



KBO/JBI
16 October 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Wider Community,

Happy Friday! We have had a brilliant week as we dig into our Tutor Time Culture Programme, build our love and knowledge of Shakespeare's Macbeth and celebrate our Tassomai champions.

This academic year we launched our Tutor Time Culture Programme which is a daily 20-minute session that forms part of our wider Personal Development Curriculum. This area is led by Sarah Bate, our Head of Department for Personal Development. I've asked her to write us a summary of what the programme has and will continue to be all about as I know there are a number of parents who are really interested. The following are her words:

Through TTRP (AM Tutor Time Reading Programme) children are immersed in some of the very best literature. From Dickens to Adichie, sci-fi to romance, we ensure that our students at Blaise have been exposed to a range of great literature. Keen to continue this immersion in culture and literacy, this September we launched an additional afternoon programme called the TTCP – Tutor Time Culture Programme.

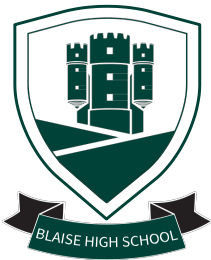
The aim of the TTCP curriculum is to provide students with a wider understanding of the world they are living in. It allows us to address and openly discuss areas not directly covered in the national curriculum. This curriculum focuses on two themes: culture and media literacy. A deep understanding and appreciation of the diversity of modern Britain inspires an inclusive outlook, whilst an opportunity to think critically about the media saturated world that surrounds them will encourage a growth mind set and urge them to check and challenge their sources. This supports our school value of social justice in ensuring that all our students learn about a wide range of social, spiritual, and cultural experiences.

All sessions begin with a focus on a piece of media, such as an Instagram post, a short video clip or a newspaper article. This is followed by questions in a work booklet that encourage students to quietly reflect on the source. Once this section is completed, students move into a structured whole class discussion focused on the media that has been explored in the session.

So far, we have covered Social Influences in Year 7, Social Influencers in Year 8, Fake News in Year 9 and The News in Year 10.

A particular well done to the following students:

- | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| • Karina Bradean | • Amari Mullings | • Dexter Phillips |
| • Kody Barlow | • Samuel Deuchars | • Tristan Mason |
| • Regan McCormack | • Lucy James | • T. Edwards |
| • Evan Blake | • Amelie Tyler | • P. Burns |
| • K. Morrison | • Maybelle Westcott | • L. Cole |
| | • S.Arabi | • Leo Cox |



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These students have been nominated by their tutors for developing meaningful and structured discussions around the media inputs, being skilled at adding to other students' comments, building their arguments and constructively challenging statements they disagree with.

Next term we are looking forward to exploring Current Influential Figures in Year 7, Influential Figures of the Past in Year 8, Events of the Past 20 Years in Year 9 and Current Events in Year 10.

On Wednesday night this week, we hosted a fantastic event for our Y11 students. In English Literature students have been studying Shakespeare's Macbeth and Ms Bywater wanted to give students the chance to watch the full play in its movie form. The night started with students getting some delicious food treats to enjoy throughout the film and a short session from Ms Bywater about the notable differences between the film version and Shakespeare's original. Then we dimmed the lights and started the movie. Students really enjoyed the film and in particular during the battle scenes there was even cheering for the main character. 47 dedicated students stayed late for the event which went on until after 6pm, that shows really commitment to their English course and a love of Shakespeare so well done to them and thank you to Ms Bywater for organising and hosting the event!

Our brilliant Science teaching team are really keen to celebrate the very best Tassomai students every week. This includes awarding them in their class and ensuring they get the round of applause and the praise they deserve. Tassomai is an ambitious Science homework programme that all our students engage in. It focusses on testing knowledge through fun daily multiple-choice quizzes and video clips. Students at Blaise High School have to complete 3 daily goals per week and this requires organisation and commitment from all. Particularly because the key part of the way Tassomai gets brains working is that it has to be done "little and often" so this means there isn't an option to leave everything to the last minute, instead students must be organised to take a "daily goal" quiz on 3 separate days throughout the week. If you'd like to find out more about Tassomai then please visit: <https://www.tassomai.com/how> and if you'd like to see all the systems and support we use at Blaise High School to ensure all students have a better chance of success then visit: <https://bit.ly/3nVjaXR>

Here are the Tassomai champions for this week:

Y7

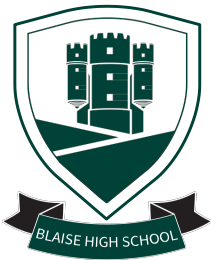
Regan McCormack
Milosz Swierad
Millie Sposito
Lucy James
Rachel Thackeray
Regan McCormack
H. Rayson

Y8

Orlando Balasco
Tyler Blunden
Liam Ford
Adam Millard
Kulalisai Jegarasa

Solomon Mignott

S. Khan
Kumbirai Watanabe
M. Bokoto
Rose Lyons
Jack Sowersby



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Y10

A. Grover-Brown

Sofia Sanchez-Zuleta

O. Sage

Johan Sabu

L. Sealey

L. James

Y11

H. Natt

H.Lloyd

G.Morris

L. Kingsbury

This week we were pleased to launch our Duke of Edinburgh Award programmes for students in years 9 and 10. Our Bronze Award is open to all students in year 9, whilst our Silver Award is open to students in year 10 who successfully completed their Bronze Certificate of Achievement last year. More information on the D of E award programmes we offer at Blaise High School is available on our website <https://www.blaisehighschool.co.uk/students/clubs/duke-of-edinburgh-award> or by contacting the D of E manager for the school Mr Wallis mwallis@blaisehighschool.co.uk.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to remind all our parents and those from the wider community that the application deadline for September 2021 places in Y7 is October 31st. If you would like more information about our school and to catch up on the virtual open evening hosted in September then visit: <https://bit.ly/3i5qcWu>. Parents should apply using: <https://bit.ly/3j1Qj0y>. I wish you all a fantastic weekend.

Kind regards,

Yours faithfully,

Ms K Brown
Headteacher