

PENDLE COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE

# WINTER

NEWSLETTER 2020



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# WELCOME

## from the Headteacher



Well this has been the strangest Autumn Term and the craziest start to any headship! Although some students attended school at the end of the Summer term, it was wonderful to welcome all the students back into school from September. As always, our students have adapted incredibly well and have settled back in brilliantly. Our new Year 7s have coped particularly well with the transition into a new school having missed the final chapter of their lives in primary schools.

I would like to thank parents for their ongoing support in following the COVID guidance and overall we feel that we have managed to minimise the impact on us all. Annual Reviews and Parent's Evening took place over the phone and via zoom and we have ensured continuous contact with all of our families. During the last few weeks we have been able to start opening up the curriculum so that the students are able to experience a wider range of activities again. We have had to enter the virtual world to ensure students can maintain friendships safely and that we can all still 'see' each other. This includes assemblies, although we still have some groups still trying to talk whilst muted!

Even fundraising has gone virtual and I would like to thank everyone involved. It has been sad not to be able to welcome you into school this term for the Christmas Fair but we continue to adapt what and where we can. I hope you enjoyed our Pendle's Got Talent event virtually via the website.

Our Erasmus+ projects are continuing. The current projects of '8 strings to our bows' and 'Ready, Steady, Change' have been extended due to COVID. We are delighted to announce that in November we began two new projects one called 'Stamp it Out' which focusses on anti-bullying and the other 'Every Move Counts' is about bringing more movement into the curriculum to increase physical activity. We will give you further updates throughout the year.

Forest School has proved to be a popular addition to the timetable as you will see later in the newsletter, and we are excited about plans for our pocket park at Hodge House where we can grow our own veg, bulbs etc. This is where we are looking to start our community café and food bank 2 days a week. Watch this space.....!

All that remains is for me to wish you all the best for a peaceful and happy holiday. Stay safe and well and let's hope 2021 allows us all to meet up soon!

*Debra Grogan*



## HEADTEACHER'S BUFFET HAMPERS

With Covid 19 restrictions, the Christmas Head Teacher's Buffet had to be served in a different way this year. So instead of 30 people being invited into school, Key Stage 4 produced 30 Christmas food hampers to be distributed.

The hampers contained a goat's cheese and caramelised onion quiche, smoked salmon and cucumber sandwich, a spicy veg and houmous wrap, a rich chocolate tart and a mince pie. The three Key Stage 4 classes of Blacko, Pendle and Slaidburn all worked hard to produce the high quality food and in the process achieved their AQA Preparing a Christmas Buffet unit award.



## ALL IN A PICKLE... OR IS IT A JAM?



Key Stage 3, 4 and 5 have been busy preparing a variety of jams and pickles to sell on the school website including strawberry jam, black cherry jam, ploughman's pickle and pickled onions.

Orders have been flying in and kept all year groups busy in Cooking and Nutrition preparing, jarring and labelling jams and preserves ensuring all orders are ready for the last week of term.

Students have also been busy making, icing, boxing and gift wrapping individual Christmas cakes. They have been working hard in DT to construct hexagonal, oblong and square crates out of reclaimed wood present the jars in ready for gift wrapping and distributing.



# WeCAN...

Charitable Trust

## CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISING

Thank you to everyone who donated a prize for our raffle, bought tickets, ordered from The Kitchen or The Workshop and took part in our silent auction.

These activities, along with the non-uniform day on Wednesday 16th December raised a grand total of £577.50 for We CAN... Charitable Trust! That is fabulous considering we were unable to host our Christmas Fair this year, which is usually our biggest fundraiser of the year. We feel very lucky to receive so much support.



# FUN IN THE FOREST WITH WENNING

Wenning enjoyed a trip to Marsden Park this term. We visited the Forest School and made mud pies. We had hot chocolate and a biscuit after to warm up. It was lovely to get out in the fresh air!



# PLANNING OUR CAREERS IN COLLEGE

Students in Bowland have had a busy time thinking about their futures. They have started to research occupations they would like in the future. Students have had to think about skills and qualities they would require in each position. Due to COVID we have not been able to get out and about into different work environments, so we have brought the workplace to the classroom.

Students interviewed Gareth McBride, Community Branch Director for Santander in Widnes about his role and what positions would be accessible for young people with SEND. Students asked some fantastic, realistic, and interesting questions and learnt a lot about what opportunities could be available for them.



# RUNNING AROUND THE PARK WITH RIBBLE

Ribble had a fantastic time at Forest Schools this term. Their highlights were: making mud pies, building a tent den and playing hide and seek. They did lots of other outdoor crafts and activities too. They really enjoyed the freedom to explore their new surroundings whilst working as a group and also gaining lots of new independent skills outside.

# MONSTERS IN MARSDEN

Students in Marsden have been working on the topic 'Colour Monster'. Throughout the lessons they have listened to the Colour Monster story and completed different sensory and interactive activities. They have discussed different feelings and emotions and worked on individual targets.



# IT'S WAR FOR WYRE

It has been quite a different start to the year for Wyre with all of the changes the pandemic has brought, but the class have coped really well and worked extremely hard.

We attended Forest School which was enjoyed by all and reflected our topic of World War One which has also spanned English and History.

The topic has been really well received by the students who have shown great understanding of the difficulties of war and have written poems reflecting this. Some of them have even produced calligrams and shape poems which were really effective.

# HODDER GET POETIC



In Hodder this half term our topic has been Winter Poetry. The students in Hodder have been learning and reciting poems such as 'The Chubby Snowman'. They have also been creating their own acrostic and shape poems in small groups first and then independently.

# PLANTING AT THE POCKET PARK

Students from Bowland have begun working on Hodge House Pocket Park.

They intend to transform the disused allotment and turn it into somewhere where they can grow fruit and vegetables. They have been attending each week and will soon be able to start planting some winter veg.



Pendle Community High School and College united with the rest of the country to join in Anti-bullying week. Students and staff wore odd socks to celebrate that we are all unique.

In school students designed their own jigsaw piece as part of the Anti-bullying alliance's puzzle pledge.

This year the school has been successful again in gaining a new Erasmus project "Stamp it out". The project will enhance how we teach students how to recognise and stand up against bullying. Over the next two years we will be working with partner schools in Turkey, Hungary, Portugal, and Spain. Students have been busy designing a logo for the project which linked into careers and exploring roles in marketing.





## LOVING LIFE IN LYTHAM

Lytham have been busy this term getting used to new routines and also welcoming new school pupils who have moved up into college. We have enjoyed learning about “The Troubles” in Northern Ireland, reading a story called "Across the Barricades" by Joan Lingard. We have worked on our numeracy skills including looking up the cost of daily shopping using online shopping. Our highlight of this term has been filming for our Pendle's Got Talent video, including making the most of the lovely outdoor scenery when we had a little bit of snow!



## PREPARATION IN PENDLE

Pendle have been hard at work this term preparing for exams. English and Maths have taken the lead in student exasperation although a good Kahoot quiz soon sorted the frustration out.

We had a wonderful morning at Forest School where we built dens, made a tree swing and problem solved our way through games to receive a very warm welcome cup of hot chocolate as a reward. The sun was shining, great fun was had by staff and students and Emma found ‘mud’.

We all united in stamping out bullying by wearing our odd socks for the day, although some said they wear odd socks every day!

The team have enjoyed DT with Mr Wilde preparing Christmas orders and our very special secret setup needed for the PGT event.



## DOING LOTS IN DARWEN

This term in Darwen, we have covered a range of topics in Statistics. Pupils have been gathering information in a tally chart and then presenting it in a series of different graphs.

In English we are working our way through the reading books on Active Learn. Some pupils have been moving up more than 1 level every week! Pupils have been identifying and correcting mistakes in their own work.

In science we have been looking at using electrical appliances in the classroom. Pupils can now construct an electrical component from scratch knowing what components to use to light a bulb or work a motor.

In PE, pupils have been able to safely and correctly use the fitness room equipment and have designed a 30 minute fitness programme using 6 pieces of equipment, all machines wiped down in between of course!

We also spent a fab morning at Forest School making tents, being outdoors, working as a team and co-operating with each other to achieve a common goal.

What a fab start to the year for Darwen!

## ONLINE SAFETY GROUP

The Online Safety group have been working hard this term during their meetings. We have been discussing lots of different strategies for staying safe online. We have also been sending out a weekly message to help others stay safe.

As we approach Christmas we have been looking at the different gifts that could be on many young people's Christmas lists and what people should know about them. Parent Zone have put together a comprehensive article to outline some of the ‘must haves’ this year. A firm favourite this year are the new consoles that have just been released: The Sony Playstation 5 and the X box Series X (both RRP £449).



Both feature higher speeds, responsiveness and loading times – plus ultra HD graphics, as you might expect from next-generation consoles.

Both were released in November and have become the most desirable of all this year's new gadgets – so much so that stocks are regularly selling out and opportunists are using bots to buy up what remains.

### What do you need to know before you buy?

- Xbox X and PS5 games aren't cheap – blockbuster titles can cost £70+
- Don't pay over the odds – resellers are doubling prices for desperate shoppers
- Both consoles work better connected online, so check all new account settings – for purchases, privacy and in-game chat – to suit your child's age

### What are the potential risks?

In-game purchases and loot boxes are increasingly used in many online games and children can quickly be parted with cash. In-game chat can also expose children to strangers, so make sure you are aware of the settings. Also be aware of PEGI ratings and what games are suitable for your child.

To read the entire article, please visit <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/years-must-have-tech-gifts-and-what-you-need-know>



**If you have any concerns around online safety or help with managing privacy settings, please don't hesitate to ask for help.**



# PENDLE'S GOT TALENT

This year, our Pendle's Got Talent event went virtual! With current restrictions meaning we couldn't welcome parents and carers into school, students recorded a video of their act and these were played through a private link over 2 consecutive days. We hope everyone enjoyed watching the show as much as the students did making it. Well done everyone!

## WHAT A DISASTER IN GEOGRAPHY

Years 8/9 have been experiencing and exploring natural disasters in Geography. We have experienced volcanoes, earthquakes and even a tsunami! We learnt about what devastating effects these events can have and how people can try to keep safe.

An earthquake arrived in Ribble just after the unfortunate event of a volcano, with students and staff taking shelter under the tables. Unfortunately for Darwen they suffered a full tsunami, much to the staff's disappointment as they all got wet. It was all hands-on deck as we recovered from the mess these disasters can make and much fun was had by all. An apology was also made to the lovely cleaning staff at the end of the day!



## NEWSHOUNDS



Liam (Year 11), one of our most experienced Newshounds, has been quick to 'get on board' a story that's really important during the current covid-19 pandemic. Travelling by bus has become a really 'hot topic', so Liam decided to find out the latest regulations, such as: You must wear a face covering on public transport... and ...you will be breaking the law if you fail to do so and could be fined. Here's his report about one of our local bus companies. Take a seat, put your mask on and off we go!

### BURNLEY BUS COMPANY

In July 2017, Burnley Bus Company invested in lots of new buses and they are now used. In March 2020, the UK Government decided to put us in lockdown 1.0 for seven weeks and then we came out of lockdown.

The UK Government made the wearing of face coverings mandatory from the 15th June 2020 and they are still mandatory on the buses now. The wearing of face masks is mandatory on public transport.



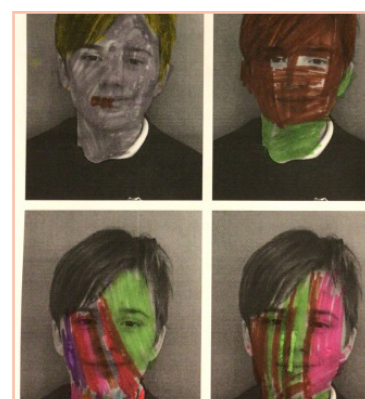
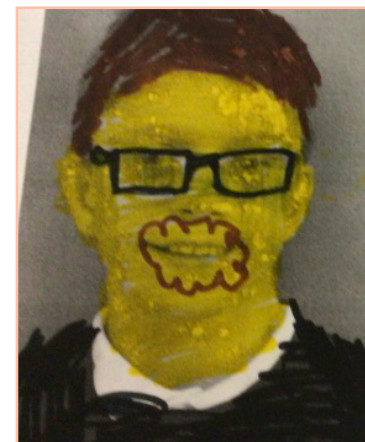
I found this great picture of ten Burnley buses and their drivers pictured outside Burnley Football Club!

**MORE NEWSHOUNDS STORIES CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE!**

**[WWW.PCHS.LANCS.SCH.UK/NEWSHOUNDS](http://WWW.PCHS.LANCS.SCH.UK/NEWSHOUNDS)**

## PORTRAITS & POP ART IN IRWELL

Irwell have been working super hard in Art creating their own self-portrait / portraits. They have been exploring the Pop Art Movement when making their work and looking at the artist Andy Warhol for inspiration. They have been using different media – paint, paper, felt tips whilst using realistic and abstract colours.



## HAVING FUN IN YARROW

This term, in Yarrow, we have been very busy! After half term we welcomed our new teacher, Miss Hunter. We have enjoyed getting to know her and are so glad she has joined our form. We have all made sure to help Miss Hunter settle in and feel welcome in our class.

We went on a trip to Forest School at Marsden Park. We had a fun morning playing a game of tig and making tents. This required teamwork and communication skills. We used our tents to shelter from the cold while we enjoyed a cup of hot chocolate and a biscuit. After we finished our hot chocolate, we ventured back to the Forest School classroom to warm up. We used magnifying glasses, read books, made wooden medals, played noughts and crosses and explored the classroom. After a busy morning, we were glad to get back to school to tuck into our packed lunches!

Recently we also practised our performance for Pendle's Got Talent. For our performance we decided to sing and sign Last Christmas by Wham, we chose this song as we have some lovely singers and excellent signers in our class. We loved practising our song and made sure to give our performance our all! We are all ready for our Christmas break, and can't wait to come back in the new year!

## BLACKO GET OUT AND ABOUT

Who could have thought a walk to Marsden Park could be so refreshing and invigorating! Well it was for Blacko during their recent outing to the Forest School.

With the effect of the pandemic restricting all of our movements especially around school, we have spent most of our time in our own classroom, so this excursion was more than appreciated for both pupils and staff! It was so nice to feel the wind on our faces and to be outside in the fresh air.

We constructed a shelter using things we could find from the forest, made a hammock and had fun identifying the trees and birds we could see and hear. We also played some exciting games.

It was a welcome change and all of our students enjoyed the trip. We all voted for another one and hopefully this will happen in the not too distant future.



## FAREWELL PENDLE COMMUNITY SCOUT GROUP

Christina Turner, Group Leader & Deborah McKenna, Scout Leader of Pendle Community Scouts would like to inform you of the next adventure for those pupils wishing to be in Scouting.

Pendle Community Scouts is now a closed group as Christina is no longer able to support the group. Thank you Christina for your support over the last few years! Deborah has joined 16th Pendle (Sacred Heart Colne) as Scout Leader. She will send information out for this group once face to face groups recommence and hopefully some of our pupils at Pendle Community High School & College can join her in this exciting adventure on Wednesday nights.

Monies raised by Pendle Community Scouts is being transferred into a fund to support Scouts needing additional support /resources in Scouting.

The last projects completed by Pendle Community Scouts were part of the Community Badge and they made a Bug Hotel and decorated panels for the pagoda/shelter in the sensory garden.



## HAND WASHING HEROES

The students have helped Nurse Deborah make a wonderful Christmas tree of their glittery gummy hands.

Hand hygiene is very important during a pandemic and the pupils are reminded of the importance of good practice and clean hands.



# DON'T MISS OUT ON OUR SCHOOL APP... INSTALL TODAY!



Many of our parents & carers are already taking advantage of our easy to use app to keep in touch with school & college, report absences, download key dates to their calendars and much more. If you are missing out on this service and want to find out more, visit our website [www.pchs.lancs.sch.uk/parent-app](http://www.pchs.lancs.sch.uk/parent-app)

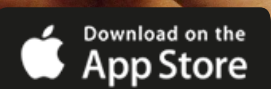
## INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

- Search for MyEd on Google Play or App Store (depending on your phone/tablet).
- When you open the app, search for Pendle Community High School & College
- Next, you will be asked to input your full name, your mobile number and your email address. All of this information must match exactly with the information we hold for you. If it does not, you will still get access to school and college news, calendar etc. However, you will not receive information/data about your son/daughter.
- Once you have entered your details, you will be sent a verification code via text message. Input this code when prompted on the MyEd app and you are all set!
- Pupil data will synchronise overnight.

If you have any problems installing the app or cannot see the data for your son/daughter, please contact the school office on 01282 682260 and they will be happy to help!



## DOWNLOAD TODAY...





# ● NOTICEBOARD ●

## ADVERSE WEATHER

As we are approaching the winter months it is time to prepare for adverse weather. Announcements will be issued by:

**Radio Lancashire.**

**Website:** Our school website will also have up to date news of our closure: [www.pchs.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.pchs.lancs.sch.uk)

**Telephone:** If these options are not available to you please call the school office on 01282 682260. If you are unable to get your child to school because of adverse weather please call the school absence line on 01282 682263.



## SCHOOL CLOSES EARLY FRIDAY 18TH DECEMBER AT 1:30PM

We will re-open Monday 4th January  
Have a fantastic Christmas break!

## EU SETTLEMENT SCHEME

The EU Settlement Scheme has been set up to provide immigration status to those who need it as the UK leaves the EU. It is therefore important that everyone that needs to applies. The EU Settlement Scheme has been designed with European Economic Area (EEA) citizens and their representatives to be simple and straightforward. It will be looking for reasons to grant, not for reasons to refuse.

The Scheme opened on 30 March 2019 and applications must be made by June 2021. It is free to make applications to the Scheme.

Full guidance on how to apply is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

## C-19 POSITIVE CASES (DURING HOLIDAYS)

If your child tests positive in the first few days after we break up, please notify Lancashire County Council on the COVID helpline 01772 531555 between 19 - 24 December and they will begin the track and trace.

Please then also let PCHS&C know via the CONTACT tab on the website or by emailing [reception@pchs.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:reception@pchs.lancs.sch.uk)

## FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Please note that once again there will be Edenred vouchers emailed for those families on free school meals. For those families that we know have limited internet access we will arrange this separately.

