



GCA

Garstang Community Academy

Newsletter

Issue 1

Autumn 2022

Meet our Interim Headteacher



Sean Bullen is the interim Headteacher for Garstang Community Academy until Christmas. Mr. Bullen stepped in surprisingly quickly after Alastair Ashcroft's resignation as Headteacher. Bullen came all the way from FCAT to help the school get back on its concrete feet. He has been with FCAT for nearly over six years. Whilst Headteacher at Millfield, Mr Bullen took Millfield from an Ofsted 'Inadequate' to 'Good' Leadership was judged as Outstanding. Millfield were National Pupil Premium award winners in 2014, winning out of 3400 secondary schools. Bullen also won the first Fylde Coast Headteacher of the year in 2015.

In terms of his career Mr Bullen has spent 6 years at Hodgson High School as an English teacher, Head of Drama, Head of Year from 1990-1996. 4 years at Carr Hill High School as a Head of Art and P.E from 1996-2000. 4 years at St George's C of E High School, Blackpool as a Deputy Head from 2000-2004. 2 years at LSAHTC, Lytham as a Deputy Head from 2004-2006. 12 years at Millfield SPAC as Head Teacher from 2006-2018. 2 years at Millfield SPAC as Executive

We asked Mr Bullen 5 Questions

1 How are you enjoying your stay at Garstang Community Academy?

Mr Bullen's response was that he is loving his time here as he drives to school in the radiant rising sun and drives home in the shining setting sun to Blackpool.

2 What was your motivation for achieving this position?

His response was that the position became available and he wanted to support the school

3 When you were younger, what did you want to be?

Mr Bullen's response was that he wanted to be an actor, and he surprisingly joined a circus for a week in his younger years performing juggling tricks and eating fire to entertain the crowds.

4 Did you ever think you could achieve the position you are in now?

His response was a short and simple yes. He said that he always wanted to be a Headteacher

5 What are your views on the LGBTQ+ Community?

Mr Bullen's response was that he thinks they are an important part of today's society and that there is fantastic progress being made in the world towards being inclusive for everyone no matter who they want to be or who they love.

Reporters Alice Mepstead and Summer Millington

Current Affairs Reporters

Inside this issue: Careers Corner / Sports News / DofE / Book of the Month / Poppy Appeal / Odd Socks Day / Careers Fair / Positive News / Meet our new teachers / Meet the Media Team /

FCAT
The best we can be



Welcome to Careers Corner!

Here you can find information about what is happening in our careers programme and upcoming events.

The Careers room has moved. Mrs Askew's office is now in between the Achievement Hub and AIR.

Did you know? Careers appointments aren't just for year 11. If you want to book a meeting you can ask your form teacher to book an appointment, drop into the careers room, or email careers@garstang.fact.org.uk.

Careers meetings are your opportunity to explore a range of topics including:

- opportunities available at college and sixth form
- CV's
- apprenticeships
- university pathways and degree apprenticeships
- how to prepare for interview
- understanding the job market

Live Virtual NHS Healthcare Careers Work Experience Programme

Take your first steps towards a healthcare career with the UK's only LIVE Virtual Work Experience Programme created and delivered by healthcare professionals

This programme is suitable for students in years 10 and 11, who are interested in the following careers:

Nursing	Dietetics
Midwifery	Radiography
Paramedicine	Prosthetics and Orthotics
Physiotherapy	Speech and Language Therapy
Occupational Therapy	Pharmacy

During the work experience day, students will follow 2 patients from their initial presentation to recovery. They will gain a unique insight into how patients interact with a variety of healthcare professionals and what it's like to work in an NHS multidisciplinary team.

Attendees will have the opportunity to interact with healthcare professionals throughout each day. This will empower students to make an informed career decision and demonstrate their commitment to healthcare in their UCAS applications.

Students will receive certificates as evidence of having participated in the work experience programme. Those that complete the full 5-month programme will also be awarded Highly Commended References.

Students can register individually at any time throughout the 5-month programme using the link below. We recommend booking early to gain as much out of this programme as possible. Places are £10 a session to cover administrative and technological costs

Miss Procter Careers Lead

Mrs Paula Askew Careers Adviser & Learning Mentor

Career of the term: Photographer



Minimum qualifications	Typical salary (with experience)	Competition for places	Demand for this role
3 A Levels	£15 - 30k	High	Low

Photographers capture images using technical lighting and equipment. Using your eye for design and knowledge of photographic techniques you will create images for a specific brief.

Related interests:

- Being Outside
- Computers & Computer Games

Useful skills and qualities:

- Highly motivated
- Inquisitive
- Creative
- Full of initiative
- Happy working alone

Things to consider

- Tiring**
Lighting equipment can be heavy and the work can be physically tiring as you will be on your feet for long periods.
- Irregular work/job insecurity**
It takes time in this competitive industry to develop contacts, so you might need a second job to support yourself.
- National/international acclaim**
There is the potential for public acknowledgement and personal satisfaction for using your creativity and technical skills to create original images.
- Can specialise**
You can specialise in a particular type of photography and market yourself as an expert in that area.
- Little progression opportunity**
Unless you start your own agency, the main source of progression in this industry is through reputation.

Learn about more careers at <https://indigo.careers/>

Positive News

National positive news

Princess Kate and Prince William



After the sad passing of our longest reigning monarch, Queen Elizabeth II, who ruled over our country for 70 years, King Charles made The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge - Princess Kate and Prince William - **Prince and Princess of Wales**.

This is a big thing for Kate especially, as the last Princess of Wales was Princess Diana so it is a big responsibility and a very special tribute to the very special lady and the mother in law she never met.

Christmas Pyjamas Non Uniform Day

Mrs Crow arranged a non uniform day in aid of the Christmas Pyjamas appeal. School collected a total of 60 pairs and from other collection points Mrs Crow managed to deliver a total of 103 pairs to the Children's Ward at the Royal Lancaster Infirmary. Well done everyone for their contributions, and in particular to Mrs Crow for arranging.



Careers Fair



At GCA we are committed to ensuring our students are well prepared for their next steps when they leave school. Our annual Careers Fair is a chance for pupils in years 9, 10, and 11 to discover their career options ahead, whether that is higher level study at university, further study through a college or sixth form, or entering the world of work through an apprenticeship. Exhibitors ranged from, the Police, RAF, Navy, EDF, Towers & Gornall Accountants to Lancaster University, Lanes Vets, Newman College and Preston Porsche (along with a lovely Porsche).

Parent comment: What did you son/daughter find most useful about the day? –

“Seeing colleges, they wouldn’t otherwise have considered”

Employer Comment: “Busy, enjoyable event, students were engaged and asked some good questions”

Student Comments: Which was your favourite stand and why?

“Newman College because it gave me the most information about the college and helped me think more about my future”

“Nautical campus Fleetwood- because I was already interested in this college but the guy at the stand cleared up any confusions, and enlightened my knowledge of the future careers you could go into after the college”

“Towers and Gornall because I want to be an accountant and wanted to find out what the best pathway is to be an accountant and what options I needed to take at A-level”



Spotlight Performing Arts

Spotlight

An afterschool group working together to create a masterpiece. At the moment they are making a performance based on 'A Christmas Carol.' These students are using their own imaginations to invent their play with music and magic they will get the performance ready for production in December.



Selection Box Collection



Selection boxes for Ridge

Head of P.E, Miss Rainbow, alongside 8.2 (her form group) has been collecting 81p Curly Wurly selection boxes for Ridge Community Centre in Lancaster. She says their hope is to beat last year's record of 55 boxes! The boxes are for Christmas Eve hampers for families using food banks. If you wish to donate, see Miss Rainbow by the 2nd of December!



Spotlight By Alice Saville, Mary Newman and Rachel Baines

Selection box collection by Charlie Grierson

GCA positive news



European day of languages bake sale

- On Tuesday 27th September, we had a European day of languages bake sale, where students and staff had to bring some language themed bakes into school, like an Italian butter biscuit or cupcaked with French flags on etc.
- Loads of people participated and everyone's bakes looked really good.
- Here are some examples of what people made:



- The money raised was donated to ‘**Medicines Sans Frontiers**’ [doctors without borders], which is a charity where medics treat people in countries who are experiencing unrest, they are currently working in Ukraine.
- We raised just under £200, which is brilliant!!!!!!

Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

In September, we had two groups of year 10 taking part in the two day Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. After completing the other sections of the award, volunteering, physical and skills section, our groups walked 16 miles over two days, which required map-reading skills, determination and teamwork.

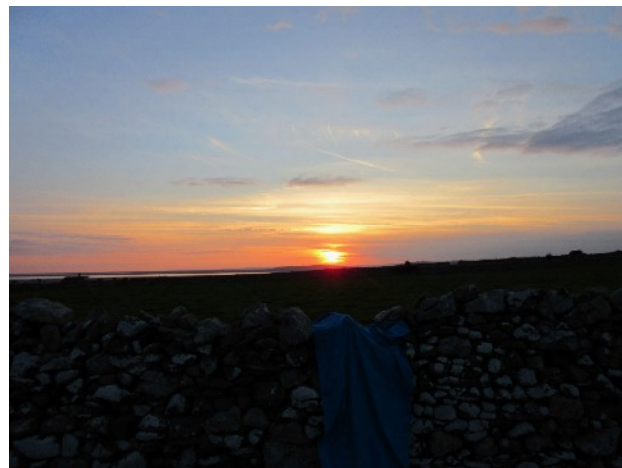


Thankfully, the weather stayed dry for both expeditions and no-one got too lost.

Each group arrived -eventually- at the campsite, tired, and hungry. One group had a three course meal of pulled pork burritos which they prepared themselves!

Although not the most comfortable nights sleep, it was definitely well deserved.

The second day was more challenging than the first as people were more tired. The very steep hill up to the lunch spot was only made easier by the thought of food at the top. Both expeditions were very successful!



Poppy Appeal



Year 10 student Andrew Baines spent the last 2 weeks before Remembrance Sunday in Sainsburys at Deepdale helping the RBL with Poppy appeal. In addition he gave up dinner time and breaks to go round school with the Poppy's and he encouraged students and staff across the school to buy and wear our poppies with pride. On Friday the 11th of November, Andrew wore his army cadets uniform to school with pride, as we marked Remembrance with a minutes silence.

In addition, Rachel Baines has also been helping out the Royal British Legion collection at Sainsbury's and ASDA. Rachel is a member of the media team and she says, "The Poppy Appeal is a really worthwhile cause and we have raised just under £13,000 in total.

Well done, we are very proud of your commitment.

Odd Socks Day

On Monday November 14th, we marked the start of Anti-Bullying Week by having an Odd Socks Day, where staff and students all wore our odd socks for the day in support of anti-bullying. We raised a total of £186 to go to the charity. Thanks to Mrs Rainbow for organising.



Book of the Term

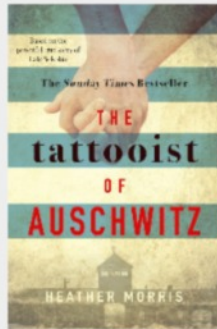
Genre of the Term is ...

10/10



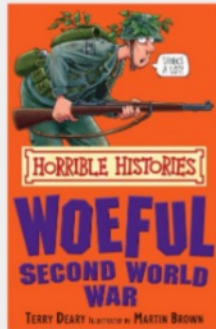
This is a book of the writings from the diary kept by Anne Frank while she was in hiding for two years with her family during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands.

9/10



The book tells the story of how Slovakian Jew Lale Sokolov, who was imprisoned at Auschwitz in 1942, fell in love with a girl he was tattooing at the concentration camp. The story is based on the real lives of Lale and his wife, Gita Furman.

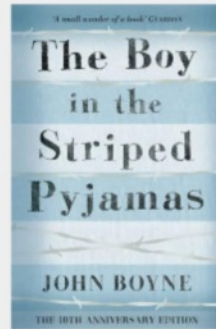
8/10



This book reveals the dire details about the worst war ever - from snow-bound cities under siege to fly-infested jungle trenches

War

9/10



Bruno is the son of the commandant at a concentration camp during WWII. His friendship with a Jewish boy he meets across the fence leads to unexpected consequences.

10/10



Albert and his horse Joey are inseparable. However, when Joey is sold off to the British cavalry, Albert follows him in the hope of reuniting with his best friend.

Competition corner

For this terms competition, we would like you to guess which of our lovely staff members are pictured here as bouncing babies. Send your answers to Miss Ashworth by the end of term, and you could be in to win a prize.

1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



Sports News - First Boccia competition at Garstang

No-one would have predicted this ten years ago - our first accessible sports day - that day came around last July!



On the morning of a bright and sunny Thursday in July, our school Sports Day started off with the first Accessible sport in the school's history. Boccia is a Paralympic sport very similar to French Boules. It is a sport that is accessible for all people and it's for all ages. On this, its first year, they introduced the sport to the Year 9's only because two of it's pupils use wheelchairs and would not be able to access any other aspect of the sports day.



A maximum of 4 people could take part for their form. On the morning of the competition there was anticipation in the air. Many pupils didn't know how to play, but there were a handful of Sports Studies students who had some experience and Mrs Rainbow and Mrs Parkinson helped everyone understand the game. The competitive nature of the children soon revealed itself and scores kept coming in. It was a very close competition with 9.3 scraping through with enough points to win.

I would like the competitive sport of Boccia to continue for many years to come.

New Teachers - We grilled our new teachers for you!



Miss Brown

She chose to be a teacher because the school has a good reputation, she lives locally and her children go to a nursery nearby. She didn't originally want to become a teacher, she firstly went to do some work experience and hated it so she went to do some teacher work experience with her friend and loved it. Another reason is because everyday is different, and she gets to do a subject she enjoys maths as well. She would describe herself as friendly and instead of teaching she would be a midwife so she could do something different.

If she had to be an animal she would be a dolphin because she's swam with them before and thinks they're lovely, and if she had to be a biscuit she would be a fox's jam and cream.



Mrs Duczak

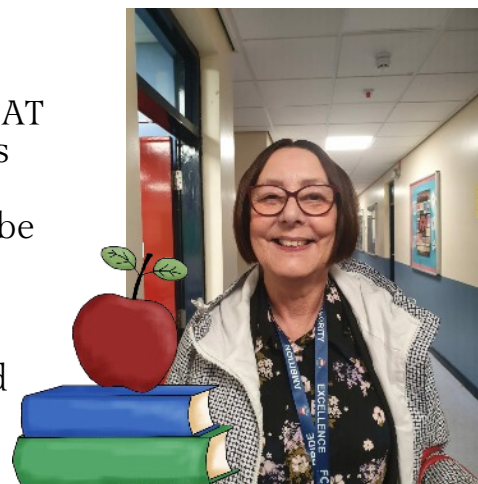
Mrs Duczak chose Garstang because it has an excellent reputation and when a job opportunity came up to be head of languages she had to take it, and she also lives down the road from the school. Her opinion of Garstang is that she really loves it, the staff are very welcoming and the students are friendly and eager to learn. She would also describe herself as enthusiastic and instead of teaching she would be a paramedic, and in her spare time she is a community first responder for the ambulance service.

If she had to be a biscuit she would be a malted milk and if she had to be an animal she would be a cat so she gets to sleep all day.

Mrs Bolton-Heaton

Mrs Bolton-Heaton chose Garstang because it's part of the FCAT group, and the main reason she teaches is because she wants people to have the same education, and loves when students are enthusiastic about maths. Instead of teaching she would be a social worker.

If she could be any biscuit, she would be a biscoff, mainly because she likes them, if she had to be an animal she would be a tiger because they're one of the top predators.



Miss Duxbury

She chose Garstang because it got a good reputation and she also did her training program here and absolutely loved it so she decided to take the opportunity of working here. Her opinion of the school is that the teachers are supportive and want to help everyone the best way they can, and the school is very good at setting you up later on in life. She decided to become a teacher because she wants students to love learning. She teaches the subject because science is the base of everything, to embed what makes up the earth and why we are here. Apart from teaching she would work with children who need mental support.

New Teachers - We grilled our new teachers for you!

Miss Bennett

Miss Bennett chose this school because she wanted a permanent school to stay at instead of transferring from one to another. She was actually aiming to be a dentist but changed her mind and wanted to be a teacher because she liked to share information she knows to other people after she had to do a presentation. She also really likes her job even if it is hard sometimes she has never gone home hating her job. She has been teaching for four years now, she was a Latin year first for one year and the other three years she has been a secondary history teacher.

If she had to be a biscuit she would be a bourbon because they are a strong chocolate biscuit. If she had to be an animal she would be a sloth because they sleep all the time, or a cat because they are the most pampered animal.



Mr Ormerod

Mr Ormerod chose Garstang because he went to this school, he also knows the layout pretty well and when a job opportunity came up he knew he had to take it. He is a teacher because he was always into coaching so teaching came naturally to him, he also gets a lot of satisfaction out of being able to teach someone something and see the student learn it. He likes the school and there are excellent students here, and he would also describe himself as driven because he like to work hard.

If he had to be a biscuit he would be a caramel digestive biscuit mainly because you think they're a normal biscuit but actually they have something special inside. And if he had to be an animal he would be a dog because they're obedient and are so happy they cheer you up.



Mr Passerini (Jnr.)

He chose Garstang because they have an astro-turf, rugby pitch at the front and another pitch round the back and other PE facilities. He is a teacher because he really enjoyed PE when he was younger and he wanted to transfer all the knowledge he learnt at school and teach others what he enjoys so much. Instead of being a teacher he would be a sports psychologist, an adjective he would describe himself as would be enthusiastic. His opinion of the school is brilliant, the students are friendly and the staff have been welcoming. He picked the subject PE because he really enjoyed it at school and loves all kind of sports.

If he had to be a biscuit he would be a hobnob, because everyone loves hobnobs, and if he had to be an animal he would be a dog because he gets best of both years and gets to sleep all day but you also get to play with tennis balls.



Meet the GCA Media Team

We hope you have enjoyed our first school newsletter. The Media Team are a group of students from years 9, 10 and 11 who are interested in studying the media or careers in the media. If you are interested in joining our team, then speak to Miss Ashworth. A.ashworth@garstang.fcat.org.uk



Miss Ashworth - Editor in Chief

Luke Carter - Sports Correspondent

Daisy Wrathall - Photographer / Editor

Rubi Ashcroft - Current Affairs Reporter

Summer Millington - Current Affairs Reporter

Charlie Grierson - Current Affairs Reporter

Alice Mepstead - Current Affairs Reporter

Alice Saville - Current Affairs Reporter

Mary Newman - Current Affairs Reporter

Racheal Baines - Current Affairs Reporter

Holly Marsh - Current Affairs Reporter

Georgia Cronshaw - Current Affairs Reporter

Meet the Year Book Team

A group of our year 11 students who attend the media group are now well into preparations for this years Year 11 Leavers Yearbook.

The Yearbook will be published at the end of the year. Our Yearbook Team are:

Kiera Bell

Amy Saville

Kathryn Cunnane

Jack Aldridge

Max Robinson

Imogen Carr

Kate Doherty

Charlie Pollard

Jorja Parker

Ellie Clark

Amelia Coppin