

Poole High News Autumn 2

Autumn 2026

Dear Families,



Welcome back, I hope you all had a relaxing break over half term.

This year the children have already been involved in so many activities, trips and enrichment events. I am so proud of their commitment to being involved, especially where they have pushed themselves to try something new. Some these opportunities are shown through the pages of this newsletter.

This next term also brings many school events as we approach Christmas. Many of these give us the opportunity to pause and reflect on how we can help others. It is incredibly heartwarming to see how eagerly the children do want to help others, they are a wonderful example to us all.

A huge thank you to those of you who are supporting FOPHS and our Christmas market. It's not too late to get involved or attend to show your support. We are so grateful for the work of our parents with this, as it is giving us the opportunity to refresh our outdoor social time spaces. This will give the children improved seating and eating spaces, feedback directly from the children is that this is really important to them.

Finally, it's important to mention the impact of our Smart Phone policy. Thank you to the overwhelming majority of families who have supported this, the impact has been incredable. We have noticed it more significantly in the reduction in bullying issues reported on the journey to and from school.

With best wishes for the term ahead,
Sian Phillips
Headteacher

Important Dates

Wed 11 November
Remembrance Day Service
Thu 12 November
👨‍👩‍👧‍👦Year 13 Parents' Evening
Monday 16 November
Anti bullying week
Thu 19 November
👮Year 10 Police Assembly
Fri 20 November
Odd Socks Day
Thu 26 November
🎄Poole High Christmas Market
Thu 3 December
🪩Year 7 Disco
Fri 4 December
❌School Closed- INSET Day
Thu 10 December
Year 11 Sixth Form Academic Discussions
Mon 14 December
🕯️Year 7 Carol Service
Tue 15 December
🕯️Year 8 Carol Service
Wed 16 December
🎉Sixth Form Christmas Party
Thu 17 December
🎼Christmas Concert
Friday 18 December
🎓Last Day of Term
Monday 4 January
❌School Closed - INSET Day
Tue 5 January
✅All Students Return to School



Events

Remembrance Day

Lest We Forget



Today, the Poole High School community came together in a moving act of remembrance to honour the courage, sacrifice and selflessness of those who have served and given their lives in conflicts past and present.

Students and staff gathered on the school field to reflect on the freedoms we enjoy today and to pay tribute to the countless men and women who gave so much for future generations. It was a powerful moment of unity, respect and gratitude, as our school community stood together to remember those whose bravery and dedication have shaped the world we live in.

The ceremony was made especially poignant by Mr Jarvis's moving rendition of the Last Post on the trumpet. As the final notes echoed across the field, the entire school observed a two-minute silence, providing an opportunity for quiet reflection and remembrance.

We are incredibly proud of the maturity, respect and dignity shown by our students throughout the service. Their thoughtful participation demonstrated the values of compassion, gratitude and community that are at the heart of Poole High School.

As we remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice, we reaffirm our commitment to ensuring that their service, courage and legacy are never forgotten.

"For our tomorrow, they gave their today."

Each handmade poppy honours the service, courage and sacrifice of those who came before us.

Proudly created by our talented Art and Design Technology students.





Events



DOLPHIN VELOCITY

What a fantastic way to begin! Our Poole High School Greenpower Team, Dolphin Velocity, took part in their very first Greenpower F24 event at Dunsfold Park Aerodrome, competing against more than 50 schools from across the country.

After a year of hard work designing, building and developing their car in our Monday after-school Greenpower Club, the team put their skills to the test and achieved an impressive 19th-place finish in one of the races. The day gave students a real taste of motorsport, engineering and electric vehicle technology. From scrutineering and pit-lane driver changes to lap timing and race management, our students worked brilliantly together under pressure, solving problems and making key decisions throughout the event.

A huge thank you goes to Bob Flint, our retired Mechanical Engineer, whose expertise, time and enthusiasm have been invaluable throughout the year. We are also grateful to our sponsors, Parvalux, Alfatronix and Elite Fabrication, for their generous support. Special recognition goes to Year 10 students Ben, Gethin and Imogen, who have shown outstanding commitment in mentoring and supporting our younger Year 8 and 9 team members.

This is just the beginning for Dolphin Velocity. The team already has plenty of ideas for developing the car and improving performance at future events, and we look forward to seeing what they achieve next when the club resumes once again in the new year.

Congratulations to everyone involved in this fantastic achievement! 🚗🏁



19TH PLACE







SIXTH FORM SLEEP EASY

We are elated to share that following 63 students and 15 staff 'sleeping rough' to raise awareness of the plight of the homeless, we have raised just over £2500 for the YMCA!

Students were tasked with building their own shelters out of cardboard boxes, with one student in particular proving hugely popular following their house move, with boxes galore! We had mansions, castles with turrets, and in some cases, a view of the stars with students enthusiasm and creativity in abundance! We were hugely grateful to our sponsors Wessex Packaging who provided the boxes, Dominos for refreshments, and Jonathan McHarg Consulting Limited who provided torches to all involved during their visit on the night, as well as Amazon vouchers for the best shelters! Students were as always exemplary in their conduct and reflections with the generosity shown by friends, family and employers hugely appreciated!

There is still time to donate by clicking here.





Events

Macmillian Cake Sale Success!

A very big thank you to everyone who supported our Macmillan Cake Sale.

The event was organised and run by our fantastic Sixth Form students, who worked hard to plan, prepare and host the sale. We are incredibly grateful to all those who donated cakes and baked delicious treats, as well as to the many students who came along and made purchases throughout the day. Your generosity and support helped make the event a wonderful success.

We are delighted to announce that together we raised an amazing **£260.02!**
We are incredibly proud of the commitment, enthusiasm and community spirit shown by our Sixth Form students and by everyone who supported this worthwhile cause. Every penny raised will help Macmillan Cancer Support continue its vital work supporting people living with cancer and their families.
Thank you once again for your incredible support and generosity. 💚

Supporting WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT









Year 7 London Trip

Our Year 7 students had a fantastic time exploring London's Science Museum and Natural History Museum. It was wonderful to see so many students enthusiastically exploring the exhibitions, asking questions, and developing their knowledge of subjects they are passionate about.

Both museums provided excellent opportunities for students to take their learning beyond the classroom and discover new interests. Throughout the day, our students were outstanding ambassadors for the school, demonstrating curiosity, enthusiasm, and exemplary behaviour.

We are incredibly proud of the way they represented our school and hope they enjoyed the experience as much as we did.



Events

HOT RADIO BROADCAST

Hot Radio Broadcasts Live from Poole High School
We were delighted to welcome Hot Radio to the campus in October, as the station broadcast its popular Live and Local show directly from the school.

During the visit, listeners were given an insight into life at Poole High School through interviews with staff students including our Year 12 Alevel Media students and our some of our Student Leadership Team.

They spoke about the school's achievements, opportunities available to students, and what makes the Poole High community so special. In a fun and competitive highlight, Mr Bury took on the radio host in the famous 99% Club challenge and emerged victorious! Our A Level students, Freddie and Gilly, were interviewed live on air to discuss the Talented Athlete Scheme (TAS) and how they successfully balance competing at a high level in sport while studying for their A Levels. Members of the Environment Club also spoke about their innovative recycling project, which sees plastic bottles collected and repurposed into sea creature-themed recycling bins for the school. During the broadcast, Evie confidently delivered the weather report live on air.

The broadcast provided a fantastic opportunity to showcase the school to the wider community and celebrate the many successes of our students and staff. We would like to thank Hot Radio for visiting and helping to share the story of Poole High School with listeners across the local area.





Year 7 & 8 Parent Open Evening

The school site was buzzing with excitement as we opened our gates and welcomed an incredible 361 students and their families from Years 7 and 8 to our ever popular Open Evening.

Our fantastic students were at the heart of the event, taking on the role of hosts for the entire evening. They proudly guided families around the school, sharing their experiences and giving our visitors a genuine insight into everything they love about life at Poole High School.

It was wonderful to see so many families exploring our facilities, meeting staff, and experiencing the warm and welcoming atmosphere that makes our school community so special. A huge thank you to everyone who attended we hope you enjoyed it as much we did!

Personal Development



Year 11 University Trips

September 2026: Year 11 had the opportunity to visit Bath, Reading, Bournemouth, and Solent Universities and Kingston Maurward College in order to understand what university is like; its benefits, facilities and the opportunities it brings. This assisted with student pathways in Sixth Form, providing them with more detailed understanding of what is available to them after secondary education as they move towards Sixth Form/College applications.



Personal Development Day:

Supporting respectful relationships and addressing misogyny

Recent national guidance has highlighted the importance of schools taking proactive steps to address misogyny and promote healthy, respectful relationships. Misogyny refers to attitudes, behaviours, or beliefs that discriminate against, demean, or show prejudice towards women and girls. Research shows that harmful attitudes can develop from an early age and may be influenced by social media, online content, peer groups, and wider societal messages.

It is equally important that all young people, regardless of gender, learn to treat others with respect, kindness, and empathy. While much of the national conversation focuses on addressing misogyny, we also promote respect towards men and boys and challenge prejudice in all its forms, so that everyone feels valued, listened to, and treated with dignity.

As a school, we are committed to fostering a culture of respect, equality, and inclusion. Open conversations help young people develop empathy, build positive relationships, and challenge harmful stereotypes.

To support this work, staff will be receiving training on the latest guidance and best practice. This will help colleagues identify concerning behaviours, respond appropriately to incidents, and support students in developing positive attitudes and relationships.

As part of this commitment, our Personal Development Day in October will include workshops delivered by Shut It Down for Year 9 and Year 10 students. The programme will include assemblies, gender-specific sessions, and classroom workshops designed to encourage thoughtful discussion about respect, empathy, positive relationships, and challenging harmful behaviours. The sessions are interactive, age-appropriate, and provide students with a safe and supportive environment to explore these important topics.

We have chosen to work with Shut It Down because of their expertise in this area and their educational approach, which focuses on reflection, understanding, and positive change.

This is not intended to be a one-off intervention. We are committed to creating ongoing opportunities for learning and discussion, ensuring that harmful attitudes and behaviours are challenged and addressed rather than ignored. We look forward to extending this work to other year groups in the future.

We encourage parents and carers to continue these important conversations at home and to contact the school if they would like any further information or support.

SOLENT UNIVERSITY SOUTHAMPTON

University of Reading



Useful Links:

How to talk to young people about online safety and misogyny.

Building a safer soceity for women and girls.

Support for familes affected by harmful sexual behaviour.

Gender equality and education

Healthy masculinity

Supporting children's online wellbeing



Sports



World Rowing Success

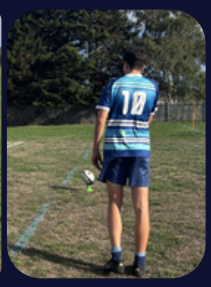
Congratulations to Lexi Gill (Year 13), who recently won gold in the Under-19 Women's Double at the World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals.

Lexi's achievement is particularly special for Poole High, as she was first identified through the rowing outreach programme run by the school. Her success is a testament to her hard work, dedication and talent, and serves as an inspiration to younger students aspiring to excel in sport.

We are incredibly proud of Lexi's outstanding achievement on the world stage and look forward to following her future success. Well done, Lexi! 🥇🚣







Rugby

Poole High Rugby has enjoyed a fantastic start to the season. The Year 8 team opened their Dorset 10s campaign with a strong performance, with Cassius earning Player of the Tournament honours for his outstanding efforts.

The Year 10s have also made an excellent start, securing a convincing victory over local rivals Lytchett before travelling to Wareham for the Dorset 10s Tournament on 15th October. The team went unbeaten throughout the day, playing with confidence, determination and excellent teamwork.

Mr Keep was particularly impressed with the squad's handling, power and communication, as well as the way they successfully put training-ground work into practice during matches. Players of the Day were Max and Adael in the forwards, and Joe in the backs.

Sixth Form

The Sixth Form Rugby team enjoyed a fantastic day at the Burgate 7s tournament, finishing 2nd out of five teams. This achievement was made even more impressive by the fact that Poole High travelled with a bare squad of just seven players and no substitutes.

Playing on a full-size pitch for 14 minutes without any opportunity to rest is no easy task, yet each of the young men showcased their quality throughout the day. Captained by Kellon and Jonah, the team scored an impressive number of tries and defended superbly.

As this was most likely the final time they will represent Poole High School, Mr Keep would like to express his pride in and gratitude to this group of students. It has been a pleasure watching them grow from cheeky Year 9s into such fine young men, and they should be proud of everything they have achieved.



Sports clubs

Climbing club

Our Climbing Club has got off to a fantastic start, with students enjoying the opportunity to develop their climbing skills, build confidence and challenge themselves in a fun and supportive environment.
If you are interested in joining, please sign up at the PE Office. New members are always welcome!





Year 11 Netball

The Year 11 Netball squad performed well this season, finishing in a very respectable 4th place in the league. The team showed great commitment, teamwork and determination throughout the campaign, competing strongly against tough opposition. Well done to all the players for their hard work and dedication. We look forward to seeing their continued success in future fixtures.

Year 7 Football

The Year 7 Boys' Football team has made an incredible start to the season, with around 40 students regularly attending football club each Thursday. Their enthusiasm and commitment have been fantastic to see.
The Year 7 team also made a winning start in the County Cup, producing a confident and assured performance. We look forward to an exciting season ahead, with plenty of matches, training sessions and opportunities for the team to continue developing and enjoying their football.





Burgate 7's

The Burgate 7s Tournament was a fantastic experience for our students, with the Poole High flag flying high throughout the day. All of the students selected represented the school superbly, demonstrating excellent sportsmanship, high standards of performance and great team spirit. They also created a fantastic atmosphere, enthusiastically supporting and cheering on the other Poole High teams.
We were incredibly proud of the performances across all sports. The Rugby team finished as runners-up, Netball secured an impressive 4th place, the Girls' Football team reached the play-offs, and the Boys' Football team finished in 3rd place.
It was a memorable day for everyone involved, and we look forward to returning next year. Well done to all our students for representing Poole High so positively.

Food Support

Support for Families

We know that times can be challenging, and if you're feeling the pressure of rising food or household costs, there is support available for families across our community.
As we previously advised, due to changes in government funding, supermarket vouchers for school holidays are no longer being issued.
There are still plenty of ways to access support, including;

✅ Healthy Start Scheme
✅ Free School Meals
✅ Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme
✅ Local food support services
✅ Crisis Payments
✅ Money and budgeting advice

The Food Support for Families page on the Family Information Directory (FID) provides information about food, financial and practical support available across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. Families can also use the Access to Food Map to find local food banks, community fridges, food pantries, social supermarkets and community meal providers near their home.
Whether you are experiencing financial difficulties or simply need some additional support, there are organisations across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole that are ready to help.
For more information, please visit the Family Information Directory and Access to Food Map.



More Help

Help is also available through Crisis Payments, local food projects, Let's Talk Money Advice, Energy Support, Welcome Community Spaces, Housing Payments and Cost of Living Support.

https://www.bcpcouncil.gov.uk/communities/cost-of-living-help

Healthy Start Scheme

If you're more than 10 weeks pregnant or have a child under the age of 4, you may be eligible for help to buy healthy food and milk through the Healthy Start scheme.
If you qualify, you'll receive a Healthy Start card, which can be used in participating UK shops.
Money is added to the card every four weeks to help with the cost of healthy food and vitamins.
Eligible families can get support towards:
🥛 Milk
🍎 Fruit and vegetables
🍼 Infant formula milk
💊 Healthy Start vitamins
👉 Find out if you're eligible and apply today



NHS

Free School Meals

Did you know that more families are now eligible for Free School Meals?
If you applied on or after 1 June 2026 and have already received an acknowledgement, you do not need to reapply.
Children who are eligible for Targeted Free School Meals may also be able to access:
🎨 Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme, offering free activities and meals during school holidays
📚 Pupil Premium funding, which provides additional support for learning
🎒 Other educational benefits and support available through schools
👉 Check your eligibility and find out more about Free School Meals



Notices

POOLE HIGH SCHOOL

INVITES YOU TO OUR

Christmas Market

★ SHOP • EAT • SUPPORT ★

THURSDAY
26TH NOVEMBER
5:30PM - 7:30PM

POOLE HIGH SCHOOL
WIMBORNE ROAD
BH15 2BW

ALL WELCOME!
CHILDREN
UNDER 11 MUST BE
ACCOMPANIED BY AN
ADULT



£2 ENTRY FOR ADULTS



Did your child miss out on their school photography session this year?



Open to individuals, siblings, and families

All you need to bring is a smile

You will receive proofs of your images to order online

THIS WILL TAKE PLACE
ON

Thursday 10th December

Please call the Fraser Portraits office on
01202 692433 to book in!



When?

Thursday
10th December
from 3.00 pm
to 6.30 pm



Where?

LOCATION
Broadstone Methodist Church Hall
Lower Blandford Road
Broadstone BH18 8DP



Poole High School

ALL MONEY IS GOING TOWARDS Friends of Poole High School F.O.P.H.S.

YEAR 7 DISCO

AT POOLE HIGH SCHOOL

£6 PER PERSON

WITH DJ FUNKY T

THURSDAY
3RD DECEMBER

4.15 PM TO 6.30 PM