

PENDLE COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE

SUMMER

NEWSLETTER 2023

PROM

Page 10

**ERASMUS TRIP
TO SPAIN**

Page 5

**ALICE IN
WONDERLAND**

Page 8

**ULLSWATER
EXPLORERS**

Page 6

WWW.PCHS.LANCS.SCH.UK

WELCOME

from the Headteacher

Another year has come to an end and what a year it has been! We have seen first hand the resilience of our whole school community as we navigated the heartache of losing our beloved Deputy Headteacher, Jenny Bayliss. On 5th July, we came together to honour Jenny's life surrounded by parents, carers, dedicated staff members - both past and present, as well as our remarkable students and Jenny's cherished family. This heartfelt gathering served as a poignant reminder of the impact that Jenny had on the school and how she will always be remembered.

This term has once again been an absolute whirlwind, brimming with incredible opportunities for all of our young people. Everything we have achieved is a direct result of everyone working tirelessly and doing their very best to make sure that we make a difference every day.

The Summer term never fails to dazzle us with its most anticipated event, the annual Prom for our year 11 leavers and college students. This year was no exception! The students arrived in style and looked fabulous in their dresses and suits. You can read all about it on page 10. We also received a lovely message from one of the neighbouring residents who expressed the profound privilege they feel witnessing this event year after year. They also made a point to acknowledge the remarkable commitment, dedication, and devotion of our exceptional staff, which they observe with admiration on a daily basis. It's truly heart-warming to receive such recognition for the efforts of our wonderful team. This extends to all those involved in the end of year production of Alice in Wonderland which, again, highlighted what our students CAN do with the support and belief of a committed staff team.

Our leavers' assembly is always a bittersweet event, saying goodbye to our students but wishing them well as they take their next steps. We are very proud of all our students and are pleased that they have all successfully found appropriate destinations in either further education, day services or even full-time employment.

We are looking forward to regular parent courses in the coming year and the further development of Williams Hall. All volunteers welcome and do get in touch if you think you can help with decorating, gardening, helping set up the centre etc.

Of course, the biggest thanks goes to you, our parents and carers, for your continued efforts and support.

Best wishes, as always

Debra



NOTICEBOARD

PARKING

Please note that from September, any parents dropping off/collecting their child will need to park on Hollins Road and walk them in. This is due to the new one way system for school transport to support the installation of our new portacabin.

SCHOOL CLOSSES: FRIDAY 21ST JULY

We will re-open on Monday 4th September
Have a fantastic Summer!

SCHOOL LUNCHES

From September, the cost of school meals will be £2.50 per day. Please ensure that this is paid in advance using the ParentPay system. If you need assistance accessing your account, please contact the school office who will be happy to assist with this.

AUTUMN TERM 2023

Starts: 04/09/23
Half term: 23/10/23 - 01/11/23
Ends: 21/12/23

SPRING TERM 2024

Starts: 08/01/24
Half term: 12/02/24 - 16/02/24
Ends: 28/03/24

SUMMER TERM 2024

Starts: 15/04/24
May Day: 06/05/24
Half term: 27/05/24 - 31/05/24
Ends: 19/07/24

HOLIDAY & EVENING CLUBS

LEISURE BOX

Tuesday: Climbing - 5-6pm 6-7pm all year

Wednesday: Multi Sports - 6-7pm Term time

Friday: Football - Down syndrome 5-6pm, Under 16s 6-7pm, 7-8pm open age outdoor pitch

BFC LIMITLESS

To sign up for this you need to follow the link below they offer activities such as climbing, golf, football, multi sports, sensory and soft play.

<https://burnleyfcommunity.org/disability-sport-project-becomes-limitless-clarets-in-fresh-new-rebrand/>

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD PROGRAMME (HAF)

Students have to be eligible for free school meals to get a place on this holiday program.

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/school-holiday-activities/>

FUNDA HOLIDAY CAMPS & CHILDCARE

Funda are running a holiday club at Burnley College

<https://www.fundaactive.com/holidaycamps>

Keep an eye on our school Facebook page where we often share details of activities and clubs that are suitable for our students.

SCIENCE IN SLAIDBURN

It has been a pleasure teaching in Slaidburn this year. The students have worked so hard and have made amazing progress.

This term we looked at Tim Peake, the first British astronaut to walk in space. We read two stories and then made some props to retell our own story. It was fun making the props.

In Science, we have been exploring rocks. We learned about where they come from and we went around school to see where and how they are used. We also found out whether the rocks floated or sank when we dropped them in water.

In Geography, we created our own volcano and watched it erupt. We did this by adding vinegar to bicarbonate of soda and washing up liquid. It was cool!



SPOOKY IN HODDER

This term in Hodder we have been getting all spooky within our topic in English based on the play Macbeth. We started with an introduction to Shakespearean language and the characters of the witches. We had lots of fun coming up with adjectives to describe witches which we then used when we had a go at writing our own wonderfully witchy poem focussing on creative vocabulary, rhyme and alliteration! To finish, each student performed their poem to the rest of the class.

INDEPENDENT IRWELL

The students had fun testing out the new Drive Deck.



WONDERFUL WYRE



Wyre have had another Fantastic term and have been very lucky to go on some short trips again, as well as working hard! Some of the class went to Ullswater in April and had a “terrific time” in the outdoors. In May, some of them went to sunny Spain and had a lovely experience meeting new friends from all across Europe.

One of Wyre’s highlights was getting to celebrate the coronation of the new King Charles on the 5th May with a street party - they loved it. Lots of snacks, treats, smiles and happiness on the special patriotic day.

Wyre have spent time in their new classes with some of them moving up to KS4. They got to meet their new friends and Staff Teams whilst being very ambitious, respectful and showing lots of togetherness.

Finally, nearly all pupils in Wonderful Wyre have achieved their Gold Merit Award or higher! They have been fantastic and hard-working as always and they are all now looking forward to coming back in September after a well-deserved break. Well done Wyre!

A TRIP TO SUNNY SPAIN

On Sunday 14th May as part of our Erasmus project, Every Move Counts, eight KS3 students and four staff members travelled to Tapia De Casariego in Spain. After one flight from Manchester to Barcelona and then another flight from Barcelona to Oviedo we had just an hour-long journey by coach to the school.

The school was a lovely building which had previously been used as a hospital. Tapia itself is a beautiful fishing town which is famous for its surfing!

The first day involved presentations of our school and then a tour around the local area. Whilst in Tapia we had a day trip to Taramundi where we visited a local ‘lagar’ factory which produces its own cider. The students also participated in an art workshop, a cooking workshop and a coding workshop. We also had a trip to A Coruna where we visited an interactive science museum, Hercules tower and an aquarium.

The final day had us on the beach where we watched a surfing exhibition by one of the students from the school who has already won several national and international championships at only 15 years old!



WHAT A YEAR FOR PENDLE

What a year! As a team we have laughed, cried, meditated and excelled in everything this year. Some of us were fortunate to experience a residential and the weather was kind to us. We scrambled, climbed, rowed, tunneled, ate and drank hot chocolate galore.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL TRIP TO ULLSWATER

In April, 2 groups attended the Ullswater residential. Whilst there, students participated in several outdoor pursuit activities which included ghyll scrambling, campfires, powerboating, canoeing, tunneling and even braved jog and dip into the lake! More surprisingly, students made their own beds and kept their dorm rooms tidy!



SPORTS FOR CHAMPIONS



On 29th June, we were lucky enough to have Martha Harris come to school for the morning to talk about her career as a professional footballer for Birmingham FC.

Martha Harris joined the Blues on a one-year deal ahead of the 2022/23 season. Previous to this, the defender spent 4 years at Manchester United, where she made 49 appearances. Here she won the Women’s Championship, a trophy she also picked up during her time with Liverpool.

Martha led an assembly where she told the students all about her career and what it takes to be a professional footballer. She set the students a challenge to see who could do the most kick ups. The talented winner was Zac, who will be getting a free football shirt for his efforts! Martha then took each class from school and college through a fitness circuit which certainly got everyone’s hearts pumping a bit faster!

UDDERLY AWESOME!

On Thursday 8th June, Farmer John came back for his second visit of the year.

He began by leading an assembly, telling the students all about his farm and the different types of jobs that need doing to make it run properly. This was really interesting and the students learned a lot about farm life.

On his first visit, the students had a special request and asked him if he would come back with some of his farm animals. He didn’t disappoint, and after the assembly, students were then able to go outside and meet some very special visitors!

STAYING SAFE ON THE ROADS



On Thursday 4th May Geoff from Lancashire Fire Service joined us to lead an assembly on road safety and also how to stay safe when in a car. As always, our students were very eager to volunteer to help him and had lots of questions about his job.

ULLSWATER EXPLORERS

This term, another intrepid group of explorers made their way to the Outward Bound Centre at Ullswater. We packed enough stuff to last a month and then found out that literally everything is provided, including the kitchen sink! The centre ensured we were very well fed, so that we could handle any of the challenges thrown our way.

We spent the first night crawling on the ground in the dark through a maze of tunnels. We got very good at pushing and pulling each other through, especially as people started to get tired. Back in the digs, everyone slept like logs, ready for the next day.

We completed all sorts of water training until we were ready for speed boat crossings, steam ferry boat trips and gorge walking. We heaved each other up through the mountain stream past rocks and under footbridges. We rowed in the moonlight and giggled lots and lots. We also had a really important fire session out in the woods where we enjoyed lighting fires, getting used to matches, toasting marshmallows... and stealing each other's hats!



FOLLOW US ON facebook

Don’t forget to join our Facebook page where you will find lots of information about what’s happening in school as well as links to lots of helpful resources. Join us today: <https://www.facebook.com/pchsandc>

Here is one of the latest posts giving us a shout out by Councillor Sarah Cockburn-Price about our gardening club success:



Cllr Sarah Cockburn-Price
1h · 🌐

Pendle Community High School and College

The weather was kind to me earlier and we benefited from a brief respite from the rain when I visited Pendle Community College in my capacity as the former chairman of the Pendle Council Climate Emergency Working Group.

We awarded this Gardening Club £1,500 so that they could design and build some bespoke, accessible raised beds. These are both smart and practical and were entirely completed within Design and Technology lessons.

As you can see from the photo, today was potato harvesting day! As this is their first season, they confessed they have had a few plant casualties – happens to the best of us! Despite watering by the pupils, it sometimes hasn’t been enough, so next season they are going to rethink the irrigation. I advised them to get in touch with Trawden Forest Primary whom I visited last week, as they have a very clever system.

After term has ended, they plan to add loads of fresh organic matter and start planning for next year. Then they told me that these raised beds, which do so much to brighten a dreary courtyard, are really mere testbeds for a much bigger project...

Mrs Thompson will have her work cut out with the fundraising, but the College is planning to take over Williams Hall on Barkerhouse Road and run it as a community café, with produce for the café grown in the grounds! This ambitious project will give the pupils really worthwhile experiences and the team looked palpably excited, as well they might. They promised to invite me back to see it all. Not for the first time, this Community Grant Scheme has planted a seed and it has blossomed into something much bigger.

OUR TRIP TO CALVERT TRUST

This term a group of 7 students had the opportunity to attend a five day long residential in the Lake District at the Calvert Trust. Students experienced climbing, abseiling, zip lining, cycling, swimming, canoeing and also spent time in the sensory room. Everyone had an incredible time. On their return, staff commented that being able to witness students achieving things they never believed they could was the most amazing part of the week.



AFTERNOON TEA

Students who are working towards their Level 1 and Level 2 NCFE Food and Cookery Skills worked hard to produce an Afternoon Tea buffet as part of a celebration event remembering Jenny Bayliss.

Students decided what to create, including Kit Kat cheesecake, scones and cheese and tomato quiche. Students also worked as a team to not only have the food ready on time, but to set up the room to serve the buffet with tea, coffee and orange juice and then serve the food to guests.

The Afternoon Tea was another demonstration of the level of food preparation skills our catering students have, how they can work as part of a team and how they can work under pressure to produce food to a good standard.



ALICE IN WONDERLAND

After a full year of gentle preparation, a cast of actors, singers and stage crew managed to pull off two successful preformances of Alice in Wonderland.

We had lots of support from throughout school, including the DT department, who made all of the set including the impressive White Rabbit’s house. We also had staff members doing bit part roles, tweedle do and tweedle don’t being a big hit with the audience!

The highlights of the production seem as random as the story itself... a pack of cards chaos dancing to Ace of Spades by ACDC; a wacky white rabbit who we were unable to successfully photograph as he moved so fast across the stage; some crazy hedgehogs on scooters being whacked by inflatable flamingos and a blue caterpillar blowing bubbles through a saxophone.

There were too many stand out parts to name and everyone performed to the very best of their ability. We included sections that had been pre recorded and this meant that almost every student in school took part in some form.

Parents, carers, staff, students and governors were all in attendance over the two days and the feedback received was fantastic. Well done to everyone involved!



CAREERS WEEK

Students in Key Stage 4 had a great week exploring various careers. We were lucky to welcome two engineers Kristian and Jess, a plumber who designs aircraft for Airbus.

Both set tasks for our students based on aircraft design as well as creating a marble run using only cardboard, tubes and tape. Over the course of the week, students discovered ways to create electricity using citrus fruits and clean water as well as using items found around homes. They then became photographers taking pictures in the school environment.

We were also fortunate to have Lara, the CEO of Oddies, share all the different roles within the local bakery and Mr Edwards, a retired PCSO.

All the students enjoyed the week, getting the chance to explore roles such as engineers, builders, designers and assembly line workers; amongst many other roles. They had lots of fun developing their skills and qualities and finding out what employers are looking for in their workforces.

ARK BARN

As part of their 14- 19 lessons, students visited Ark Barn Education Centre, where they learnt how to care for various animals and made feed for goats, horses and donkeys. Some of the highlights include taking Rolo the alpaca for a walk and collecting the eggs from the hens.



ERASMUSVISITORS

This term we have welcomed visitors from our partner schools in Spain, Portugal and Croatia to continue working on our project, Stamp It Out.

Both staff and students were impressed by our school and enjoyed catching up with students they had previously met when we travelled to their schools.

This visit was the last of the Erasmus project for our school, but we hope to continue the European adventures with our students in the future.

GEOGRAPHY

We have covered lots of different topics this term in our Geography lessons from discovering our new school and exploring the local community to looking at the world around us and the weather! This involved making sensory bottles and finding the equator on a globe. We have sat in wonder and watched a birds eye view of flying over a tropical rainforest. We have also experienced the habitats on and around a river bed. Some students even prepared themselves a survival back pack in case of a disaster and discovered what they needed to survive - which didn't include an xbox!



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



During RE lessons, students have explored and experienced different faiths from around the world. They have listened to music, tried foods and dressed in traditional clothing. Older students have explored meanings and morals behind religious stories, listened to and debated with others when a difference of opinion arose. They have questioned themselves and their faith and became inquisitive about how followers are guided into making decisions from reading a holy script.



SPORTS DAY FOR CALDER & WENNING

This term, Calder and Wenning students joined forces for our annual Sports Day.

Students enjoyed an outdoor walk, obstacle course, bowling and parachute games. All students worked incredibly hard and had lots of fun (and bubbles!!)

GOING WILD OUTSIDE

During the Summer term, Yarrow and Irwell teamed up to explore wildlife habitats as part of their Science lessons. We enjoyed heading out to Marsden park and taking part in a wildlife hunt around school and in our local area.





Prom Night

Class of 2023

On Thursday 22nd June, we celebrated our most anticipated event of the season - Prom night 2023.

We were delighted to see how well our students scrubbed up in their formal attire. There was an array of elegant dresses, dashing suits, high heels and bow ties! A real effort was made by everyone and they all looked and felt fantastic!

Everyone made their entrance via the red carpet through the sensory garden and were delighted to receive a glass of fizz and have their pictures taken by the resident paparazzi!

Inside, the college students had done an incredible job of decorating the venue and you would never have guessed that it was the same school hall. There was a bar serving drinks all night, a balloon arch, tables and chairs covered in white with bows to match the colour scheme and the most used item of the night, the official Prom photo frame, at which there was a queue all night long!

The DJ was a Father and Son duo who kindly volunteered their services and they were fab! The students were loving the songs and the dance floor was never empty...except of course for when the food was served.

Everyone tucked into a fish and chip supper that was so tasty it would put Banny's to shame! This was followed by delicious strawberry cheesecake. All of the food was made in house and once again our chef and his team did a fabulous job.

Towards the end of the night it was time to crown the Prom King and the Prom Queen. Voted for by their peers, the deserving winners were Ifras and Demi-Leigh, looking every inch the picture of royalty as they collected their sash and crown. Another beautiful event and a great way to end the year!

