

BILTON NEWS

Newsletter October 2025



**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Year 7 Problem Solving Day



ATTENDANCE TARGET

No more than 3 missed school days across the academic year.

Be the best you can be!



10th October - We have had a great day spreading awareness for World Mental Health Day. We have been raising money for Mind - a local charity.

"What a fantastic start to the academic year! "



What a fantastic start to the academic year! Students have returned to school with great motivation,

engaging fully in their studies and participating enthusiastically in all aspects of school life. Our Year 7 students have settled in brilliantly—they are an absolute credit to both the school and their families.

We have seen our core values of respect, resilience, and kindness actively demonstrated across a wide range of activities. From the charity bake sale that raised funds for Myton Hospice, to our problem-solving day where students showcased teamwork and perseverance, the road safety workshops that help safeguard our children, and the many careers events designed to spark thinking

about future pathways—each has been a testament to our vibrant school culture.

Our open evenings have been incredibly well attended, and I am delighted to share the many positive comments we have received from visitors about how pleasant, polite, and helpful our students are when supporting these events.

I would also like to thank you for your continued support in upholding the school's mobile phone policy. This has had a profoundly positive impact on both staff and students. The freedom from social media for six hours a day is empowering for our young people and helps ensure full concentration in lessons.

Wishing you a restful half-term break. I look forward to welcoming our students back in November.

Ms Delves, Headteacher

P.E Clubs 2025 - Half Term 2

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Netball- All Years	Department Meetings	Darts Club All Years	Girls Football All Years	Running Club All Years
Boys KS3 Fitness Club- Years 7-9	Badminton Fixtures	Girls Fitness Club All Years	Table Tennis/ Badminton All Years	GCSE PE Intervention

Rugby Art Gallery Exhibition

Congratulations to our students who have their artwork exhibited at Rugby Art Gallery in the 'Art of our Schools' exhibition. It brings together artwork from KS3-KS5 across nine secondary schools in Rugby and is on display until September 20th.

We highly recommend visiting to see what's happening in art rooms across the town and celebrating the arts in education!

Thank you to all who came along to the opening night, your work looked fantastic, and we are so proud of all of you.



Problem Solving Day

Year 7 had a great day working on their team building skills – they successfully worked together and tried out 8 different activities on the field in glorious sunshine.

The company were really impressed with how the pupils showed resilience and kept trying even at challenging tasks.

We look forward to using the team building skills in everyday school life.

Year 8 Abstract Art

Year 8 have enjoyed creating these fabulous abstract art pieces in class this term. They have been exploring layering and mixed media techniques inspired by the artist Jane Davies.



Year 13 Art

Year 13 Art are settling in well to their final year. Beautiful work. Well done all.



Latest Duke of Edinburgh News



Congratulations to all Year 10 and Year 11 who have completed their Bronze award and now received their certificates.

58 Year 9s have now enrolled onto Bronze and are looking forward to starting their activities for each of the sections. First training for expedition is Saturday 28th February 2026.



Go Ape

On Tuesday 1st October, Year 12 took part in a team building event at Go Ape. Student's testing their leadership and communication skills whilst taking part in Archery Tag and overcoming problems as a team.

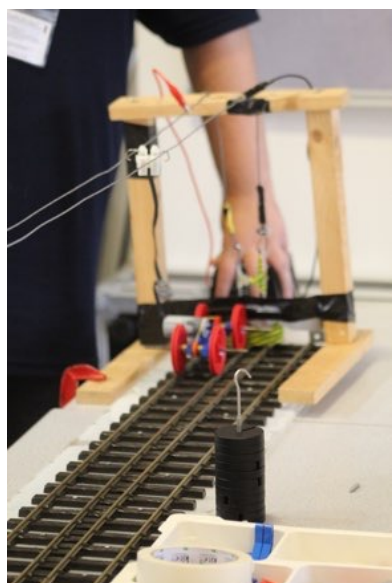
Road Safety

On Thursday 25th September, Sixth Form students welcomed The Journey Warwickshire into school to deliver a session on Road Safety. Year 12 Students engaged in a talk on Learning to Drive for Life and Year 13 were informed about drugs, alcohol, and driving.

If you are supporting a young driver, here is some information from the DVLA - **[A parent's guide to supporting new drivers](#)**



Year 9 STEM Workshop



Our year 9 students have had a engaging day participating in the smallpeice STEM workshop. Students developed their teamworking skills throughout the day.

They were set the task of designing a new sustainable train station. They developed their engineering skills when designing, building and testing train chassis. They then pitched their design ideas as a group presentation to their peers. We were incredibly proud of their efforts and participation with this careers workshop. The students who completed the event will be entered for the Crest Awards. A special mention for our students in team 10 today, our external stem specialist selected this team as the winning team.

Post 16 Football

Bilton post 16 played their first match vs Princethorpe. The match was played with a great atmosphere and was competitive until the end. Princethorpe took an early lead after a fairly even first 10 minutes. However, after a slightly dubious dive from Sam, Bilton were awarded a penalty and head boy Emmanuel converted with confidence. The remaining of the match could have gone either way with chances at both ends, however Princethorpe just nicked it at the end with the final score being Bilton 1 Princethorpe 2. A great start to post 16 football with hopefully many more matches to come.

Mr Wragg



Rewards at Bilton

Rewards are now different within Bilton and Ms Keell has been working with Student Council representatives from each year group to amend and improve the rewards system.

From September students in Year 7-10 are now working towards their Bronze, Silver and Gold reward badges, which come with additional goodies packed by student council members.

Year 11 are completing their Passports to Prom, as well as receiving rewards in each assembly for raffle tickets awarded in GCSE Lessons.

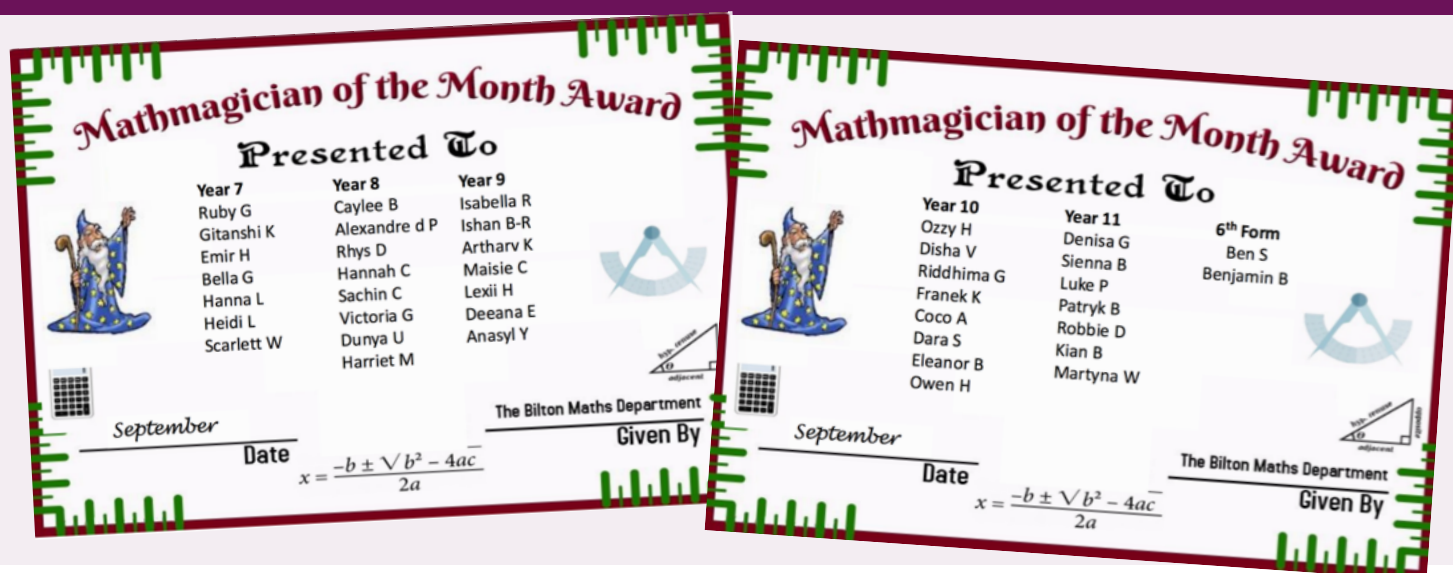
Sixth Formers are also working towards their HAPA awards, where they get rewards for their hard work, attendance, punctuality and academic success.

All Haps in 7-9 now rollover into the next academic year and additional rewards for outstanding achievements can also be achieved.

Top earners in each year group are rewarded each half term, and weekly winners are also recognised in year assemblies.



Mathemagicians of the Month



Gambling Harm Awareness Program

Year 9 and Year 12 students had the incredible opportunity to hear from basketball player Jordan Spencer, who visited as part of the EPIC Global Solutions Gambling Harm Awareness Program.

Jordan shared his powerful personal journey, highlighting the challenges he's faced and the importance of resilience, support, and making positive choices. His message truly resonated with our students:

- “A really interesting assembly with an emotional and intriguing story”
- “Very inspiring”
- “Feel inspired not to give up when life is difficult”
- “I feel encouraged to ask for help”

Thank you, Jordan, for your honesty, strength, and motivation. You've left a lasting impact on our school community.



The Big Create



The first Big Create of the year focused on celebrating our school's key values: Respect, Resilience and Kindness. There are some fantastic doors across the school and was a real buzz around the Big Create, so thank you!

Congratulations to 9A4, who have won our first decorate of the year! The door showed great team work as a form, amazing creativity and a real understanding of the school values.

Student Success

Codie plays for Barkers Butts Rugby club in Coventry. Codie is a diverse player, with her main position being fly half, but can also play as a centre. Codie and her team at Barkers Butts have just played their first national cup game of the season and won. Codie was selected to play for UR7s national academy 2 years ago, where she continues to be coached by elite athletes from the GB7s team the England Rugby team and other nation coaches. Having recently tried out for Warwickshire U16s girls she has been selected to represent her county. Codie has ambitions to go to either Hartpury or Loughborough college at the end of her GCSE's to pursue playing rugby professionally and is currently pending selection to represent UR7s nationally at an upcoming tour in Portugal.



Axiom Maths Circles

Mrs Baker has enjoyed running Axiom Maths Circles for year 7 mathematicians afterschool on Mondays. This afterschool club has involved students grappling with intriguing problems and ideas, learning to think, speak and work like a university mathematician, working in a team and enjoying getting stuck as well as getting unstuck. So far students have tried systematic searching, square and prime number problems and multiplication head-scratchers. Mrs Baker would like to shout out Alicja T's adventurous mind, Mark R's amazing articulation, Errin H's rallying enthusiasm, and Ewan C's mathematical intuitiveness.

If any more budding year 7 mathematicians would be interested in the club, then please Mrs Baker in K1 or ask their maths teacher.

World Mental Health Day

On Friday 10th October, we recognised World Mental Health Day by wearing a Hat! It was a time to show kindness and respect for those who may struggle at times and need to reach out. With our message that 'It's ok not to be ok' we asked students and staff to donate to CWW Mind which is a local charity that supports people when they need it most. If you wish to support our fundraising, donations are still be accepted.

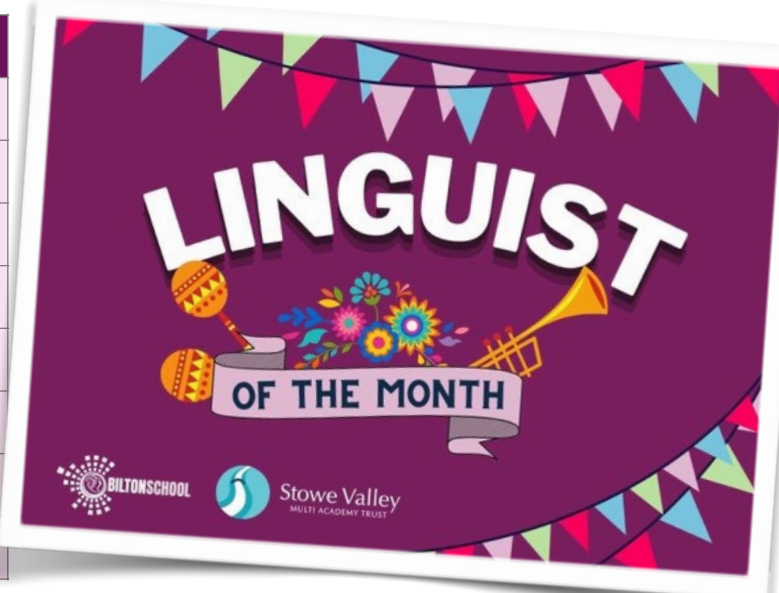


Linguists of the Month - September 2025

Class	Staff	Name
7a1	Mrs Mawee & Mr McShane	Jax J
7a2	Mrs Elana	Finley M
7a3	Mr McShane	Connor C
7a4	Mrs Mawee	Tehara D
7b1	Mrs Mawee	Lewis P
7b2	Mrs Elana	Bella G
7b3	Mrs Elana & Mrs Mawee	Evie L
7b4	Mrs Elana & Mr McShane	Bethany W

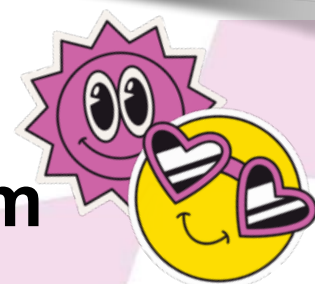
Class	Staff	Name
8a1	Mr McShane	Lana M
8a2	Mr McShane	Blake H
8a3	Mrs Mawee	Mazie F
8a4	Mrs Elana	Macawley B
8b1	Mrs Mawee	Kayla M
8b2	Mrs Elana	Harvey S
8b3	Mr McShane	Evie-May H
8b4	Mrs Mawee & Mr McShane	Destiny J

Class	Staff	Name
9a1	Mrs Elana	Martha D
9a2	Mr McShane	Deeana E
9a3	Mrs Mawee	Jenson K
9a4	Mrs Elana	Layla E
9b1	Mrs Mawee	Harkamal L
9b2	Mr McShane	Brooklyn R
9b3	Mrs Mawee	Millie W
9b4	Mr McShane	Anisha R



WOW

Top Hap Earner this half term



Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
Jax J David B Bella P Matilda P Ben S Charlie R Dexter W Elsie W Isaac H Heidi L Oliver U	Charlie D Eli W Conor N Toby L Lizzy W Harry B Shriya S Dhiewa P Mason C Harrison L	Liam H Aurora W Maia B Lara H Charlie M Max R Alfie B Orla G Finley-Troy C Oscar C	Phoebe E Riley M Ava W Cerys B Marcus G Josh J Miles V Coco A Dareena F Zach K	Sophie T Justin J Tofunmi T Amelia J Mason K Esmay D Denisa D Amelia W Esme M Charlie S	Katie A Isaac F Toby B Oliver G Abbie D Ioannis L Natalea I Abbie F Jordan R Elliot B	Thomas D Lily-Faye C Oscar H Rafaela M Hasan I Tanha T Henritta K Benjamin B Jacob F Preistly A

Student Success



Fantastic and proud news for the Bilton community. We are very excited to share that George Shepherd (16years old) who left us last year was named as a first team substitute at the weekend for Coventry City's first team EFL Championship game vs Blackburn Rovers.

Amazing to hear manager Frank Lampard speak so highly of George and we will of course be tracking his progress throughout his early career and beyond.

Good luck George and best wishes from all at Bilton School.

Congratulations to Erika M, who has been selected to take part in Swim England's National Age Group Development Programme for 2025-2026. The National Age Group Development Program is a series of camps for swimmers aged 11-15 that focus on developing technical and tactical race skills, as well as education and coaching.

England Talent Swimming involves four stages of swimmer development for athletes aged from 11 to 19. The four stages are designed to help swimmers reach their maximum potential as a swimmer and eventually step up onto British Swimming's World Class Pathway, where they could become funded athletes.



Congratulations to Ben Wyle from Rugby and Northampton athletics club and Bilton class of 2025, who has been selected for this years England Athletics Youth Talent Programme. A fantastic achievement Ben, well done. All at Bilton wish you well as you continue your sprinting journey. Only 220 young athletes selected across the country.

Attendance

Absence and First Day Contact

If your child is unable to attend school, you should inform us on the first day of absence before 8.30am via the Studybugs app - **Studybugs - Parents**

Medical Appointments

Where possible, appointments should be made out of school hours or in school holidays. However, we realise this is occasionally not possible. Students should come into school before and after appointments to ensure they miss as little lesson time as possible. If possible, we ask that if these appointments are made during the school day, then please try to avoid 08.50-09:30 and 12.00pm - 1.00pm. Please report these through Studybugs.

Punctuality

Please ensure that your child arrives at school by 8.45am so that they are present and ready for tutor; this starts at 08:50am each day. School gates close at 08:00am, students arriving after 08:45am will be given a late mark and a detention the following day. If your child arrives after 9.15am they are marked as unauthorised absence for the morning session.

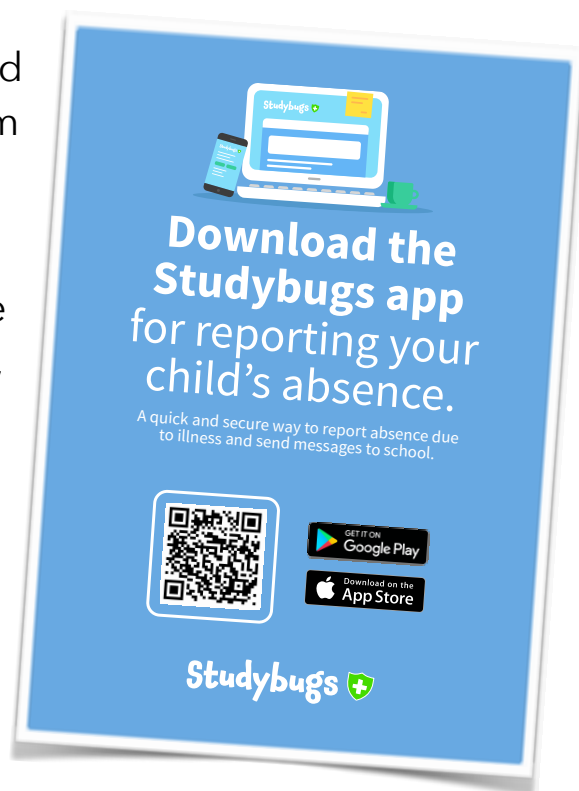
Requesting a leave of absence for your child

Parents/carers should notify the school as soon as possible ideally at least 2 weeks before the intended absence for exceptional circumstance.

Please complete the following form and email a copy to

BLattendance@stowevalley.com

ApplicationforLeaveofAbsenceSeptember2024.pdf



ATTENDANCE TARGET

No more than 3 missed school days across the academic year.

Together Through Challenging Times



We know that life has become harder for many people over the last year. Across the UK, the cost of living continues to rise, energy bills are stretching budgets, and too many families are facing housing uncertainty.

Here in Bilton, Rugby and across Coventry and Warwickshire, we see those same pressures affecting our own community. Some of our students, friends and neighbours are living with the very real stress of making ends meet, keeping warm, or finding somewhere secure to call home.

At Bilton High School, we believe in our values of Respect, Resilience and Kindness – and this is exactly the time when those values matter most. This newsletter is about sharing information, shining a light on where support can be found, and showing how we can all look after each other.

What's Happening Nationally

Families across England are facing higher housing costs, with councils reporting more requests for homelessness support.

Energy prices, while capped, are still leaving many households classed as “fuel poor” – unable to heat their homes affordably.

These worries often spill over into family life, bringing stress and uncertainty for young people at home and in school.

What It Means Locally

Coventry and Warwickshire councils are receiving more requests for help with housing and living costs.

Rugby Borough Council continues to provide emergency housing and advice for families in crisis.

Foodbanks and charities in Rugby and Coventry are seeing demand rise sharply.

The Household Support Fund is being used by Warwickshire County Council to provide extra help with energy, food, and essentials.

How We're Supporting at Bilton

We know that the challenges outside school can affect what happens inside school. That's why we're:

Offering pastoral and wellbeing support to any student who needs it.

Making sure staff can signpost families quickly to the right services.

Working with local organisations to keep up to date with what's available.

Reminding every student and family that it's okay to ask for help.

Together Through Challenging Times

Where to Find Help

If you or someone you know is struggling, here are trusted organisations who can offer support:

Coventry City Council - Housing & Homelessness:

coventry.gov.uk/homelessness

Rugby Borough Council - Housing Support:

rugby.gov.uk/homelessness

Warwickshire Cost of Living Hub:

warwickshire.gov.uk/costofliving

Coventry Foodbank (Trussell Trust):

coventry.foodbank.org.uk

Hope4 Rugby (Halo Centre):

hope4.org.uk

Shelter (England) - housing advice and advocacy:

shelter.org.uk

Centrepont - support for young people facing homelessness:

centrepont.org.uk

Turn2Us - grants and benefits advice:

turn2us.org.uk

How You Can Help Others

We also know that some families in our community want to help. You can: Donate food or funds to local charities like [Coventry Foodbank](https://coventry.foodbank.org.uk) or [Hope4 Rugby](https://hope4.org.uk).

Volunteer your time with a community organisation.

Support our own **school-led drives** – from collections to fundraising – when we run them.

Small acts of kindness can make a big difference.

In Closing

We want every family at Bilton School to know that you are not alone. These are challenging times, but together we are stronger. If you're struggling, please reach out – whether to one of the organisations listed, or directly to us at school. And if you're in a position to help, please consider joining us in supporting others.

Respect, Resilience, Kindness – our values don't just stay in the classroom; they guide us in the community too.



LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME

UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time (Platt v Isle of Wight 2017). The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

The law states a leave of absence may only be granted by a school if an application is made in advance and if it considers there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application.

Schools must judge each application individually considering the specific facts and circumstances and relevant background context behind each request.

A leave of absence is granted entirely at the school's discretion. Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation would not constitute an exceptional circumstance.

Where a leave of absence is granted, the school will determine the number of days a pupil can be absent from school.

When making an application for Leave of Absence parents are advised to give sufficient information and time to allow the Head teacher the opportunity to consider all the exceptional circumstances and to notify parents of their decision. The school may also request further information on the application and supporting documentation where appropriate.

It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is the parents' responsibility to ascertain if the leave is authorised prior to the start of the leave.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent ie the parent with whom the child normally resides.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child is expected to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Where a leave of absence is requested, but additional days taken either prior to or after the request may be considered as part of the leave of absence.

Leave of Absences which are not made in advance cannot be authorised in line with legislation. This will result in the absence being recorded as 'unauthorised'.

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council. Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices and in the first instance, as an alternative to prosecution proceedings.

The law relating to Penalty Notices changed with effect from 19 August 2024. Therefore, Penalty Notices issued for Leave of Absence taken from September 2024 will be issued in accordance with the updated legislation.

- Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices – 4 in total).
 - First Leave of Absence offence: The Penalty Notice amount of £160 to be paid within 28 days, this is reduced to £80 each child if paid within 21 days.
 - Second Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): The amount of £160 paid within 28 days. No reduced amount.
- Payment plans will not be offered and/or payments received outside of the 28 day period will not be accepted. Where a penalty notice expires unpaid the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider criminal prosecution.
- Third Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): A penalty notices will be not be issued and the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal prosecution proceedings under S444 of Education Act 1996.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority.



WINTER VARIETY SHOW 2025

Join us and be dazzled by the diverse range of performers!
From dance to music to comedy, our variety show promises
something amazing for everyone.

Thursday 27th November 7.00pm

Kay Hall, Bilton School

TICKETS CAN BE BROUGHT ON THE DOOR OR VIA PARENT PAY



Stowe Valley
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST



HALLOWEEN SAFETY



With Halloween fast approaching please have a read about the importance of safety at this time of year

In some places, on average, children are more than twice as likely to be hit by a car and killed on Halloween than on any other day of the year.

TOP TIPS FOR HALLOWEEN SAFETY

1. Check costumes are safe. When selecting a costume, make sure it is the right size to prevent trips and falls and be aware of fire risk. Use LED candles rather than real ones as some costumes can burn very quickly. Choose face paint over masks when possible. Masks can limit children's vision.
2. Children under age 12 should normally be accompanied by a grown up. Consider going trick or treating as a small group rather than alone.
3. Plan your Route - No one wants to get lost or find themselves far away from home on Halloween night. Make sure you plan your trick or treating route in advance.
4. If you are not trick or treating with an adult, teenagers should know when they are expected home, to save parents unwanted worry. Know what to do if a someone or something makes you feel unsafe.
5. Adults should know where children are – and give clear boundaries and times to return home.
6. Carry glow sticks LEDs, or torches, use reflective tape or stickers on costumes and bags, and wear light colours to help children see and be seen by drivers.
7. Cross all roads with care - If you come to cross a road, remove your mask, and make sure the road is completely clear when you come to make your move.
8. Children - watch out for unpredictable drivers. Drivers watch out for unpredictable children!
9. Only to trick or treat at houses which are well lit, or which are decorated with Halloween themed decorations or lit pumpkins. Some people may not want to be disturbed.
10. CHECK YOUR SWEETS – Are you allergic? Make sure you or your parents check your sweets to make sure you are not allergic to any of your Halloween treats, or that you have received any treats that aren't worth eating... nobody wants to be poorly for Bonfire Night.





ANGUS STEAKHOUSE

Kids under 8 eat FREE daily, 12pm to 5pm

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 daily, with no adult spend

ASK ITALIAN

Kids under 10 eat for £1 during school holidays

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main

BILLS

Kids Eat Free weekdays, 27th - 31st October 2025

BREWDOG

1 Kid eats free with 1 adult. Scotland 13th - 17th Oct
England & Wales 27th - 31st Oct

BURGER KING

From 13th Oct - 2nd Nov, Kids Eat Free (via app)

CHIQUITO

Kids eat FREE Daily 27th - 31st October

COCONUT TREE

Kids eat FREE Daily Mon 27th Oct - Sun 9th Nov 2025

DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES

Kids eat for £1 with an adult breakfast or lunch

FARMHOUSE INNS

2 Kids eat free From Mon 6th - Fri 17 Oct
(Scotland) & Fri 17th - Fri 31 Oct (England & Wales),

FLAMING GRILL

1 Kids eats free, Mon 13th - 20th Oct (Scotland) &
Mon 20th - Fri 31 Oct (England & Wales)

FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 10 eat FREE all day, every day

HUNGRY HORSE

2 Kids eat free From Mon 6th - Fri 17 Oct (Scotland)
& Fri 17th - Fri 31 Oct (England & Wales),

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

LAS IGUANAS

Kids under 12 eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App

MARCO PIERRE WHITE

Kids under 12 Eat FREE daily with an adult spend

MORRISONS

Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend all day

PREMIER INN

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free with 1 paying adult

PUREZZA

Kids under 10 get free pizza with every adult meal

SA BRAINS PUBS

Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays

SIZZLING PUBS

Kids eat for £1, Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm

TABLE TABLE

2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult

TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free with any adult meal (Via App)

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

TRAVELODGE

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

WHITBREAD INNS

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

YO! SUSHI

Kids eat free all day (weekdays) in school holidays