16 October 2026

Penwortham Priory Post

Duke of Edinburgh Award Celebrations

It was a pleasure to welcome Year 10 pupils and their families to our Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award Celebration Evening on Monday, where we had the opportunity to recognise and celebrate the achievements of this year's successful participants.

The event provided a chance for pupils to receive their Bronze DofE certificates and reflect on the hard work, commitment and determination they have shown throughout their award journey. Parents and carers were able to share in these achievements and celebrate this important milestone alongside their children.

Completing the Bronze Award is a significant accomplishment. Over a number of months, pupils dedicated their time to volunteering, developing new skills, improving their physical fitness and completing their expedition. Throughout the process, they demonstrated resilience, teamwork and a willingness to challenge themselves beyond their comfort zones.

The determination shown by each participant was particularly impressive. Balancing DofE commitments alongside schoolwork, extra-curricular activities and family life requires a great deal of organisation and perseverance. Their commitment to seeing the award through to completion is a testament to their character and work ethic.

During the evening, families also had the opportunity to look back on some of the memorable moments from the pupils' DofE journeys, celebrating not only the awards themselves but also the friendships made, challenges overcome and personal growth achieved along the way.

Continued over ...

Diary Dates

Key Dates

Did you know that the term dates for the academic year are available to view and download from our website?

www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/termdates

Mon, 19 October
Year 10 & Year 11 Faith Day Period 1-4

Tues, 20 October
Year 9 St Walburges Church Trip (small group)

Thurs, 22 October
Year 7 Halloween Disco 6.30pm-8pm

Fri, 23 October
(Date change)
KS3 Rewards Period 5-6

Half Term
26-30 October

Tues, 3 November
Year 10 Settle Factor 3.30pm-8pm (online)

Weds, 4 November
Year 11 Runshaw College assembly

Thurs, 5 November
Year 8 Blackpool Zoo trip

Weds, 11 November
Year 7 Lancaster Castle trip (1)
Iceland trip parent information meeting 5.30pm-6.15pm

Thurs, 12 November
Year 7 Lancaster Castle trip (2)

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Priory's DofE Lead, Mrs Cauchi, said, "We are incredibly proud of all our Bronze Award holders. Their dedication, enthusiasm and continued determination throughout the programme have been a credit to themselves, their families and our school community. We look forward to seeing many of them continue their Duke of Edinburgh Award journey at Silver level in the future."

Congratulations to all of our Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award recipients on this fantastic achievement. We hope they look back on their Bronze Award with pride and continue to embrace the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

Rewards

Half Term Rewards ‘Sensational Sixty’

Letters for the first of our rewards events were given out on Wednesday.

Pupils in Year 7-9 who have worked hard enough to be one of the Sensational Sixty are invited for an enjoyable afternoon of activities. Invitations are based on a positive achievement points balance and a 95%+ attendance.

This half term’s reward will take place on Friday, 23 October during Periods 5 and 6, and pupils will have the opportunity to choose from the following in-school activities:

· Film and popcorn in the Assembly Hall
· Football on the new 3G pitch

If your child would like to take part in this half term’s reward, please log in to SCOPay and select their preferred activity. Although the activities are free of charge, we require your consent via SCOPay in order for your child to participate. Please make your choice no later than Monday, 19 October, after which the option on SCOPay will close. Please note, whilst there are places for everyone, numbers for each activity are capped and therefore will close as an option on SCOPay once it reaches capacity.

Normal lessons will continue as usual for pupils who do not wish to take part or who have not qualified for this half term’s reward. Pupils must remain with the activity they have selected. Pupils playing football should bring footwear appropriate for use on the 3G pitch.

Pupils should be proud of their achievements so far this academic year and we hope to see their superb conduct continue.

If your child has not quite made the top sixty this time, please do not be concerned, there are plenty more rewards to come!

Priory Celebrates National Recognition for Attendance Success

We are delighted to have received the FFT National School Attendance Award for Most Improved Attendance 2026. This is a significant achievement and one that reflects the commitment, determination and partnership of our entire school community.

Attendance matters. We know that pupils achieve their best outcomes when they are in school, in lessons, being taught by their teachers and learning alongside their peers. There is simply no substitute for being present each day. Every lesson missed is a learning opportunity lost, and over time those missed opportunities can have a real impact on achievement, confidence and future success.

Principal, Mr Eastham said, *"This award recognises the hard work that has taken place across the school. I would like to thank our attendance, pastoral and safeguarding teams, along with our teachers and support staff, who work tirelessly to support students and families. Their dedication, persistence and care have helped many young people not only maintain but improve their attendance and maximise the opportunities available to them.*

"Importantly, this award also belongs to our parents and carers. We are fortunate to have so many families who understand the value of education and who make attendance a priority. Thank you for the important role you play in ensuring your child arrives at school every day ready to learn."

Whilst we are proud of this recognition, we do not see it as a finish line. Rather, it is an encouragement to keep moving forward. The vast majority of our students attend regularly, and we want every young person to benefit from the same opportunities as their peers. Good attendance should not be the exception; it should be the expectation. We would encourage all families to continue working with us to ensure that attendance remains high and that no student falls behind through avoidable absence.

This award demonstrates what can be achieved when school and home work together with a shared purpose. By maintaining high levels of attendance, we give our young people the very best chance of success, both now and in the future. We are incredibly proud of this achievement and look forward to building on it in the months and years ahead.

Every day matters, every lesson counts, and together we will continue to ensure that our young people are present, engaged and able to benefit from the excellent education they deserve.

Black History Month Brings a Taste of Heritage

Pupils will have the chance to try out cuisine from different cultures as part of Black History Month.

Organised by Mrs Qadri, pupils will celebrate the month by holding a food sale in the Auditorio at break on Wednesday, 21st October.

Year 11 Solange, whose heritage is Nigerian, is helping organise the sale alongside fellow Year 11s Junior and Excellence, who also have Nigerian backgrounds.

"We want people to try food from all different cultures," said Solange. "Black History Month is important as it helps to look back at events and learn from them and hopefully show we have made progress."

Year 10 Adele is also involved, her background is Zimbabwean. "It's important to remember Black people in history during Black History Month."

Year 8 Sophia, Rejoice, Yoma and Rex will also be making and collecting food to sell.

Rejoice added: "My background is Nigerian so I will make Jollof Rice which is a speciality."

Pupils and staff will find posters of prominent Black figures displayed around school throughout October to promote and raise awareness of #BHM.

Compost Corner

Mr Farron's Autumn & Winter Update

Welcome to the Autumn term edition fellow composters!

Tes paideias efe tas men rideas einai pikras, tan de karpon glukin

"The routes of education are bitter but the fruits are sweet". Aristotle.

Well, what a most challenging season summer was with extremes of heat and lack of rain over many weeks causing quite a panic for our flora and fauna. Dehydrated plants - it was all a very touch and go operation! Keeping them alive involved watering the roots on a daily basis, however the exposed stem flowers had to be shaded and this meant covering the most vulnerable plants with sheets.

Having survived all that, we are now enjoying the fruits of our labour with a glorious display of cultured roses and new arrivals such as the stunning climbing rose 'Dublin Bay', the jasmine 'Lime Delight', the Zephyranthes Grandiflora (late summer to early autumn) or the growers name of 'Wild Lilly', the Pieris 'Forest Flame' and Pieris 'Flaming Silver'.

The autumn new arrivals are Alba Anemone,

Echinops shrub rose, Anne Harknes double amber flowers, Crocosmia Lucifer with its robust sword-shaped deep rich flowers, Asta Monch - a busy perennial daisy-like soft lavender blue flower, and Rudbeckia with its daisy-like yellow flower heads.

Autumn is an ideal time to collect the harvest of various seeds as this helps with extra design details in spring. In addition, for some parts, you can scatter in places where there is room.

As the rose garden improves in status, I have introduced these new types of rose: Gertrude Jekyll - a repeat flowering with deep pink blooms, Gabrielle Oak - long continuous flowering named after the hero of Hardy's '*Far From The Madding Crowd*' with deep pink flowers and a strong fruity scent, and Desdemona - a soft apple-white, strongly scented English hybrid with circular blooms of soft swirling petals.

Also now is the time to move shrubs and trees, being thoughtful where best to place. If you are considering planting a fresh young tree, may I recommend a favourite of mine, and that is the Robinia Pseudoaccia freesia. This beautiful tree has soft curls that gently move and glisten as the sun catches its vivid lime colouring and has a comforting effect on the viewer.

So, to conclude, I would like to thank the pupils for the respect they give to our gardens and have helped with further awards which were presented this year

Continued over ...

Compost Corner

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by Penwortham Town Council's Garden Committee, being that:

1. Gold in school category
2. Overall winner school category
3. Winner of winners' category

Phew!

We are extremely grateful to have local enthusiast and dignitaries recognise our efforts.

Thank you to Miss Smith for her support, knowledge and love of gardening - it all helps! Seeds now ready to collect: Speedwell Veronica - tall spires of elegant and well-perfumed white blossom, and Asta Nova Anglia - a perennial in autumn that bears clusters of daisy-like clear flower heads.

A brief explanation of plant types to recognise throughout the Priory gardens as the seasons progress and an explanation of the meaning.

Annuals and Biennials

An annual is grown from seed then flowers and dies all in a single period. A hardy annual can withstand frost and so the seed can be sown outdoors whenever the soil is suitable in spring.

Perennials

A perennial is a hardy plant that does not produce woody shoots. The leaves and stems generally die as winter arrives and new shoots appear in spring but few are evergreen because of height and size of leaf. It is associated with an herbaceous plant and can be a permanent feature of the garden. THINK DESIGN. So, enjoy the season to come!

Mr C Farron
Head Gardener

Mr Farron
Head Gardener

Keep Blooming!

Stitching Together Skills and Creativity at Textiles Club

Pupils at Priory are being encouraged to discover their creative side by joining the school's thriving Textiles Club, which runs every Tuesday after school under the leadership of Art teacher Mrs Shaw.

Open to pupils of all year groups and abilities, the club provides a welcoming environment where beginners and experienced makers alike can learn new skills, develop their creativity and produce their own textile projects. Resources are provided, making it easy for anyone to get involved.

One former member's experience perfectly demonstrates what can be achieved through commitment and determination. Last year, Year 11 Hannah set herself an ambitious challenge: to design and make her own prom dress from scratch.

Having chosen a design she loved and sourced her own pattern and fabric, Hannah worked week by week with the support of Mrs Lazonby, the club's experienced sewing volunteer. Together they tackled every stage of the process, from cutting the fabric and constructing the garment to adding the finishing touches.

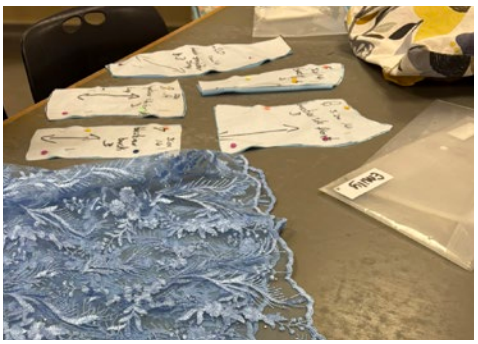
Mrs Lazonby guided Hannah through each step, sharing her extensive knowledge and helping her develop new sewing techniques and textile skills. Over the course of many weeks, they watched the gown gradually come to life.

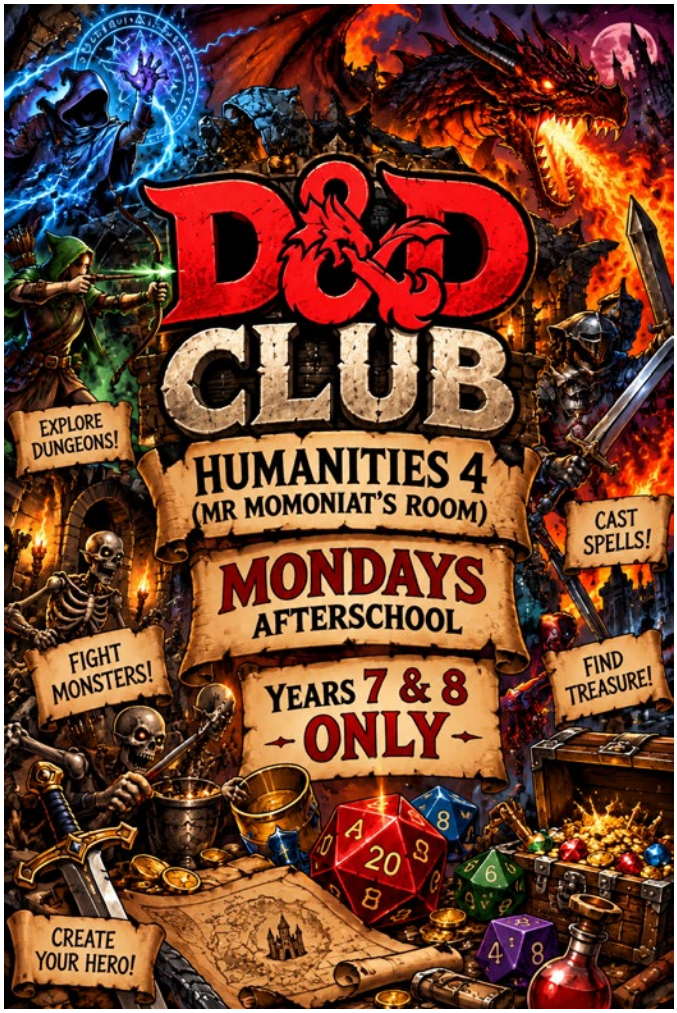
As the dress neared completion, Hannah gave then-Technology teacher Mrs Lockwood and Mrs Lazonby an exclusive preview before its official debut at the Year 11 Prom. When the dress was finally revealed in July, it was a proud moment for everyone involved.

Mrs Lazonby has been volunteering with Textiles Club for the past three years. Originally becoming involved while her granddaughter attended Priory, she chose to continue volunteering after her granddaughter left so that she could pass on her passion for sewing and textiles to future generations of pupils.

Following Mrs Lockwood's departure at the end of the summer term, Mrs Shaw has taken over the running of the club and is looking forward to helping more pupils develop their confidence and creativity through textiles.

Whether pupils want to learn the basics of sewing, customise clothing or create gifts, Textiles Club offers the perfect place to get started.





Battle for House Trophy Underway!

Pupils took part in the first Lunchtime Challenge on Tuesday, representing their houses with determination, teamwork and resilience.

The Ball & Spoon relay challenge saw pupils competing against one another and against the clock, trying to balance a ping pong ball on a wooden spoon.

Several pairings had success in reaching the finish, but the team with the fastest finish was DOUGLAS, Ribble followed in second, Hodder claimed third and Calder were in fourth.

House Leaders are also looking to reward pupils getting involved this year, so the number of pupils representing their houses was also collated, with CALDER taking first place, followed by Douglas, Ribble and Hodder.

Year 11 Childcare Students Learn About Apprenticeship Opportunities

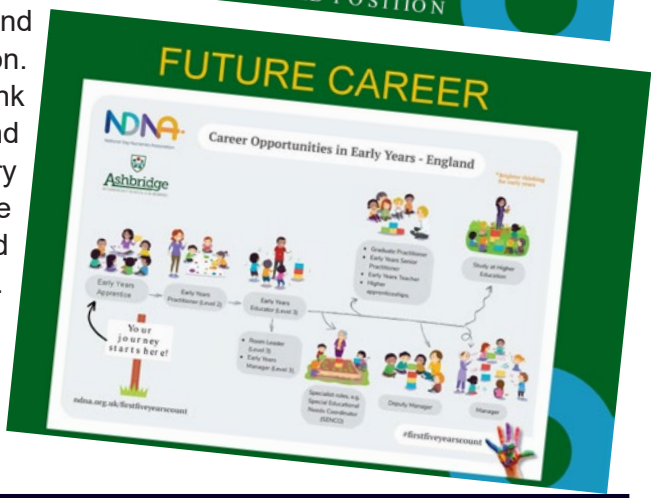
Our Year 11 Childcare students had the opportunity to hear from Jennifer Mitchell from Ashbridge Nursery Group, who visited school to discuss apprenticeships and career pathways within the early years sector.

During the presentation, students learned about the apprenticeship programme offered by Ashbridge Nursery Group, including how apprentices can gain valuable workplace experience while studying towards recognised qualifications through a partnership with Runshaw College. The session provided students with a clear understanding of how apprenticeships allow young people to earn, learn and develop professional skills within the childcare sector.

Students were particularly interested to hear about the opportunities available across Ashbridge's nurseries and the progression routes that can lead to further qualifications and long-term careers in early years education.

"It's a really good opportunity for pupils who feel ready to enter the world of work within the childcare sector alongside continuing their learning. I am proud to say that we have several of last year's cohort who have begun their positions at Ashbridge and have made fantastic starts," said Mrs Holland, Childcare teacher and SENCo.

The visit was a valuable experience for our students, helping them to explore the range of options available after Year 11 and gain insight into careers within childcare and early years education. We would like to thank Jennifer Mitchell and Ashbridge Nursery Group for taking the time to inspire and inform our students.



Priory Pupils Help Make Inclusive Sporting Events a Success

Priory recently hosted two highly successful SEND sporting events in partnership with the South Ribble Active Health Team, providing dozens of young people with the opportunity to enjoy physical activity in a fun, supportive and inclusive environment.

The first event, an Inclusion Festival held on 29 September in the sports hall, welcomed ten primary schools from across the borough. Aimed at children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and those who are less engaged with physical activity, the festival offered a range of accessible activities including boccia, curling, axe throwing, crown green bowling, golf and cornhole. The day provided pupils with the chance to develop new skills, build confidence, socialise with others and enjoy being active regardless of ability or experience.

The following week, on 7 October, Priory hosted a SEND Boccia Competition organised by the South Ribble Active Health Team in partnership with Panathlon.

The event attracted 14 secondary schools in the morning session and six primary schools in the afternoon. Pupils demonstrated excellent teamwork, determination and sportsmanship as they competed in a friendly and supportive atmosphere, enjoying the opportunity to represent their schools and develop their boccia skills.

A major factor in the success of both events was the contribution of Priory's Year 9 Sports Leaders. Throughout the Inclusion Festival, they encouraged participation, supported activities and helped ensure every child felt welcome and included. At the Boccia Competition, the same pupils took on the responsibility of officiating every match, demonstrating impressive accuracy, professionalism and enthusiasm.

Their leadership, commitment and positive attitude made a lasting impression on participants and visiting schools alike, helping to create enjoyable experiences for everyone involved.

Both events received extremely positive feedback and highlighted the importance of providing inclusive opportunities that enable all young people to engage, achieve and enjoy being physically active. Priory is proud of the role its pupils played in supporting such valuable community events and acting as excellent ambassadors for the school.

Well done to>> Ava G, Ellie H, Emeli P, Harley D, Avalyn H-V, Lola H, Lilly H, Olivia H, Isla D, Rosie T, Niamh K, Emily G, Lyla M-R, Jess W, Rebecca O.

Focus on...

French

Languagenut League

COMING SOON

Star Linguist

Through the Keyhole

This week in lessons...

Year 8 are consolidating their understanding of the verb 'aller' and the wide range of prepositions that mean 'to the'. They have become the experts and are doing a bit of peer teaching.

Linguist of the Week

Arthur M from 8E1 is this week's linguist of the week.

Mrs Scully said "*Arthur works hard every lesson, his vocabulary is excellent and his confidence when speaking French is so impressive. Well done Arthur!*"

Year 10 Pearson Active Learn

Making Every Click Count:

Year 10 Active Learn engagement

Jess H

Word of the Week

Un arc en ciel
Rainbow
(bow in the sky)

CAREER CHECK

Film & TV Subtitler

Use excellent language skills to create subtitles that allow audiences to enjoy films, television programmes and documentaries made in other countries.

Mrs Scully, Mrs Bailey & Mr Taylor
Languages Department

Lost and Found: Are These Yours?

We're approaching the end of the first half term and we already have a build up of hoodies, jackets and coats - in fact, three bags worth! There's also lots of water bottles, several pairs of trainers and plenty of miscellaneous items.

Lost and found property is located in the Pastoral office with the exception of PE kit which is generally kept by the PE Department. Please also check the school office for any items lost that day. Valuables will be stored securely by the Pastoral office (see Mr Faulkner) until their owner can be identified.

We do aim to return named items to their owner and so we cannot over-emphasise the importance of marking all property, including ties, water bottles and stationery, with your child's name.

All unclaimed lost property is added to the uniform bank, donated to charity or is disposed of after the end of each half term.

The last day for collection of any of these items is Friday, 23 October.

Physical Education Department

Extra-Curricular Timetable (Autumn Term 1)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning 8.00- 8.30am	Badminton	Darts Academy	Badminton	Darts Academy	Badminton
Lunch 13.15 – 13.45pm	Badminton Key Stage 3	Badminton Key Stage 4	Basketball Key Stage 3	Basketball Key Stage 4	Table Tennis Key Stage 3 & 4
After-School 15.10 – 16.10pm	Netball Practice (MUGA)	Badminton (Sports Hall) Football Practice (3G)	Staff Meetings	Basketball Club (Sports Hall)	

N.B In addition, school teams will have fixtures through the half-term. These may result in some clubs being moved locations.

Penwortham Priory Academy

MENU

Autumn Week 2

Week 2
19 October

EVERY DAY

Jacket Potato — From £1.45

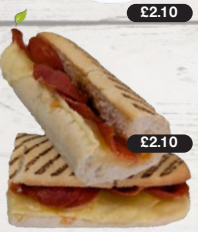
Build your perfect spud! Start with our light and fluffy jackets and evelvate your experience even further with the many toppings available.

Cheese Panini — £2.10

Soft panini roll stuffed with cheese, pressed to melted perfection.

Pepperoni Panini — £2.10

Soft panini roll stuffed with cheese and pepperoni, pressed to melted perfection.

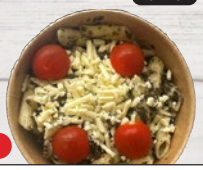


Sandwiches — from £1.55

A selection of handmade sandwiches, baguettes and wraps, packed with fresh fillings.
Vegetarian options available.

Pasta Pots — £2.10

A selection of pasta pots that are bursting with flavour are available.
Vegetarian options available.



VEGETARIAN GLUTEN FREE HALAL

This week's specials

MONDAY

Hot 'N' Kickin Burger — £2.50
A spicy chicken burger served in a soft bun with crispy seasoned wedges and a salad on the side.

Veggie Burger — £2.50
A delicious vegetable burger served in a soft bun with crispy seasoned wedges and a side salad

TUESDAY

Italian Cream Chicken — £2.50
Tender chicken in a rich and creamy Italian-style sauce served with fluffy rice for a comforting and flavourful meal.

Mascarpone Pasta — £2.50
Pasta tossed in a rich and creamy mascarpone sauce, served with warm garlic bread.. deliciously comforting.

WEDNESDAY

Loaded Chilli Nachos — £2.50
Crispy tortilla chips topped with homemade hearty chilli and melted cheese.

Spicy Cauliflower Bites — £2.50
Crispy spicy cauliflower bites served with seasoned sweet potato wedges, fresh salad and creamy coleslaw.

THURSDAY

Brunch — £2.50
A hearty combination of delicious sausage, crispy bacon, eggs, hash browns and baked beans.

Veggie Brunch — £2.50
A hearty vegetarian combo featuring veggie sausages, eggs, hash browns and baked beans.

Chippy Friday Specials

Chicken Wrap
Crispy southern fried chicken fillet wrapped in a soft tortilla, packed with fresh salad.

Veggie Chicken Wrap
Crispy southern fried no chick strips wrapped in a soft tortilla, packed with fresh salad.
*from £2.10

*Add golden chips to your wrap for an additional 30p

Battered Cod & Chips — £2.50
Crispy battered fish on a bed of chips, served with peas or beans and a choice of 'chip shop curry' or gravy.

Deserts

Assorted Cakes and Biscuits — £0.70
A selection of homemade cakes and biscuits to choose from.

Fruit Pot/Fresh Fruit — £0.90
A selection of freshly prepared fruit pots and fresh whole fruit available.

Popcorn — £0.70
Fresh sweet and salty popcorn

Jelly — £0.70
A variety of flavours available.
Vegan option available

Lancashire Young Carers

We support young carers under the age of 18 who provide regular and ongoing care and emotional support to a family member who is physically or mentally ill, disabled, or misuses substances and are significantly affected by their caring role. Our young carers have a named worker who stays with them from the first point of contact, initial assessment, support and reviews. We offer one to one's to offer support around their caring role; we support them to access services; support them to take control of their decisions and meet them where they feel comfortable to talk.

We are committed to working with all young carers across Lancashire. Our aim is to assess, support, empower and equip young carers by ensuring they are recognised as a young carer, supported to have a life outside of their caring role, provide skills to improve their wellbeing and reduce the negative impact their caring role has on them.

We accept referrals from all organisations, services, schools, training providers, health, social care, and self or family referrals. Every young carer has a right to an assessment, which considers the level of caring role and the impact this has on their daily life. The assessment will enable the young carer to identify any areas of need and support.

For more information you can scan the QR code above or contact us on:

Tel: 01772 641002

Email: lancashireyoungcarers@barnardos.org.uk

BARNARDO'S Changing childhoods. Changing lives.
Lancashire County Council
NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board

Lancashire Young Carers
@LYCservice
@LYCservice

mind Lancashire

Community Hub

Young People's Social Space

Every other Tuesday: 5.30pm - 7.30pm

Follow on Facebook or email for session dates, as they may be subject to change.

Lancashire Mind Community Hub

Welcoming young people aged 14 - 18yrs in South Ribble

Lancashire Mind
7 Balfour Court
Leyland, PR25 2TF

Half-Term Pizza Crafternoon!

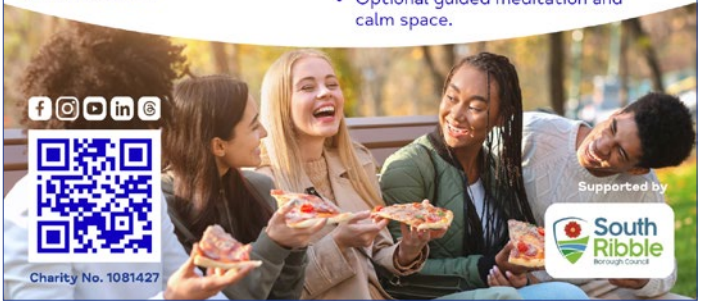
Join us for a free afternoon of creativity, connection and pizza!

Tuesday 27th October 2026
3:30pm - 7:30pm

- Hocus Pocus on the big screen
- Colouring, collage, watercolours & pastels.
- Optional guided meditation and calm space.

For enquiries on our services and support contact:

admin@lancashiremind.org.uk
01257 231660



Charity No. 1081427

Supported by South Ribble Borough Council

Learn to succeed

RUNSHAW COLLEGE

You are invited to our

2026/27 OPEN EVENTS

Saturday 26th September 10.00am – 2.00pm
Saturday 14th November 10.00am – 2.00pm
Wednesday 3rd March 4.00pm – 8.00pm

Scan the QR code to register
or visit runshaw.ac.uk/openevent

Come and begin your **Runshaw story** with us!

Firework Code

Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service

Always supervise young children

Light sparklers one at a time

Keep pets indoors

Keep them in a closed box

Follow all instructions carefully

Stand well back

DO's & Don'ts

Never return to a lit firework

Don't give sparklers to under 5's

Don't set fireworks off after 11pm

Never put them in your pocket

Never throw them

bright SPARX

For more information visit:
www.lancsfireresc ue.org.uk/bonfires-and-fireworks.aspx

England Rugby

TRY RUGBY WITH US!

Visit findrugby.com

Hoppers Girls

Training Wednesday Night

England Rugby

Preston Grasshoppers Rugby Club

RUGBY

All Ages and Abilities Welcome
Come and Have a Go!

Contact Lucie Mason 07762809902

Teammates are always there for me

Learn to succeed