



# Shining Lights Newsletter

July 2017

*Celebrating success*

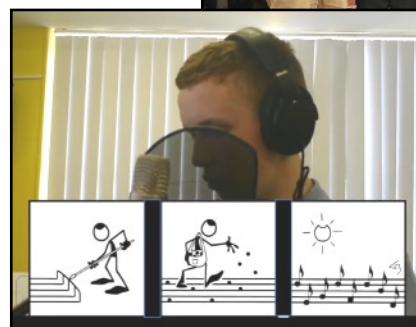
It has been a busy term at school with much to celebrate and share with our school family community. You can see from this bumper edition how many rich opportunities are given to our children by hardworking staff.

## Tech Prince of Browndedge wins £5000

Brownedge has been announced as one of the 2017 national runners up in BT's annual Tech Factor competition thanks to Adam Scolah and his 'Tech Prince of Browndedge' video. The competition invited schools to provide a wish list of equipment and to demonstrate how they could make smart use of technology to enhance learning and ensure students are armed with the digital skills for a tech-savvy future.

Brownedge beat around 50 schools to win the runners up prize of £5,000 to spend with Business Direct, BT's IT hardware and software reseller, which we have invested in Apple Mac computers to help teach learners music and creative arts.

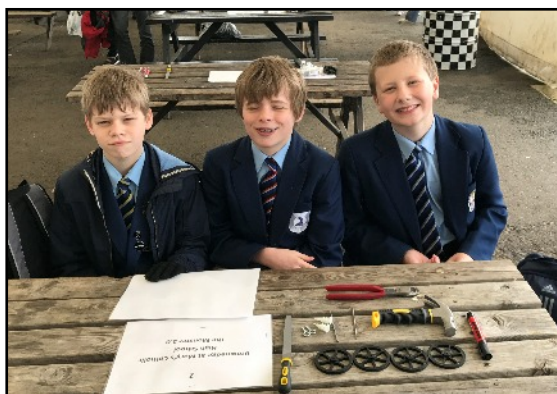
**BT Press release:** "The school was awarded the prize due to its innovative video entry which showed that you don't need to involve lots of teachers and students to create a fantastic video to clearly illustrate your message."



## Rocket Car Competition Finalists

On 29th June our National Rocket Car Competition finalists travelled to the Santa Pod Raceway in Northamptonshire to compete against thirty other schools in the national final.

Leo Pearson, Jonathan Rigby and Patrick Rogers had to build a new version of their car and race it twice. Despite having the fastest individual time from the first round they were not able to make the top 3 overall but did win a VIP trip to Newquay to watch the UK trials of the Bloodhound land speed record attempt car.



Congratulations boys!  
True engineers of the future

## The World of Norm @ Browndge

On Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July, **The World Of Norm** came to Browndge. Yes, we arranged for a very special author visit with the massively popular author Jonathan Meres. Jonathan used to be a stand-up comedian, and both his books and his events are hilariously funny. He is the author of the "World of Norm" books, which hold huge appeal for young people aged 9-13. He is also a great writer for less confident or less keen readers, and, if you like "Diary of a Wimpy Kid" or "Tom Gates" or even "Barry Loser", you will be sure to love Norm. One of the great things about Jonathan is how he enthuses young people to pick up a book, and put their phone down! It really was the perfect treat as the school year draws to a close, and Year 7 and 8 had a totally terrific morning. "I was crying with laughter, and didn't want Jonathan to leave."



## Browndge in Bowness

The Geography department took 64 GCSE students to Bowness on Windermere to study the impact of tourism on this honeypot site within the Lake District National Park. The students completed a number of primary data collection techniques in order to prepare for their GCSE which replaces the old controlled assessment. A very successful and enjoyable day was had by all, along with the consumption of a large amount of ice cream.

## Hay Day

This year we made our first trip to the Hay Literary Festival in Wales. We arrived after a long trek through Shropshire and Herefordshire, making it just in time for author Alwyn Hamilton's interactive talk on creating fantasy worlds.

Young Adult writer Teri Terry impressed us with her use of research and knowledge to generate ideas and plots for her fiction, including some interesting details on her background as a scientist, a lawyer and an optometrist and how all her experience is a valuable source of material for her writing. During the exploration of her new psychological thriller 'Contagion', Teri was interrupted by loud rumbling outside the event tent: the Duchess of Cornwall arriving by helicopter to taste-test some of the local produce – Camilla was later spotted trying out the chips! We enjoyed a picnic in the sunshine whilst waiting for Pete Kalu, Manchester writer and performer, who gave us an entertaining and energetic masterclass on creating narratives, with an insight into his reasons for writing: 'I want to change the world. That's why I write.' We certainly hope Pete does change the world for the better and hope his influence on the young people of Browndge will inspire them to do the same.



## SVP Food Bank Collection

During Lent, the school Youth SVP group collected food and toiletries for local food banks. The whole school teamed together to bring in a selection of items. In total 957 items were collected and the donation was split between the Salvation Army, Preston and St. Mary's church food banks. We really hope that our collection will go a long way to support local families.





## Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Success

Eleven Year 10 pupils have committed to completing the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award. One element of this requires them to complete a two days one night walking expedition in which they are completely self sufficient. They had to carry all their kit for a 12 km journey, set up camp and cook themselves a substantial meal on trangia stoves. The group did a practice expedition around West Lancashire and all successfully passed their qualifying expedition in the Rivington area.

The teams enjoyed themselves but were not impressed with the lovely, wet, British summer weather they got! A big well done to all of them!

## Spring Book Fair

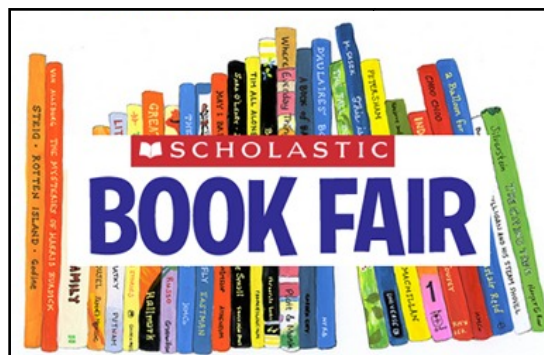
We thought October's Scholastic Book Fair sales were impressive but another record number of books was bought during April's.

This term's free book competition was to design a new book cover. The entries were varied and would all have looked good on our school library shelves. Five winners were able to choose any book from the fair as their prize. Look out for more library competitions next term.

Make sure you get reading over the summer break. If you're going on holiday, remember to take a book or two with you. If you're looking for ideas or need to stock up for the summer, visit Miss Close in the library, or a member of the English Department who will be able to help. We've got some great titles and can guarantee to find something for everyone – try us!

Thanks to everyone who supported the Book Fair – look out for our next one in October.

Miss Close's team of Librarians, led by David Hawkyard, all contributed to running a very successful Book Fair, but it is time to say thank you and goodbye to our Year 11 Literacy Leaders who have come to the end of their time here at Brownedge. They will be missed; they contributed so much to the library by running events and also to our Paired Reading Scheme by encouraging others to enjoy reading. If you are interested in becoming a Literacy Leader or Librarian, please see Mrs Evans or Miss Close.



## Rosemere Walk in The Dark

On the 29<sup>th</sup> April two of our pupils took part in the annual Rosemere Cancer Foundation Walk in The Dark. The walk was 11 miles in distance, from Chorley to Preston Hospital, as part of their 20th Anniversary fundraising appeal!

Congratulations to Georgina Sharples and Jessica Lane on taking part - they certainly enjoyed the bacon butty at the end!

## Model Rocket Cars with Our Lady and St Gerard's



On 20<sup>th</sup> June 42 year five students from Our Lady and St. Gerard's came to Brownedge to take part in the first part of a model rocket car competition. Working in teams of four, the students designed and built vehicles from foam kits with the aim to design the fastest car possible. The students learned about aerodynamics and drag and were able to use some of the tools in our workshops supported by some of our Year 8 pupils. The second part of the competition was held on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July at Our Lady and St. Gerard's. The cars were tested using a compressed air

launcher and an electronic timing gate to find which was the quickest overall with an audience of students and parents. The competition was incredibly close, with a "play off" needed for third place. The fastest car overall travelled at over 30mph across the school hall. Prizes were awarded for the three fastest cars and for the best overall design.

### CAFOD

Our school CAFOD group have been very busy this half term: we've joined a new project with the local parish group, connecting with a village in Peru.

We've sent letters to build up relationships, prayed together, and our students volunteered at a concert at St Mary's Church run by CAFOD and Skylarks Choir, which raised over £2,300!

We've also supported the new CAFOD campaign called 'Power To Be' which is all about asking the World Bank to fund more local, renewable energy, to help those who wouldn't have access to any electricity. We've signed campaign cards, spoken in forms and assemblies, designed a poster sharing

our view and prayers, and been to a talk by Fr Peter Hughes and representatives from CAFOD Head Office to learn more about challenges in Peru, and how we can help. Stay posted for more updates next year...

## Valedictory Dinner 2017

On Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2017, Year 11 attended their Valedictory Dinner at Shaw Hill Golf Club, Chorley. The night was a great success. All of our pupils looked stunning and there were some beautiful and smart outfits. Many pupils arrived in fancy cars and vehicles, including a tractor and a big red bus. Pupils had earned their place through good ATL and effort throughout Year 11. Prom King and Queen were voted for by staff and pupils, and Oliver Kane and Mukda Buarod deservedly won the crowns.

Oliver even entertained the crowd with a saxophone performance. Mr Reynolds, Mr Lin

and Head Boy and Girl, Thomas Hocking and Mukda Buarod gave their speeches reminiscing on an eventful year. A special thank you goes to Mrs Vaughan Evans for organising the event and a huge well done to all who attended for their excellent behaviour. They did us proud. It was a great way to say a final farewell to the class of 2017.



## Our Feast Day celebrating Mary

On 5<sup>th</sup> May we celebrated our school patron: St Mary. We spent the day making friends with people from other year groups in our Houses and doing fun activities. We learnt about Mary's qualities, and identified our similarities with her. Highlights included the PE activities, learning how much Mary went through, praying and reflecting together, and an early finish!





## Rome

34 lovely students and 4 very happy staff members have just returned from our first Religious Studies trip to Rome. In a few days we enjoyed so much, learning about the Colosseum, Pantheon, Catacombs and of course, the Vatican.

We saw loads of interesting and captivating sights which are covered on the RS syllabus - including where St Catherine of Sienna and St Peter are buried, and awesome art works by Caravaggio and Michelangelo. Holly Telford said, "I liked the Colosseum... I liked all of it! Especially the food. I enjoyed seeing The Creation of Adam and the Trevi Fountain."



## Wimbledon

Year 11, 9 and 7 pupils had No1 court tickets for the second week of Wimbledon. We were treated to an exciting 5 set men's doubles thriller that lasted over 3 hours and went to 9-7 in the final set. Kubot and Melo went on to win the final.

It was the day of the Ladies' semi finals with Johanna Konta playing Venus Williams, and we were lucky enough to be able to see Johanna practising her shots on No6 court before she lost to Venus.

Lots of autographs and selfies were taken on the day!

## Prize Night

Our 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Prize Night took place on the 28<sup>th</sup> June and saw over 100 pupils rewarded for their exceptional progress and attitude to learning. The guest speaker, Mr. Peter Eavers, Director of Education for Salford Diocese, gave an inspirational speech to all that embodied our School Mission, 'Let your light shine'.

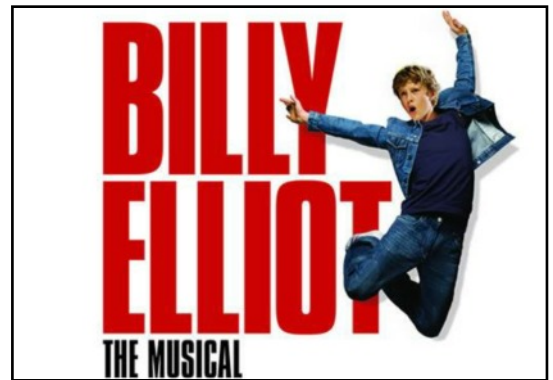
Music provided by students showed how much they have progressed. The Year 10 GCSE group worked incredibly hard putting together performances of the highest calibre, even pushing into five part harmonies during 'True Colours.' The lower school choir have also been gathering in numbers and building in sound, and showed wonderful resilience and confidence in their performance of 'Flashlight' by Jessie J.



A special mention must go to Kacey Corless in year 9 for her maturity and emotional solo performance of 'Burning House' by Cam. It takes real strength of character to stand up and perform solo in front of parents, staff and peers. Kacey really did herself proud and gave an exceptional demonstration of vocal skill at what is still an early age for a singer!

## Billy Elliot the Musical

'Do what you love; even if everyone tells you it's impossible.'  
A group of 40 excited pupils went to see a performance of 'Billy Elliot the Musical' at The Liverpool Empire in May and it's safe to say we were mesmerised, not least by the 10 year old in the lead role, who attacked the part with a vigour that left several of our group reeling in awe. Based on the successful film, the musical is set against the backdrop of the miners' strike of the 1980s and is certainly thought provoking as Billy boogies against the restricting forces of class and gender to pursue his dream of becoming a dancer. Mixing laugh out loud moments with profoundly moving ones, it was a thoroughly enjoyable evening out! We're already planning our next trip!



## MFL LE Touquet - Amiens-Paris Trip



On Wednesday 12th July at midnight, 40 Year 7 pupils waved au revoir to their families to embark upon the MFL French Trip. Travelling through the night, the group arrived at Dover ready for the short ferry crossing to Calais.

The group spent time in Le Touquet (a quiet seaside resort in the North of France) and Amiens before heading to Paris. Pupils practised their French skills buying lunch and souvenirs, visited the cathedral of Notre Dame and two Disney parks. The group arrived back at 7am on Saturday morning, pleased to

see their families again and share all their new experiences....just after they'd had some sleep!

A huge thank you to Mrs Lyons, Mr Goodall and Mr Jackson for all their hard work during the trip.

## eSafety at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Educating pupils to be safe online is always high on our agenda and during the month of May this was extended to pupils at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School.

Over the period of a month Mrs Oddie trained 7 eSafety champions from KS2 about how to stay safe online. These pupils, together with 8 pupils from Brownedge, then ran an eSafety awareness day for the whole of St Joseph's School.

Numerous activities and games were created and shared with parents at their end of week celebration assembly. It was a fantastic day and showed the great partnership we have as a Catholic family.





## Athletics News

### U16 South Ribble Athletics

This event was held at Preston Sports Arena in May and we fielded a combined Year 10 & 11 girls team who came a commendable 4<sup>th</sup> out of 10 South Ribble schools.

Notable performances were Tricia Taylor 3<sup>rd</sup> 100m, Kate Danby 2<sup>nd</sup> 800m, Kaylah Cottam 1<sup>st</sup> Shot.

Kaylah, Kate and Will Lancaster went onto represent South Ribble in the Lancashire Schools competition at Stanley Park in June, Kate coming 7<sup>th</sup>, Will throwing the discus, 3<sup>rd</sup> and Kaylah the second best shot putter in the County. Well done all!

### Year 7, 8 & 9 South Ribble Athletics

Robin Park was the venue for this competition held on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June. Some Year 7 pupils performed well with Shae Kirkpatrick coming 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 300m, Emily Knell 4<sup>th</sup> in the 1500m and Millie Lythgoe 4<sup>th</sup> in the Javelin competition.

The Year 8 girls came 3<sup>rd</sup> overall with Mia Kay 4<sup>th</sup> in the 100m, Faye Houghton 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 200m and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 1500m, Grace Brown 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 300m and 1<sup>st</sup> in the 800m, Sammy Arnold 2<sup>nd</sup> in Long Jump and Daisy Hulse 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Shot.

In the year 9 competition Ellie Adair came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 100m, Katie l'Anson Proctor 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 200m, Jorja Smith 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 1500m and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Javelin and Beth Baldwin came 3<sup>rd</sup> in Shot. The team came overall 4<sup>th</sup>.

Grace, Faye and Georgie Chesworth went on to compete in the Lancashire Schools final with Georgie coming 5<sup>th</sup> in the 200m, Faye – 5<sup>th</sup> in the 1500m and Grace coming 4<sup>th</sup> and running the County standard time.

### English Schools Athletics

A past student Charlotte Crook competed in the English Schools Competition held in Birmingham and came a creditable 5<sup>th</sup> in the 800m. Charlotte is hoping for an Athletics scholarship in California next year.



## Sports Day

A full day of athletic events with good participation and competition across the Houses happened on our annual Sports Day. The morning was set aside for field events of shot, discus, javelin and long jump. All year groups from 7-10 were involved, and the results are as follows:-

### Individual year results

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Yr7	T	K	B	R	D
Yr8	R	D	K	T	B
Yr9	K	D	T	R	B
Yr10	R	K	T	B	D

### Overall results

1 <sup>st</sup> Kolbe	199 pts
2 <sup>nd</sup> Teresa	190 pts
3 <sup>rd</sup> Romero	183 pts
4 <sup>th</sup> Drexel	171 pts
5 <sup>th</sup> Bosco	150 pts



## Netball in Marbella

On Monday 10th July, Mrs Ainsworth and Miss Warburton took 11 Year 9 girls to Marbella, Spain, on a netball tour for five nights.

The girls had a mix of fitness, coaching and friendly netball matches against Manilva, winning 25-11, and Marbella Netball Club, losing 32-12. They also spent time at Torremolinos Water Park and had the chance to wander around the impressive harbour of Puerto Banus! The trip was open to all pupils studying GCSE PE or currently involved with school netball club, and we hope to run it again soon!



## Budding future Scientists

This year in Science Club we have covered several topics such as exothermic and endothermic reactions, colour, light, pressure and sound. The students have investigated these areas of science through practical activities. Some of the most popular were making ice cream using an endothermic reaction with ice and salt, making a light bulb from a battery and a broken pencil, and building rockets.

After Christmas, the students were involved in an ongoing programme of activities learning about forensic science. Each week they learnt about a new type of evidence and how it can be collected, analysed and used in prosecuting a suspect. The forensics programme finished with a crime scene based in lab 2, where the students had to work together, and using their skills and knowledge, solve which one of three suspects was responsible for the crime. The science club came to a close with a crystal growing competition to see who could grow the biggest copper sulphate crystal using a solution and a seed crystal.



## Bolton Wanderers Football Coaching

Throughout the year, a number of our pupils have taken part in football coaching from Bolton Wanderers. As a reward for their commitment and effort throughout the sessions, the pupils spent the day at Bolton Wanderers Football Club participating in a number of fun activities as well as learning about different careers within sport.

The highlight of the trip was meeting footballing legend Tony Kelly who spent time talking to the pupils and giving advice. We have also been invited back in the near future for training at the academy ground and to watch a match when the new season starts.





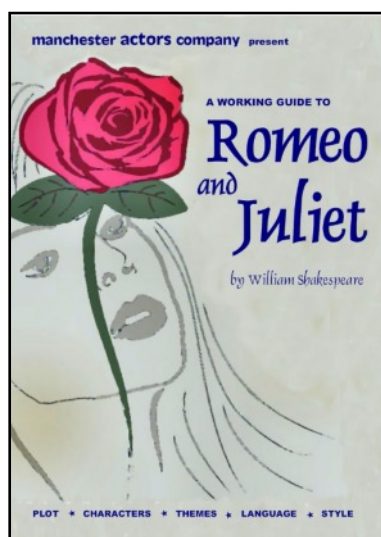
## Krakow Trip

35 fantastic pupils visited Krakow, Poland. They experienced the museum at Schindler's Factory, saw the Jewish District of Kazimierz, the Gestapo cells that were used in occupied Poland during World War Two and had the privilege of talking to a Holocaust Survivor.

All pupils represented the schools fabulously. They also had the chance to visit Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest concentration camp; where they were engaged and respectful. They were overwhelmed by the chance to see Maximilian Kolbe's cell!! What a brilliant week!!



## MANACTO - Romero and Juliet Theatre Visit



"I really enjoyed the Romeo and Juliet performance, as it gave me a lot of insight into the characters as they were all expressed very differently than I imagined. At the start of the performance there was an Italian man saying the prologue which gave it a comical effect, and he switched characters after, as he played Romeo and other people. The actors/actresses all played various roles and they all had a good effect as they showed their talent throughout.

The nurse was very comical as the actor took huge strides and moaned every time, making everyone laugh, and after the performance the actor explained that he had witnessed an old woman doing that so he used his knowledge from things around him and adapted them into his performance. I think it is great that he took his surroundings and used them in performances because that teaches us to always be aware of things as they can help us. Also, the comedic effect they put on the story was great as it let us see a different interpretation of the story (since we get it taught quite seriously) and it's nice to have a laugh about it!

I feel like the actors inspired people to join different clubs, they encouraged people to do what they wanted and taught us to be inspired.

Personally, I learnt a lot by the performance as the performers showed us a lot of ways of acting so we can think about the performance from different perspectives. The final scene (the death scene) was portrayed very emotionally and you could see on their faces that they stayed connected and focused on the plot. It was an all-round amazing performance!" By Jack Bowler Y10

## District Tennis Tournament

Huge congratulations to our budding tennis stars and their excellent achievement in the recent District Tennis Tournament. The girls competed in teams in either a doubles or single tournament. Results are:

Year 10- Annabel Darlington & Caitlin Gourlay, Jemma Catterall & Kaylah Cottam **WINNERS**

Year 9- Jemma Catterall & Holly Johnston, Holly Smith & Jorja Smith **WINNERS**

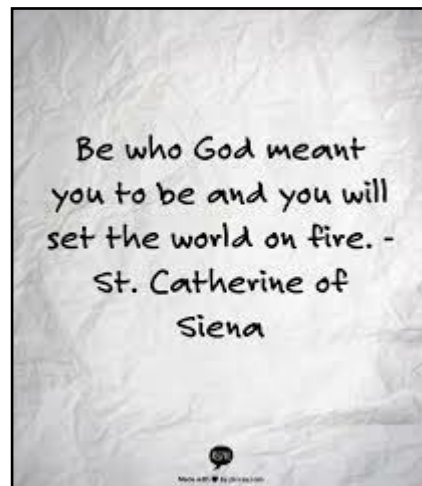
Year 7- Rosie Walsh, Lydia Sweeney, Annabelle Price-Bilham, Amelia Hobin **RUNNERS UP** (losing by 1 game)



## Vocations Day

We welcomed nine inspirational speakers into school for Vocations Day on 29th June. We heard from people who have followed God's call to family life, working for justice, teaching, helping the persecuted, charity work for CAFOD and Christie's, farming, consecrated life and the priesthood. We even heard a few songs!

It was great to hear so many people bearing strong witness to God, and sharing their life stories. We finished the day with a peaceful celebration of Mass with Fr Kevin and Fr Mark to celebrate Saints' Peter and Paul feast day.



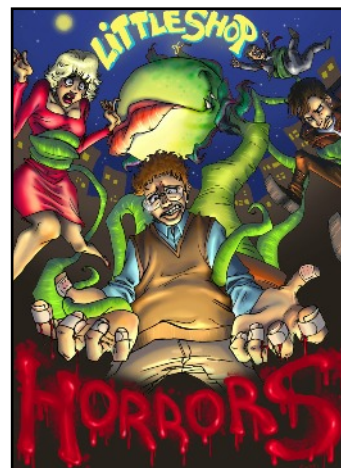
## Year 8 Football Pop Stars

The Year 8 football team recently won a competition organised by Bolton Wanderers Football Club. The boy's fantastic music video/song entry, 'The Fresh Princes of Brownedge', was a big hit with the judges.

Bolton Wanderers player Dean Moxey spent the afternoon with the team in school, awarding their prizes of football kits and tickets, which was followed by a trip to Bolton's last game.

## Little Shop of Horrors excitement

Barely has the chorus of, 'You're the one that I want' had time to fade, but work has already commenced on next year's grand production, 'Little Shop of Horrors'. Auditions were held in May, with scores of pupils trying out, and Mrs Bland and Mr Perkins are confident they have found the perfect cast for the macabre tale of a bloodthirsty plant by the name of Audrey II. Year 8's Sam Wilson plays Seymour, while from Year 10 Elizabeth Evans will play Audrey I (the non-bloodthirsty, non-plant one). Jack Denwood plays the dentist, and as for Audrey II...all will be revealed.



## Budding Journalists create a Maths Newspaper

7MS1 have produced a maths newspaper which contains modern day style news stories inspired by the history of mathematics. Inspired by the ideas and growth mind set of mathematicians of the past, the class worked extremely hard using skills learnt in maths, English, history and computing to put together an entertaining and informative piece of work.

## Girls Football News

The U15 girls football team made it through to the South Ribble U15 final after beating Leyland St Mary's 8-0. They went on to play Balshaw's in a thrilling 4-3 defeat. Well done, girls!



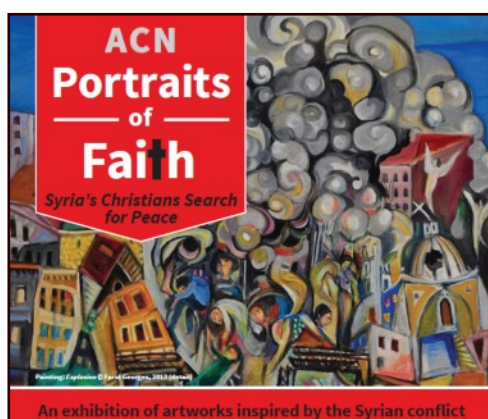
## Induction Days 2017

On the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of July we welcomed our new Year 7s in their Induction Days. Great fun was had by all in a series of workshops that shared our school values, high expectations and introduced the pupils to our House pastoral system.

Over the two days pupils took part in various Growth Mindset sessions that taught them about the power of YET! The intention of this was to set the scene for how we want them to embrace challenge and be resilient and determined in their attitudes once they join us in September. The pupils definitely rose to the challenge and shared with parents during the Induction Evening the fun and learning they had participated in.



## ACN Art Exhibition



We have been very privileged in school to host a sneak preview of an incredibly moving art exhibition from Aid to the Church in Need. Drawings, paintings and messages were on display in our library, and students and staff were very moved by the expressive pieces created by people in Syria. It really brought home how pictures of war, bombings and violence are not just in video games, but are the shocking reality of so many peoples' lives. Moved by a need to respond, we wrote messages of hope, which will be sent to Syria, and raised money through an own clothes day to support Aid to the Church in Need's work in these unbelievably dire situations. We continue to hold them in our prayers.

We say farewell to Mr Livesey, who leaves this summer. Mr Livesey takes up a post at West Craven High School as teacher of science.

We also say farewell to Mr Fetherston who moves to be Second in RE at Corpus Christi High School in Preston.

We wish them every happiness and success.

**We are on the web!**

**Website: [www.st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk)**

**Twitter: [@BrownedgeStMary](https://twitter.com/BrownedgeStMary)**



Any news? Send it to Mrs Oddie  
[oddie@st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:oddie@st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk)

## **Term Dates 2017-2018**

### **Autumn Term 2017**

INSET DAYS 1 & 2

School reopens

Last day of school

INSET DAY 3

School re-opens

Last day of school

INSET DAY 4 (Disaggregated)

Friday 1st September &

Monday 4th September 2017

Tuesday 5th September 2017

Thursday 26th October 2017

Friday 27th October 2017

Monday 6th November 2017

Thursday 21st December 2017

Friday 22nd December 2017

### **Spring Term 2018**

School re-opens

Last day of school

School re-opens

Last day of school

Monday 8th January 2018

Friday 9th February 2018

Monday 19th February 2018

Friday 23rd March 2018

### **Summer Term 2018**

School re-opens

School closed

Last day of school

School re-opens

Last day of school

INSET DAY (Disaggregated)

Monday 9th April 2018

Monday 7th May 2018 (Bank Holiday)

Friday 25th May 2018

Monday 4th June 2018

Thursday 19th July 2018

Friday 20th July 2018

Make sure you get reading over the summer break. If you're going on holiday, remember to take a book or two with you. If you're looking for ideas, or need to stock up for the summer, visit Miss Close in the library or a member of the English Department who will be able to help. We've got some great titles and can guarantee to find something for everyone – try us!

**May we take this opportunity to wish  
you a very  
happy summer**

**School reopens on  
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2017  
8.50 am for Year 7  
10.00 am for Years 8-11**