



BIRCHWOOD HIGH SCHOOL BIRCHWOOD BULLETIN

24/03/25

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WHOLE SCHOOL NOTICES

1. Reminder to Parents – Considerate Parking Around School

We have received messages from local residents regarding ongoing issues with parking during school drop-off and pick-up times. We kindly ask all parents and carers to be mindful of where they stop their vehicles.

Please do not block driveways, entrances, or exits, and avoid stopping in the middle of the road with hazard lights on. Instead, take a moment to pull over safely and considerately to allow your child to exit the car, ensuring that you are not obstructing access for our neighbours.

Please can we all respect the local community and keep the area around school safe and accessible for everyone.

Thank you for your cooperation.

2. Reminder: Procedure for Students Feeling Unwell During the School Day

We would like to kindly remind you of the procedure for students who are feeling unwell during the school day. If your child is unwell, they should not contact you directly. Instead, they are expected to attend their lesson and inform the teacher of how they are feeling. The teacher will then use their professional judgment to assess the situation and determine if the student needs to see the school nurse.

If the nurse assesses the student and determines that they should go home, parents will be contacted at that point.

We appreciate your cooperation in reinforcing this procedure with your child, as it ensures that we can address their needs in a timely and appropriate manner.

3. Attendance Survey

We are reaching out to kindly request your support in completing an important survey regarding your child's attendance at school.

We ask that you take a few moments to complete the survey with your child. Your feedback will help us better understand the challenges that may impact attendance and, in turn, enable us to tailor the support we provide, as well as the advice and guidance we publish for families.

Please find the link to the survey <https://forms.office.com/e/52mAcigSDv>, and kindly submit your responses by Friday 4th April.

4. Enrichment Week

Please see the following link to the trips timetable for Enrichment Week. Unfortunately, any clashes are due to venue and coach availability and therefore unavoidable.

<https://www.birchwoodhighschool.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=186&type=pdf>

Please note:

- Bowling is still to be agreed with the venue and emails will be sent in the next two weeks
- All payments for trips and events are non-refundable unless a replacement can be found
- For all trips to run successfully it requires the co-operation of students. Continued poor behaviour in school could result in your child being removed from the trip. In this instance no refund will be offered.
- Payment must be made via ParentPay and received in full by Monday 31st March 2025, If payment is not received, we will presume your child is no longer attending.
- We will fund one trip for those eligible for free school meals; any additional trips must be paid for in full in order to participate. Please email Mrs Young – jyoung@birchwoodhigh.org.uk to confirm your child's place
- After the payment deadline you will receive a confirmation that your child has a place, if you do not receive this email your child is not confirmed on the trip
- If trips are under subscribed by the payment deadline, these trips will be cancelled, and you will then receive a full refund
- Please contact the school using the trips email – trips@birchwoodhigh.org.uk with any queries

5. Spring Chamber Concert

Join us for a wonderful evening of music at our Spring Chamber Concert, hosted by our Music Department on Thursday 3 April at 7pm. Tickets are available now on ParentPay.

Poster can be found [here](#).

6. Support Our Sixth Form Business Students

As part of their course, our Sixth Form Business students are planning and running their own events – a fantastic opportunity for them to put their skills into practice.

This year's events include:

- [Bake Sale](#) – Wednesday 26 March, lunchtime.

- [Crossbar Challenge](#) – Thursday 27 March, lunchtime, £1 entry
- [Fashion Show](#) – Friday 28 March, lunchtime.

We'd love your support in encouraging students to get involved.

Posters with full details can be found around the school and are linked above.

7. **Charity Day: Non-Uniform Day**

We have designated **Friday 4 April 2025** as our third Charity Day of the school year.

The Charity Day will be supported by a student 'non-uniform' day, whereby, they can attend school wearing more casual clothes. As this is a charity event, they are expected to donate £1 minimum.

Normal lessons will still take place throughout the day and students are expected to bring all books and equipment as required. Parents and students should bear in mind that the students' choice of 'own clothes' must still be sensible and in keeping with what is acceptable at school. Rules regarding make up, jewellery etc. will remain and the wearing of shorts, short skirts or revealing tops would be regarded as inappropriate.

[Please see this poster](#) for all the planned events happening on Friday 4 April to support our fundraising.

8. **Notice of Early Closure – Friday 4 April**

Please be aware that the school will close early for students at 1:25pm on the last day of the Spring Term, Friday 4 April.

Please complete the following form regarding the early finish: <https://forms.office.com/e/NxvVUesxTa>

Details for students that use Anita's, ACME coaches or other organised transport will be confirmed shortly.

9. **Bishop's Stortford Initial Teacher Training Information Evening 03/04/25**

If you are interested in starting a career in teaching, please see below the flyer for the upcoming BSITT Information Evening on 3 April 2025 6-8pm

TRAIN TO TEACH

BISHOP'S STORTFORD
INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING

tes
institute

MEET THE TEAM
Join us and find out how we can help you start your teaching journey!

Leventhorpe School
Cambridge Road | Sawbridgeworth | CM21 9BY

Thursday 3rd April 2025

6pm - 8pm

For more information or to register your interest, please visit www.bsitt.co.uk

10. Co-Curriculum Reminder

Our Co-Curriculum (linked below) is filled with activities and ideas chosen by each of our subject departments to help you get inspired. These activities will give you lots of different ways to explore topics and learn more about the things you enjoy. You'll find suggestions for things to Watch, Listen, Read, Go, and Do—and they're designed to be interesting and challenging, so you'll always have something new to try!

[Discover more.](#)

11. Weekly Safeguarding Tips: Contacting Support

If you or your child need support, remember there are services available, such as NSPCC (0808 800 5000) or Childline (0800 1111).

Our school safeguarding team is here to help. Contact us if you have concerns about your child's safety or well-being using safeguarding@birchwoodhigh.org.uk

12. Careers Notices:

- *Interested in a Career in the Screen Industries?*

If your child is showing an interest in working in film, TV, animation, VFX, or gaming, this **Parent's Guide to Careers in the Screen Industries** is a useful starting point. You can read the guide here:

[Parent's Guide to Screen Careers \(PDF\)](#)

It includes information on pathways, skills, and how to support your child's ambitions in this growing and exciting sector.

YEAR 7

N/A

YEAR 8

Update from Mrs Hinski

We look forward to the House assemblies this week, spreading good cheer and praise. Followed by the last week of term with Celebration Assemblies for each year group. Year 8 have continued to work hard, and it will be great to share this across the year group. We also look forward to new staff joining after the Easter break which will help to ensure consistency of teaching across the curriculum and with the behaviour policy.

As we near the summer term and (hopefully) Spring is on its way, please be reminded that students continue to wear full school uniform. This includes blazer and leather shoes. Trainers are not permitted with school uniform. Please use the Easter break to purchase new school shoes.

PE kit should not be worn to school - if uniform is wet, please send your child in with the remainder that is dry, and they can borrow the missing item from Visitor Reception. May you also remind your child that the hardcourt area is out of bounds before the school day, as it is not patrolled by staff and therefore safeguarding is not guaranteed.

YEAR 9

N/A

YEAR 10

Year 10 Work Shadowing Day – Wednesday 25 June

To help students gain insight into the world of work, we are running a Work Shadowing Day on Wednesday 25 June.

Students must log their placement details on Unifrog by Friday 23 May, which will trigger an employer approval process. Those without a placement will be expected in school on the day.

For more information, please refer to the FAQ sheet emailed on Friday, or contact crimesj@birchwoodhigh.org.uk.

Year 10 Provisional Mock Dates

Year 10 Mocks are set for the week beginning 16th June. Students will sit 1 exam per core subject. This is scheduled at the end of the public exam period. We will confirm which exam is on which day closer to the time.

Year 10 Dance Revision Sessions:

Please be aware of the following upcoming dance revision session with Mrs Goddard

- Thursday 27th March, 3.15-4pm in B23

YEAR 11

Free webinar for students & parents: The UCAS Personal Statement is Changing

UCAS have recently amended the personal statement format from one longer essay to three structured questions, affecting all students applying to a UK university from next year onward.

To support your child in navigating these changes, InvestIN is hosting a free, interactive webinar led by experts, covering everything they need to know to make their application stand out.

We strongly encourage parents of Year 11 and Year 12 students to attend alongside their child to gain valuable insights into the new format and understand what skills and experiences will help them craft strong responses.

Date & Time: 26th March, 6-7pm

Online - Register [here](#)

If you cannot attend live, please register to automatically receive the recording.

SIXTH FORM

Year 13 Prom

An email was sent out last week with further details about the Year 13 Prom, which will take place on Wednesday 2nd July 2025.

Payment should be made via ParentPay by Friday 4th April 2025. Please ensure payments are made on time to secure a place.

Yr 12 Business Mock Exam

Please be aware of the following date for Business students:

- Yr 12 Doubles: Unit 3 Mock on 27th March
- Yr 12 Singles Unit 2 Mock on 25th March Part A and 26th March Part B.
- Year 12 Doubles Unit 3 Grade Booster Trip to Westfield Stratford on 25th March.



FASHION SHOW

FRI 28 MARCH

MAIN HALL- LUNCH TIME
13:30 PM - 14:00 PM

**GENERAL TICKETS- £1
FRONT ROW TICKETS- £2
CANS OF DRINK- £1**

TICKETS CAN BE BOUGHT IN FORM TIME OR AT THE EVENT.
EMAIL 18FOWLERE@BIRCHWOODHIGH.ORG.UK WITH ANY QUESTIONS OR
TO BUY TICKETS

Crossbar challenge

27TH March

Lunchtime on the Astro

BE THERE TO WIN A £25 VOUCHER

£1 ENTRY RAFFLE

**IF YOU LOVE FOOTBALL, THIS IS FOR YOU.
THERE'S A PRIZE FOR THE WINNER.**



CROSSBAR!!!!!!!

Bake Sale

£1 a
baked
treat

WEDNESDAY 26TH MARCH

At lunchtime outside B-block

Guess
how many
sweets are
in the jar!
(£1 a guess)





FRIDAY 4 APRIL

Easter Charity Day Events

FORM TIME

Kahoot Quiz
(see Tutor Notice board)

BREAKTIME

Easter Egg Treasure Hunt - Everywhere!
There are 100 to find. When you have found one bring it to the piazza for a sweet!

Cake & Sweets Stall - Piazza
£1.50 cupcake | £2.00 sweet cones

Prepaid Cake & Sweet Collection - B11
(for those who ordered via ParentPay)

Guess The Mini Eggs In The Jar – Piazza

Bake Off Competition- Library

Raffle being drawn
Prizes will be delivered to the winner during P4

SPRING CHAMBER CONCERT

Thursday 3 April | 7pm | Drama Studio
Tickets available on ParentPay now

