



# Newsletter

**Autumn Term 1**  
**Friday 19th September 2025**

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Lancashire, OL12 8TS  
Tel (01706) 343218  
www.wchs.co

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to the second edition of my newsletter for this academic year. Despite the wet and windy weather that we have been experiencing recently, we have resiliently carried on as normal in school. There has been lots going on, as you will see here:

## **New Musical Instruments**

Following a successful application to the UMUK Sound Foundation, we have been fortunate enough to receive a grant to purchase some brand new musical instruments. Mrs Goff identified a need in school for a Baritone, a Flute, a Bass Guitar and a Cajon. These additions to our stock of instruments will be very welcome and will enable several children to develop their musical talents, ensuring that our students have even more opportunities to learn, play, and enjoy music for many years to come. Thank you to UMUK.

## **Year 11 Intervention**

From next week, our official intervention sessions will begin for our Year 11s. The intervention sessions will be targeted towards students who we think could do with that bit of extra support to enable them to achieve their potential. Interventions will be different every week. Students and parents will be notified through the EdulinkOne app. There will also be an intervention notice board in school so that children can refer to this during the school day as they don't have access to their phones whilst in school.

Please could I ask that parents/carers encourage your children to attend intervention sessions. They are not punishments; quite the opposite. They should be seen as free additional tuition provided by school. Therefore, it is important that students attend so as to take advantage of the additional time with their subject specialist teachers.

## **Moulin Rouge Trip**

On Wednesday evening, our Creativity Faculty took a group of students to see the professional production of Moulin Rouge at the Palace Theatre. The theatre production of this famous film has been modernised to include lots of up-to-date hit songs that the students instantly recognised. It sounds as though the students enjoyed a great evening of entertainment. Thanks, as always, to Mrs Goff and the Creativity Faculty who regularly take the students to experience cultural events throughout the academic year.

## **Calendar**

**September  
2025**

### **23rd September**

Y5/6 Parent/Carer  
Coffee Morning  
10.00-12.00

### **25th September**

Y5/6 Parent/Carer  
SEND Coffee Morning  
10.00-12.00

**October  
2025**

### **8th October**

Y7 Settling in Evening  
6.00-7.30pm

### **21st, 22nd & 23rd**

**October**

Autumn Show 7.00pm

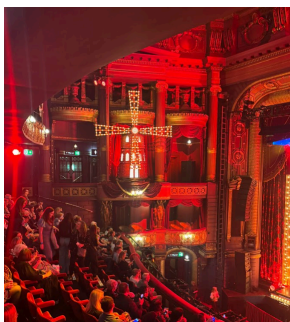
### **24th October**

After School Closure  
Half Term

**November  
2025**

### **3rd November**

School Re-Opens



## Vaping Charter

Many of you will know from my previous correspondence that vaping amongst young people in the Rossendale Valley is problematic. Vapes are illegal for children, and the long-term effects of them are relatively unknown. Added to this, when vapes are sold to young people, they are done so illegally, meaning that there is a higher chance that the vapes supplied to young people might contain dangerous substances. As such, the high schools in the Rossendale Valley have signed up to a charter to demonstrate a shared commitment to educate children about the dangers of vapes and to totally eradicate them from schools. I shared this information with parents/carers last week and have put a copy on the safeguarding section of our school website, so that it is easily accessible. Please could I urge all parents to read the document if you haven't already done so.

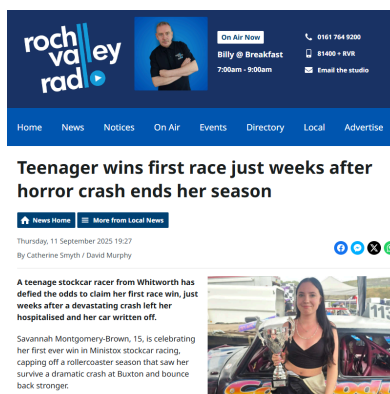
## Physical Education

The weather has not been on the side of our PE department for the first few weeks of term. However, students and staff have carried on resiliently. Extra-curricular clubs have now resumed and the uptake has been good, especially amongst students from years 8 to 11. Please could I ask parents/carers of our new year 7 students to encourage your children to get involved with the numerous activities on offer.

As you know, full uniform is seen as one of our minimum expectations at WCHS. This also applies in PE. It is important that students bring their full kit with them for their PE lessons. Lunch or evening detentions will be applied when students fail to bring in part or all of their kits. If a student is injured, they should still bring their PE kit into school so that they can be involved in the lesson, but in an adapted role e.g. as a referee or score keeper. Full exemption from PE lessons, and the subsequent non-requirement for students to bring in their PE kit would usually require a medical note.

## In The News

Many of you will probably have seen an article that has featured in the local press this week about one of our students. Savannah M-B in Year 11 has been celebrating some really impressive successes in her stock car racing events. Most notably, she won a big race in Holland, which was particularly impressive, especially after having recovered from a serious crash the year before. We are all proud of Savannah for her driving achievements, but also for her excellent attitude to learning in school. What a great role model for our younger students.



## Pupil Safety

I wrote to parents on the 5th September regarding reports circulating on social media suggesting that schools across the country may be subject to imminent terrorist attacks. Understandably, such reports can cause concern; however, it is important to note that these campaigns are often scaremongering and not based on credible threats.

Since I wrote, we have reviewed the policies and procedures that we have in place to keep students and staff safe. We have also had assemblies for all year groups so that students understand what they need to do in the event of emergencies. Following the assemblies, we have been able to practise our fire evacuation plan and test our emergency lockdown procedures. Student conduct during these drills has been excellent.

Thank you to parents/carers for your continued support and trust. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

## Theatre Productions

I have been asked to let you know about two forthcoming musical productions. The first is a production of *Nativity The Musical*, which is due to take place at Middleton Arena from the 7th to the 11th of October. This isn't a school production. It is a Heywood Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society production, but several of our current and former students are involved. Ticket details can be seen on the attached poster.

Also in October, we will be hosting our own annual school production. This year, we've rolled the clock back to the late 1990s for a jukebox performance of chart-topping hits by Britney Spears. *Once Upon A One More Time* turns our favourite fairytales upside down with a clever twist. When a fairy godmother goes rogue and plops copies of *The Feminine Mystique* in the laps of classic heroines, the damsels embark on a quest to rewrite their stories and redefine 'happily ever after'. I'm ashamed to say that I remember all of these songs and I'm sure many parents will too. Therefore, I hope you will join us from the 21st to 23rd October to see one of our productions. Tickets will be available via 'StageStubs' either online or through the app on October 1st at 9 am.

HEYWOOD AMATEUR OPERATIC & DRAMATIC SOCIETY Production of

NODA For every stage

Sponsored by Frank Blakeley

Tuesday 7th October to Saturday 11th October 2025

# Nativity!

The Musical

Middleton Arena

Performances will be 7:30pm each night and a matinee on the Saturday at 2:15pm.

Tickets from £16  
Discounts available for group bookings

Tickets now available from [www.yourtix.co.uk](http://www.yourtix.co.uk) or 0300 303 8633

@Heywoodaods

Book and Lyrics by Debbie Isitt

Music by Debbie Isitt and Nicky

Orchestrations by George Dyer

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International. All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI. [www.mtishows.co.uk](http://www.mtishows.co.uk)

Logos for Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok are present at the bottom left.

Whitworth Community High School

WHITWORTH PRESENTS...

# ONCE UPON A ONE MORE TIME

OCTOBER 21<sup>ST</sup>, 22<sup>ND</sup> & 23<sup>RD</sup> AT 7 PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT STAGESTUBS £6 PER TICKET

ONCE UPON A ONE MORE TIME HIGH SCHOOL VERSION BASED ON THE MUSIC PERFORMED AND RECORDED BY BRITNEY SPEARS BOOK BY JON HARTMERE

THIS AMATEUR PRODUCTION IS PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL. ALL AUTHORISED PERFORMANCE MATERIALS ARE ALSO SUPPLIED BY MTI. [WWW.MTISHOWS.CO.UK](http://WWW.MTISHOWS.CO.UK)

Illustrations of Snow White, Cinderella, and Aurora are featured in the center.

## Library Book Appeal

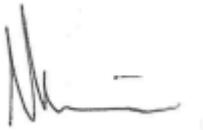
We are still looking for donations of books for our school library. If you have any used books in good condition that your children have already read and that you would be willing to donate to our school library, please send them in to school so that Mrs Pickering can add them to our stock. Thanks to families who have already donated.

## **Open Day and Evening**

As always, our open day and evening were a huge success. We hosted hundreds of families who showed an interest in choosing our school for their children next September. Thank you to our prefects who were on hand during the day and in the evening to help the year 6 children and their parents/carers navigate the school building. I must make a special mention to our Head Boy, Jack, Head Girl, Grace and our three brave Year 7 speakers, Harry, Jack and Skye, who spoke so confidently about their experiences in school to a huge audience. Thanks also to our dedicated team of staff who put in a particularly long shift on Thursday, followed by Trauma Informed Practices training on Friday morning. A slightly earlier finish on Friday was much needed and appreciated by all.

This has been an action-packed, yet highly successful week for our school. Thank you to anyone who has been involved in any way. Wishing you all a great weekend.

Best wishes



Mr A Oliver  
Headteacher