

BILTON NEWS

Newsletter February 2025



**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



Year 8 Whitemoor Lakes

Be the best you can be!



Childrens Mental Health Week 2025.
Our Theme this year was "Here For You - Here For Each Other"

What a brilliant start to 2025!



**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



ATTENDANCE TARGET

No more than 3 missed school days across the academic year

**You belong here.
You can thrive here!**

#AttendanceMatters



Stowe Valley
SOUTH ACADEMY TRUST

This half term has seen 143 of our Year 8 students exhibiting our core value of resilience during their trip to Whitemoor Lakes, the tales and memories students have shared with us are an absolute pleasure to see. The Year 10 Maths trip to Paris certainly honed their Maths skills as well as taking in a range of cultural experiences. Sixth Form have jetted to New York and become immersed in American life. All these memorable experiences contribute to the well-rounded young individuals who thrive at Bilton School. Kindness has shone through with our well being ambassadors supporting across the school culminating in our cake sale last week. We were also very privileged to be nominated and then

selected by CWR to be the Star School. The broadcasts on the radio demonstrated our students as fine and upstanding young people, a credit to you and the school. Year 11 have applied their resilience and completed their second set of mock exams. Their perseverance is shining through with students making great progress as we move towards their final exams in the Summer. You will see we are promoting student attendance to school; we know if students attend school, minimise lost learning, they achieve better outcomes in their final exams. Your continued support in this is greatly appreciated. I wish you all a restful half term.

Ms Delves, Headteacher

Whitemoor Lakes



For the fourth year running Year 8 challenged themselves with an outward bounds trip in February to Whitemoor Lakes. In their activity groups they get involved with climbing activities, gladiator, canoeing, archery, orienteering and team games. All of the pupils and staff motivated each other to join in, aim high and have resilience. The weather was bright and the teamwork on the activities meant everyone had a great time. They will receive their Gold C&C badges next week from time. Brilliant trip, brilliant pupils.



The Big Create

Tutor groups have been participating in this term's Big Create with the theme of Resolutions – New term, New goals.

Students have been reflecting on healthy lifestyle choices as well as some more academic goals within lessons for the coming year.

Special mentions to 9B2, 8A1 and 8A3 with some brilliant entries as judged by student council



Otello Workshop



Our Sixth Form Literature students were incredibly privileged to have a workshop with Emertius Carol Rutter who taught both Miss Maryon and Mr Laffey at Warwick University .

The workshop was engaging, mesmerising, and joyful ! It allowed students to explore the theme of love in Othello, to help prepare for their upcoming exams .

Carol mentioned that "yourself" used to be written as two words. She hopes that students will continue to appreciate Shakespeare and how his key ideas and themes can be applied to present day, but what she hopes for most is that they take time to reflect and understand themselves, because "your self" is the greatest person you can be.

Thank you for taking the time from your busy schedule to work with our students today .

Bilton English Department

Year 11 Theatre Trip

On Wednesday 29th January the Performing Arts Department took 43 students across Years 9-11 to see the touring production of Dear Evan Hansen at Milton Keynes Theatre. Both students and staff had a wonderful time and enjoyed the show!



UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge



We had 115 students from years 9, 10 and 11 take part in the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge, a nationwide competition reserved only for the most talented mathematicians!

Armed with only a pencil and a piece of paper, the challenge involves 25 tricky problem solving questions designed to make students think outside of the box compared to their usual classroom learning. Students approached this with a great attitude and worked really hard to complete the challenge, making sure they were really careful with their answers as some wrong answers may mean they lose points!

We are really proud of how resilient the students were, as for some this was their first time participating. We can't wait to see the results!

Miss Boucher

Careers Fair

Bilton School hosted 27 different external employers, businesses, and education providers for our 2025 careers fair. This year we opened the event up to every year group, providing all our students with this valuable career learning opportunity. Students had their opportunity to ask our externals some valuable questions.

Some of our external employers commented on how polite our students were. We also invited our parents to this event after school, offering families with extra support their child's career choices and options.

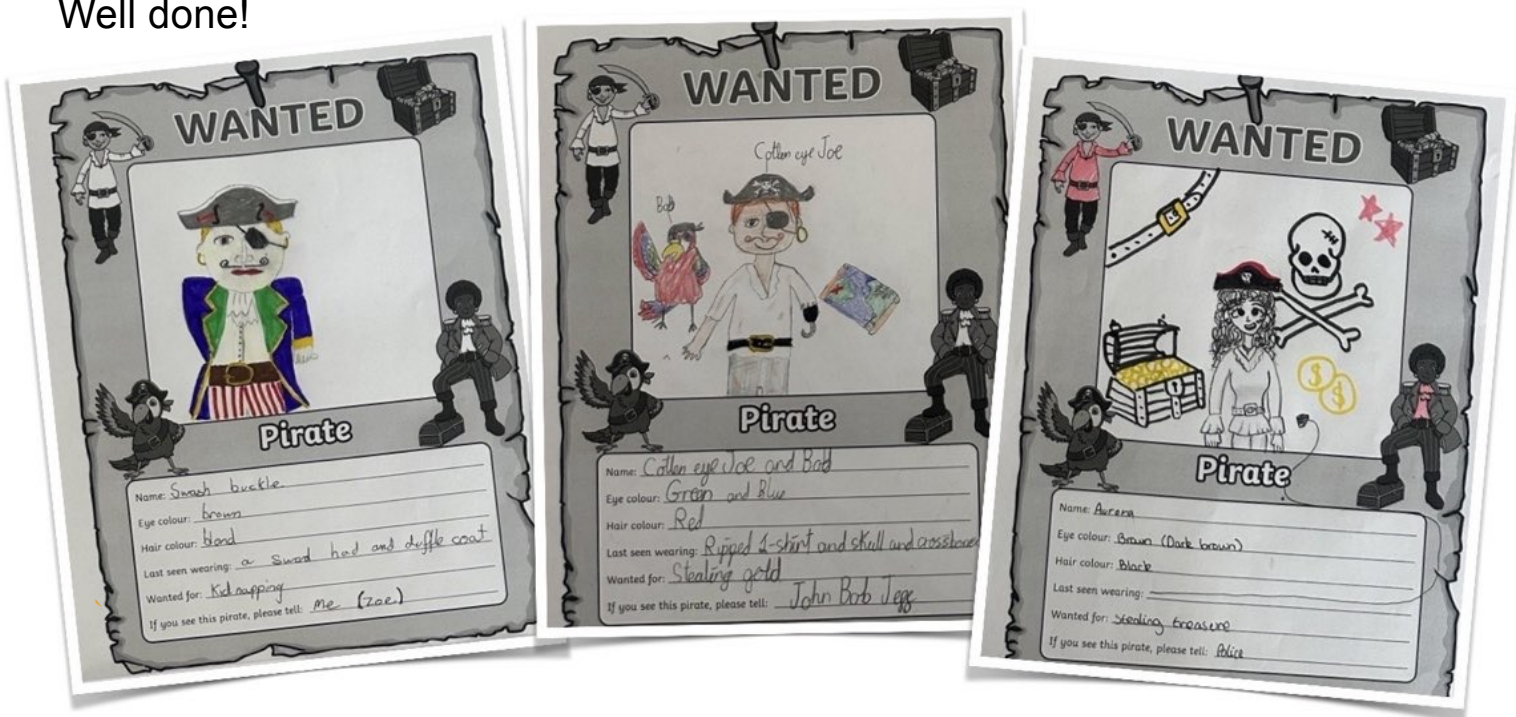
We even had a special visit from our local fire rescue and service providers, our students were delighted to visit their fire engine.



Drama

Year 7 have been studying Treasure Island in Drama this term. 7B1 explored designing their own Pirates, we had some great examples from Cora and Zoe.

Well done!



Bilton School is the Star School

Bilton School is the Star School on Breakfast with Phil Upton, BBC Coventry & Warwickshire Radio. We were visited by Dan Sambell from the radio to meet our students and to shine a spotlight on our school. It was a great opportunity for our students to share what they love about their school. They commented on their favourite places in school; what clubs and trips they like joining in with, and had a chance to deliver a fun fact that they have learnt in their lessons.

Tune in and have a listen.

[https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p0klx1xs?
partner=uk.co.bbc&origin=share-
mobile&fbclid=IwY2xjawIRR1hleHRuA2
FibQIxMQABHS6FV0FLNqiu0VAYNRW
AiWCNhZenT0NbftK6cwftqtKbtpJHEa
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Loudmouth

This term, a highly respected and innovative theatre group, Loudmouth, led interactive sessions with Year 8 which linked to our RSE programme. After a powerful performance, the Loudmouth actors facilitated form group workshops discussing and gaining an understanding of the topic. Loudmouth have been working across the Midlands with young people since 1994 and our pupils speak highly of them when they have a session.

Art and Photography trip

Art and Photography trip to Compton Verney Art Gallery.

Year 11s, 12s and 13s had a fabulous day at Compton Verney this week gathering research for their upcoming GCSE /A Level Art and Photography exams. There was a huge variety of art to be see and learn about. The Chila Kumani Singh Burman exhibition was particularly interesting, a real spectacle, as were the outdoor sculptures, including Helen Chadwick's flowers.

Thank you to everyone who came on the trip. You behaved impeccably and represented Bilton brilliantly. The learning officer at Compton said, "It was great to talk to such polite, interested students.". She also said she was genuinely delighted to hear the students had enjoyed their trip to Compton.

Well done all; Mrs Parker, Miss Back and Miss Dumbleton are very proud of you



Wellbeing

From the Wellbeing Ambassadors

The Wellbeing Ambassadors are students who are focused on: supporting, leading and implementing wellness initiatives in school for the benefit of our whole school community.

The Wellbeing Ambassadors meet every Tuesday morning in the library at form time and have representatives from all year groups. They also host games in the library on a Friday. If you are interested in joining the Wellbeing Ambassadors and /or joining in with games in the library on a Friday lunchtime, please speak to either Ms Ansell or Ms Willington.

This week has been Children's Mental Health which culminated in a cake sale raising money for Joe's Buddy Line. To date £78 has been raised. Thank you to everyone who supported the sale

Trophies for Best Cakes

Best Staff cake was awarded to Mrs Gowling for her gooey toffee sponge extravaganza

Best student cake was awarded to 6th former Mari-Liis for her mocha, chocolate brownies which were gluten free and vegan.



RISE Project

A number of our Wellbeing Ambassadors are incredibly fortunate to be involved in the RISE Project which is running in conjunction with the RYTC. The students will gain an Arts 1 qualification and also be ambassadors for RISE, focusing on the mental health and wellbeing of their peers and supporting them in the school community

Kooth

Students have regular assemblies with Kooth to support their wellbeing. Today students listened to KoothKlass in their C and C time to understand the theme of Mental Health Week and to support their wellbeing. According to a recent [BBC](#) article, nearly 60% of young people have experienced negative impacts from online interactions. Kooth, provides a clinically safe and moderated digital space where young people can seek support for their mental health without fear of trolling, discrimination, or sharing personal details. Kooth reviews all user-generated content, and anonymity is strictly maintained.

Kooth regularly has workshops for families and specialist events for more information go to : [Home - Kooth](#)



Kooth Podcast

Kooth
Join us as we chat about everything mental wellbeing from building self esteem, to letting out our lockdown frustrations - as well... [more](#)

Listen now on



It is also worth listening to their podcasts which are on a number of different platforms

Literacy



SPARK! 5 2025

Reading for Pleasure

SPARK! SCHOOL BOOK AWARD

Shortlists

Bilton library is participating in Spark! School Book Award

11+ CATEGORY

- Here to Stay* by Radhika Sehgal
- It All Started With a Bug* by Denise Brown
- King of Nothing* by Nathaniel Lees
- Wild East* by Ashley Hickson-Lovence

Poetry Competition - Year 7 - 10

Use the title or cover of one of these books to inspire you.

Haps for all entries and prizes for winners.

Best entries will be forwarded to Spark for the National competition

Closing date 5th March 2025

Hand entries to library or email willington.g@stowevalley.com

A huge well done to our sixth form and year 11 prefects volunteers who have shown themselves to be responsible and diligent reading mentors. Our year 7s are getting so much out of the reading sessions and are enjoying the time to read aloud once a week in the sanctuary of the library. Keep up the excellent work!

1-9 February 2025

National Storytelling Week

Reimagine your world



National Literacy Trust

Change your story

Supported by

amazon

Well done to those students who attended the live literacy workshop in the library on the 4th Feb.

You are still in with a chance to win!

Submit your stories here [Reimagine Your World KS3 Resources | National Storytelling Week 2025 | National Literacy Trust](#)

Attendance Chat



THURSDAYS
9.30-10.30AM

With Cathy Dillon
Attendance Lead



School Cloud appointment

Would you like to connect with us
about your child's attendance?

SCHOOL CLOUD ATTENDANCE CHAT

Would you like an opportunity to talk about how
we can support your child to come in to school?

We can help!

Explore how we can support further

To book

Email  bil_attendance@stowevalley.com



Craft clubbers have been working very hard to finish their macrame coasters this half term! We have all learned a new skill and have created some wonderfully colourful coasters as a result!
Well done craft club!



**ATTENDANCE
TARGET**
for all students is



*No more than 3 missed school days across the academic year, ie, 1 day every 2 half-terms plus 1 day for any other absence

