SHINE newsletter

Let your light shine

Headteacher Update

The school performance of *High School Musical* has truly taken centre stage this week. On Monday, we welcomed 120 primary pupils to a special matinee performance, followed by three consecutive evenings with packed audiences. It was wonderful to see so many exceptionally talented students shine in such a fantastic production – their energy, creativity, and professionalism were remarkable. We could not be prouder of them. My sincere thanks go to all the staff involved, who have so generously given their time to make the show such a triumph. A huge thank you also to our amazing students and their families, who have dedicated countless hours to ensuring the production was such a success. It was a true reflection of our motto: **Let Your Light Shine**.

This week also saw our remarkable students excel at a bouldering competition in Manchester. Our Year 11 students represented the school with pride, with Bella securing 1st place and Laura achieving 3rd in the KS4 category. A huge well done to all involved!

Student leadership continues to be a real strength at Bury Church. Well done this week to Noah C who was elected Youth Mayor for Bury Youth Cabinet - joining Tobias who is already the Deputy Youth Parliament member for Bury. What an incredible achievement for both students.

Strong leadership was also showcased in our KS3 bench ball competition, where a team of Year 7 pupils took on umpiring duties - Freya, Rose, and Cara received widespread praise for their professionalism. Well done also to our Year 8 team, who won the competition against other schools in the borough.

We are delighted to be welcoming several new staff members to our school community in the coming weeks, further strengthening both our educational provision and pastoral care. Mr Anderson will be joining us as Deputy Headteacher for Pastoral Care, bringing a wealth of valuable experience to the role. Mrs Moore, our new Pastoral Assistant, will also enhance the support available within our pastoral team.

In addition, Miss Rogers will take up the position of Head of Art and Technology, joining us with a proven track record of securing excellent outcomes. We are also pleased to welcome Mrs Wells as Office Manager and Headteacher's PA. Mrs Wells will support a warm, professional presence to the front office and will play a key role in strengthening communication across the school community.

As ever, our students and staff 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

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

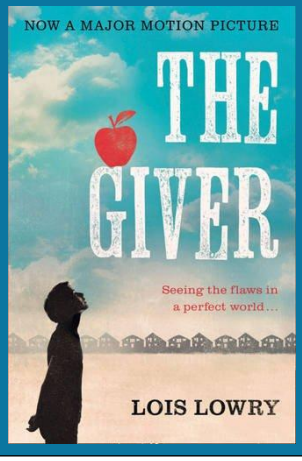
Monkhouse will no longer be a uniform supplier to Bury Church due to the closure of its Bury Store on Friday 17th April. Bury Church uniforms will be available at a discount rate until this date.

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

The Giver - Lois Lowry

At the age of twelve, Jonas, a young boy from a seemingly utopian, futuristic world, is singled out to receive special training from The Giver, who alone holds the memories of the true joys and pain of life. A poignant read.



Personal Development

SHINE

During SHINE lessons, students across Years 7–10 were introduced to an exciting opportunity for next term, where they will be able to choose a project based on their own interests. This pupil choice unit is designed to allow students to explore their passions. Students were presented with a wide range of projects, including disability sports, debating, Dragons' Den, fashion, beauty and French culture, to name just a few! Students are now required to select their first and second choices by following the link on Satchel One.

Year 7-11 students also took part in learning linked to LGBTQ+ Health Awareness Week. These sessions focused on promoting respect, inclusion and understanding, ensuring students are aware of the importance of equality and supporting the wellbeing of all individuals.

Our Year 11 students have continued to focus on their future pathways, exploring different career options and post-16 routes available to them. These sessions are designed to support students in making informed decisions about their next steps and feeling confident about their future.

Careers

During Futures Friday, students explored the role of a Vice Principal at college, helping them to better understand the responsibilities of senior leadership and the skills required for such roles. We have also continued our programme of one-to-one careers guidance meetings with Year 10 students. Throughout next week Y10 students who have not secured a work experience placement will be offered support and guidance to help them achieve their work experience in other ways.

Please follow this link to access our bespoke weekly careers newsletter, this week is Edition 32.

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

PSHE: Looking ahead to next week's PSHE lessons, students will explore a range of important topics.

- Year 7: Pupils will use Career pilot to explore different career pathways and identify opportunities linked to their interests, skills, and future aspirations.
- Year 8: Pupils will learn how to support someone who identifies as LGBTQ+, focusing on respect, inclusive language, and challenging discrimination.
- Year 9: Pupils will understand how gambling can become addictive, including the psychological and financial risks and how to seek support.
- Year 10: Pupils will examine the impact of pornography on individuals and society, including its influence on relationships, expectations, and behaviour.
- Year 11: Pupils will learn about public order offences, including what the law says, real-life consequences, and how to make responsible choices in public spaces. Pupils will also complete a final exit survey via Satchel One to reflect on their experience of PSHCE and SHINE (Enrichment) at Bury Church and provide valuable pupil voice feedback.

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

Sport

Year 9 Boys Football 'A' Team

Well done to the Year 9 Boys Football A team who beat Tottington 6-0 on Monday 23rd March in the Bury School's Plate. It was a dominant performance from the team. Scorers from Bury Church were Kaleb with 2 goals, Brad with 2 goals, Alex with 1 goal and Yohannes with 1 goal. The player of the match from Bury Church was Harley who was playing his first game for the team and put in an outstanding performance. The goal of the day went to Kaleb who scored a stunning volley. A special mention must go to Jenson who stepped in to play as a goalkeeper and gave a brilliant performance.

Year 9 Boys Football 'B' Team

The Year 9 Boys Football 'B' team played a friendly game against Derby on Tuesday 24th March. The game was played in very wet and windy conditions. The students from Bury Church played well and it was a very even game. Bury Church won the game through two excellent goals from Shay who put in a player of the match performance.

Year 11 Boys Football Cup Semi-Final v Elton

The Year 11 Boys Football 'A' team played Elton in the semi-final of the Bury Schools Cup on Thursday 26th March. Bury Church started the game well and dominated most of the first half taking the lead through a fantastic free kick from Roman. Aidan then added a well-deserved second goal before Elton came back into the game and managed to end the game 2-2 to take the game to penalties. Unfortunately, Bury Church lost in a closely fought shoot out. Player of the match from Bury Church was George who put in a dominant performance.

Greater Manchester Schools Bouldering Competition

Our GB climber, Bella in Year 11, led a group of Year 11 students in the Greater Manchester Schools Bouldering Competition at Rock Over Manchester. Before the event, Bella organised and delivered training sessions for the team, which proved invaluable on the day. Their hard work paid off as Bella secured first place in her category, with Laura achieving an impressive third place. The whole team performed exceptionally well – especially considering that many were new to bouldering.

Opportunities for parents and students

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**

International Expedition Opportunity – Peru 2027

We are delighted to share an exciting opportunity for our Year 9 and Year 10 students to take part in a 4-week expedition to Peru in July 2027, in partnership with Camps International. Students need to raise their own funding to go on the trip.

This incredible experience will allow students to work on meaningful community and conservation projects, explore the stunning landscapes of Peru, and learn about local cultures. It is a fantastic opportunity for students to develop independence, resilience and valuable life skills, while gaining experiences highly regarded by universities and employers. If you require any more information, then please speak with Mr Mort through the office email.