be available for collection on **Thursday 21st August 2025 in the Performance Space from 9.00 am to 10.30 am**. Results that are not collected at this time will be posted home to students. Parents and carers are warmly invited to join students in the Performance Space for this special occasion and may collect results on behalf of students as long as this arrangement has been agreed and processed by the Exams Office before the end of this term and suitable identification is provided, for example, a driving licence photo card or passport.

5 - Year 11 student enrolment in Blackfen School Sixth Form

In order to confirm their place in Year 12, Year 11 students need to enrol on-line on **Thursday 21st August by 11.45 am**.

1. Go to the '**Sixth Form**' tab on the Blackfen School website (www.blackfenschoolforgirls.co.uk).
2. Click on '**Enrolment**' on the right-hand side of the page.
3. Complete the form by entering your GCSE results and confirmed course choices. Then click on '**Submit**'.
4. You will receive a confirmation email with a unique ID. **Save this email**.

Any queries on the day should be emailed to: sixthform@blackfen.bexley.sch.uk You must have the correct entry requirements for your course choices. We will only contact you (via email or mobile phone) if there is a problem with your course choice.

Please contact Miss J O'Connor or Mrs H Hill (Examination Officers) on Extension 3143 should you have further queries regarding public examinations. Please contact Ms K Brewer, Head of Sixth Form, regarding enrolment in Blackfen School Sixth Form.

Careers Ambassadors

In December students were invited to apply for the role of Careers Ambassador. After an interview process we are delighted to announce that the following students were appointed to promote and develop careers education and learning here at Blackfen:

Appointed Careers Ambassadors:

Daniella	Year 8
Heidi	Year 8
Arwen	Year 8
Hannah	Year 8
Swaraa	Year 9
Premisha	Year 9
Kara	Year 9

The students first event was the Careers Fair on 4th March where they represented the Careers department by greeting the exhibitors and made them feel welcome at Blackfen School. The students will be in post until December 2025 and will be involved with many more Careers events including external speaker events and careers related learning.



Mrs Smith, Careers Adviser

English News

Romeo and Juliet Performance – Year 11

Year 11 students recently enjoyed a live performance of Romeo and Juliet by the talented Box Clever Theatre Company. It was a modern, interactive, and immersive interpretation of Shakespeare's classic tragedy that was particularly designed to engage and inspire a younger audience.

The performance drew students straight into the heart of the action, using dynamic staging, direct audience interaction, and contemporary language to bring fresh energy and emotion to the play. Students were laughing, clapping, cheering, and even gasping at times - particularly during the gripping fight scene between Tybalt and Romeo.

Feedback from the students was overwhelmingly positive. The performance not only entertained but also hopefully deepened their understanding of the play and its themes in preparation for their exam.

Mr Love
Faculty Leader for English

Jack Petchey Award

What is it?

- 9 students across Year 7-11 can win a Jack Petchey Award.
- 3 Students across Year 12-13 can win the Jack Petchey Award.
- Staff and Students will be asked to nominate someone who they believe deserves to win this award.
- The winner will receive a certificate, badge and are granted £300 to be spent on an area or department of their choice within school. They will also be invited to an awards evening with all of the winner from the Bexley Borough.
- You can be nominated for a Jack Petchey Award for the following reasons- Helping others, being a good role model, coping with adversity, doing community work, giving service within the community or maybe just trying really hard!

WELL DONE TO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS WHO WERE NOMINATED FOR THE SPRING TERM JACK PETCHEY AWARD-

Poppy- Year 10

Noah (Amelia)- 10KJH

Sanyia- 12A

Jesmita- 9ACO-3

Maddie- 9IST-8

Ella- 7TCU

Aisha- 9NNE

Sienna- 8NJA

Courtney- 8GVA

Ella- 9ACO-3

Evie- 10-LET9

Saniyya- 11MJA

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS ARE-

Saniya- Year 12

Noah- Year 10

Jesmita- Year 9

Sienna- Year 8



Miss Padbury
Subject leader of Drama and Dance
Rewards and Recognition Co-ordinator

UK Maths Trust Junior Challenge

Students were selected in year 7 and 8 for the UKMT junior challenge. Twenty of the students achieved bronze award, twelve students achieved silver award and a gold award to Ivy in year 8.

Bronze Award	
Isha	7VKN-5
Molly	8NJA-1
Keerat	7MEL-1
Sophia	8MMD-3
Violet	7MSZ-6
Yi Han	7AVA-9
Amy	8MMD-3
Ava	8IAU-5
Daisy	7VKN-5
Jenny	7VKN-5
Eloise	7AVA-9
Gauri	8AGR-8
Sasha	7MSZ-6
Daisy	7VKN-5
Jasveen	8INO-9
Sophie	8GVA-2
Sethuki	7RPA-7
Isla	8INO-9
Oceane-Amber	8AGR-8
Jenna-Mae	8GVA-2

Silver Award	
Lilly	7CMZ-4
Tien	8INO-9
Lilly	8INO-9
Charlotte	7TCU-8
Amelie	8IAU-5
Amelia	7AVA-9
I'la	7MSZ-6
Sophie	8SEK-7
Jessica	8GKO-6
Avani	7CMZ-4
Amelie	7RPA-7
Rebeccah	8EBA-4

Gold Award	
Ivy	8IAU-5

Congratulations to all the students for their awards.

Ms Owolabi
KS3 Co-ordinator of Maths

Social Sciences

On Thursday 24th April, the Citizenship Department took GCSE Citizenship students on an exciting trip to Parliament.

Students enjoyed a guided tour of the Palace of Westminster, observed a live debate in the House of Lords, and took part in a workshop where they developed their own ideas for petitions. Their suggestions were thoughtful and wide-ranging, covering topics such as protecting third-party access to personal data and improving bus frequency.



The following day, Friday 25th April, students visited the Supreme Court. There, they explored the importance of justice and the vital role transparency plays in the legal system. It was a valuable and inspiring experience that deepened students' understanding of democracy, law, and civic engagement.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Laryea-Daniels
Social Sciences Faculty Leader
Teacher of Politics, Citizenship & SPCS

Dance News

Disneyland Paris Performance April 2025

In April the Disney Performers representing the school beautifully in Disneyland Paris. 30 dancers from year 8 and year 9 danced non-stop for 20 minutes at lunchtime on the Videopolis stage. This stage is the largest seated inside performance venue in Europe. The performance was done to a very high standard, they conducted themselves professionally backstage and we received many compliments from the Disney Performing Arts team.



Dance Showcase May 2025

In May we put on our 5th live Dance performance of the year! This Dance showcase featured performances from Dance Company, Dance club, Cheerleading club the Matilda cast and many more in house clubs. It also features students who auditioned to be featured in the show. This enables a range of dancers to show off their abilities in a range of dance styles and take ownership of their choreography, music and costume. The standard was incredibly high and it was a great opportunity to highlight the hard work and dedication of a lot of our students. During the daytime matinee we welcomed Sherwood Park and Upton Primary in the audience and in the evening we enjoyed a full audience of supportive family and friends.

Well done to everyone who took part including our talented year 8 student who designed the lighting.



Upcoming events

We have many exciting things planned for the rest of the school year alongside our usual lessons and assessments:

- Trip to see 'Mean Girls' in the West End as a reward for students who have participated in extra-curricular.
 - Royal Academy of Dance workshop with selected year 7 and 8.
- MATILDA JNR- School Musical July 7th and 8th evenings with a special Primary school matinee. *Tickets available on wisePAY.*
 - Blackfen students to lead a dance workshop at Upton Primary.

Ms Jarman
Subject Leader of Dance and Drama
Second in Charge, Expressive Arts Faculty

History News

The History Club participated in the Historical Association's Young Quills review competition. We read new historical fiction sent to the school for free and submitted reviews to help the HA decide who should receive their prizes. Topics covered included the Irish potato famine,

Bletchley Park code breakers, a graphic novel of regency romance, an iron age coming of age story – and were, on the whole, very much enjoyed. Well done to our avid readers.

The books will be in the library shortly, keep an eye out/ask Ms Kingsbury-Barker!

Ms Davies
Teacher of History

Mental Health Awareness

The 12th – 18th May 2025, we celebrated Mental Health Week and the theme for this year is "community."

This throws out lots of questions.....

How is community important to us.

What does that mean for us here at Blackfen school for Girls?

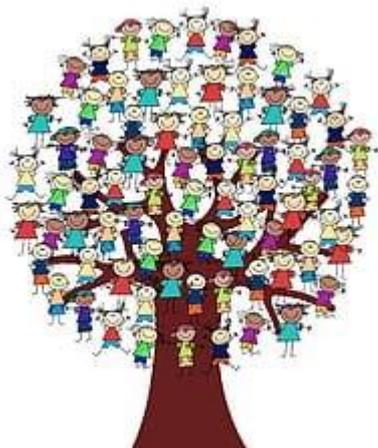


Attending or working in the same place every day and seeing the same faces doesn't necessarily mean that we are part of a community. So, what does make a community and for us, what makes us a community here at Blackfen School for Girls.

In order for us to be part of a community; we need to get **involved**, even if this means coming out of our comfort zone at times and trying something new.

Here at school, we have lots of community-based activities and events that bring us together, these may take the form of; assemblies/ achievement assemblies/ performances/charity days/competitions/clubs and many more, but what about those everyday events that we tend to overlook....

What about our classes/form time our clubs/trips and even where we tend to sit at break times, rehearsals with friends and what about those staff members that you see and share with, these are all micro communities within our larger school one.



Being part of a safe, positive community is vital for our mental health and wellbeing. We thrive when we have strong connections with other people and supportive communities that remind us that we are not alone. Communities can provide a sense of belonging, safety, and can shape our thoughts and feelings for the better. We also know that when people are socially connected to friends/family and communities they are happier, have better physical health and have less mental health concerns and overall, live longer than those who are less well connected. Communities give us a sense of purpose.

Something that we do very well here at Blackfen is to look out for each other and this is probably the most important part of any community. Being a good friend or looking out for someone that perhaps you don't know that well, but you notice a difference in them or including somebody that you see standing on the outside.



<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/professional/360-schools/>

Ms Latif
Student Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing Support Officer

NUMERACY CORNER

(answers next time)

MAKE 100



Use the numbers in the grid each time.

27	45	63	51	84
26	18	74	22	49
55	67	16	82	33

Challenge 2

Try to find sets of 3 numbers that add up to make 100.

Try to find 3 different answers.

🎲 Last puzzle answers:

Challenge 1

Find pairs of numbers that add up to 100.

Try to find 6 different pairs.

55+45 37+63 67+33 84+16 26+74 82+18 51+49

Dates for your Diary

Events scheduled so far

Date	Event
Tuesday 3 rd June 2025	A-Level Geography trip to Docklands
Thursday 5 th June 2025	Governors' meeting
Friday 6 th June 2025	Dance Students theatre trip
Wednesday 11 th June 2025	Year 12 (x15) Northeastern University London
Thursday 12 th June 2025	Arts Award outreach trip
Friday 13 th June 2025	A-Level Geography trip to Lewisham
2 weeks W/B 16 th June 2025	Year 10 GCSE / BTEC PPEs
Wednesday 18 th June 2025	Yr10 Sports/Dance Leaders Primary School Assessment
Thursday 19 th June 2025	Year 12 River Darent Trip Yr10 Sports/Dance Leaders Primary School Assessment Governors' meeting Carnegie Shadowing event 12 x Year 8/9 students
Thursday 26 th June 2025	A-Level Geography trip to Seaford
Monday 30 th June 2025	Sixth Form Induction Day Year 12 Work experience week
Tuesday 1 st July 2025	Year 6 Induction Day & Parents' information meeting
Wednesday/Thursday 2 nd /3 rd July 2025	Yr10 Sports/Dance Leaders Primary School Assessment
Friday 4 th July 2025	Year 7 disco
W/B 7 th July 2025	Achievement Assemblies
Tuesday 8 th July 2025	Year 8 and 9 HPV & DTP vaccination

	catchups Matilda The Musical performance
Thursday 10th July 2025	Governors' meeting
Friday 11th July 2025	Sports Day
W/B Monday 14th July 2025	Year 10 Work Experience
Wednesday 16th & Thursday 17th July 2025	Discover Days
Friday 18th July 2025	End of Term – Early finish (12.00pm)