



## Term dates (please note the adjustment to the end of term)

This summer term ends on Friday 18 July 2025 at the earlier time of **12.45pm**. The Yellow Bus service will operate as usual, any pupils wishing to remain in school until 3pm can do so and will be supervised in the library.

The following list details the term dates and other school closure dates for the next academic year:

- **Wednesday 3 September 2025** - Year 7 starting at 8.25am; Years 8, 9, 10 at 1.00pm. Year 12 start at 10.15am and Year 13 at 1.50pm. The bus service will operate as usual. *Please note that Year 11 have specific arrangements for their rewards trip which will be shared separately, they will return to normal timetable on Thursday 4 September at 8.25am.*
- **Thursday 4 September 2025** - lessons as usual with school starting at 8.25am with registration at 8.30am. The bus service will operate as usual
- **Thursday 18 September 2025** - School will close at 2.00pm to allow pupils and students to go home and return to support Open Evening; school bus service will operate as usual
- **Monday 27 October to Friday 31 October 2025** - Half Term break
- **Friday 28 November 2025** - School will be closed for a training day
- **Monday 22 December 2025 to Friday 2 January 2026** - Christmas Break
- **Monday 5 January** - School will be closed for a training day
- **Monday 16 February – Friday 20 February 2026** - Half Term break
- **Monday 30 March to Friday 10 April 2026** - Easter Break
- **Monday 4 May 2026** - Bank Holiday
- **Monday 25 May to Friday 29 May 2026** - Half Term break
- **Friday 17 July 2026** - End of academic year

## New timings of the school day

You may be aware that for a number of years we have operated a system of split breaks and lunches. This was originally developed as part of the response to the Covid pandemic and has been broadly successful. It does, however, significantly limit the ability to offer a full extra-curricular programme and can impact on Teaching and Learning when some year groups are accessing social time whilst others are in class.

Following consultation with staff and the School Council, we are adjusting the timings of the school day in September in order to alleviate these concerns and enhance our offer to all pupils and students. This is made feasible by the enhanced catering facilities mentioned below and the extension of break and lunchtimes. The start and end of the day are unaffected, and no learning time will be lost. The timetable for this structure is below and will be explained to all pupils in detail this week.

In order to ensure that we are fully prepared for the changes we will be running a two-week trial before the summer, beginning on 7 July 2025. You will note the earlier lunchtime start for years 7 and 8.

## Timings of the school day 2025 - 2026

School open for pupil access to Café Beans		Form Time Start	Period 1	Period 2	Break	Period 3	Period 4	Lunch	Period 5
Y7	8.00	8.30	8.50 – 9.50	9.50 – 10.55	10.55 – 11.15	11.15 – 12.15	12.15 – 13.15	13.15 – 14.00	14.00 – 14.55
Y8	8.00	8.30	8.50 – 9.50	9.50 – 10.55	10.55 – 11.15	11.15 – 12.15	12.15 – 13.15	13.15 – 14.00	14.00 – 14.55

Y9, 10, 11, 12 & 13	8.00	8.30	8.50 – 9.50	9.50 – 10.55	10.55 - 11.15	11.15 - 12.15	12.15 – 13.20	13.20 – 14.00	14.00 – 15.00

### **Building work**

Significant development works are scheduled for the summer break. These include a remodelling of the reception area which will enhance security, improve the oversight of pupils and students arriving throughout the day and add additional capacity. In addition, following a detailed tender process, there will be work done to enhance the catering facilities across the school. Substantial capital investment will support a refurbishment of infrastructure in the main canteen, the installation of a dedicated Sixth Form 'Café' in the Denys Salt Sixth Form Centre and rebranding of the Zoom Bar and Café Beans.

This is in addition to the usual schedule of works for the summer which this year includes repairs to the skylights in the atrium, new ovens in DEFT and deep clean and refurbishment in a range of Faculty areas.

### **Strategic planning update**

You may recall that I have been working with Leaders at all levels to develop a three-year action plan for the school. This is now completed and is being used as the stimulus for Middle Leaders to generate faculty and area development plans. Once the current plan has been scrutinised at the Full Governing Board meeting in July ,it will be shared with parents and carers via the school website in September.

### **Recruitment update**

You may also remember that I advised you of the appointment of an additional Deputy Headteacher to join the school in September. As a result of this, in some cases, the roles and responsibilities of Senior Leaders in school will have changed. This information will also be shared in September alongside the action plan.

### **Year 11 and 13 end of year**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all pupils and students in Years 11 and 13 who approached their GCSE and A Level exams with exemplary attitudes. The evident preparation, commitment to revision and masterclass sessions and sheer resilience shown over the last few weeks bode very well for the summer. We are hopeful that this is reflected in the exam results for both groups as their efforts deserve to be rewarded.

I must take the time to mention the wonderful Year 11 Prom which took place on 20 June 2025 at the Mercure Bradford. This was a fabulous event with over 200 Pupils, 60 staff and two horses in attendance. The pupils involved were an absolute credit to themselves and the school and it was great to see them so proud of the work they had put in in recent months. I look forward to the Sixth Form Prom at the same venue this coming Friday.

### **Student Leadership**

I mentioned in my last letter that our Senior Students from Years 10 and 12 were to present the findings of their transition project to Senior Leaders after Easter. The outstanding presentations took place in April and have already led to changes in our transition programme for both Year 7 starters and students new to Sixth Form. I look forward to working with them further in the Autumn term as we review the impact of this work and plan the next steps in developing our next generation of leaders.

## **News and Events – Mar 25 – June 25**

### **Bradford Crown Courts visit**

As part of our Level 3 Criminology course, students had the incredible opportunity to visit Bradford Crown Court for a firsthand experience of the criminal justice system in action. The highlight of our visit was an exclusive private session in Court 4 with the Judge himself. Sitting in the seats of the prosecution and defence, we gained a deeper understanding of how the court operates, seeing the intricate legal processes unfold right before us.

The Judge shared fascinating insights into his career, offering an honest perspective on the challenges of working in an underfunded and backlogged system. He then invited us to ask our own questions, giving us a rare chance to hear directly from someone at the heart of the legal world. After our private session, we were free to observe live court proceedings, choosing from a variety of hearings, including plea hearings, pre-trial matters, and trials.

### **Cycling Superstar**

Congratulations to Zack, Year 12 for a storming performance in an international cycle race in Spain. Zack placed 40th out of a field of 180 in a gruelling 85-mile road race outside Alicante. The four-hour race involved some steep climbs to over one thousand metres! Zack, who is part of the BCC Race Team was one of only 12 young UK riders taking on the Costa Blanca Challenge which also included a 5-mile time trial the day before.

### **Accessible Dance**

Dancers Molly, Caitlin, Elaine and Ashleigh, fed up with professional performance tickets being too expensive for students, contacted the UK's most successful choreographer, Sir Matthew Bourne OBE, to raise their concerns. Matthew is Artistic Director of New Adventures, a dance-theatre company striving to make contemporary dance accessible to all. He also created the world's longest running ballet production. The dancers were thrilled to receive a reply and to receive complimentary tickets to the company's 30th anniversary tour of Swan Lake.

### **First Story Success**

We've had lots of pupils come and experience the writing sessions with Andy Craven-Griffiths, working on their editing skills and building their confidence. We had competition success, with a highly commended entry for Leah in Year 7 and the National winner was Blake in Year 9 with his humorous entry. Blake has since also been accepted to the highly sought after summer residential at the Arvon Centre at Lumb Bank. We're sure Blake will relish this experience and have a brilliant time being inspired in Ted Hughes' former residence.

Also, as part of our First Story project Mrs Dewhirst led an illustration workshop with an aspiring group of Year 9 artists to bring our First Story pupils' writing to life. Pupils were delighted to experiment with a range of different materials and explore different styles to each produce an incredible illustration which will accompany one of the pieces of writing in our First Story anthology. We are very much looking forward to seeing the finished anthology in print and celebrating our extremely talented writers and artists at our book launch in October.

### **Sixth Form Applicant Experience Day**

The day was a great success! There was a great atmosphere in the Sixth Form Hub. Pupils rose to the occasion to make the most of the opportunity to be a sixth former for the day and to trial subjects. This year saw almost double the number of session visits as last year and an impressive number of newcomers joining us for a taste of Sixth Form life.

### **Baking for Business**

Our Year 13 Business students have raised over £100 for a local charity. Budding bakers Hannah, Max, Bodhi and Ed put on aprons to whip up a batch of tasty cakes and treats for staff members to buy. The experience of planning and putting on an event was part of their business coursework. The funds will be going to Homeless Not Helpless.

### **A Level Results are First Class**

We are very proud to be noted as one of the county's top state Sixth Forms. Appearing in an article in the local media, '16 best state sixth forms in West Yorkshire for A Levels in 2025'. Nothing makes us happier than to see our students embrace the Sixth Form experience we offer.

### **Theatre**

Post-16 Drama and English Literature students thoroughly enjoyed a performance of 'A Streetcar Named Desire' at The Crucible, Sheffield. With a unique set design and thought-provoking issues engagingly performed, the trip has prompted much discussion about the shocking relevance of a 70-year-old text to modern society.

### **Fieldtrips**

Year 10 GCSE Geographers went out to Harden Beck and Goitstock Waterfall to complete their rivers fieldwork. The pupils were amazing, working so well in teams. And our Year 11 pupils have been busy collecting data for their human fieldwork about the impact of regeneration on Saltaire in and around the local area.

### **Oversea Residentials**

44 pupils travelled to Berlin and over the course of four days the group visited various sights in and around Berlin that held historical and religious significance.

The Barcelona trip took place over 5 days with 35 pupils. The visit included cultural and educational experiences such as visits to iconic landmarks such as Sagrada Família, Parc de la Citadella, Park Güell, Museu Picasso.

43 pupils took a trip to the Ardèche, the highlight of the trip was undoubtedly the two-day canoe journey down the stunning Ardèche River. Covering 34 kilometres, the pupils paddled through crystal-clear waters, past towering limestone cliffs, and beneath the iconic Pont d'Arc and spent the night under the stars - a truly special moment that many will remember for years to come.

### **VE Day Commemorations**

Pupils and staff commemorated the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of the Second World War in Europe (VE Day). As well as joining the nation in a 2-minute silence, Mr Temple and Mr Sanderson joined pupils in a short ceremony to honour the sacrifices made by former pupils during World War Two. Each of the fallen who attended Salts Grammar School were remembered by name. In addition, pupils and staff took part in a competition entitled 'stories of World War 2', entries included paintings, 3D Models as well as presentations about the impact of WW2 on families.

### **University of Bradford H&SC Taster Day**

We provided our students with the opportunity to explore a range of Health and Social Care courses. The day involved a Q&A with current student ambassadors who are studying Health and Social Care courses, and our students could learn more about university life and NHS placements. There were two experience sessions: one on Diagnostic Radiography, and another on Adult and Mental Health Nursing. Finally, our students had the chance to experience a tour of the university, with specific focus on Physiotherapy.

## **Poetry Slam Final**

George, Taylor, Kailan, Riley, Abdullah and Jacob, with their performance of 'I'm in the Game' were invited to take part in the Bradford-wide final at The Beacon, a venue touring Bradford parks as part of the 2025 City of Culture celebrations, and they really did us proud. They were confident and articulate when performing, polite and encouraging of other groups during the night and most of all, it was so lovely to see their respect and care for each other. Sadly, we didn't win a trophy on the night but nevertheless it was a wonderful experience to be a part of and they particularly enjoyed being interviewed for the City of Culture coverage – we'll be keeping a look out for you on TV!

## **Design Lab Nation Design Challenge 2025**

At the start of this year, in January and February, a group of 20 of our Year 8 pupils took part in the Design Lab Nation Design Challenge 2025. This involved trips to Cliffe Castle and the V&A Museum in London, working with local artist Naseem Darbey both with the museum teams and here at Titus Salt School. This exciting opportunity allowed our pupils to explore design challenges by repurposing materials, exploring the collections, and learning new creative techniques, resulting in a collaborative modular piece of work. A frame was built at school, continuing the theme of recycled materials, and their work is now on display in the breakfast room at Cliffe Castle Museum. This amazing piece of work is now open to the public to visit until September as part of the Bradford City of Culture 2025 celebrations.

## **In addition**

I am excited to see the Summer Showcase on the 9 July which I am sure will live up to its usual high standards and to seeing all our KS3 pupils engaging in Sports day on Friday 4 July.

## **Finally**

I previously mentioned the TSS time capsule which was put together in 2000. We have been marking the opening of this after 25 years with a range of House activities and will formally mark this as part of our Art Exhibition evening on 10 July. If you have a child studying Art or were a pupil at TSS in 2000 or are just interested in seeing the quality of work which goes on at the school, do please come along at 5.30pm.

I hope you have a fantastic Summer, and I look forward to seeing many of you in the new year.

Yours sincerely



Phil Temple  
Headteacher