





Dear Parents, Guardians, Students, and Members of Our School Community.

Welcome to our Advent Half Term Newsletter. I would like to extend my thanks for a brilliant start to the year. Whether this is your first half term with us or the first one of the year, this has been a fantastic start to the academic year.

This term we have had some brilliant examples of our students really striving to achieve the very best versions of themselves, whether this has been in lessons, on the Sports pitches or even extra curricular activities. I would like you to celebrate all the achievements of these students with in in the Newsletter.

As the evenings draw in and the weather turns colder, I hope this bright and positive mindset continues to burn brightly as it has done so far this year. The next few weeks will be tough and we continually appreciate the support you show our students. As we approach Mock Exams it can become an anxious time for many, please be mindful to seek any support you need from our Mental Health team in school and raise any concerns so we can support you in every way we can.

Let us embark upon the Advent with our minds open to God's word, our hearts full of spirit and be eager to tackle every challenge we face.

May the peace of Christ be with you all. Yours in Christ.

A Moment of Prayer in the Collect of Advent Sunday

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day,

when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal;

through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

BRS Newsletter

In this edition:

Key Dates School Activities Pastoral Messages Attendance Safeguarding Enhancement Year Leader Messages **BRS Sports News** Celebrating Success Maths Challenge

BRS Feedback

We welcome all feedback and thank all parents for their valuable contributions. Please complete the form below to provide your feedback and observations.







Key Dates for the Next Half Term



W/C 3rd November: Year 11 Mock Exams in English,

Science, RE & Maths

6th November: Year 7 Evening Mass

11th November: Remembrance Day

24th November: Year 11 Mock Reward Trip

1st December : Santa Dash Fortnight Starts

11th December: Year 11 Parents Evening

17th December: Reward Trips

18th December: Whole School Mass

19th December: Early finish for Christmas 12.15pm

Last Day of Term for Christmas Holidays Friday 19th December

> If your child is not well enough to come to school, please report via an email to attendance@brs.srscmat.co.u k or calling 01283 749481 by 8.25am.

Important Information



As a reminder please make sure you are checking Parent pay student accounts to ensure that the students accounts don't go overdrawn, as this can cause a problem when purchasing food from the canteen









Catholic Life and Mission

Chaplaincy Team Updates

Living Out Our Faith in Action

This term has been an exciting one for our new **Chaplaincy Team**, who have been working hard to support the celebration of Masses and the many student-led faith activities across our school community.

The team meets every Tuesday lunchtime in the Chapel or A104, where they plan and prepare ways to help bring our school's Catholic life to all.

Our Chaplaincy students have played a key role in assisting with school Masses, helping to create a prayerful and reverent atmosphere. They have also been collecting donations of money and items of food from forms as part of CAFOD's Family Fast Day, raising an incredible £381 and creating food parcels to support families in need both within and beyond our community. A heartfelt thank you to all parents and students who contributed so generously — your kindness and compassion are truly making a difference.





A huge thank you goes to Lily and Ruby in Year 11, who have now completed their time in the role and move forward to focus on their GCSEs, as well as Elise (Year 11) and Elsie (Year 10) who supported the Ambassadors at the Trust meeting at the end of Summer term.

Recently, members of our team had the honour of visiting **St Barnabas Cathedral** for the Feast of Saints

Michael, Raphael and Gabriel on 29th

September, marking the **175th Jubilee of the Diocese of Nottingham**. Our students took part in the procession at the beginning and end of Mass, proudly carrying the Jubilee Icon, while Amelia also served at the altar.

The team is now busy planning the next set of faith challenges and projects to celebrate the Jubilee Year. Their enthusiasm and commitment to serving others continue to inspire all of us at Blessed Robert Sutton.





PSHE Programme

PSHE Programme – Supporting the Whole Child

This academic year, we have redeveloped our PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic) Education programme to further support the personal development and wellbeing of all students at Blessed Robert Sutton, subsequently these lessons have been renamed to Personal Development Lessons. Students in Years 7–10 now have one timetabled Personal Development lesson each fortnight, where they explore a wide variety of important topics designed to prepare them for life beyond the classroom.

The overall aim of this programme is to support the students learning beyond the classroom and it has been redeveloped to focus on key areas of support they need at this time of year along with emerging priorities and themes that have emerged during the last academic year. These new lessons follow a more in-depth structure, encouraging discussion, reflection and retrieval activities to help students engage more deeply with key themes that shape their understanding of themselves, others, and the wider world.





We are currently conducting a student voice survey to gather feedback on the new PSHE programme. All students have received a link to this via Arbor as a homework task, which will remain open until Monday 3rd November at 3pm. We would greatly appreciate your support in encouraging your child to complete this, as their views will help us to celebrate what is working well and identify any areas for development.

Looking ahead to next half term, our PSHE lessons will move on to new topics – including those tailored for Year 11, who will begin exploring themes that support them in preparing for their next steps after GCSEs along with key topics related to Self Worth and Eating disorders – further information on these topics will be sent to parents of Year 11 students next half term via ARBOR.

Lesson topics Advent 1 half term for Personal Development

Lesson	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Overall PSHE topic	Health and wellbeing	Health and wellbeing	Health and wellbeing	Health and wellbeing	Living in the wider world
1	PSHE & British Values	PSHE & British Values	PSHE & British Values	PSHE & British Values	PSHE & British Values
2	Transition	Emotional and Mental Wellbeing	Drugs & County Lines	Understanding our communities and values	Options and Post 16 career pathways
3	Communication	Resilience	Addiction	Successful communities and problematic issues in communities	SMART targets and future planning
4	Communication in Action	Feelings and how we manage them	Vapes	Hate Crimes, radicalisation and discrimination	Maximising employability
5	Friendship & Bullying	Impacts on emotional wellbeing	Role models & Influence	Contributing positively to my community	Work/life balance including part- time work when studying

Lesson topics Advent 2 half term for Personal Development

Lesson #	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Overall PSHE topic	Living in the wider world	Living in the wider world	Relationships	Living in the wider world	Health and wellbeing
1	Economy and financial decisions	Equality of opportunity in life and work	Committed relationships and family life	Budgeting, Savings and Debt	Managing stress
2	Managing Financial Risk (Saving &	Challenging stereotypes	Roles in the family	Gambling	Self efficacy, motivation, perseverance
З	Employability and enterprise	Different forms of employment	Positive realtionships, conflict	Fraud	Self-worth
4	Workplace Skills	Aspirations and goal setting	Homelessness	Cybercrime and illegal financial activities	Eating disorders



Please scan the QR code to a Sutton Experience Club. register your attendance at

EXTRA































- Tuesday









All Years Inclusion Hub Asog

Year 9.10 & 11 Caregers Club Library JMC

Wellbeing Drop In

Careers Club Library JAC

(ear 7 & 8

Inclusion Hub Asop





All Years Silent Study Aug

All Years

Learn Japanese Aiii

All Years Inclusion Hub Asop

Silent Study

All Years Inclusion Hub Asop

Year 11 Spanish Revision

Inclusion Hub Asop

LUNCHTIME

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Table Top Games



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Girls Football Sports Hall RW

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All Years All Years Asso Asso

Further Maths







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STAFF MEETING WHOLE SCHOOI













HEAD OF YEAR 7

Mrs McDowall



Hello everyone!

Year 7 have done their first half a term already and so many of the year group are already making wonderful contributions to the school. We are very proud of the way year 7 have settled in. It is such a big jump and yet here you are, finding their way to different lessons, finding your way home and getting on the right busses (hopefully) and navigating your way through various new computer programs to extend and enhance your education.

In addition to that we have a number of students already involved in extra curricular activities and doing really well. In year 7 Connie, Saroise, Erin and Amelia are going to be taking part in our annual remembrance production which takes place in the week of the 11th November. This will be performed in front of the whole school and parents should they want to see it. We also have a number of year 7s in Matilda which will be performed in the spring term.

In sport we have some year 7s who have already shone and shown their talent in Cross Country! Well done to the students on the leaderboard!

We also have a number of year 7s on the chaplaincy team representing the school from a spiritual perspective.

One of the things I have loved seeing is how supportive some of our year 7 students have been when they have seen others upset over different issues. this is exactly the community spirit we are looking for at Blessed Robert Sutton. A special thanks here goes to Alex, Molly, Lena, lilyah, Owen and Dev Sean for being wonderful citizens. We could all use people that make the world a better place.



Year 7 Cross Country Results

1st Joseph Norris 2nd Arnold Okafor 3rd Owen Best

1st Maisey Rookyard 2nd Sadie Walsh 3rd Poppy Maw I would just like to say well done to all our year 7s for making it through the first half term. You have been brave and shown resilience. Lots of exciting things to look forward to next term as we approach Christmas. If you have not already done so get involved, make new friends, be really kind to another pupil you don't know well and make sure you live you best life at BRS.

Kind regards Mrs McDowall

HEAD OF YEAR 8

Miss Toms



It's been another busy and productive half term for Year 8, and I'm incredibly proud of how our students have settled into their learning and wider school life. They continue to show great enthusiasm, kindness, and resilience as they take on new challenges both inside and outside the classroom.

Many year 8 students helped out with Open Evening - demonstrating sports in PE, cooking in the Food room, and taking families on tour around school. All our volunteers did a fantastic job in representing BRS!

Congratulations to 8.1 for delivering the first form-led Celebration of the Word to the year group - it can be scary to speak in front of the year group, but I was incredibly impressed with how well everyone read their parts.

A few special mentions:

Logan, who was invited to talk at Burton Rotary Club about his Hockey playing and how the bursary he was awarded last year has helped him improve his playing.

Mikey, who has been really successful in his Swimming achievements, coming first in 2 competitions, and coming second in a heat for the county championships. Well done, Mikey! Dominic has been to a Kickboxing world championship in Wales recently and won three gold medals - therefore a 3-time world champion!

As the winter draws in, just a reminder that students should have a waterproof coat with them. They should also have a reading book as





HEAD OF YEAR 9

Miss Waters

Well done Year 9, a brilliant start back to school. It was lovely to see how much you have all matured over the summer.

This is an important year when you begin to think about you option subjects, so make sure you are working hard and trying in all lessons ready to make the decision later in the school year!

There is lots to look forward to in the build up to Christmas: our trip to see Oliver as well as the rewards trip. Have a lovely half term and we will look forward to seeing what you have been up to over half term when you come back to school!

From Miss Waters

If your child is not well enough to come to school, please report via an email to attendance@brs.srscmat.co.uk or calling 01283 749481 by 8.25am.



Good Attendance means 97% or above



attendance attendance



It's been a fantastic start to the year for our Year 10 students as they begin their GCSE journey.

The year group has shown great enthusiasm and maturity in adapting to the demands of their new courses.

Teachers have been impressed by their focus, positive attitudes, and commitment to learning.

Keep up the brilliant effort Year 10, your hard work now will pay off later!

From Mr Davies

Mrs Harkin



Year 11 have settled in successfully with a very positive attitude to the year ahead. They are taking their upcoming mocks seriously and are also in the process of raising money for their prom via running discos for the younger year groups etc.

They are busy and thriving.

Quite a few 11 are also involved in extra curricular activities within the community and all Year 11 have had careers meeting with the school careers officers and are diligently processing their options for 6th form, college or apprenticeships. Our newly appointed prefects have been amazing and are a credit to themselves and the school.

From Mrs Harkin

A Warm Welcome -Open Evening 2025

On Thursday 19th September, we were delighted to welcome the parents and families of our partner primary schools to Blessed Robert Sutton for our annual Open Evening.

We would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents and pupils who attended — it was wonderful to see so many families exploring our school, meeting our staff, and experiencing the warm community spirit that makes Blessed Robert Sutton so special.

The evening was a real team effort, and we are incredibly grateful to our dedicated staff, who worked tirelessly throughout the night to showcase the fantastic learning opportunities and enrichment activities available at our school. A particular special mention goes to the 120 student volunteers who gave up their evening to help make the event such a success. Our students acted as tour guides, subject experts, and ambassadors of the school, proudly sharing their experiences with our visitors. We would also like to thank our Head Boys, Keir and Charlie, and Head Girls, Katherine and Elise, who spoke with confidence and passion during the Headteacher's talks — representing the very best of what it means to be a Blessed Robert Sutton student.



For parents wishing to apply for a place at Blessed Robert Sutton for their son or daughter to join us in the 2026/27 academic year, please note the following important information:

All key information about applications ahead of the 31st October deadline can be found on our website here:
 https://www.robertsutton.srscmat.co.uk/information/admissions-2/

- All applications are managed by Staffordshire County Council.
- If your child is a baptised Catholic, we recommend sending a copy of their Baptismal Certificate along with the Supplementary Form.

A copy of this can also be sent to Mrs Donna Treadwell

(dtreadwell@brs.srscmat.co.uk),
Headteacher's PA, either electronically
or in paper format before the deadline.





BRS Student Leadership Team

HEAD GIRI

AKAD BOT



As detailed in the article relating to the Open Day we would like to introduce our new student leadership team.

The Head Boys and Girls will be supported by a team of Prefects this year in the activities that they are planning.

This years Y11 Prefects are: -Esme E; Sophie Wright, Kacey L H, Lily E, Ruby Wright, Thomas G, Jess K, Kamila K, Layla M, Cameron B, Rhea S, Alohonsa M, and Jovita.

These students will be working with the Chaplaincy team and the Mental Health ambassadors to look at our outreach during the Advent Term as part of a reverse Advent calendar



Head Girls Katherine & Elise









Well done to

Emily, Alfred and April

For excellent work in



Winners of our Open **Evening Code Breaker** Competition.

Pirate-Themed Mental Calculations Code Breaker

121 6 4556 7 9 11 14 X

Your £10 Amazon voucher is on its way to your primary school.

We're looking forward to seeing you next September. done for producing this amazing work

Dev, Arnold, Eve, Reggie, Leo, Holly, Denzel and Well done to Isabelle for completing all 12 levels of the Zygo puzzle for the September Maths challenge

For excellent work in



Maths

See the details below to take part in our October Maths Challenge!

Congratulations to the

winners of the

Open Evening Maths

Challenge!







October Maths Challenge - All years 18th Sept 2025 - 11th Jan 2026

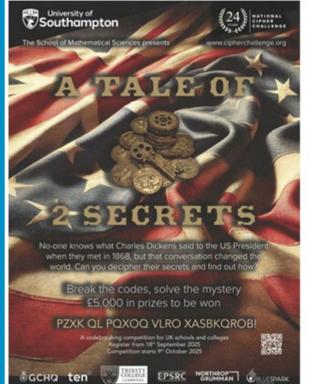
A Tale of Two Secrets - Cipher Challenge 2025







- You can compete individually or in teams of any size. The team leader should register using this link or by scanning the QR code: https://www.cipherchallenge.org/account-login/
- Use the PIN HQGOCK2B to link your account to our school.
- You must email Miss Jones with your team's name and who is part of your team. ejones@brs.srscmat.co.uk This is so you can get achievement point, golden tickets and other prizes in school.
- There are 3 practice rounds to try in October and then 7 other rounds from November to January. How far can you get?
- The best code breakers in the National competition can receive medals and there are four £1000 prizes for the best individuals or teams.
- Any questions see Miss Jones in A202 or email ejones@brs.srscmat.co.uk



Brizlincote Parish Council's Yearly Calendar Competition



By Mrs Turner
Head of Art & Design
Department

I'm delighted to share some fantastic news from the weekend! Five of our students' artwork was selected as the winning entries for the Brizlincote Parish Council's yearly calendar.

The winners were announced on Saturday at the Brewhouse in Burton, where I joined Mrs Cawson, along with families and friends, to celebrate. Each student received a copy of the calendar and a certificate, presented by the Deputy Mayor, Monica Holton.

A huge congratulations to our talented winners:

- Maria Cifci
- Adrianna Motyl
- Isabelle Hudson
- Toby Baker
- Katelyn Rowland





01283 749450





Mahtab Hussain

Internationally acclaimed artist



https://www.mahtabhussain.com/

Renowned Artist Mahtab Hussain **Inspires Year 9** Students

We were honoured to welcome internationally acclaimed artist Mahtab Hussain into school recently, where he delivered a powerful and thought-provoking assembly to our Year 9 students. His visit focused on themes of identity, representation, and remembrance – particularly highlighting the often-overlooked contributions of soldiers from minority backgrounds during World War II.

Following the assembly, each student participated in a handson workshop led by Mahtab himself. These sessions encouraged creativity, critical thinking, and personal expression, as students began developing artwork that explores the theme of 'The Missing Soldiers' - those who fought in WWII but remain

In their art lessons, students are now continuing to design and produce posters inspired by the workshop. These pieces will form part of the Guided Light exhibition at the National Memorial Arboretum, a prestigious event which welcomes over 17,000 visitors.

This project has given students the opportunity to engage with important historical issues through the lens of art, while also contributing to a national platform that honours remembrance and inclusion.

We are incredibly proud of the passion and thoughtfulness our students have shown, and we look forward to seeing their work featured in such a meaningful exhibition.





Operation Encompass is a police and education early information safeguarding partnership enabling educational settings to offer immediate support to children experiencing domestic abuse.

Operation Encompass ensures that there is a simple telephone call or electronic notification to a school's trained Designated Safeguarding Lead /Officer (known as Key Adult) prior to the start of the next school day after an incident of police attended domestic abuse where there are children related to either of the adult parties involved. Information is shared with a school's Key Adult (Designated Safeguarding Lead or Officer) prior to the start of the next school day after officers have attended a domestic abuse incident. This sharing of information enables appropriate support to be given, dependent upon the needs and wishes of the child.

Children are negatively impacted by experiencing domestic abuse and without early intervention and support this negative impact can last through a child's life course. Domestic abuse can impact upon social, psychological, physical, emotional and behavioural outcomes with an often negative impact upon a child's academic success.

Experiencing domestic abuse has been identified as an Adverse Childhood Experience.

Operation Encompass aims, by directly connecting

Operation Encompass aims, by directly connecting police and schools, to secure better outcomes for children, to enable schools to better understand the impact living with domestic abuse has upon children, to help schools to better understand a child's living experience and to therefore be able to support and nurture each child, making a child's day better and giving them a better tomorrow. Our aim is to have Operation Encompass in every force, in every school, for every child no matter where they live. It is simply every child's right.

We are an Operation Encompass School

For further information, please come and see us.







afeguarding a



At Blessed Robert Sutton, safeguarding is at the heart of everything we do. Every member of our school community plays a vital role in keeping our students safe - whether they are part of the teaching team, work in the kitchen, support in classrooms, or help care for our school environment.



This term, all staff have undertaken additional safeguarding training, going above and beyond the statutory requirements expected of all schools. The training, led by Mr Hopkins and Mrs Smith, provided staff with updated knowledge and strategies to help them identify and respond to any concerns effectively, ensuring that every child is supported and protected.

As part of our ongoing commitment to safeguarding, we have been working closely with the Staffordshire Safeguarding Partnership and the St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi Academy Trust Safeguarding Team. Through this collaboration, we continue to stay informed about emerging safeguarding themes at local, regional, and national levels — ensuring that our practice remains current and responsive to the needs of our students.

If parents or carers have any concerns about the welfare or safety of their child or any other child in our school please contact our safeguarding team directly at: safeguarding@brs.srscmat.co.uk

We also encourage parents and students to look at the Safeguarding section of our website, which includes information about Russed Robert Sutton how and where to get help outside of school hours along with advice and guidance on:

- Keeping your child safe online, on various internet and gaming or social media platforms
- Online guidance websites for parents/carers
- Other useful websites related to a variety of health and safeguarding topics

This information can be found at the bottom section of the Safeguarding page on the school website:

https://www.robertsutton.srscmat.co.uk/ information/safeguarding

Together, we can continue to ensure that Blessed Robert Sutton remains a safe, caring and supportive community for all

Safeguarding Information

0345 604 2886) Derbyshire 24hr: 01629 533190 Leicestershire 24hr: 0116 305 00





The U16 Girls Football team celebrating after a win against Paulet



Year 9 Footballers who battled a tricky 2-0 victory in the County Cup



The first outing for the U13 Football Team at the district tournament





The Year 7 Netball Team at the East Staffs Netball Tournament



Students attending the Limitless Festival at Shobnall Leisure Centre



Brilliant Day at Burton Albion celebrating Black History Month



Brilliant Day at Burton Albion celebrating Black History Month



Brilliant Day at Burton Albion celebrating Black History Month

BRS News





Gorgeous sunsets around Burton Town & Surrounding

Dance Triumph!

Mollie Mason (7.4) took part in a dance competition on Sunday, 19th October 2025 in Solihull and won all three of the classes she was entered for.

Demonstrating excellent ability in both single and duet classes, Mollie triumphed using a mixture of street/modern dance and free style.

Commenting on the event, Mollie said:
"It was a really long day with a 6:30am start and then not getting home until late.
However, I'm really proud to have won these competitions and to do so in a duet too which is even more difficult."



BRS News



We are bringing back the shoe box appeal to give something back to the community and children who may not get much this Christmas. Please bring in any small gift donations to your form tutors.

Shoeboxes need to be completed by Wednesday 12th November at the latest. The aim is for each form to complete 5 shoeboxes! Lets make it even better than last year and share some joy in the community!





Contact your form tutor or Miss Fair for more information





Another picture from the Chaplaincy teams' trip to Barnadas Cathedral



They were Icon carries and Alter Servers for the 175th Anniversary Celebration



Our new Star Foundation clothes & shoes bin at school. We will donate all old lost property and you can add in your donations as well!



A massive thank you to Tesco Community Tea for donating to our raffle which will raise money towards our Pilgrimage to Lourdes. Thanks to Swad Ski Centre too!

Wellbeing Ambassadors Programme

We are lucky to have the ongoing support of the Mental Health School team (MHST) at BRS, who assist our students individually.

This initiative is exciting as we are the first high school in our area to have wellbeing ambassadors trained by MHST. It's a fantastic opportunity for our students to collaborate with MHST to develop a training program for other high schools. Our students are enthusiastic and full of ideas, and we look forward to starting the training and focusing on projects to enhance wellbeing at BRS.





Your voice matters



Parents and Carers, please help our team support **Blessed Robert Sutton Catholic** Voluntary Academy in school Mental Health Provision.

Your answers and feedback will be anonymous and key in the development of mental health and well-being provision in School

YOUR LINK WILL **BE SENT TO YOU** BY SCHOOL OR SCAN THE QR



NIL

Fill out one of our Wellbeing Slips, that are in Reception to arrange a Wellbeing Session with a member of staff.

WELLBEING

Safe Space

Are you feeling anxious, overwhelmed, worried, stressed or just not yourself? Look out for a 'safe space' a member of staff will be on hand to help you.



Hand any filled in forms to reception & a member of staff will contact you.

Really Helpful Apps

HIND:







NON CHES







We want you to have the opportunity to have the someone if you feel you need it

Useful Contacts

Childline-www.childline.org.uk
Mind-www.mind.org.uk
Samaritans-www.smaraitians.org
Frank-www.talktofrank.com
Beat-www.beatingeatingdisorders.org.uk
Ditch the label-www.ditchthelabel.org
Bereavement-www.hopeagain.org.uk
Shout-www.giveusashout.org
Drinkline-www.drinkaware.co.uk
The Mix-www.themix.org.uk
Sandbox-thesandbox.mindler.co.uk
Shout-Text SHOUT to 85258
(24/7) (24/7)

Your Wellbeing is really important to us at BRS, and we want to support you in anyway that we can,

Tips to promote positive wellbeing

Do something for yourself -Connect with others -Focus on the present -Stay active -Good Sleep -Eat healthily -Have a break from screen tim











