



HOPE HIGH SCHOOL

Newsletter Term 2 2026

Headteacher's Message - Spring 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of a busy and inspiring Spring Term, I wanted to take a moment to celebrate the fantastic achievements, experiences and opportunities our students have enjoyed over the past few months. Hope High has been filled with curiosity, creativity, ambition and joy and your children have once again made us incredibly proud.

Throughout January, our curriculum was brought to life through a wide range of hands-on learning experiences. From Food Technology dishes and woodworking skills, to gallery visits, fire station tours and STEM-focused trips, our students embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm. Our Year 10 and 11 learners gained valuable insights into future pathways, visiting Preston College, West Lancashire College, Green Parts, Midstream, North West Timber, Myerscough College and other inspiring providers. These experiences are vital in helping our young people understand their next steps and raise their aspirations.

February continued this momentum with a strong focus on wellbeing, employability and real-world learning. Our 'Time to Talk' morning supported students to connect, share and build confidence as part of a national mental health initiative. Year 11 students strengthened their CV-writing skills, while others explored sustainability and engineering during our visit to NSG in Lathom. Our Year 10 students also enjoyed a wonderful trip to the Secret Gardens glamping project, which linked perfectly to construction skills taught in school.

March was a month of colour, creativity and culture. World Book Day filled the school with imagination and joyful celebration, while students marked Holi through a mindful tie-dye project exploring colour and pattern. Our younger learners enjoyed hands-on learning too, including an unforgettable Year 7 visit to Skelmersdale Fire Station. Across all year groups, we have been incredibly proud of the teamwork, creativity and resilience shown.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the organisations, colleges and local partners who have supported us this term. Their generosity and expertise enrich our curriculum and open doors for our students.

As always, thank you for your continued support. A reminder that all uniform should be clearly labelled, and that breakfast and snacks are available daily for every child.

We look forward to welcoming all students back on Monday 13th April 2026 for another exciting term ahead.

Wishing you all a peaceful and enjoyable break.

Warmest regards,
Mrs Fletcher
Head of School



January

A huge thank you to Richard from Preston College for delivering a personalised careers presentation to our Year 10 and Year 11 students this morning.

It was a fantastic opportunity for them to hear about the wide variety of courses available and to understand just how important it is to achieve their very best at school. We really appreciate the time, insight and encouragement he shared with our students!





January

First Food Tech dish of 2026: macaroni cheese!

During Food Tech, students practised key skills—measuring, safe knife use, and making a roux sauce. This was a popular dish enjoyed by our students.



January

GCSE art pathways have had another successful visit, this time to Manchester Art Gallery. The students were fantastic and gained lots of inspiration from some amazing Pre-Raphaelite paintings.



Manchester
Art Gallery

Year 11s Exploring Future Pathways!

A small group of our Year 11 students visited Green Parts, a 27 acre site in Skelmersdale — a fast-growing business leading the way in vehicle recycling and EV technology. Students learned about the company's apprenticeship routes (starting at 18) and the wide range of roles available as the business continues to expand.

They were amazed by the sheer size of the business, the way engines are packaged for destinations like Russia and Poland, and how cars are stripped for parts before being crushed and taken away. A brilliant real-world insight into an industry full of opportunity.

Thank you to Green Parts for welcoming us and inspiring our learners.



January

Pathway Students Exploring Their Next Steps!

Another brilliant visit — this time to MidStream in Skelmersdale. Some of our pathway students had the chance to explore the post-16 provision on offer and learn more about the supportive, nurturing environment MidStream provides for young people.

The team made our students feel completely at ease from the moment they arrived. One of our Year 11s, One pupil summed it up perfectly: “There were no negative feelings at all — everyone made us feel comfortable.” A genuine reflection of the atmosphere created throughout the visit.

Huge thank you to the staff at Midstream West Lancs Ltd, especially Emma, for your time, hospitality, and the care you showed our learners. We're excited to continue building this partnership and to help more of our students discover the opportunities available to them beyond school.



Midstream
(West Lancs) Ltd

Training, Employment and the Environment.
Work activity and training for people with special needs.

January

YEAR 11 GETTING INDUSTRY-READY

Some of our Year 11 students visited North West Timber this week to learn about different types and thicknesses of wood. They helped us choose the right wood so they can begin practising with our new chisels and saws.

This builds on the skills they tried out during their visit to Southport College in December, helping them grow confident with industry-standard tools as they explore carpentry and joinery as a future pathway.

Proud of our young people and the enthusiasm they're showing for working with wood.



January

GROWING SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE

It's great to see our students using the new chisels safely and correctly. Some have already made a Tee Halving joint, and we've got a variety of more advanced joints lined up for our more able learners to tackle next — including the Tee Bridle joint, which we're excited to see.

A special well done to Jayden, who's shown real creativity and talent in his work. It's exciting to see how this could become a future career path for him when he leaves us this year.

Proud of the progress our students are making every day.



January

A HUGE THANK YOU TO LAUREN AND KAREN WEST LANCASHIRE COLLEGE!

Our Year 10 and Year 11 students had a fantastic visit to West Lancs College this week. Huge thanks to Lauren and Karen for their warm welcome, expert guidance, and outstanding support throughout the day. What made the visit especially valuable was how thoughtfully it was tailored to our students' interests, with the tour shaped around the courses they're considering. Students explored areas including Plumbing, Carpentry & Joinery, Motor Mechanics, Electrical Engineering, Health & Social Care, and Foundation Learning.

The hands-on experience and time given to answer questions left our students feeling inspired, informed, and excited about their next steps.

Thank you, Lauren and Karen, for going above and beyond—it truly made a difference.





January

MYERSCOUGH COLLEGE VISIT

Our Year 10 and 11 boys had a great visit to Myerscough College today. A big thank you to Azz for showing us around and giving the students a really helpful overview of the different courses and careers on offer.

The boys were engaged, asked brilliant questions, and really enjoyed seeing what their future options could look like.

Thank you again to Azz and the team for welcoming us!



January

A GREAT MORNING FOR OUR KS4 STUDENTS!

This morning a small group of our KS4 students attended the Education and Apprenticeship Event in Liverpool, giving them the chance to meet potential employers and learn more about future career pathways. They represented Hope High brilliantly and asked some fantastic questions!

We also visited both of Liverpool's cathedrals, where the students compared the architecture, design and history of the two buildings. A brilliant mix of careers inspiration and cultural learning for our students today!

ROYAL AIR FORCE
 REGULAR & RESERVE

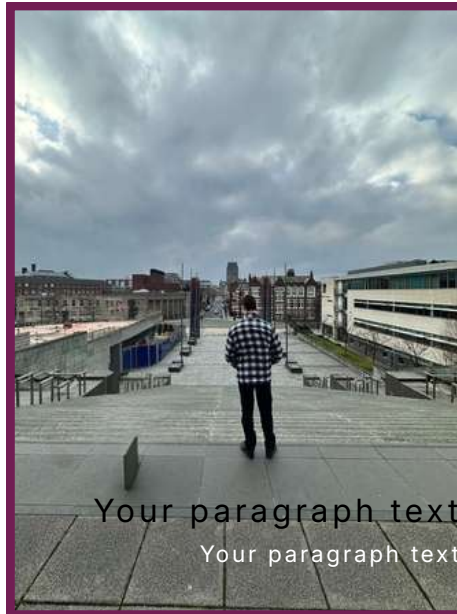
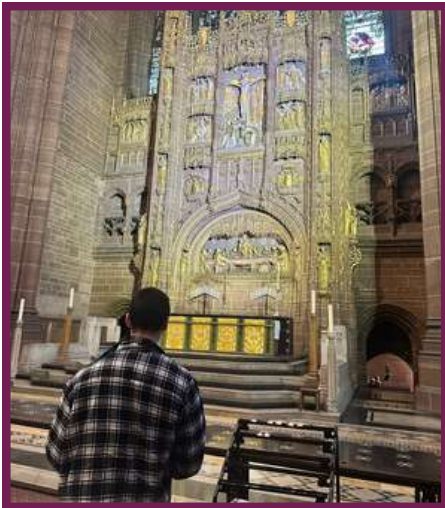
FIND YOUR FORCE

FIND YOUR ROLE

- ENGINEERING**
 - Engineer Officer (Aerobystems)
 - Aircraft Technician Avionics
 - Aircraft Technician Mechanical
 - Aircraft Technician Weapons
 - Aircraft Technician Survival Equipment
 - Vehicle & Mechanical Equipment Technician
 - Advanced Manufacture & Repair Technician
 - Electrician
- CYBERSPACE**
 - Engineer Officer
 - Communications Electronic
 - Communications Infrastructure Technician
 - CyberSpace Communication Specialist
 - Digital Reserves
- AIRCREW**
 - Pilot
 - Weapon Systems Officer
 - Weapon Systems Operator
 - Weapon Systems Operator Aircrew Linguist
- PEOPLE OPERATIONS**
 - People Operations Officer - Media
 - HR People Specialist
 - People Specialist - Media
 - Physical Training Instructor
 - Photographer
- GROUND COMBAT & SECURITY**
 - RAF Police Officer
 - RAF Regiment Officer
 - RAF Police
 - RAF Regiment Gunner
- AIR & SPACE OPERATIONS**
 - Control Officer
 - Operations Officer
 - Air Traffic & Weapons Controller
 - Operations Specialist
 - Aviation Data Analyst
 - Flight Operations Manager
 - Firefighter
- LOGISTICS**
 - Logistics Officer
 - Driver
 - Motor
 - Supply Chain Specialist
 - Chief
 - Air & Ground Steward
- MUSIC SERVICES**
 - Musician
- CHAPLAINCY**
 - Chaplain
- LEGAL**
 - Legal Officer
- INTELLIGENCE**
 - Intelligence Officer
 - Intelligence Analyst (Linguist)
 - Intelligence Analyst
- MEDICAL SERVICES**
 - Medical Officer
 - Nursing Officer
 - Medical Support Officer (MSO)
 - MSO Physiotherapist
 - Dental Officer
 - MSO Pharmacist
 - Registered Nurse (Adult)
 - Registered Nurse (Mental Health)
 - RAF Medic
 - Environmental Health Practitioner
 - Operating Department Practitioner
 - Radiographer
 - Biomedical Scientist
 - Pharmacy Technician
 - Dental Nurse
 - Student Nurse

Commissioned Specialisations - Non-commissioned Specialisations
 * Degree required ** RAF Apprenticeship ** Reserve specific

Search RAF Recruitment





February

Year 7 Visit to Skelmersdale Fire Station

Our Year 7 students had an unforgettable, hands-on morning at Skelmersdale Fire Station on Friday. They were welcomed with so much enthusiasm and had the chance to experience real firefighter skills up close.

They got to:

- Try out the fire hose
- Handle the cutting equipment
- Learn how firefighters access houses quickly in an emergency
- See how smoke is removed using the station's huge ventilation fan
- Use the thermal imaging camera
- Sit inside the fire engine cab
- Spend time in the crew's chill-out area — where one of our students even beat a firefighter at darts!

It was an incredibly informative and exciting visit, and the students came away buzzing with new knowledge and fantastic memories.

A huge thank you to Ray and his team for once again giving up their time to support our young people and show them the amazing work they do for our community.





February

#SecretGardensSkelmersdale

What a fantastic afternoon taking our Year 10 students to the Secret Gardens glamping site in Skelmersdale. The team welcomed us with open arms and gave us the chance to explore a range of beautifully designed glamping pods, each with its own unique style and purpose.

Secret Gardens has grown from a small local project into a creative outdoor retreat, transforming unused land into a peaceful space where nature, sustainability, and community come together. It's become a brilliant example of how imaginative thinking can turn an idea into a thriving destination for learning, wellbeing, and adventure.

It was also a great opportunity for our Construction students to see the craftsmanship behind the site. The visit linked perfectly with the practical element of their course, especially as they begin working on traditional wooden joints using Saws and Chisels. Seeing real-world applications of these skills gave them a valuable insight into how precision and technique shape quality construction.

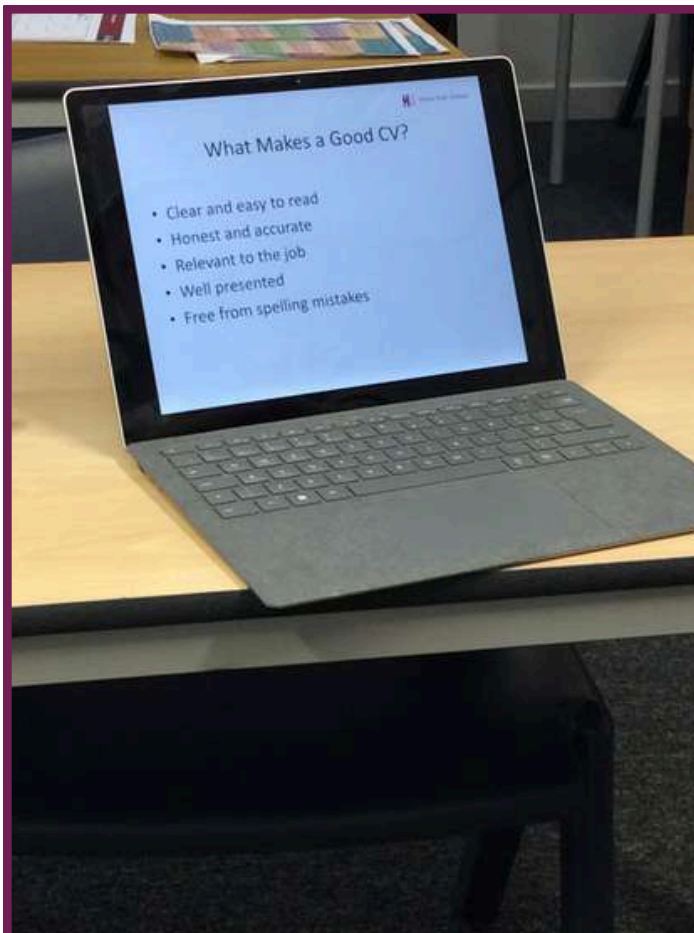
A huge thank you to the Secret Gardens team for such an inspiring visit.



February

Our Year 11 students took part in a CV workshop led by Jamie Heath, Divisional Manager for Education & SEND at Spencer Clarke Group. Jamie talked them through what makes a strong CV, the importance of clear spelling and layout, and how to highlight their skills and experiences effectively.

Huge thank you to Jamie for sharing his expertise and giving our students practical, real-world guidance to support their next steps.





February

Time to Talk

Hope High School held a 'Time to Talk' morning , supporting mental health and giving students and staff time to connect, improve social skills and for some ... relax

The sessions were amazing and all students have asked for more sessions in the future.

Time to Talk Day is the nation's biggest mental health conversation. It's a day for all of us to come together to talk, listen and change lives.

Why is talking important?

Talking openly and honestly can be the first step towards better mental health for everyone.



February

A massive thank you to Richard at Preston College for an inspiring visit today with our Year 10/11 students! They explored a brilliant range of areas including Public Services, Gaming & Esports, Art, Motor Vehicle, Engineering, Construction, Digital Media, Sport and more.

It was fantastic to see our students engaging with staff, asking thoughtful questions, and beginning to picture what their next steps could look like. Visits like this really help them understand the huge variety of pathways available and open their eyes to careers they may never have considered before.

We're already looking ahead to our next trip as we continue supporting our KS4 learners to explore their future options and raise their aspirations.



Careers Fair Success!

Our Year 9 & 10 students had a brilliant time at the West Lancashire College Careers Fair, exploring future pathways and speaking to employers, universities and organisations about amazing opportunities ahead.

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our students today, including:

Army, ASDA, Beacon Photography Club, Booths, Edge Hill University, Friends of Tawd Valley, Future U, Graylaw Freight Group, Great Bear, LJMU, Manchester Met, Mersey Care, NSG (Pilkingtons), Police, Police Cadets, Ribble Rivers Trust, Royal Navy, PepsiCo and Tawd Valley Developments.

Thank you to West Lancashire College for hosting such an inspiring event for local young people!



March

Mindful Morning: Celebrating Holi Through Colour

As part of our Mindful Morning, a group of students had the wonderful opportunity to explore the vibrant spirit of Holi 2026 — the festival that celebrates colour, joy, and togetherness.

To mark the occasion, students spent time creating their own tie-dye samples, experimenting with how different folding techniques and patterns can transform simple fabric into something bright, bold, and beautiful. It was amazing to see how each twist and fold created completely unique shapes and colour bursts — a perfect reminder of the creativity and individuality within each of our students.

Moments like these help us pause, relax, and appreciate the simple joy that colour brings into our lives.

A big well done to everyone who took part — your designs were incredible!



March

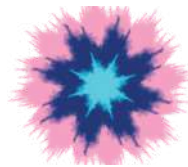
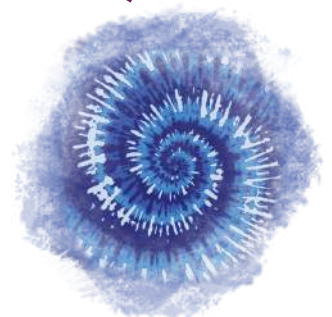
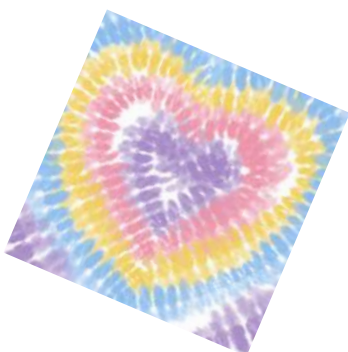
Year 7 Explore the Art of Tie-Dye!

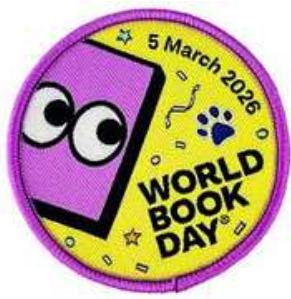
After celebrating Holi 2026, our Year 7 students were given the fantastic opportunity to learn the skills of tie-dye, exploring how colour can be expressed in creative and meaningful ways.

As part of their learning, students also discovered where cotton comes from, how it is grown, and even identified which parts of their own school uniform are made from cotton. This hands-on activity helped them connect classroom knowledge with the materials they use every day.

It was wonderful watching our students create their own unique patterns, colours, and designs — each one completely individual, just like them! We are so proud of our Year 7s for embracing a new technique in their DT lesson and approaching the activity with such enthusiasm and curiosity.

Well done, everyone!





March

World Book Day: Heroes and Hobbies!

We had an absolutely fantastic time celebrating World Book Day with this year's theme: Heroes and Hobbies! It was wonderful to see both our students and staff get fully involved, showing incredible creativity and enthusiasm.

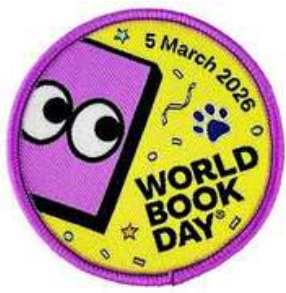
Our school was filled with a brilliant variety of characters — including Harry Potter, witches, characters from The Traitors, Mr Bump, Wallace and Gromit, Steve Irwin, and so many more imaginative ideas! The effort that everyone put into their costumes and storytelling truly brought the theme to life.

Throughout the day, students took part in exciting activities linked to reading, creativity, and their favourite hobbies and heroes. It was fantastic to see everyone joining in with such energy and enjoyment.

A special congratulations to the students who received prizes for their outstanding contributions — well deserved!

Thank you to all our staff and students for making World Book Day 2026 such a colourful, joyful, and memorable celebration!





March

Hagrid-Approved World Book Day Treats!

As part of our World Book Day celebrations, our Food Technology students got hands-on with a magical baking activity — creating their very own Hagrid-Approved Rock Cakes! Inspired by the wizarding world, students followed recipes, explored baking techniques, and let their imaginations run wild.

We were blown away by the creativity on display. Some students shaped their rock cakes into lightning bolts, inspired by a certain famous wizard, while others took their ideas even further — including an impressive Stonehenge-style design, just like something you might see on Junior Bake Off!

It was fantastic to see everyone involved, having fun, and producing such imaginative bakes. A huge well done to all our students for embracing the challenge and bringing so much creativity into the kitchen!



March

Exploring Future Careers at NSG in Lathom

A group of our students had the fantastic opportunity to visit NSG in Lathom, a leading specialist in advanced glass manufacturing. They were able to see first-hand how different types of glass are developed — from architectural panels to high-performance, energy-efficient products used in buildings across the UK. This real-world insight helped our students understand how science, engineering, and sustainability come together in modern industry. A huge thank you to Olivia, Zeeshan, Niamh and Karl for giving up their time to inspire our young people and show them the cutting-edge work happening right here in our local area.

We're excited to continue this partnership and hope to welcome the team into school soon to talk more about careers in the glass industry, as well as explore a joint design brief with our students. This will focus on how glass can be recycled and how companies like NSG are working to reduce energy use in production — an area that Zeeshan plays a key role in developing. During the visit, students also took part in an interactive session in NSG's lecture theatre: "How Big Is Your Environmental Footprint?" If you'd like to try the same questionnaire, you can explore your own footprint here: <https://footprint.wwf.org.uk>





March

Thank you to Evergreen Tyre Services

A huge thank you to Tracey at Evergreen Tyre Services for generously donating a fantastic variety of tyres — including tractor and lorry tyres — to our school.

The students absolutely loved using them to design their own assault course. It was wonderful watching them work out the perfect distances, match tyres by size, and challenge each other as they built their course from scratch.

The tyres created the perfect opportunity for team building, problem-solving and active fun, and it was brilliant to see so many of our students fully engaged and working together.

We're incredibly grateful for your support — thank you for helping us enrich our students' learning and play.



EVERGREEN TYRE SERVICES

NATIONWIDE TYRE MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST

Up coming....

APRIL

13th April 2026 - School Reopens

MAY

4th May 2026 - May Bank Holiday

22nd May 2026 - School Closes

JUNE

1st June 2026 - School Reopens

JULY

6-8th July Towerwood

14th July Summer BBQ

16th July Anderton Centre

breakfast

ALL CHILDREN HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE **BREAKFAST/ SNACK** WHEN THEY ARRIVE AT SCHOOL AND THROUGHOUT THE MORNING.

snack



Scan here to explore PADLET Mental Health Resources.



A REMINDER FOR PARENTS/CARERS TO PLEASE ENSURE THAT UNIFORM IS LABELLED. WE ARE REGULARLY BEING ASKED ABOUT LOST UNIFORM BUT UNFORTUNATELY IT CAN BE DIFFICULT TO FIND.



Useful Numbers and Contacts

Lancashire Children's Social Care: 0300 123 6720

Police: Emergency 999

Non-Emergency 101

Prevent team (Police) : For advice on preventing radicalisation or reporting concerns. Lancashire Police Prevent Officers can be contacted by:
telephone: 01282 472329/ 01282 472324.

Lancashire Children and Family Well-being Service:

West Lancashire: 01696 651350

Chorley: 01257 516466

Preston: 01772 539420

Mental Health Services:

NHS-Our Mental Health Crisis Line is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by calling 0800 953 0110

Samaritans: call on freephone 116 123. They're always open and are there to listen.

Mind: Mental Health Service- 03001233393- text - 86463

You can text shout to Crisis- You can text SHOUT to 85258

For free, anonymous mental health support/advice : Kooth.com

Lancashire CAMHS Services:

CAMHS West Lancs Helpline: 01695 684 262

CAMHS Leyland: 01772 644 644

CAMHS Preston: 01772 777 344

CAMHS East Lancashire: 01282 425 071

Other Useful Safeguarding Sites:

Child Action North West: <https://canw.org.uk/>

NEST Lancashire: <https://nestlancashire.org/>

NSPCC: 0808 8005 000

For any medical concerns please contact your GP