



Newsletter

Summer Term 1
Friday 16th May 2025

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Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to the latest instalment of the WCHS newsletter. The GCSE examinations are now well underway and I am very pleased to be able to report that all seems to be going well. The invigilators have been very complimentary about the conduct of our year 11 students in the exam hall. In a similar vein, my teaching colleagues have reported that the students are working hard and showing lots of evidence of having thoroughly prepared for their GCSEs. Please look out for the separate letter I have sent about arrangements on Tuesday 20th May.

Duke of Edinburgh Award Update

Last weekend, 14 of our fabulous year 10 students completed their final Bronze Duke of Edinburgh expedition. Thankfully the sun shone all weekend, which meant that they were able to have a really positive experience. The completion of this component means that all 14 students have now successfully completed their qualification. Well done to all of the students and thank you to the staff who supported them.



Senior Prefect Appointments

It gives me great pleasure to announce our new Senior Prefect Team, who were selected this week after a rigorous selection process which consisted of an initial application, a group interview and a personal presentation to the Senior Leadership Team. Our new head students are Jack W and Grace W and our deputy head students are Liam J and Sarah F. They are supported by seven other very capable senior prefects who all have their own areas of responsibility. These students are Lucie F, Hannah H, Franchesca B, Oscar G, Fiona S, Megan E and Luke T.



Year 9 options

The year 9 options process began last Friday with an information assembly hosted by Mr Bland. Students were introduced to the 'pathways' and 'option blocks'. A comprehensive booklet has been given to all students and it has been made available on the website too so that parents/carers can discuss this process with their children. On Wednesday, there were presentations with Mr Bland and opportunities to discuss options with teaching staff and members of the Senior Leadership Team during parents' evening.

Calendar

May
2025

23rd May
After school closure
Half term

June
2025

2nd June
School re-opens

18th June
Summer concert

26th June
Y11 Prom

Summer Assessments for Year 7 to 10 Students

I would like to give parents/carers some prior notice about the forthcoming internal examinations that will be taking place for all year 7 to 10 students during the fortnight commencing 9th June. Please could I ask all parents/carers to stress the importance of these assessments with your children. They will be used to help teachers assess where students are up to, plan the curriculum going forward and help Directors of Learning decide which sets/bands students should be taught in during the next academic year. Mrs Haworth will be presenting assemblies to all students to give them ideas and tips on how to revise. In addition, revision materials are available to students on the school website. Login details for the revision tab of the website are as follows: username i.climb password Higher2021 (case sensitive).

Y10 Work Experience

When the summer assessments have been completed, our year 10 students will embark upon a week of work experience commencing 23rd June. If your child has not yet secured a placement, please get in touch with our careers officer, Ms Grenaghan as soon as possible. l.grenaghan@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk

Mayoral Awards

Congratulations to Leo P (year 10) who won one of the Mayor of Whitworth's Young Achiever Awards. His award was in recognition of his outstanding car valeting entrepreneurial venture. It was very fitting that Leo's Business Studies teacher, Mr Kewin was the person who originally nominated him for consideration. We are equally proud of Harrison W (year 9) who was also a recipient of a Mayoral award. Harrison's award was for his outstanding contribution to boxing, although his sporting talents don't stop there. Harrison's football team, Bury FC U14s are due to play in the Manchester County Cup final and they have also been invited to the Warwick University National Champions Tournament to represent the North West region this weekend. We are all very proud of Leo and Harrison; both boys are brilliant ambassadors for our school.



Hot Chocolate Winners

Although not in the same category as the prestigious Mayoral Awards, our Cadbury's Hot Chocolate Fridays are still something to be coveted! This week, the Pastoral Staff nominated an eclectic group of students who have impressed in a variety of ways including: creating artwork; settling in well to a new school; improved behaviour; being a positive role model; and resilience in the face of adversity. It is always the highlight of my week to be able to celebrate the successes of so many of our brilliant students. Well done to all of the nominees.



Parent/Carer Questionnaire

During the summer term, the Senior Leadership Team will be writing the School Improvement Plan for the 2025/26 academic year. I would really like to take on board the views of parents/carers so that I can reflect your views when setting priorities going forwards. If you are able to spare five minutes, please could you take the time to complete the following questionnaire. Many thanks in advance for your help with this. <https://forms.gle/QDhZnCTmjgkNHW1J9>

Computing Live Chat

Last week, our Year 9 Computing students took part in the national *I'm a Computer Scientist* live chat — an online event connecting young people directly with professionals working across the tech industry. The session allowed students to ask questions in real time to engineers, researchers and cybersecurity specialists working at organisations like Rolls-Royce, IKEA, and in university research labs. Students came away from the session with a clearer understanding of the wide range of computing careers out there, and many said it gave them new motivation to explore STEM further. We're proud of the confident and curious questions our students asked — and grateful to the experts who took the time to share their journeys and advice.



Sporting Success

Lilly T, Kacie S and Annie K, who all play for the U13 Heatwaves at Haslingden Girls & Ladies Football club, spent the Bank Holiday weekend at Alton Towers playing football teams from all over the UK. The girls narrowly missed out on reaching the final, finishing joint second but missing out on the head to head fixture with the team they tied with. Congratulations to our girls who represented Whitworth Community High School so brilliantly.

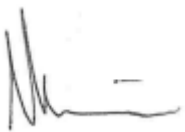


Our boys have been doing equally well too. Thomas D, Vincent M, Liam K, Rene M and Jude W all play for a local team called Sacred Heart. They were victorious in the Under 15s cup final held at Hyde United FC and came away with the cup after winning 4-1. Well done boys!



In addition to all of this sporting success, two of our football teams made it into the Rossendale schools finals this week. On Tuesday, year 10 boys won the Rossendale Cup. Tonight, our year 11 boys will play in the final against Haslingden High School. It goes without saying that I wish our students the very best of luck.

Best wishes



Mr A Oliver
Headteacher