SHINE newsletter

Let your light shine

Headteacher Update

This week began with a call from Ofsted – one we were thoroughly prepared for and wholeheartedly welcomed. I would like to start by saying an enormous thank you to our amazing children. Their exemplary behaviour, confidence and thoughtful communication with the inspectors made us incredibly proud. They truly embodied our values and represented our school so well.

Over the past two years, we have been on a remarkable journey, driven by ambition, dedication and a shared commitment to an excellence educational offer. Our staff have consistently gone above and beyond to strengthen the quality of education and enrich every aspect of school life for our students. The inspection was a positive and affirming experience, and it was heartening to see the significant progress we have made clearly recognised. I am exceptionally proud of our students and staff for their hard work, professionalism and unwavering commitment. The Ofsted report will be shared with parents and carers as soon as it is published.

Prior to the inspection, we had continued our work on the aesthetics of our school environment, ensuring it reflects our values and ambitions. I am pleased to share that we have installed a *'Let Your Light Shine'* light on the main corridor, placing our core value literally and symbolically at the heart of our school. This serves as a daily reminder to our students and staff to be proud of who they are, to shine in all they do, and to contribute positively to our school community.

Alongside this, improving communication and strengthening links with our local community remains a priority. This week, we were delighted to welcome clergy from local churches – including those our children attend – into school for a tour, followed by afternoon tea prepared by our brilliant Year 11 food students. The feedback we received was extremely positive, with visitors describing our school as warm, welcoming and friendly, and praising our students for the way they conducted themselves. They were enthusiastic about continuing to build strong links with our school, which is something we are excited to develop further.

This week it has been an absolute privilege to celebrate the achievements of our students and staff as they continue to let their light shine.

Have a lovely weekend!

Dr S Wrigley

Upcoming events

21st May – Y7 Parents Evening
1st June – Y9 Assessments
1st June - Y10 Mock Exams
1st July – Art, Design and Textiles Exhibition
26th June – Year 11 prom
13th July – End of year trip

Online safety

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

Book of the week

The Magic Faraway Tree by Enid Blyton

A beloved, enduring best-seller. First published in 1943, this classic children's book series remains popular, selling thousands of copies every year and frequently topping children's literature charts. On March 27th, 2026, The Magic Faraway Tree was released as a live-action film. Directed by Ben Gregor and written by Simon Farnaby, the film follows a modern family moving to the countryside who discover a magical tree,

Personal Development

Enrichment in Action

This week's enrichment programme has once again provided students with exciting opportunities to develop new skills, broaden their cultural understanding and explore future career pathways through a wide range of engaging activities.

In Fashion, students explored the history of fashion illustration before using professional techniques to create their own stylish and creative designs. Meanwhile, students in French Culture challenged common food stereotypes whilst learning more about authentic French cuisine and traditions.

In Cosmetics, students developed their understanding of scents and fragrance profiling, exploring which scents appeal to different demographics and how products are marketed within the beauty industry. Students taking part in Disability Sports learnt about disabled volleyball, developing teamwork, resilience and awareness of inclusive sport.

Our aspiring entrepreneurs in Dragons' Den also explored the importance of market research, using their findings to help refine and strengthen their business ideas.

We are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm, creativity and confidence students continue to demonstrate through our enrichment programme, truly allowing them to develop wider life skills and 'let their light shine' beyond the classroom.

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

- **Year 7 – L3: What are the social and emotional changes that occur during puberty?**
  Students will explore the emotional and social changes that can happen during puberty, including mood swings, friendships, self-esteem, body image and managing changing feelings in a healthy way.
- **Year 8 – L3: What are the risks associated with energy drinks and caffeine?**
  Students will examine how caffeine and energy drinks can affect sleep, concentration, anxiety, heart health and decision-making, while considering why these products can be harmful for young people.
- **Year 9 – L4: Why do people choose to delay having sex?**
  Students will discuss the different values, beliefs and personal reasons why some people choose to delay sex, including emotional readiness, faith, stable relationships, parenthood and future aspirations.
- **Year 10 – L4: Why is knife crime on the rise?**
  Students will investigate the social, emotional and community factors linked to knife crime, including peer pressure, fear, exploitation, social media influence and the serious legal and personal consequences of carrying weapons.

Sport:

Year 8 Football Bury Church vs Parrenthorn

On Tuesday, the Year 8 boys took on Parrenthorn in the cup semi-final. The game began with opportunities at both ends. Roddy M managed to create a close effort on the edge of the box. Parrenthorn scored two right before the half-time whistle, with some well worked football. Parrenthorn went on to score another four in the second half. Bury Church put in a great effort however, it was clear Parrenthorn were more adapted to play on their sand astroturf. Special shout out to Olly C who did not stop running and won tackle after tackle.

Careers

Year 9 Inspired by BMDA Careers Talk

This week, our Year 9 students took part in an inspiring careers presentation delivered by MBDA representative Gary Bradshaw. MBDA is a global engineering and technology company employing thousands of people across engineering, business, digital technology and manufacturing sectors. Students learnt about the wide range of career opportunities available within the business, including the benefits and features of apprenticeship pathways. They also explored what it means to be 'work ready', developing understanding of the key employability skills needed when applying for jobs and preparing for the workplace.

As part of our weekly Future Friday programme, students also learnt about the role of an Estate Agent. They explored the responsibilities and features of the role, as well as the qualifications and entry requirements needed to pursue a career within the property industry.

Please follow the link to access this week's Careers Newsletter for further opportunities, advice and labour market information.

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

Student Artwork Showcased in Bury Town Centre

We are delighted to celebrate the fantastic work of our Year 9 students involved in the Fair Futures Linking Schools programme. Their thoughtful and creative artwork is now proudly on public display in one of the shop units on the walkway from Bury Bus Station to Bury Market.

The exhibition showcases students' reflections on identity, community and diversity, and highlights the power of creativity in bringing young people together through shared experiences and understanding.

We are incredibly proud of the maturity, talent and effort our students have shown throughout the project. The exhibition will remain on display until 21st July – if you are passing through Bury town centre, we encourage you to take a look and support our young artists!

Celebrating Success with the University of Salford

We would like to congratulate the University of Salford on being named finalists for the Educating North Awards 2026 for their Immersive Digital Simulation Project.

Bury Church of England High School was proud to be involved in this innovative project, which connected students with the lived experiences of Ugandan amputees through immersive learning experiences. The project provided students with a powerful opportunity to develop empathy, broaden their understanding of global issues and reflect on the challenges faced by others around the world. We are delighted to have been part of such an inspiring and impactful initiative.

Afternoon Tea for the Clergy

On Thursday 7th May, our school was delighted to welcome 16 members from local churches as part of an afternoon focused on building and strengthening community links. The visit provided a valuable opportunity to share ideas, explore future collaboration, and showcase the positive work taking place across our school.

A highlight of the afternoon was a beautifully prepared afternoon tea, planned, baked, and served by Year 11 students. The students worked hard to produce an impressive selection of treats, including Viennese whirls, red velvet cake, scones with homemade jam, brownies, and Krispie cakes.

Our Year 11s also took responsibility for serving the guests, demonstrating excellent manners, teamwork, and professionalism throughout the event. The effort and care they showed did not go unnoticed, and the afternoon tea was warmly received by everyone in attendance (and delicious!)

New Uniform Supplier – Macron Bury

We're pleased to announce that we have partnered with a new uniform supplier, Macron Bury.

Macron are known for their high-quality, durable kit and excellent service, and we're confident this change will bring a more consistent and professional look across our school. Their local presence will also allow for better support and easier ordering.

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BUSINESS HOURS

Monday-Friday 10AM - 5PM
Saturday 9AM - 12PM