



# Educational Diversity Newsletter



Celebrating Diversity, Achievement and Community

16<sup>th</sup> Decemember 2025

## Headteacher's Note

Dear Parents, Carers and Members of our School Community,

As we come to the end of a vibrant and rewarding term, I am delighted to share some of the many achievements and experiences that have enriched life across our school. Guided by our strapline, 'empowering every child to thrive and flourish,' this term has been a powerful reflection of what can be achieved when students are encouraged to explore their strengths, embrace new opportunities and grow with confidence. It has been a term filled with diversity, growth and connection, values that sit at the heart of everything we do.



## A New Chapter - Academy Conversion

On 1st December, we proudly completed our academy conversion and officially joined the Synergy Education Trust. This marks an exciting step forward for our school community. Being part of the Trust opens new opportunities for collaboration, innovation and continued improvement in the education we provide. Thank you to everyone! Staff, students and families, who supported this transition and helped ensure a smooth and positive start to our new partnership.



## Dates for your Diary



Tuesday 6th January Back to School

Friday 13th February Break up for Half Term 2.30pm

Monday 23rd February Back to School

# Community Events and Celebrations

## Diwali – A First for Our School

This year we celebrated Diwali for the very first time across the whole school. Students enjoyed learning about the festival of lights through art, storytelling and cultural activities. It was wonderful to see our community embrace and celebrate new traditions.

## Macmillan Coffee Morning at Athena

Our annual coffee morning was a huge success, raising over £260 for Macmillan Cancer Support. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who baked, donated and joined us on the day. Your generosity truly makes a difference.

## Hello Yellow Day

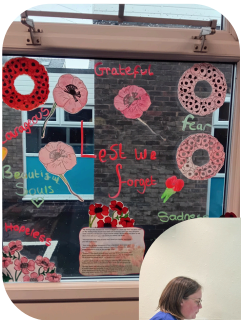
In support of World Mental Health Day, students and staff embraced Hello Yellow Day with enthusiasm. Through activities and discussions, we reinforced the importance of speaking up, supporting each other and looking after our emotional wellbeing.

## Remembrance Day

Our students took part in an important act of remembrance with a visit to the local war memorial. They conducted themselves with respect and maturity as we reflected on the sacrifices made by others.

## Children in Need

The charity spirit continued with Children in Need, where activities were met with great energy and enthusiasm from students and staff alike.



# Learning Beyond the Classroom

## Flourish Fridays – KS3 Enrichment

A highlight for our younger students this term has been Flourish Fridays, where KS3 learners have embraced a variety of enriching activities designed to build confidence, wellbeing and teamwork. Students have taken part in Time to Breathe sessions with Lancashire Youth Challenge, focusing on mindfulness, resilience and emotional awareness. Others have enjoyed outdoor adventures with NRG, fun and games in Stanley Park, competing in 10pin bowling and energetic sporting activities delivered by Ultimate Pro. These sessions have been a fantastic opportunity for students to discover new interests and develop essential life skills in a supportive and enjoyable environment.



## This term has provided a wealth of enrichment experiences:

- Sports tournaments across the region, where our students showed teamwork, resilience and sportsmanship.
- An adventurous visit to Preston Climbing Wall.
- A thrilling gorge walk in the Lake District, which saw students challenge themselves and support one another.
- Careers-focused visits, including:
  - NHS Careers Day at the University of Cumbria (Lancaster campus)
  - A visit to Blackpool & The Fylde College, exploring further education pathways
- These experiences continue to broaden horizons and build confidence in our learners.

## Year 11: A Term of Preparation and Purpose

Our Year 11 students have been working incredibly hard during their mock exams and preparing for their next steps. Alongside our Engagement Coach, they have been planning their Post-16 pathways, ensuring they feel supported and informed about their future options. Their commitment has been impressive, and we are proud of the determination they have shown.



# Student Leadership and Achievements

## School Council

Our School Council has been actively gathering student voice and contributing thoughtful ideas about how to keep improving school life. Their commitment to representing their peers has been excellent, as well as their representation in the local community with the Schools' Symposium and with Blackpool Streetlife supporting homeless young people <https://wearestreetlife.org/>



## Skills Builder Bronze Award

We are delighted to achieve the Skills Builder Bronze Award, recognising our school's commitment to developing essential skills such as teamwork, leadership and problem solving.



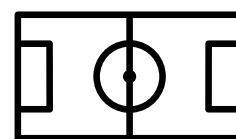
**Skills Builder**  
*Bronze Award*

2025 - 28



## School Games Mark Award

Our ongoing dedication to physical activity and competitive sport has once again been recognised with the School Games Mark Award, a testament to the work of our PE team and the enthusiasm of our students.



## Staying Connected

We continue to share updates, photos and news regularly on our Facebook page and school website. Please do follow us to keep up-to-date with the many exciting things happening across school.



<https://www.facebook.com/EducationalDiversity>



<https://eddiversity.com>

## Season's Greetings



As we reach the end of term, I want to extend my sincere thanks to our staff for their dedication, to our students for their hard work and positivity, and to our families for their ongoing support. Together, we have achieved so much.

I wish you all a peaceful and joyful Christmas break and a very happy New Year.

We look forward to welcoming students back to school on Tuesday 6th January 2026.

Warmest wishes,  
Vic O'Farrell  
Headteacher

*Merry  
Christmas  
and Happy  
New Year*