



PENDLE COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2017



Welcome to our first newsletter of this academic year.

First of all can I thank everyone once again for all their hard work and support during the last academic year, which resulted in the highest levels of progress outcomes recorded in school over many years. In school an average of 88% of students made expected progress or better in English and 90.8% in maths. In college an average of 79% of students made expected progress or better in literacy and an average of 91.3% in maths. This is fantastic news, and an absolute credit to all students and staff involved.

What a busy start it has been to this term. We have welcomed 16 new students to school who are all settling in quickly, and had 17 students moving up from school into college - who suddenly all seem very grown up! Andrea Scott, our new Assistant Headteacher (College) has now started with us full time, and we have also appointed several other new members of staff including Claire Endersby, one of our middle leaders in Key Stage 3, Alison McConville, our new Family Liaison Officer, Cheryl Rothwell, our new Teaching Assistant who is particularly supporting several deaf students with British Sign Language, and Alison Boyd, our School Administration Officer. All have hit the ground running and are already contributing towards making our school an even more amazing place to be for all our students.

OFSTED news!

As you have been aware we have had OFSTED in school this week on a 2 day inspection (only announced Monday lunchtime). This was a very thorough process as all aspects of school life are scrutinised in great detail including: leadership and management; quality of teaching, learning and assessment; personal development, behaviour and welfare; outcomes; Post 16+ programmes of study and overall effectiveness.

The Lead Inspector fed back his evidence and provisional judgements to Senior Leaders and Governors last night, which unfortunately we are required to keep confidential until the formal report is published in 3-4 weeks. However, it is fair to say that we were all very pleased with the feedback we received.

I really want to thank all staff, students, governors, parents/carers and everyone else who regularly contributes towards our school being such an amazing place.

I am so proud of being the Headteacher of this fabulous school which makes real difference to lives of all our young people.

Chris Lingard - Headteacher



Noticeboard

Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

A huge thanks to all that contributed cakes and donations to the Macmillan Coffee Afternoon! It was a huge success, and we raised £250! The Special Events Team did an amazing job of organising and executing the event, and students from college volunteered their reward time to help out - great job everyone!

Parents' Drop In

Our first parents/carers drop in session was a huge success and it was lovely to see so many parents there.

Our next drop in session will be very festive and has been arranged for **Wednesday 6th December from 9.30am - 11am.**

Come along and meet other parents/carers, share ideas and meet Alison, our Family Liaison Officer.

The staff Bake-Off was extremely competitive, and there were definitely some show stoppers!

Thanks again to all who were able to attend, donate, and bake. It really does make a big difference to such a worthwhile cause!

Half Term

School will break for half term on **Friday 27th October.**

We will return on **Wednesday 8th November.**

Have a lovely break!



Christmas Events

College Meal
College Panto
Pendle's Got Talent
Christmas Fair
Christmas Disco
End of term closure

1st December
11th December
18/19th December
7th December
14th December
21st December

Introducing our new Family Liaison Officer

Hello my name is Alison McConville and I have recently been appointed as The Family Liaison Officer at Pendle Community High School & College.

My role is to support families in various ways including signposting to agencies, attending meetings and engaging parents to work in partnership with school. I am also the back up Designated Safeguarding Lead for any issues around school. I am keen to get to know and support our parents and their families and will be available at Parents Evening, a festive coffee morning/afternoon and other exciting events coming up. If you could find some time to attend it would be a wonderful opportunity

to get to know me and for me to get to know all of you and have an informal chat to see how we can work with each other and exchange ideas. I have been a Family Liaison Officer in a primary school for over 15 years and have worked with children and families for over 24 years. In my spare time I enjoy spending time with my family, seeing friends and reading.



Scouts

Where does time go! This half term we have had a number of new starters in Scouts and it's good to see that we are continuing to grow. It is so great to see even more young people enjoying the fun, taking on the challenge and learning the skills for life that they have gained through scouting.

This term we have looked at team work and scouting skills such as map reading and leadership skills. We all enjoyed a really good trip to Blackpool Illuminations where the Scouts got to have fish and chips and see the tower light up which was a definite 'wow' moment.



Community Visits



Students in Towneley have been continuing to develop their independence skills during visits to the local supermarket.

Students have prepared shopping lists, collected items, exchanged money and interacted with staff. Daniel was particularly interested in the variety of the fish at the fish counter.

5 a side

Eleven of our pupils took part in the annual 5 a'side competition at Blackburn's Soccerdome. The competition consists of four sessions; one in October, one in November and the other two in the New Year. The scores from all four sessions will be added up at the end. Teams from Lancaster, Morecambe, Blackburn, Burnley and Preston took part in an exciting encounter.

Three of our girls (Cheered on by Miss Dinsdale) Danielle, Emma and Morganna-Rose all made their debuts and gave a very good account of themselves.

The boys also performed admirably playing 5 games; drawing two and winning three. Hopefully both teams can maintain their high standard when we meet to do battle again.

NEWSHOUNDS...

Issue - Autumn 2017

Welcome to the Newshounds section of the Autumn newsletter! If you've not heard of us before, we're the team of intrepid reporters that meet every week in a lunchtime club to delve into the stories behind life at Pendle Community High School and College! We've been going for almost four years now and although the journalists may change, great articles just keep coming hot off the press!

The current band of investigative reporters are Aesha, Brooke and Callum from Year 7, Liam from Year 8 and Laura from Year 9. This 'fantastic fivesome' have been very busy bees since September and can now share their stories with you.

HAPPY IN HISTORY...



First up is Callum, whose favourite subject is... well, we'll let Callum tell you all about what he's been enjoying during his first term at school: "Over the past few weeks, I have found that my favourite

subject so far is history. Currently in Hodder we are learning about the Stone Age. So far we have compared Stone Age humans to modern day humans, compared different types of houses, learnt about life in the Stone Age and much more, including several types of animals that are now extinct in the modern world, such as sabre-toothed tigers!

Life in the Stone Age was nothing like life today. For example, if you wanted to get food in the modern world, then supermarkets are your way to go, but in the Stone Age you had to hunt for animals to get

food and clothing which was... animal skin! Who would wear that these days?"

Callum also managed to track down a reconstruction of what a Stone Age home might have looked like:



PONDERING POPPIES...

Our next Newshounds piece also looks back into the past, but not quite as far back as the Stone Age! Brooke is not only a Newshound, but (like Laura and Liam) is also in our Scout Group.

The Scouts have been clearing one of the soil beds in the Sensory Garden in preparation for Poppy Day, so Brooke decided to do a bit of digging (although not in a

soil bed!) to find out what Poppy Day is all about! Here's what she discovered:

"Poppy Day always comes around in November and happens on a Sunday. It is when we remember all those people who lost their lives in battles, so that we can live in peace and be free to enjoy our lives. I found out that poppies grew in the battlefields where our soldiers, sailors and airmen fought and died in the First World War.

The poppies that we will be wearing on Poppy Day to remember them all will look like those in this picture that I found. I also discovered that the First World War started in 1914 and ended in 1918."



TEACHER TRIVIA...

Liam started Year 8 in September and wanted to interview Miss Kirk, his form teacher to find out about how she likes to spend her time when she's away from school! He thought of some good questions, arranged a time when he could meet up with her and took his notepad along to jot down her answers...

Liam: "What do you enjoy doing as a hobby?"

Miss Kirk: "I have several interests, but I think I'll go for shopping, seeing my friends and napping!"

Liam: "Do you enjoy working at Pendle Community High School and College?"

Miss Kirk: "Yes, definitely! It's a great place to be. I enjoy working with all the staff and young people in our community."

Liam: "What is your favourite food?"

Miss Kirk: "That's a tricky one, because there are quite a few to choose from! I do enjoy Chinese food, I really like roast dinners and I have got to include chocolate!"



THE BRIGHT LIGHTS OF BLACKPOOL...

Didn't we have a lovely time the night we went to Blackpool? Well, our Scout Group certainly did! They went off to see the famous Blackpool Illuminations after school on 11 October. Brooke and Laura were there (as was Liam) and they reported back for Newshounds...



Liam and Laura with Mr McNulty at the planning meeting. They look very smart in their official teal coloured Scout shirts.

Laura explained about the detailed preparation that the Scouts undertook before the trip.

"On 4 October, we had a meeting with Mr McNulty, our Group Scout Leader, to plan what we would do. After all, good scouts always need to be prepared. We looked at a big map of Blackpool to see where everything is, so that we would know where to go when we arrived."

Even though they had both been to Blackpool before, Laura and Brooke loved the Illuminations, which featured lots of their favourite cartoon characters.

Laura said "My favourite illumination was Postman Pat." Brooke said "My favourite was Spongebob Squarepants!" They added "We had some lovely fish and chips and saw the famous

Blackpool Tower. We also saw the sea, but couldn't see anyone swimming! Although it didn't rain, we reckon the water would have been a bit too cold for a dip!"



Laura wanted to include a picture of Blackpool at night, so that we could all see how bright and pretty everything looks. She researched the internet and came up with this great shot of the base of Blackpool Tower, complete with a big 'Boom'!

NEW FACES, NEW PLACES...

Aesha is enjoying her first term as a pupil in our community and wondered what it might be like for a teacher who is also here for the first time. Being a great Newshound, Aesha decided to find out! She didn't have to search too far, because Mrs Endersby, her own form teacher, is one of our new members of staff this year! They got together for an interview, which you can read all about here



Aesha: "My favourite subject is Art. Which subject do you like teaching best?"

Mrs Endersby: "I really like teaching English and love watching everyone becoming engrossed in a brilliant story!"

Aesha: "This is your first term teaching at Pendle Community High School and College. Have you taught at any other schools?"

Mrs Endersby: "I used to work at Ridgewood Community High School in Burnley and was there for twelve years!"

Aesha: "Are you enjoying being with us? Have things turned out as you thought they might?"

Mrs Endersby: "Absolutely! I am loving my time here, I have a brilliant class team and an AMAZING class!"



Mrs Endersby keeps a special star to remind her of how many years she worked at her last school! Let's hope she stays just as long here with us!

OUR NEW SCHOOL APP FOR PARENTS

MY Ed

Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google play



Our new app for parents shows you up to date information about all aspects of your child's school life. The app has lots of powerful tools within it, to make your life easier and help you as a parent ensure that your child receives the best education possible.



My School

Allows you to view information and keep up to date with what's going on in school.



Key Dates

If you are always missing events or just need to check that you have space in your diary, our app is able to show you all of our upcoming events.



News

Keep up to date with any news that our school wants to share. An example could be the latest school sporting results, exam success or the promotion of an end of term event.



School Information

Easily access school policies on the move allowing you solve problems or to answer important questions that you or your child may have.



Attendance

Keep up to date with your child's attendance details. Taken directly from school and updated on a daily basis.



Messaging

Our app allows school to send you messages direct to your mobile.



Achievements

Showing you how well your child is doing. The school can use the app to give you regular updates of all their achievements.



Forms & Letters

My Ed stops the age old problem of not receiving letters from school. Fill in forms securely on your app and return them directly to your child's school.

Download the MyEd app today and search for Pendle Community High School and College to get started!

Wycoller visit Wycoller

On Thursday 19th October the newly formed Wycoller group in college took a trip to Wycoller Country Park to have a look at the area they are named after. Whilst there they explored the ruins of Wycoller Hall, crossed over the oldest bridge in our local area and visited the The Atom, Panopticon. During the visit they researched what employment opportunities were available in the village; finding it was limited to farming, a bed and breakfast guest house and part time work in tea rooms.



Shakespeare in Blacko

In English, Blacko have been studying William Shakespeare's play Romeo and Juliet. At the start of our topic we looked the country Italy and found it on a globe. We have made invitations and had a masquerade ball; role played fight scenes and had our very own class wedding.



Shiver me timbers!

Wenning have enjoyed experiencing 'Treasure Island' this half term. We have been on treasure hunts, made our very own treasure chests, learnt about the 'Black Spot' and even made treasure map pizzas! Their favourite bit was learning to talk like pirates!!



Santa's Workshop

Santa's elves have been working very hard in the DIY workshop to create lots of exciting things to sell at our Christmas Fair on Thursday 7th December.

We have everything from candle holders to festive ornaments, all of which will be available to buy on the night.



The Iron man in Hodder

This term we have been studying the Iron Man! This has included reading the book and looking at what the iron man may eat if he went to a restaurant. We also spent a couple of lessons making our very own Iron man out of cardboard boxes and tinfoil. We then put together a really cool display with them as you can see from our picture.

Lessons in Drama

This half term we have been looking at acting and improvising as part of our drama lessons, the pupils have been learning skills such as Freeze Frame, Tableau and Through Tracking. We have had some laughs and fun in our lesson. It is good to see our pupils becoming more confident in themselves as the weeks go on.



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