SHINE newsletter

Let your light shine

Headteacher Update

The week began with messages from Year 11 parents sharing how hard their children have been working on their revision. It is always a pleasure to receive such feedback and to hear about the strong support our staff continue to provide in helping students prepare effectively.

This week has centred on our Year 11 students as they started their final external examinations. They have demonstrated exceptional dedication and resilience, and we are immensely proud of their efforts. Their punctuality, conduct, and overall approach to the examination period have been exemplary. Our planned masterclasses have also proved invaluable in supporting students and boosting their confidence.

Alongside this, we have been busy organising a whole-school celebration to mark what has been a truly successful year. The Bury Church Summer Picnic will bring together our community - students and staff alike - for an afternoon of music, food, and even an ice cream van. This event is our way of recognising and thanking everyone for their hard work and achievements. It has been a fantastic year, with significant improvements in student progress, attendance, and punctuality.

Next week, we look forward to welcoming Year 7 parents into school to provide updates on their children's progress. I would like to commend our Year 7 students for the way they have conducted themselves throughout the year. The excellent transition programme, led by Miss Chapman, has enabled students to settle quickly, form strong friendships, and adapt to the high expectations of secondary school life. It is always a privilege to lead their weekly worship assembly on Fridays, where they consistently contribute with enthusiasm and positivity. It is also a pleasure to celebrate their achievements each week, particularly during Headteacher's Brunch.

As always. It has been a genuine privilege to celebrate the achievements of both our students and staff as they continue to 'let their light shine'.

Dr S Wrigley

Upcoming events

21st May – Y7 Parents Evening
22nd May – Whole School Summer Picnic
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

On The Wall by Anne Fine

LONGLISTED FOR THE CARNEGIE MEDAL FOR WRITING 2026: a warm and witty novel, with a lot to say about the value of silence and self-acceptance, this new young teen story from Anne Fine is the perfect read for those approaching new challenges.

Personal Development

SHINE Spotlight: Mental Health Awareness Week 2026

This week, students marked Mental Health Awareness Week during their 'In the News' form time sessions, exploring this year's theme of 'Action'.

Students engaged in powerful discussions about how to look after their own wellbeing, recognise when others may be struggling, and take positive steps to support one another. From understanding healthy habits to challenging stigma, pupils showed maturity and empathy in their reflections.

A fantastic week reinforcing our commitment to wellbeing and ensuring every student feels supported to let their light shine.

SHINE Enrichment in Action

It has been another great week across our SHINE Enrichment programme, with students in Years 7–10 fully immersed in creativity, culture and real-world learning. In Fashion, students have continued to refine their illustration skills, drawing inspiration from the work of renowned designer Tony Green as they prepare for an exciting session with him next week. Over in French Culture, pupils explored the geography of France, uncovering what makes it the most visited country in the world and deepening their global understanding. In Hair & Beauty, students developed their practical skills by learning the fundamentals of hairstyling, including sectioning, styling techniques and presentation. Meanwhile, our School Design Team were proudly awarded their designer badges and have already begun shaping ideas to enhance and improve our school environment. A brilliant week showcasing student creativity, ambition and teamwork!

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

- **Year 7:** Students will explore how to maintain good personal and dental hygiene during puberty, including washing routines, skincare, deodorant use, oral health and the importance of healthy habits for physical wellbeing and confidence.
- **Years 8–10:** Students will take part in the national UCL and PSHE Association *AI and Adolescence Research Project*, completing a survey about their experiences of AI, chatbots and digital technology. This is an exciting opportunity for our students to contribute to important national research.
- **Year 11** students are continuing to study hard for their exams.

AI and Adolescence research project
Our school has been invited to take part in this project alongside other schools across the country, in partnership with University College London (UCL) and the PSHE Association. The research explores young people's experiences of AI, chatbots and digital technology.

Careers

This week, we have continued holding personalised 1:1 career discussions with Year 10 students to help them explore their ambitions and plan next steps. Looking ahead, students will be diving into the world of construction, as students learn more about a career as a bricklayer, exploring pathways into the trade, local salary expectations and the key skills and responsibilities needed to succeed.

Please follow the link below to access our careers newsletter:

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

🌟 Year 6 Transition Begins at Bury Church 🌟

We were delighted to begin our enhanced transition programme for Year 6 single entrants on Wednesday 13th May, and what a fantastic start it was!
Students joined us for their first visit, where they enjoyed a guided tour of the school, meeting key members of staff along the way and getting a real feel for life at Bury Church. A highlight of the visit was seeing our new science laboratories, which created great excitement about the opportunities ahead.

Throughout the session, students spent time making new friends, building connections, and taking part in a fun icebreaker activity, helping everyone to feel welcome and at ease.

Meanwhile, parents and carers were invited to enjoy a coffee and a biscuit, along with the opportunity to meet members of our Senior Leadership Team and begin building those important relationships with the school.

We are incredibly excited to continue this journey and are already looking forward to next week's session, where the fabulous Mr Connolly will be leading an action-packed sports activity!

The Bury Church Summer Picnic Event

We are pleased to announce that all students will be taking part in our Bury Church Summer Picnic on Friday 22 May. This afternoon event will celebrate their hard work and positive attitudes throughout the year. Students will enjoy a free hot pasty and drink, music from a DJ, traditional games, and time with friends on the school field. It will be a non-uniform day, and an ice cream van will also be available for optional purchases.

🏃 PE Extra-Curricular Timetable for Term 3 (May to July 2026) – Starts Monday 18th May 2026

After School PE Clubs from 3.10pm to 4pm ***Students MUST bring PE kit*** 👕	
Monday	⚽ Year 7 Boys Football Practice – School Field **(PC/JB)** ⚽ Girls Football Practice for All Year Groups – School Field **(JM/LT)** 💃 Dance Club for All Year Groups – Main Hall **(DT)**
Tuesday	🏏 Rounders Practice for All Year Groups – School Field **(RLD/LT)** 🏏 Cricket Practice for All Year Groups – Tennis Courts **(PC/JB)**
Wednesday	📚 Year 10 AQA GCSE PE Theory Intervention until 3.40pm – F3 **(JB/PC)** 📚 Year 10 and Year 11 OCR Theory Intervention until 3.40pm – Library **(AJN)** 🏃 Athletics Practice for All Year Groups – School Field **(LT/RLD)**
Thursday	🏐 Netball Practice for All Year Groups – Tennis Courts **(LT/RLD)** ⚽ Year 8 Boys Football Practice – School Field **(JB/AJN)** 💃 Dance Club for All Year Groups – Main Hall **(DT)**
Friday	📚 Year 10 AQA GCSE PE Theory Intervention until 3.40pm – please meet at the Sports Hall **(PC)**

PC = Mr Connolly AJN = Mr Jackson RLD = Miss Lloyd

JM = Mr Mort LT = Miss Thompson JB = Mr Bleasdale DT = Mrs Toto

- Students must bring PE kit for the after-school PE events.
- Students must let their parents/carers know if they are attending after school PE events and ensure that they can get safely home.
- Additional PE fixtures/competitions will take place throughout this term and PE staff will update students about these on a regular basis.