SHINE newsletter

Let your light shine

Headteacher Update

Spring has certainly been in the air at Bury Church this week. Over recent weeks, our Year 7 students have been busy building bug hotels to help increase biodiversity across our school grounds. This week, the completed bug hotels were placed around the site, supporting local ecosystems and enhancing students' understanding of living organisms as part of their 'Action for Change' curriculum. It was wonderful to see how proud the students were of their creations.

Social action continues to be a key driver for our school, and we are committed to ensuring our students actively contribute to their community and stand up for social justice. This week, a group of pupils chose to clear and clean the pathway outside the school, improving the experience for everyone who uses it. Year 9 and 10 students also took part in social action by digging and planting new greenery at the front of school. It is fantastic to see so many young people eager to make a positive difference to the local environment.

Throughout the week, the school has been alive with music as students involved in our upcoming production of *High School Musical* made their final preparations. Their hard work and dedication has been phenomenal. Full dress rehearsals have taken place, and students and staff have worked incredibly hard to perfect every detail. On Monday, we welcome children from several local primary schools who will be joining us for a special matinee performance of the show. We would love your support too - please join us next week to watch the full production. I am extremely grateful to the staff whose commitment has made the show possible, and I cannot wait for you to see the final performance.

This week, our sports teams have yet again enjoyed great success. The Year 7 boys' team achieved an outstanding 10 - 0 victory against Tottington - an achievement we are extremely proud of. They have represented our school brilliantly.

This afternoon, our Year 11 students received their mock results, which we celebrated with plenty of sweet treats - a well-deserved reward for a talented and hardworking year group. With final exams fast approaching, we are now putting the last interventions in place to ensure the very best outcomes for our young people.

As we continue supporting our older students through this important stage, it is equally inspiring to see leadership flourishing across all year groups. We are incredibly fortunate to have such a diverse range of student leadership teams within the school, each offering thoughtful insights into how we can continue to grow and improve. I am very much looking forward to meeting with them next week and hearing their ideas on how we can build on our strengths here at Bury Church. As ever, our students never fail to let their light shine, and it remains a true privilege to celebrate their achievements each week.

Dr S Wrigley – Acting Headteacher

Upcoming events

23rd March - Y9 Core Assessments (English, maths, science and RS)
23rd March – Peru trip Y9 &10 information evening
24th - 26th March – High School Musical
20th April - Y7&8 Assessment Week
28th/29th April - GCSE 3D Design Controlled Assessment
30th April/1st May - GCSE Art & Textiles Controlled Assessment
4th May - Year 11 External GCSE Exams Begin
21st May – Y7 Parents Evening
1st June – Y9 Assessments
1st June - Y10 Mock Exams

Uniform

Monkhouse will no longer be a uniform supplier to Bury Church due to the closure of its Bury Store on Friday 17th April. Bury Church uniforms will be available at a discount rate until this date.

PTS School Wear will remain our sole uniform supplier, trading from 7 New Road, Radcliffe, M26 1LS. Telephone: 0161 723 0991

Book of the week

Matt Goodfellow is an award-winning poet from Manchester. The Final Year is his eagerly awaited sequel to his best-selling and multi-award winning verse novel. It tells the raw story of 10-year-old Nate, in his own words, who is preparing to move into his final year of primary school. A great book for KS3 readers.

Personal Development

SHINE Enrichment
In SHINE lessons this week, students have been exploring key social themes linked to our values of respect, responsibility and resilience. Year 7 learnt about the impact of hate speech, identifying unacceptable behaviours and understanding how these affect others. Year 8 continued their Citizenship unit, exploring ableism and how to challenge discrimination. Year 9, 10 and 11 focused on careers, learning how the internet can support them in achieving their future goals and making informed decisions.

Careers
This week, we have continued our programme of one-to-one careers meetings with Year 10 students. These have included engaging conversations about a range of pathways, including careers in architecture, event planning, and roles within the medical field. Next week, we are looking forward to our Futures Friday sessions, where students will learn about the role of a Vice Principal/Assistant Head. They will explore the key skills required and the responsibilities of leadership within a school setting, helping them to broaden their understanding of potential career pathways.

Please follow this link to access our bespoke weekly careers newsletter, this week is Edition 31.

https://www.burychurch.bury.sch.uk/careers-information-for-parents/#gswModal1

PSHE: Looking ahead to next week's PSHE lessons:

Year 7 – Students will explore how future career choices can influence income, lifestyle and financial opportunities, helping them understand why researching careers and salaries is important for making responsible decisions about their future.

Year 8 – Students will learn the difference between gender identity and sexual orientation, while discussing how misogyny, stereotypes and discrimination can affect wellbeing and how respectful language and behaviour support inclusive relationships.

Year 9 – Students will examine different types of addiction, including substances and behavioural addictions, and understand how addiction can affect physical health, mental wellbeing, relationships and financial stability.

Year 10 – Students will explore myths and realities surrounding online pornography, developing critical thinking about how media can influence expectations about relationships, consent and body image.

Year 11 – Students will learn what they need to know before learning to drive, including legal requirements, road safety responsibilities and the risks young drivers face when making decisions on the road.

To help keep your child safe online, please follow the guidance and helpful tips for parents and carers shared by the school. https://assets.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wpuploads/2025/12/cc-what-i-wish-parent-guide.pdf

Eid Mubarak!

We would like to wish *Eid Mubarak* to our Muslim students and families celebrating this weekend. As a school community, we are proud to celebrate and respect the different faiths represented within our school. We look forward to welcoming you back and hearing about your celebrations.

Sport

Year 7 Boys Football Victory

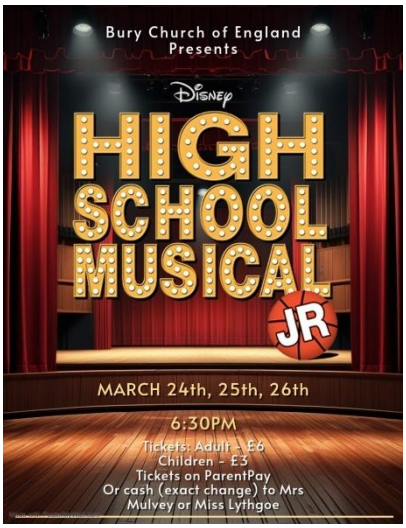
The Year 7 Boys Football team played incredibly well against Tottington in the Bury Schools Plate. The team adapted well to the wet and windy weather. The team put in a strong performance and comfortably beat Tottington. The scorers for Bury Church were Seth, Rio, Fionn, Oliver, Fynn, Reuben and Bailey. The attitude of the students from Bury Church was fantastic throughout the full game. The managers player of the match went to Bailey. The players player of the match went to Reuben. Well done to everyone who played in this game!

Year 11 AQA GCSE PE Practical Assessments

Our Year 11 students have recently completed a series of informal practical assessments in AQA GCSE PE as part of our internal moderation process. The sports that were assessed included Table Tennis, Badminton, Trampolining, Football, Netball, Handball and Athletics. Overall, the Year 11 AQA GCSE PE cohort were excellent during the informal practical assessments – well done to our Year 11 AQA GCSE PE cohort.

School Production - High School Musical

We are delighted to invite parents and carers to our whole school production of High School Musical, taking place on 24th, 25th and 26th March. Our students and staff have been working incredibly hard to bring this exciting performance to life, showcasing their talent, creativity and dedication. It promises to be an enjoyable evening of music, dance and entertainment for all. Tickets can be purchased via ParentPay, or alternatively from Mrs Mulvey or Miss Lythgoe with the exact cash amount. Ticket prices are £6 for adults and £3 for children. We warmly encourage you to join us in celebrating the achievements of our school community and supporting our students on stage.



A safeguarding and Partnership Programme for parents

To further support our partnership with families, we are pleased to offer a series of online parental workshops led by our PSHCE Lead. These sessions are designed to help parents and carers navigate some of the most pressing challenges facing young people today. Each workshop will provide practical guidance, up-to-date information, and strategies you can use at home to support your child's wellbeing, safety, and personal development.

Session 1 – Why PSHCE Matters in 2026 – Social Media, AI and Online Harms - recording available on request

Session 2 – Pornography, Consent and Sexual Norms - **Monday 30 March 2026**

Session 3 – Mental Health, Social Media and Identity - **Thursday 7 May 2026**

Session 4 – Unhealthy Relationships, Coercion and Misogyny - **Wednesday 17 June 2026**

Session 5 – Risk Culture: Drugs, Vaping, Gambling and Financial Exploitation - **Thursday 9 July 2026**

School council

Student leadership continues to play an important role in shaping the future of Bury Church. Across the school, pupils are taking on meaningful responsibilities, contributing their ideas, and helping to drive positive change within our community. Through our School Council working parties, students have the opportunity to lead projects, influence key decisions, and develop valuable skills that will serve them well beyond their time at school. Below is an overview of the fantastic work each team is currently involved in:

The School Council working parties:

- **Executive Team:** Exploring ways to strengthen the school's Christian distinctiveness, including developing ideas for a new school prayer. They will soon meet with a school governor to discuss their proposals.
- **Year 11 Planning Committee:** Have met to begin planning the Year 11 Prom and celebrations to mark the end of their time at Bury Church. Updates will follow soon.
- **Careers Team:** Are reviewing the websites *Careerpilot* and *Futures for All* to assess how useful they may be for supporting pupils with career planning.
- **Charities Team:** Are organising a rota for the School Shop, which will sell stationary before school and during breaks, and are exploring local charities to support during the summer term.
- **Eco Team:** Are considering ways to improve the school environment, including seating areas for pupils during break times and improvements to facilities.
- **Mental Health Team:** Are exploring the creation of a quiet space for pupils who need time to reset, alongside re-establishing the **Mental Health Champions Programme** to support student wellbeing.