

Newsletter

December 2025

As we head into the Christmas Half Term, we're reflecting on another exciting and action-packed term at BPS. **Here's a look at what our amazing students have been up to!**



Ms Tisdale Recognised as Support Star of the Year

The Birkenhead Park School is immensely proud to announce that our very own Ms Tisdale has been awarded Support Star of the Year at the Educate Awards 2025, the largest education awards ceremony in the North West.

Ms Tisdale is at the heart of our attendance team at BPS. Having worked in attendance for a number of years, she joined our school in July 2022 and has since become an integral pillar of support for students and families.

Her passion for improving student outcomes through strong attendance shines through in every aspect of her work. She provides extra assistance to families who need it, ensuring that every young person receives the guidance and encouragement needed to attend school consistently.



Students Deliver Inspiring Ignite Speeches

The past few weeks at The Birkenhead Park School have seen Round 1 of our Ignite Speeches delivered in assemblies across the year groups.

These 2–5 minute talks, inspired by The Big Read texts, showcased students speaking with confidence and clarity as they shared personal ideas and experiences. Many overcame nerves to deliver impressive speeches, supported by an engaged and encouraging audience.

Now in its second year, the Ignite Speeches initiative is already making a strong impact. Staff have observed growing confidence, improved communication skills and greater academic resilience, with students more willing to express their ideas in lessons and beyond. Oracy remains central to our ethos, helping students develop the confidence and maturity needed to think deeply and communicate effectively.



Christmas Jumper Day & Bake Sale

Our staff and students recently got into the festive spirit by wearing their favourite Christmas jumpers to raise money for charity.

A special bake sale was also held in the canteen, with an array of delicious cakes and treats available for purchase.

Thanks to everyone's generosity, an amazing £374 has been raised for Make-A-Wish, a charity chosen by our students. This money will help grant life-changing wishes to critically ill children.



Cinderella Production



Our students took to the stage in front of parents/carers and the local community for a fantastic performance of Cinderella.

After weeks of hard work and rehearsals, they delivered an evening full of fairytale magic that was truly enjoyed by our audience. It was an amazing showcase of their talent, confidence, and dedication.

Well done, everyone!



Christmas Kindness

A group of our Year 8 and 9 student council members delivered gifts and Christmas cards to thank services within our local community, including St Catherine's Hospital, Birkenhead Fire Service, Wirral Ark, The Hive, and Park House Care Home.

They also dropped off gifts for Wirral Children's Services and donations from our recent toy appeal, kindly supported by our school community. It was a wonderful way to give back to those who support us all year round.



Elf Run

Year 7 and 8 students have been taking part in the BPS Elf Run.

To raise funds for the Wirral University Teaching Hospital Charity, students have been running during their PE lessons, all working towards a 3k target.

Well done to everyone involved!



Last day of Term

Our last day of term was full of festive fun!

Students enjoyed a variety of activities, from Christmas quizzes and rewards assemblies to games—and even bouncing around on an inflatable assault course. Everyone had a fantastic time, making it the perfect way to close the year.



Christmas Card Winner

A huge congratulations to Year 8 student Diya, who is one of just two winners of Wirral Ark's Christmas Card Design Competition!

Over 700 entries were submitted, with the public casting more than 1,000 votes. Diya was crowned Senior School Winner – an incredible achievement!

Wirral Ark visited our school to present Diya with her winner's certificate and cards featuring her beautiful design. Wirral Ark is a charity fighting homelessness, and these cards will help raise vital funds.



Personal Development and Rewards at BPS



Personal development is central to life at The Birkenhead Park School, with a strong focus on helping every student flourish academically, socially and personally.

Our broad offer extends beyond the classroom, combining careers guidance, PSHE, RSE, Religious Education, SMSC and British values to build character, resilience and respect, while nurturing confident, well-rounded young people.



A culture of praise and celebration underpins this work, with students regularly recognised for effort, attendance and achievement through rewards, certificates and assemblies. Enriching trips, challenges and a wide extracurricular programme further support personal growth, offering opportunities that inspire ambition, confidence and a love of learning.

Remembrance at The Birkenhead Park School

Ahead of Remembrance Day, students at The Birkenhead Park School reflected on the importance of remembering those who have served, through our SMSC programme and schoolwide poppy sales supporting the Royal British Legion.

Special assemblies led by Miss Farrington explored the meaning of Remembrance and the First World War, with students engaging thoughtfully throughout. A highlight was Year 10 student Jake reading his powerful poem on World War I, showing deep reflection and respect.



Building Ambition with the BPS University Challenge

The BPS University Challenge is a school-led initiative designed to build academic resilience, encourage ambition and inspire students to strive for their best.

Open to all students from Year 7, it supports learners throughout Key Stage 3, helping them develop the confidence, independence and skills needed for future success.

Students complete five creative academic challenges across a range of subjects, taking ownership of their learning and showcasing pride in their work. Since its launch, the initiative has been a great success, with staff and students alike celebrating the enthusiasm, determination and growing confidence shown by participants.



Martial Arts with Ruby



A massive well done to Year 10 student Ruby, who successfully passed her martial arts grading – which means she is just one belt away from gaining her black belt.

Ruby has shown amazing commitment, training twice a week for the past three years, and her hard work is clearly paying off!

Unilever Trip

A group of our students recently visited Unilever Research & Development as part of Phase 1 of their STEM-themed Product Design project.

During the visit, they took part in bespoke workshops led by industry experts and a range of hands-on activities, including mixing salt solutions to investigate the viscosity of liquids. Our students gained a lot from the experience, which will help them develop their own designs ahead of their presentations in February and March.



Breakfast Hamper

Congratulations to Stephen, Millie, Evie, Chimeremeze, and Thomas – our brilliant Breakfast Club hamper raffle winners!

Each winner took home their very own delicious hamper filled with a plethora of breakfast goodies.



Primary Pupils Experience Life at BPS



This term, we've had the pleasure of welcoming local primary schools to experience what life is like at BPS. Pupils from The Priory Parish CE Primary School and Bidston Avenue Primary School joined us for hands-on Design Technology and Food Technology lessons, getting creative with projects like designing coasters and exploring drama through freeze frames. It was wonderful to see their enthusiasm and imagination in action!



We also hosted some School Games sessions, with pupils from Co-Op Academy Portland and New Brighton and Riverside Primary Schools participating in our Christmas Fun Festival. To the backdrop of jolly Christmas tunes, everyone took part in a range of fun, active games. A huge thank you to our fantastic sports leaders, whose confidence and leadership made the day a huge success.

Cooking Club

Cooking Club continues to be a success!

Our students have been improving their skills and creating an array of meals and snacks. They most recently made baked beans chilli and chocolate crinkle cookies.

It's wonderful to see their confidence in the kitchen grow, and we can't wait to see what they cook up next!



MP Alison McGovern Visit

In November, Alison McGovern, Labour MP for Birkenhead, visited our school to speak with students about her work in Parliament and the issues affecting our local community.

She encouraged our young people to share their ideas on how they would like Birkenhead to better cater to their needs. It was a valuable and inspiring experience for our students, giving them a clear understanding of how their voices can influence real change.



Music Trip to LIPA

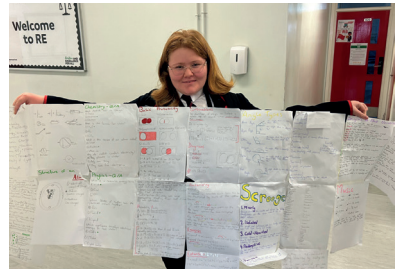
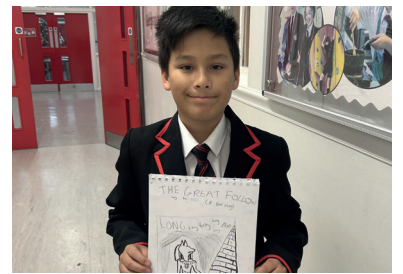


Some of our Year 10 and 11 Music students recently enjoyed an inspiring day at the Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts (LIPA), attending a conference celebrating the power of women in music. They learnt a lot and had the opportunity to hear insightful talks from women in the music industry.

Extra work at home

Our students not only produce great work in school, but they go above and beyond at home too to build on their knowledge!

Inspired by his RE lessons, Year 7 student Kai recently created an incredible 'Moses Book', detailing Moses' journey from 'rags to riches'. Scarlett, in Year 8, has also been working hard at home, producing an impressive range of pieces across subjects – from science and music to maths and RE, where she even tried Arabic writing for her section on the Five Pillars. A huge well done to Kai and Scarlett!



Natural High Assembly



This term, our Year 7s participated in an inspiring interactive presentation called Natural High.

Led by singer/songwriter David Graham, the session used music and friendly competition to encourage students to make positive choices and explore their abilities – showing that fun and achievement can replace the 'fake highs' of anti-social behaviour. Our students were fully engaged throughout and had a great time getting involved.



Panto Trip - Sleeping Beauty

Some of our Key Stage 3 students visited the New Brighton Floral Pavilion to see the fantastic pantomime 'Sleeping Beauty'.

They laughed, they cheered... and did they enjoy it? "Oh yes they did!" Our students represented our school brilliantly and had a great time getting into the festive spirit.



History Unscripted



It has been an exciting term in History Unscripted Club!

Students have been exploring fascinating topics, including the Greek goddess Aphrodite. They delved into the truths of her story, uncovering aspects of her life that are often overlooked in history books. Inspired, our learners worked together to create a mirror reflecting her darker history, creatively using air-dry clay, paint, and card to produce this outstanding piece.

Smashed Project Performance

Our Year 8s recently watched an engaging live performance by the Smashed Project.

The show tackled the important topic of underage drinking, using storytelling and realistic scenarios to highlight the effects and dangers of alcohol. It was highly impactful, helping our young people understand the importance of making safe and positive choices.



A huge well done to all our incredible students for their amazing achievements this term! Your hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm continue to impress us all.

**Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
We can't wait to welcome everyone back in 2026.**