



SHINE newsletter

Let your light shine

Headteacher Update

This week marked the start of an exciting new adventure in school as auditions began for our 2027 production of *Beauty and the Beast*. Inspired by the classic tale of Belle, the Beast and the power of kindness, courage and seeing beyond appearances, the show promises to be a spectacular celebration of music, drama and dance. The enthusiasm, confidence and talent already on display have been fantastic to see, and we are incredibly proud of all the students who have stepped forward to audition.

A huge thank you to Miss Lythgoe, Mrs Walsh and Mr Coggan for the considerable time, energy and dedication they invest in organising and leading the production. School shows require months of careful planning, rehearsals and preparation, with staff and students committing countless hours to bring the story to life.

Our annual school production is always a highlight of the school calendar, providing students with invaluable opportunities to develop their confidence, teamwork, resilience and creativity. Whether performing on stage, helping backstage, or supporting with technical elements, students gain experiences that will stay with them long after the final curtain falls. We are already excited to see this much-loved tale take shape over the coming months and look forward to watching *Beauty and the Beast* enchant audiences next year.

Next week we will be launching a whole-school focus on attendance and punctuality. We know that every lesson counts, and the evidence linking attendance and academic success is stronger than ever. Recent Department for Education research found that Year 11 students with attendance above 95% were almost twice as likely to achieve a Grade 5 or above in English and Maths compared with students whose attendance was between 90% and 95%. The same research showed that missing just ten days of school in Year 11 halves the odds of achieving a Grade 5 in these vital subjects. Excellent attendance is not just about examination results. Students who attend regularly are more likely to feel connected to school, develop positive relationships with staff and peers, and benefit from the wider opportunities available to them. Arriving on time is equally important, ensuring students start lessons positively, avoid missing key learning and establish habits that will support them throughout education and beyond.

With this in mind, we will be working closely with students and families over the coming weeks to promote excellent attendance and punctuality. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring that students are in school every day, on time and ready to learn. Together, we can give every child the very best chance of success.

S. Wrigley

Upcoming events

16th October – Wear Red Day & Yr8 B Safe Project
23rd October – Year 11 Geography Field Trip
2nd – 13th November – Year 11 Mock Exams
23rd November – Year 11 Leavers Celebration
26th November – Flu Vaccination Catch-up Session
30th November – Year 7 and 8 Assessment Week
7th December – Year 9 Assessment Week
18th January – Year 10 Assessment Week

Transport Buses 2026-2027

Please find a link below to our website to view the new school bus timetables from September 2026

[Bury CE High School - Transport & Buses](#)

Visit our Instagram page

Our Instagram page is full of Bury Church updates and photos of students enjoying our wonderful curriculum. Please follow us!

<https://www.instagram.com/burycehigh/>

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

Cut Him Out in Little Stars
By Lucy Strange

Cut Him Out in Little Stars is a stunning YA romance set in wartime England from award-winning author Lucy Strange, perfect for teen readers! *After her pilot sweetheart is lost in action, Juliet travels to the family's seaside home on the Kentish coast where her older sister resides.*



PSHCE Update – The week ahead

- **Year 7 – Basic First Aid:** Pupils will learn how to respond to common injuries and emergencies, including basic first-aid actions and when to seek help from an adult or emergency services.
- **Year 8 – Neglect:** Pupils will explore what neglect is, how it can affect an individual's wellbeing, and when a failure to meet a child's health needs — including decisions around vaccinations — may raise safeguarding concerns.
- **Year 9 – Prevent Strategy:** Pupils will learn how the Prevent Strategy works to reduce the risk of radicalisation and terrorism, including how concerns can be identified and appropriate support provided.
- **Year 10 – Substances and Risk:** Pupils will explore how alcohol and other substances can affect judgement, decision-making and inhibitions, increasing the likelihood of risky or unsafe behaviours.
- **Year 11 – Ending Relationships Well:** Pupils will consider healthy ways of coping when relationships end or change, including separation, friendship breakdown and bereavement, with a focus on managing emotions, communicating respectfully and accessing support.

BeeWell Survey – Years 7, 9 & 10

A reminder that pupils in Years 7, 9 and 10 will complete the Greater Manchester #BeeWell Survey during their PSHCE lessons week beginning 19th October 2026. Parents have already received information by email about the survey. The survey gives young people an important opportunity to share their views about their wellbeing, experiences and what matters to them.

Year 8 – BSafe, BCool Day – Friday 16th October

A reminder to Year 8 parents that on Friday 16th October 2026, pupils will take part in our BSafe, BCool Day, delivered in partnership with Bury Council and local services.

The day will begin with Bury College students performing a drama introducing some of the issues pupils will explore. Throughout the day, pupils will then take part in sessions delivered by the Bury Anti-Social Behaviour Team, TfGM, Bury Youth Service and the Fire Service.

The day will conclude with teachers delivering 'A Knife is a Life', a Bury Youth Service resource focusing on knife crime in Bury, helping pupils understand the risks, consequences and importance of making safe choices.

Update on the School Council Elections

All Form Reps have now been elected, and the first School Council Meeting will take place the week beginning 19th October. Congratulations to all new Form Representatives and Deputies!



Year 8 Football

It has been fantastic to see so many students attending Year 8 Football practice every Monday. Bury Church played Derby High School in a competition on Monday 5th October. Bury Church entered 3 teams and all the students who attended were a credit to the school. Bury Church won a number of games and had lots of strong performances from our students. Well done to everyone who attended the games v Derby. All are welcome to attend Year 8 Football practice every Monday after school.

Year 10 Boys Football v Elton

Bury Church beat Elton 3-0 on Tuesday 6th October. It was a strong team performance. Bradley C scored a superb hat trick, but the player of the match went to Callum W who was a midfield maestro on the night. Well done to everyone who played in this game and thanks to Mr Keenan for taking the team.

Year 7 Football Practice

It has been fantastic that so many students have been attending Year 7 Football practice every Thursday. We have had over 35 students attending. All the students who have attended the Football practice have had an opportunity to play against Derby earlier this half term. It has been hard to select an 'A' team, but training is still on every Thursday and is open to all students. There will also be opportunities for everyone who comes to Year 7 Football practice to play competitive games for school through the 'B' team.



Year 11 – Exploring Future Pathways!

This week, our Year 11 students had the fantastic opportunity to welcome representatives from Holy Cross Sixth Form College and Hopwood Hall College as part of our Future Pathways Enrichment programme.

Students gained valuable insights into the wide range of post-16 courses, qualifications and opportunities available to them, helping them explore their options and begin planning for life beyond Bury Church of England High School.

These sessions are an important part of our commitment to ensuring that every student feels informed, confident and prepared to make decisions about their future.

A huge thank you to Bury College and Holy Cross Sixth Form College for taking the time to visit and support our students as they prepare for their next exciting chapter!

Helping every student discover their potential and let their light shine!



Wear Red Day – Friday 16th October

On Friday 16th October, Bury Church of England High School will be supporting Show Racism the Red Card's Wear Red Day, raising awareness of racism and promoting equality, inclusion and respect.

Students are invited to wear a small red accessory alongside their normal school uniform, such as red socks, a red ribbon, a red hair accessory or a red badge. Football shirts, non-uniform clothing and red clothing replacing school uniform are not permitted.

Donations: Participation is free, and there is no requirement to make a donation. However, families who would like to support the charity can make a voluntary donation directly through the official Show Racism the Red Card website:

theredcard.org

All donations will help the charity continue its important anti-racism education work with children and young people.

Thank you for supporting this important campaign and helping our school community demonstrate our values of Respect, Responsibility and Resilience

Harvest Festival – Gigg Lane Foodbank Collection



As part of our Harvest Festival celebrations and our commitment to supporting the local community, we are collecting donations for Gigg Lane Foodbank in Bury.

We would be extremely grateful for donations of non-perishable food and essential toiletries, including tinned food, pasta, rice, cereal, long-life milk, toothpaste, shampoo and washing-up liquid.

Students can bring donations to the school Chapel from Monday 19th October until Thursday 22nd October 2026, ready for collection by the foodbank on Friday 23rd October 2026.

Harvest is an important opportunity to reflect on gratitude, generosity and helping others. Through this collection, we hope to make a meaningful difference to local families experiencing hardship.

Thank you to all our families for your continued generosity and support in helping our students let their light shine within the wider community