

The Whitworth

Whistle



Easter 2026

Whitworth
Community High School



Head Teacher Op-ed

Welcome to the latest Whitworth Whistle! As those who follow my fortnightly updates know, it's been an incredibly busy season of competition. While football has taken centre stage, our students have excelled across a fantastic range of activities, from netball and dance to hitting the slopes in Austria.

I'm delighted to introduce our new editorial team as they pick up the mantle from our outgoing Year 11s. A special thank you goes to James Power for his hard work as lead editor for this edition.

Finally, my sincere thanks to Mr Cawley and the many staff members who volunteer their time to ensure WCHS students can partake and compete at such a high level. I'm also deeply grateful to Mr Duxbury and the team who dedicated their half-term break to making the Austrian ski trip such a success.

Mr Oliver, Headteacher

Editor Op-ed

As The Whitworth Whistle publishes its sixth edition, I'm very excited to be stepping into a new chapter and embracing a fresh start with the paper. I'm incredibly passionate about making sure students, staff, and the wider school community can stay up to date with results and achievements that reflect the hard work happening every day at Whitworth Community High School. Sport and physical education are a huge part of school life, and celebrating the progress and effort of our students matters just as much as the final scores. As always, the newspaper would not have been possible without the dedication of our writers and photographers, who have worked tirelessly to capture stories, moments, and results with real care and commitment. Their effort behind the scenes deserves recognition, and I'm proud of what we've produced together and what is to come in the future. So without further ado, I give you this term's Whitworth Whistle!

James Power, Editor



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@WCHS_PE



Pass, pivot, power: year eight netball girls partake in the first competition of the year!

On Tuesday 24th of February 2026, ten athletic girls headed to The Valley Leadership Academy's netball courts to participate in a competitive netball tournament against four opposing teams. After a quick warm up, Whitworth's team was ready to go.

The first match commenced: Whitworth vs BRGS. The Whitworth girls tried their best to defend but BRGS dominated possession. They lost the game yet they were still ready to prove themselves. However, game two unfortunately had the same conclusion.

After two defeats in a row and a motivational pep-talk from Mr Cawley, Whitworth were ready to win. The breakthrough came when they played Alder Grange. During this match, Abi B scored leading to Whitworth's victory. The team was elated. They unfortunately lost the final game, but were still pleased with their performance; they defended better, passed with more power and shot with more enthusiasm.

I, Isabelle, played in the tournament in the central positions of wing attack, wing defence and centre. We rotated around positions which I liked because nobody was off the pitch for more than half of a game.

At the start, we needed to have a bit more power and motivation. However, I think we gained confidence as the matches progressed. In addition, there was lots of sportsmanship from all the teams which created a pleasant atmosphere. Overall, I think we played well, especially in the later games and I look forward to playing again in the future.

Written by Isabelle B & Alessia B (Year 8)



U14 District Drama



A huge well done to the Whitworth participants that played in the intense 5-4 U14 District Team game between Pendle District. It was described as an “End to end battle...in a game that could have gone either way”. Brilliant performance by the lads!

Year 7 Kick Off in Style

A wonderful 7-a-side tournament saw the new Year 7 football team kick off in style, putting in a fantastic team performance to secure an impressive fourth-place finish! The players showed great determination, teamwork and skill throughout the competition, doing an excellent job while representing our school brilliantly from start to finish.

Whitworth kicked off their first match against Alder Grange with Rocco Sinclair standing in between the posts. The game began after Harry Lomax took the centre kick to get things underway.

Despite a strong effort from the team, Whitworth were unfortunately beaten in a close 2–0 loss. Nevertheless, their spirits remained high throughout the course of the match. Rocco Sinclair put in an impressive performance while in goal, making two excellent saves to keep the scoreline fairly close.

In the second game, heads were low after losing the first but Whitworth scored an excellent goal to bring the score up to 1 - 0. It looked like they had secured the win but heartbreak occurred as BRGS scored in the last few minutes to equalize and put the score to score to 1-1 the whistle was blown but it was good knowing that we did our best and knowing we had almost won.

Game 3 kicked off with Ellis taking the centre kick. We kept possession well throughout the game, controlling the play and putting pressure on the opposition. Our efforts paid off when Ellis found the back of the net, securing the winning goal. The final score was Whitworth 1–0 All Saints.

The second-to-last match commenced with high spirits after winning the previous game and a strong determination to win again. However, it was a rough start as The Valley and Leadership Academy took an early lead, bringing the score to 1–0. Whitworth tried to fight back, but unfortunately conceded another goal.

The final match had begun and Whitworth played a strong match against Haslingden and secured a well-deserved 2-0 victory. From the start, Whitworth showed great teamwork and determination, creating several chances to score. Their effort paid off with two well-taken goals that put them firmly in control of the game. Haslingden tried to respond, but Whitworth's solid defence kept them from scoring, allowing Whitworth to finish the match with a clean sheet and a confident win.

By Robyn N, Jack C and Noah A (Year 7)

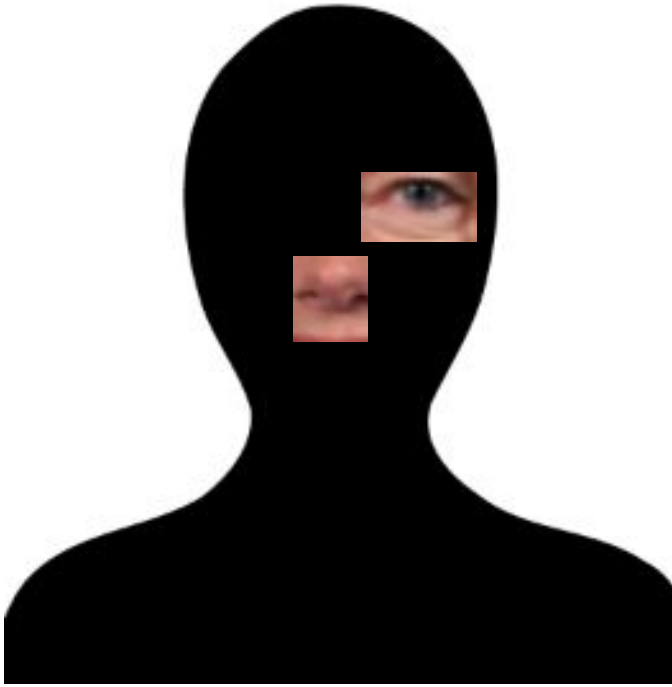


Rossendale Glow Festival

The Lights were out in our sports hall earlier this term as the annual Rossendale Glow Festival took place. Participants wore special bibs that glowed when in the dark, as well as multicoloured dodgeballs which did the same thing. All in all, a fun and exciting event!

Brain Break

WHO AM I?



- Used to be head of English at Wardle Academy
- Part of my remit is to ensure that literacy skills and careers are embedded across the curriculum
- Part of the Senior Leadership Team.

Can you guess the mystery staff member behind this shadow using the clues provided?

Answer = Mrs J Howarth

CAPTION THIS!

Give these wacky photos a caption of your choice!



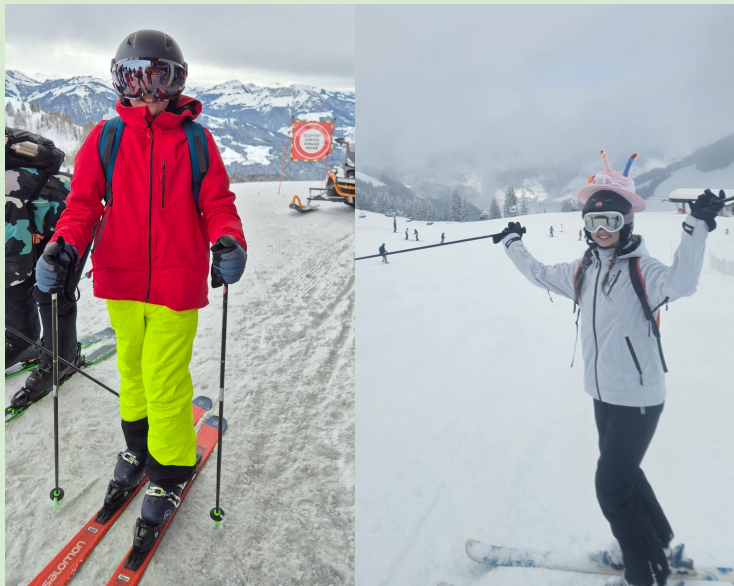
Around & About Whitworth High

Whitworth Hits the Heights

Students from Whitworth Community High School (WCHS) have returned home full of stories, laughter, and a few well-earned aches after an unforgettable ski trip to the breathtaking mountains of Austria.

The adventure began with a mammoth 26-hour coach journey across Europe — a test of endurance that students handled with remarkable spirit. Despite the long hours on the road, excitement levels remained high as the group anticipated their first glimpse of the snow-covered Austrian Alps.

Upon arrival, the team wasted no time hitting the slopes. Under the guidance of a professional ski instructor, students received expert tuition on everything from balancing and turning to safely navigating the mountain runs. For many, it was their first experience on skis, but confidence quickly grew as skills developed over the course of the week.



Following their initial lessons, students took part in multiple ski sessions, progressing from gentle beginner slopes to more challenging runs. Each day brought noticeable improvements, with staff praising the determination and resilience shown by the entire group.

When they weren't skiing, the group relaxed in a beautiful alpine cabin that offered spectacular mountain views. Evenings were spent enjoying hearty buffet-style meals in the lodge's restaurant, where students refuelled after long days in the snow. The comfortable accommodation provided the perfect setting for team bonding, card games, and sharing highlights from the day's adventures.

The trip not only strengthened skiing skills but also built friendships, independence, and resilience — qualities that extend far beyond the slopes.

After an incredible week in Austria, the WCHS ski team returned home tired but triumphant, bringing back memories that will last a lifetime — and perhaps a new passion for the mountains.

Written by James P (Year 9)



The ultimate dodgeball showdown!!

Lots of loving and supportive parents came to watch their children play in a competitive and fun game of dodgeball. We asked Ruby A (a sports ambassador) what happens and what her job is. She said her favorite part of being an ambassador is participating in events like athletics, dodgeball and plenty of other sports! Ruby wanted to be an ambassador to help others to play her favorite sports. Ruby Said “Being an ambassador takes lots of communication skills and teamwork. One of the main teams we focused on was Holy Trinity because they had good communication and stances in throwing.”

We also questioned another Sports Ambassador, David. He said that “At the end of year seven you can become a sports ambassador and help out at sports events like football, rugby, athletics etc. When seeing lots of supportive parents I was full of joy as they cheered for their children to win. That is what I loved the most; the teams weren’t cheating, they were using amazing techniques and communicating to help their team win.”

Isabelle B also agreed to answer a couple of questions. We asked her what it's like to be a sports ambassador. She replied “It's fun and interesting! The sport ambassadors host events like dodgeball, football and many more. The matches were intense, and when I thought one team would give up, they carried on and they showed incredible strength.”

10 different schools, 100 different students. Lots of competition! Many supportive parents came to watch while shouting, cheering, and screaming. Finally at the end of the tournament, Waterfoot was the winning School. Congratulations!

Written by Isabelle G, Lilly-Ann H, and Daphne R (Year 7)



Champions Trophy Finals 2026



Mon 11th May- Yr 7 Boys Rossendale PVC Systems Cup
Tues 12th May- Yr 8 Boys M.Ashworth Contracting Cup
Wed 13th May- Yr 9 Boys Joshua Laws Butchers Cup
Thurs 14th May- Yr 10 Boys Inspire Sport Cup
Fri 15th May- Yr 11 Boys Inspire Sport Cup

Mon 11th May- U13 Girls Jute Sports Cup
Tues 12th May- U15 Girls Jute Sports Cup

Venue: Whitworth Valley FC
Medal Sponsor: Ormerod Plumbing & Heating
Trophy Sponsor: Muldoon Financial Planning

Team 1 vs Team 2
Alder Grange vs Team 2
Alder Grange vs Team 2
Team 1 vs Team 2
Team 1 vs BRGS

Team 1 vs Team 2
Team 1 vs Team 2



Final Whistle: See who won!

Game	Result
Yr 11 B Team 7v7 Tournament	4th Place
Yr 10 B Team 7v7 Tournament	2nd Place
Yr 9 B Team 7v7 Tournament	2nd Place
Yr 8 B Team 7v7 Tournament	3rd Place
Yr 7 B Team 7v7 Tournament	4th Place
Y8 Boys Football League & Cup	Alder G 4-1 WCHS
Yr 11 Football Boys Cup	WCHS 2-0 All Saints
U15 Girls Football Cup	TVLA 2-3 WCHS
Yr 9 Football Boys Cup	WCHS 1-4 Alder G
Yr 8 Netball Tournament	5th Place
U13 Girls Football Cup	TVLA 3-1 WCHS
Yr 11 Football League	WCHS 3-2 BRGS
Yr 9 Football League	Haslingden 3-4 WCHS
Yr 7 Netball Tournament	5th Place
Dance Competition	1st Place
Yr 7 Boys Football Cup	Alder Grange 2-2(p) WCHS



Next Gen Moves -Whitworth Years 7-9 Steal The Spotlight!

Whitworth dancers in years 7-9 have been working endlessly on their magnificent dance routine this term, ready to impress their judges and audience. Over the last few months, they have been staying back an hour after school in order to perfect their dance performance.

The dance routine shows how the sports of the world combine into one, with the dance including Bollywood dancing (a traditional Indian cricket world cup dance), and the Haka, a traditional rugby dance from the New Zealand Team. The dancers have been working tirelessly on their routine, and when the time came, they were ready for their competition, which took place on Thursday 12th of March in the Queen Elizabeth Hall, in Blackburn. Their costumes varied from different sports outfits, including football, rugby and baseball shirts. The actual dance routine involved breathtaking lifts, flying rugby balls and flags, and even a bear mascot! The routine contained a large number of 37 students across years 7-9, with all of them ready to dance and represent our school in a unique and special way.

When the day of the dance came, as promised, the flags were waving everywhere, footballs were bouncing, pompoms were crackling, and the dancers were hitting every beat with superb accuracy.

Our school's dance routine amazed the audience with their impressive dance moves and their jaw dropping lifts. The results finally came out, and the judges had placed WCHS first. This means that our dance team will be competing in the next round at Blackpool. Well done everyone!.

Written by Betsy P and Eydi T (Year 7)





Picture Perfect Portraits



Welcome to our Picture Perfect Page, created for students who are passionate about photography. In this edition we asked students who had been on the skiing trip to send their photos in. Enjoy!



Whitworth Football Frenzy-Year 8

TVLA welcomed the WCHS Year eight football team into the tournament and they started off with an amazing game against Alder Grange. The tenacious side played well and pushed through. Though they sadly lost that match, they had many great attempts of scoring and fortunately the goalkeeper, Ethan M saved many goal-headed shots. Despite Ethan's efforts, they still lost by 0-2. Haslingden vs Whitworth was an amazing game to watch as Tyler G scored, taking Whitworth one step closer to winning the match. The final whistle blew and they had done it, winning 1-0 and beating Haslingden. Well done to our Year 8's!!

All the players did well with incredible passing skills and goal stopping, but they worked especially hard with their teamwork, which always helps to win games!

Final scores:

- Game 1: 0-2 (Whitworth vs Alder Grange)
- Game 2: 1-0 (Whitworth vs Haslingden)
- Game 3: 0-0 (Whitworth vs All Saints)
- Game 4; 0-4 (Whitworth vs TVLA)
- Game 5: 1-0 (Whitworth vs Alder Grange)

The games were played in freezing weather and the sky was dull and gloomy but they all made it through! Once again, an amazing job to the attackers, defenders, the goal keeper, and the strikers.

Written by Aaron H and Aleisha G (Year 7)



A special well done to our Year 8 Sports Ambassadors for completing their dodgeball officiating course. The team learnt the rules of the game and put their refereeing skills into action, while rotating between the match official and players. Hopefully, we shall see the progress our ambassadors have made in the next Dodgeball tournament. Well done Everyone!

Interform Update

2025 Champion DRACO



Position	House	Points
1st	URSA	3,480
2nd	AQUILA	3,280
3rd	ORION	3,200
4th	DRACO	3,170
5th	PEGASUS	3,025

