

Dear parents and carers,

### Year 10 Exams

I begin with a reminder that our mid year(ish) exams take place next week. Please remind your children to revise for these important assessments. Revision materials can be found in the revision section of the website. Username: i.climb Password: Higher2021.

W/c 8/12	1	2	3	4	5
Mon	English			Chemistry	
Tue	Maths			Geography, History	
Wed	Spanish, PE, Computing, Drama, RS, Hospitality		Physics		
Thur	Maths			Spanish	Biology
Fri	English		Art, Dt, Music, Sociology, Business	Art	

### Staff Versus Students Preliminary Rounds

Every year, we hold a fun competition between year 11 students and staff. The aim is to reduce the stress and the monotony of revision. The aim is also to further enhance positive relationships between students and staff, especially as we approach the second half of the academic year, during which year 11 students will be under a lot of pressure due to their GCSE examinations.

The majority of the events will take place on the final Wednesday of term but some need to happen in advance so that a wide variety of pursuits and sports are included. As such, the football and netball matches took place last week. It gives me great pleasure to announce that the staff took the points in the football match, which they won by 5 goals to two. In the netball, the staff were also the victors, so things are looking good for the staff... not that we're a competitive bunch!

### Calendar

December  
2025

#### Wednesday 17th December

Christmas Jumper/Hat Day  
(£1 donation)

Christmas Concert 6.30pm

#### Thursday 18th December

After school closure at 1pm -  
Christmas Break

January  
2025

#### Monday 5th January

School Re-opens



## Drumbeat Concert

Also last week, our school band played in a charity concert to raise money for Drumbeat. This is a charity that was established by and is promoted by Mr Williams and his family. It supports children in Uganda to pay for their education. The concert which took place on Tuesday evening in Thrum Hall Methodist, Shawclough was a sell out event. Our school band performed alongside two other adult bands and there was something for all musical tastes. Thank you to the Williams family for hosting the event and thanks to all of our staff and students who gave their time and talents so generously to support such a worthy cause.



## Wall Art and Signage

For those of you who haven't had the opportunity to visit the school recently, there are some physical changes to report. New signage has been installed in the PE Foyer to match the sign at the bottom of the school driveway. Additionally, the wall art has now been added to the back of the Geography, Technology and History classrooms. It is hoped that the new wall art will be a visual learning aid to enhance the lessons even further.



## Year 11 Mock Results and Parents' Evening

Thank you to all of you who attended the parents' evening with your children earlier this week. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Please could I take the opportunity to thank year 11 parents/carers for your support and remind you that revision resources are still available for students on the website. Username: i.climb Password: Higher2021 (case sensitive). Also, please could I ask that parents/carers continue to support us by reminding your children to attend intervention sessions when they are invited. These intervention sessions are vital for students to ensure that they achieve the best grades they are capable of in their GCSEs.

## Special Recognition Awards for Governors

I am delighted to be able to report that two of our school Governors have been recognised with special awards by the Lancashire Governance Association for their service to our school community. Liz Hughes has been a Governor since 2014 and has specialised in policy scrutiny and in providing challenge/support for decisions in school regarding students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Christine Wright began her first term of office as a Governor in June 2012. Christine set out as a Local Authority Governor but when our previous Chair of Governors had to step down due to ill health, Christine agreed to take on the role of Chairperson, which she has now undertaken for 8 years.

It was a genuine honour for me to nominate Christine and Liz for their respective awards because they are such dedicated servants of our school community. They always act with integrity and put the best interests of our school first. I am very grateful for all that Christine and Liz do, and I am very pleased to see their work recognised by the Lancashire Governance Association. They are pictured here alongside John Davey, Chair of the Lancashire Governance Association, who presented their awards at the full Governors meeting on Monday evening.



## Newly Elected School Council Members

Our School Council held their most recent meeting on Tuesday morning. The theme for their meeting was to give feedback regarding the Careers provision in place at WCHS. It is vital that Student Voice is considered regarding all aspects of school life and we are grateful to members of the School Council for giving their time on a regular basis. This was the first meeting for our newly elected members from year 7. After a robust selection process, I am pleased to announce that Betsy P, Alfie T, Jack C and Ronan M are our new School Council representatives. They are pictured here wearing their new badges with pride alongside our head boy, Jack W and head girl, Grace W.



## Sports News

After numerous 'friendlies', our year 7 boys eventually got started with a competitive league game against TVLA on Tuesday evening. As usual, it was bitterly cold on the astro turn pitches but the boys came away with all of the points. The final result was TVLA1, WCHS 3. Well done boys!

Not to be outdone, our girls were also in action this week, also against opponents from TVLA. Our under 15s won by four clear goals, conceding none in the process. Our girls are now top of the league going into the games after Christmas.

## Footwear In The Sports Hall

An issue has been identified in the Sports Hall involving a particular brand of trainer, On Cloud. These trainers appear to leave semi-permanent black marks on the sports hall flooring. As you can imagine, this presents an ongoing problem for keeping the facility clean, safe, and ready for daily use.

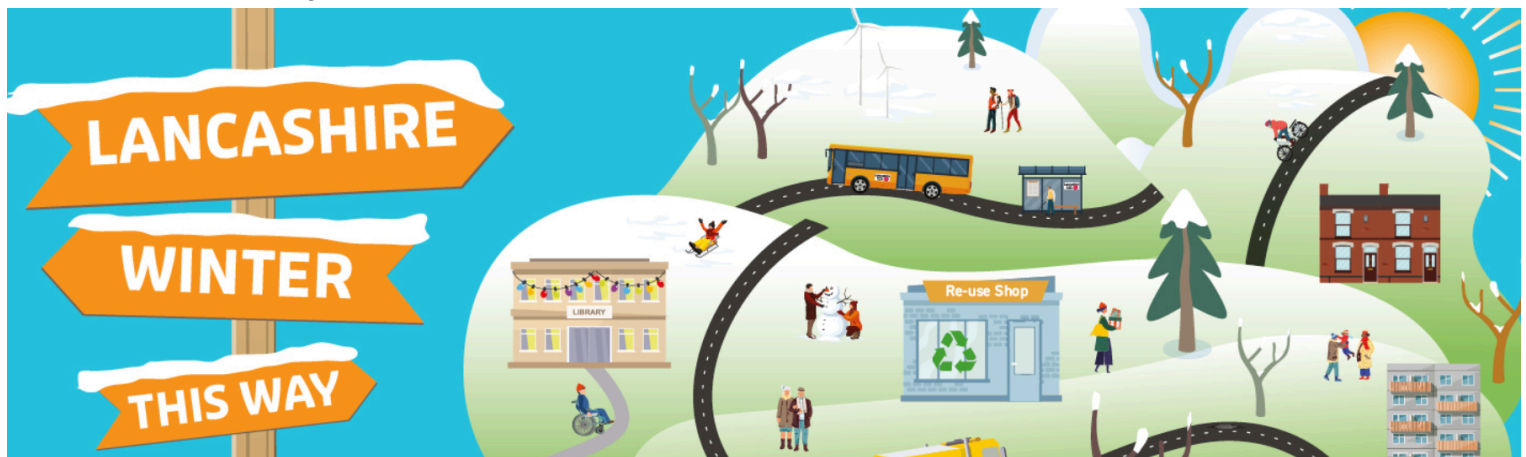
Although the uniform policy states that non-marking trainers should be worn for indoor PE, we have historically not needed to enforce this strictly. However, due to the damage now being caused, we kindly request that students who wear On Cloud trainers for everyday use do not use them for PE lessons, and instead bring a pair of non-marking PE trainers specifically for indoor sports. This will help us protect the sports hall floor and avoid further long-term damage.

A supply of plimsolls will be available for students to borrow if it is not possible for parents/carers to provide alternative footwear at such short notice.

## Lancashire County Council's #LancsWinter campaign

Lancashire County Council have asked headteachers to publicise the #LancsWinter campaign, which is here to support families from November through February. The aim is to signpost people to help and advice, as well as fun activities, events and opportunities throughout the colder months.

There are lots of things highlighted from services at Family Hubs and libraries, to support with childcare, education and skills, to low-cost public transport and winter travel advice. The website address for this campaign is <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/winter/>.



## Harvey B - Football

I always like to report when students have had successes in school. This week it is the turn of Harvey B in year 9. Harvey has been taking part in a football development programme in Rochdale. Harvey has greatly benefited from the sessions, developing valuable team-building skills and showing a notable increase in confidence. The programme itself offers an exceptional learning environment, led by one of the most influential figures in youth football development, Charlie Jackson. Well done to Harvey for having the confidence to take part in this initiative. Thanks also to Ms Wilson for all her encouragement.



## **Holiday Patterns**

To help parents/carers plan ahead, we have agreed the holiday patterns with Governors for the next two academic years. These are all available through the Key Information tab of the school website.

## **Last Day of Term**

I'll finish this penultimate newsletter of the term with a quick reminder that school will close at 1pm on Thursday 18th December. The new term will begin at the normal time on Monday, 5th January 2026.

Best wishes



Mr A Oliver  
Headteacher