

GARSTANG COMMUNITY ACADEMY

Bowgreave □ Garstang □ Lancashire □ PR3 1YE □ Tel: 01995 603226 □

Email: info@garstang.fcat.org.uk

19th December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

As the term draws to a close, I am proud and delighted to write to you with a final update on the wonderful activities from this term. It has been a period of significant growth, outstanding commitment from our students and staff, and success across academics, sports, and the arts.

Remembrance Day, on November 11th, is a crucial time for our students to understand the gravity and history of the sacrifices made by those who have served in conflicts, including those from our local community. We have held several commemorative events over the past two weeks, notably the opening of our Memorial Garden. This dedicated space now provides staff and students with an opportunity to pay their respects throughout the year to those who have served in conflicts around the world.



Members of SLT, student volunteers and Bruce, went to the memorial service in Garstang to pay our respects. Furthermore, on the 11th November, all students and staff participated in the national two-minute silence at 11:00 AM, observing this moment of reflection with the utmost respect.



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Company Limited by Guarantee Number 08364709

Registered in England & Wales – Registered Office: Mereside Primary Academy, Langdale Road, Blackpool, FY4 4RR

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I want to particularly thank Mr Farquharson (Teaching and Learning Coach, Subject Leader of History) for his organisation of these events, Mr Porter (Pastoral Manager) for his support and vital knowledge as an ex-serviceman and Mrs Storey (Assistant Subject Leader of Science) for her musical contribution at all three events.

We have also given our students a range of opportunities and experiences to enhance their career prospects. Notably we held our annual careers fair where over 40 employers joined us to inform and inspire our students.



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Year 10 students benefited from a highly informative careers assembly delivered by representatives from EDF, Britain's largest generator of low-carbon electricity. The session provided a fantastic, in-depth look at the diverse and essential energy sector and the incredible career paths available within a major company like EDF.



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We welcomed Molly Lockwood, the Schools Liaison Officer from Queens College, Oxford University on the 2nd December to deliver a truly insightful and inspiring talk on higher education.

We have also enjoyed a range of festive activities in these final weeks of the autumn term. Our first celebration began with the Garstang Christmas Lights Switch On, where our students joined children of Garstang Community, Garstang St Thomas, and St Mary and St Michael's primary schools to sing the lights into action. Our choir led by Mr Porter, have been busy as they have also represented us at the Garstang Victorian Christmas Festival and at The Meadowcroft Care Home to brighten up the residents day.



Year 7 enjoyed a trip to Blackpool to see the pantomime Cinderella on the 16th December. The students had a wonderful time and the staff quite enjoyed it too.

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The local community matters to us. For the third year in succession, we welcomed guests for a Christmas Lunch and entertainment. Our students were on hand to serve, converse and entertain our guests with a range of Christmas songs. I would like to give a special mention to one of our alumni, Connor Murphy (Class of 2025) who entertained guests with a few Elvis numbers and led 6 highly entertaining rounds of charades. Thank you to the Aspens catering team for producing a fabulous meal for our special guests.



We also enjoyed a range of events both in and outside school to reward the children. The Year 11 Student Leaders gathered their peers' views and proposed a Christmas trip to the Trafford Centre, which took place on the 17th December. Mrs Rainbow (Subject Leader of PE) and Mr Conway (Year 11, Year Leader) led the organisation and co-ordination of the trip and our thanks goes to them and the Year 11 Form Tutors for accompanying and supervising our fabulous students.



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Yesterday, Year 10 and Year 9 enjoyed a Christmas film in the hall. Prior to us concluding the day today, each year group had a Rewards Assembly and Year 7, 8 and 9 took part in a highly entertaining and delightful Santa Dash which was effectively organised and co-ordinated by Miss Shepherd (Year 8, Year Leader) on her day off. Together with Christmas Jumper day and the Santa Dash we raised over a £1000 - thank you to all who contributed.



Before we pause for the festive break, I wanted to take this opportunity to reflect on some of our highlights involving our superb students and staff. We look forward to welcoming our students back on Monday 5th January 2025 at 8:35am. Finally, we wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Satinder Singh

Headteacher

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Key Dates :

- Y9 Options Evening - 8th January 2026 - 6pm to 8pm
- Year 11 Progress Evening 15th January - 4pm to 7pm
- Meet SLT - Learner Review Feedback - 3rd February 2026 - 6pm
- Year 9 Progress Evening - 12th February - 4pm to 7pm
- Monday 16th to Friday 20th February Half Term holiday
- Monday 23rd February- School closed- staff INSET day

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