

The WLD Echo

Monday 20th October 2025

Issue #8

Walton-Le-Dale High School

A Fresh Look, A Bright Future



Walton-le-Dale Steps into an Exciting New Chapter

Walton-le-Dale High School has undergone some seriously big and amazing changes over the Summer Holidays! We are sporting a fresh new logo, looking crisp and clean with purple and white lines! We also have new school values alongside new House teams, Calder, Yarrow, Darwen, Ribble and Hodder, named after local rivers, your journey at WLD will be winding, sometimes it may feel difficult, but it will always be exciting, much like a river. Every day spent here is readying you for your future. Who will you be, when you reach the sea?

Issue 8 is jam packed with recent events, creative writing, competitions, raising money for charity, local news and much, much more!



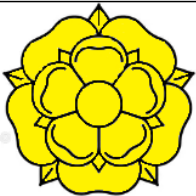
Belong



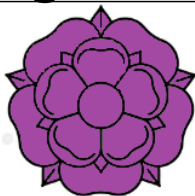
Explore



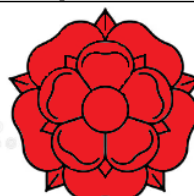
Excel



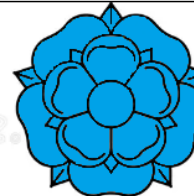
House Yarrow
HAL: Mr Samuel
Yellow



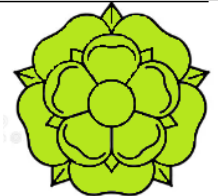
House Ribble
HAL: Mr Winster
Purple



House Darwen
HAL: Mrs Meadowcroft
Red



House Hodder
HAL: Mrs Nuttall
Blue



House Calder
HAL: Mrs Bailey
Green

Weather Today
High 22 °C, Low 12 °C



● **Belong** **Explore** **Excel** ●



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● **The WLD Echo**



Recent Events



Welcome Year 7s! You've officially been part of our Walton-le-Dale High School family for half a term and you're all the most wonderful new additions to our school, we look forward to watching and helping you grow into the best versions of yourself you can be!

We've got a lovely sea of new faces joining us this school year, alongside our incredible Year 7s, we are saying hello and welcome to a few new staff! Miss Bell has joined our DT team, Mr Hallewell is the new staff member in our History department, Mr McCarthy is our new drama teacher, Mr Winster is the new HAL of Ribble and Miss Buckle works across many departments. Some of our new staff members have agreed to be interviewed by some of our top journalists, Noah P, Ethan R, Logan M and Charley Mc, see inside for the full piece!

On Thursday the 25th of September we had our annual Walton-le-Dale High School Open Evening. This is a wonderful chance for prospective parents to see all the wonderful opportunities our school has to offer, from poetry games in the English Department, to incredible experiments in our Science Lab, we had it all! There were crazy creations in C-Block, darts in the Maths rooms and tasty displays of our pupil's culinary genius on display and ready to sample in the Food Tech kitchens. Mr Lamoury was giving speeches throughout the night and pupils were giving tours, talking of their time here at WLD and everything they love about our school.

Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday the 26th of September was a fantastic success, we've managed to raise £185.35. A huge thank you to all of our fantastic buyers and bakers, the enthusiasm for helping raise money for this cause was inspiring. Check out page 3 for more information and photos!

Competition! We are running a school-wide creative writing competition where you can win some How to Train Your Dragon prizes. Entry cut-off date is 3pm Monday the 1st of December, the only requirements are that it needs to be about or feature a dragon in the story, and you cannot use AI to help you write it. Submissions will be judged by the English department who are familiar with your work, any submissions suspected to have used AI will be disqualified. We can't wait to see your creative creations and imaginative inventions!

BookBuzz is back!

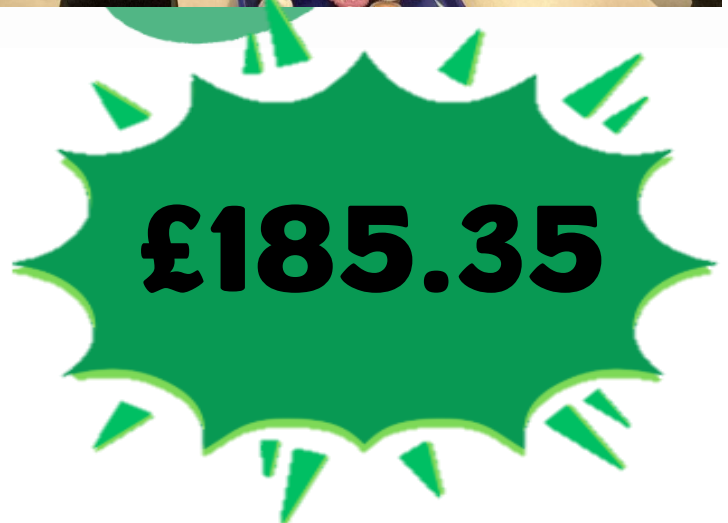
Every year at Walton-le-Dale High School the new Year 7s get the chance to choose a book they want to keep from the 16 choices presented by BookTrust. The titles available this year are: Toxic by Mitch Johnson, Lunar by Chris Bradford, The Girl Who Couldn't Lie by Radhika Sanhari, The Boy to Beat the Gods by Ashley Thorpe, The Double Life of Ted Amos by Simon James Green, Safiyah's War by Hiba Noor Khan, The Book of Useless Knowledge by Neon Squid, Impossible Creatures by Katherine Rundell, Stitch Head: the graphic novel by Guy Bass, The Edge of the Silver Sea by Alex Mullarky, Hercules: The Diary of a (Sort of) Hero by Tom Vaughan and David O'Connell, The Nine Night Mystery by Sharna Jackson, Reek by Alastair Chisholm and George Caltsoudas, Shadowhall Academy: The Whispering Walls by Phil Hicke, Fallout by Lesley Parr and I am Rebel by Ross Montgomery.

We are always looking for more budding journalists and stories to add to our school newspaper, if you would like to join the team, have a piece of your work featured, or have a scoop you want to share, please see Mrs Denwood in the library, or send an email in with your article.



On the 26th of September 2025 we had a MacMillan Coffee Morning to help raise money

Donations from thousands of Coffee Mornings, big and small, help raise vital funds to support the almost 3.5 million people in the UK living with cancer, from the moment they are diagnosed, throughout treatment and beyond.



Cancer affects the lives of millions of people and their families every day, the work of everyone at MacMillan is invaluable in helping these people.

You don't have to wait for a coffee morning to support this incredible charity, follow this link: <https://donation.macmillan.org.uk/make-a-single-donation/donation-amount> to make a donation and make a difference today!





WORLD SPORTS



Inside the World of Endurance Racing

This term on Inside the World of Endurance Racing we have Silverstone 4h in the European Le Mans Series (ELMS), and 6h of Fuji in the World Endurance Championship. First, we will cover ELMS.

Introduction

The Goodyear 4 Hours of Silverstone made a triumphant return in 2025 as part of the European Le Mans Series (ELMS), held 12-14 September at Silverstone in Northamptonshire. It was the fifth of six rounds in the series, and the first time ELMS raced at Silverstone since 2019. With 44 cars entered across four classes (LMP2, LMP2 Pro/Am, LMP3, LMGT3), it promised drama and action.

Race

Heavy rain was forecast for the start of the race at 11:00 GMT the ACO tried to avoid the worst of the rain. The first hour consisted of two red flags (meaning that the race was stopped) due to incidents with cars in the barriers.

The Mercedes AMG GT3 of Martin Berry had a heavy crash with one of the LMP2, and Giorgio Roda was also involved in a multicar accident at Chapel which led to another red flag. All drivers walked away unscathed. Around the halfway mark, the classic British weather hits. This, of course creates a flurry of action down in the pit lane, with some teams choosing to pit but others taking the risky option. The IDEC car boxed early but the Inter Europol car delayed the move to wets and lost a lot of ground, they also spun which wouldn't help. The rain intensified with 10 minutes to go and the race was red flagged for the 3rd time and ultimately finished.

Winners and Losers

The number 18 IDEC sport crew took overall victory in the race with their 2nd race win this season.

In LMP2 Pro-Am, the Algarve Pro Racing 20 car took the win after the 99 car of Spike the Dragon got a 5 second time penalty.

The LMP3 win was taken by the 17 CLX Motorsport car and they secured the LMP3 championship with 1 race still to go. A dramatic finish in LMGT3, GR Racing appeared to snatch the win in the final moments, but because of the red flag, results were rolled back one lap. That reinstated AF Corse as the winners, and they took the LMGT3 championship lead.

Outro

With a crazy race finish in Silverstone, and one more race to go in Portimão the championship is spicing up.

Moving on, the Lone Star Le Mans was also a rain filled race. So let's dive into the action.

Introduction

The 2025 Lone Star Le Mans brought the FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC) back to the Circuit of the Americas in Austin, Texas, on 7 September 2025.

It was the sixth round of the eight-race season, and the first time WEC had visited COTA since 2020.

Conditions were wet and unpredictable, with multiple safety car periods and even a red flag shaking up the order.

Race

The race began under extreme wet conditions and the FIA decided to start the race under safety car. When the race eventually got underway, the Porsche 963 of Kevin Estre contacted the Ferrari 499p 51, and the Ferrari came out worse and got a puncture. Despite the setback the other Ferrari 499p finished p2 and a good haul of points. The Peugeot 9x8 scored a 3rd place for the first time. There were some late retirements in LMGT3, with the Iron Dames Porsche 911 GT3 stopping in the pits with just a few minutes to go.

WLD DAY ONE!

On Wednesday the 22nd of October we are having our first WLD Day! This will be an entire day of educational fun! The day has been split up into 5 sections that all encompass our new school values of: Belong, Explore and Excel.

BELONG - Culture and Community through the Arts

The vibrant diversity of Culture and Community through the Arts. The aim is to inspire students to appreciate diversity, embrace cultural heritage, and foster a sense of belonging within our school community. Engaging in artistic expressions and learning from diverse perspectives, we hope students will gain a deeper understanding of the role of arts in promoting unity, empathy, and mutual respect. By the end of the day, we hope our students feel enriched, connected, and empowered to contribute positively to our school's vibrant cultural landscape.

BELONG - Culture and Community through Language and Communication

aims to strengthen our school community by celebrating the richness of global languages and cultures. Students will explore how language connects people, shapes identity, and opens doors to new perspectives. By engaging in this day, students will develop a sense of belonging within a diverse community, be encouraged to explore different cultures, and be inspired to excel as open-minded, respectful global citizens.

EXPLORE - DofE

Introduction to the Duke of Edinburgh's award through related practical and classroom-based activities.

EXPLORE - Self efficacy, resilience, study skills, revision

The aim of this day is to develop students' understanding of the need for revision as well as developing some effective revision strategies. They will create some revision resources and materials to develop and promote effective revision across the school.



EXCEL - Careers, CV, personal statement, careers fayre, speed networking

Before year 11 complete their college applications, it gives them an opportunity to explore options and pathways with a variety of providers and employers
Overall aim:
Widen their understanding of post 16 pathways and to explore careers and opportunities available to them.

Creative Writing

Shadows by the Crescent Moon

By Kara W



Chapter 1

The town of Hollowoods was cloaked in thick fog, the streets glowed under the moonlight. Sixteen-year-old Elara had always felt like an outsider in Hollowoods, mostly because of her ghostly pale skin and her raven black hair, but there was something people didn't know and that was that she was a vampire...

Since Elara had only turned into a vampire a few months ago, she's still not used to going outside so she spent almost every day hiding in her families attic, terrified of her own blood thirst.

One evening, Elara was in the outskirts of a forest, trying to practice controlling her hunger, Elara froze in her tracks as she heard a voice.

"You're new."

A figure said, raspy but smooth, Elara looked back to see a girl with cherry red hair and a fairly muscular body perched against an oak tree. She looked about Elara's age.

"Who are you?"

Elara said, a little bit shaken from the scare of before.

"Casandra. I've been watching you and you're avoiding people, even friends and family... Why?"

Elara's heart raced.

"Listen Casandra, I don't want trouble."

Casandra scoffed, her eyes alight with amusement.

"Trouble? Darling, you're literally made of the stuff. You're also starving."

Elara looked shocked.

"How did you kn--"

"As I said, I've been watching you."

Casandra interrupted Elara and chucks her a vial.

"It's animal blood, it may not be nice, but it gets the job done."

-Kara W



Creative Writing

The Odd Hatchling and the King of Willow Warren – Chapter 1

By Autumn T



This short story is going to be about a dragon. But a dragon who is so different from his species they rejected him.

The story starts with a young baby red fire dragon. They are the most feared dragons. Just under the Onyx dragons. But one faithful day, during early spring. Arlo the fire dragon was born.

He was small, runt sized, He was so curious about everything he got in trouble a lot. His mother, the queen of red fire, loved him so much, but rejected her only hatchling. Not because he was a runt, but because he was born so early, he possessed no fire powers. Arlo was bullied by many of the other dragons. But he didn't let that stop him no not at all. He loved to explore the woods and talk to thousands of other animals. Oh, how happy he was.

Arlo watched a little spider crawl on a leaf.

"OH MY GOSH! It's an extremely rare Kauai cave wolf spider!!! always thought these were extinct but no!"

Arlo laughs happily quietly watching the spider, his excitement obvious in his wagging tail. But then a dragon's paw stopped on the spider, Arlo flinched back in surprise before he could speak. He sees the four dragons, his four bullies Arlo scared but kind voice speaks up

"u-uhm hi fellas...uhm"

Arlo pauses as one of the bullies speaks up, Grige,

"Stop weeping around in your own misery Milo, you won't be here for long. Just quit wasting time in trying to find talent. You're a lost cause"

Grige roughly pushed Arlo down, beating him. Arlo quickly managed to run away hiding in a tree. Arlo lets out a sigh of relief.

"Phew, that was a close one, those guys are really strong."

Arlo climbs down the tree and walks back to his cave up on the hill where his mother lies waiting. Upon entering the cave and calling out for his mother, she is nowhere to be found. The confused Arlo searches his cave, but eventually finds his mother on the cave's cliff. Arlo runs up to her.

"Mother, I found you! You won't believe what kind of a day I had"

Arlo says while laughing. Queen Willow turns her head, her sorrowed amber eyes see her dragonet, a smile creeps in to hide her fear.

"Arlo... you're home early."

She says her voice is soft with sadness but hides it in happiness. Arlo notices but does not question it, he just sits by his mother and blabbers on about his day. Queen Willow listens and responds, yet she is distant. The sun slowly seeps down the far mountains showing rays of purple, oranges and reds. Arlo sleeps, snuggled down in his moss bed, as Queen Willow watched over him as the sun sets on a very long day.

- Autumn T



BookBuzz



BookBuzz has returned to Walton-le-Dale High School for our new year 7s!

This initiative is funded by the school library to ensure all year 7s have access to a book of their choosing.

BookTrust have created a video featuring all the author involved in the years BookBuzz, giving us a snapshot glimpse at what their book is about and helping pupils identify which one they will enjoy the most.

Link to the video here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YIrevtKltpY>



Get your hands on a free book! Make sure if you are in year 7, you have selected one of these incredible titles in your library lesson!

Holly B's Science Quiz

One of our lovely Year 10s Holly B is a whizz with science and has the very achievable dream of one day becoming an Astrophysicist. She has designed the below quiz to test the knowledge of staff and pupils alike. The answers will be released in the next edition of The WLD Echo!

- Q1. What are the three main subatomic particles (Protons, Neutrons, Electrons) made out of?
- Q2. What do you call a combination of two or more elements who are not chemically bonded to one another?
- Q3. What is the unit for power?
- Q4. The Gravitational Potential Energy is (higher/lower) when you're at a high altitude. (circle higher or lower).
- Q5. Name an element that begins with the letter K.
- Q6. True or False? The halogens are more reactive as you go down the periodic table.
- Q7. What element can be found in red blood cells?
- Q8. What is the largest organ by surface area?
- Q9. What is a Product in terms of Chemistry?
- Q10. Name one reason why humans can run long distances for a long period of time.





NEW FACES

Miss Buckle



Q1. What made you want to work at Walton-le-Dale High School?

A: It's a warm school team here, and very welcoming. It's a nice challenge too, to teach boys after working at an all-girls school.

Q2. What subject do you teach and what do you love most about it?

I teach 3, R.E, English and PSHE, my main subject is R.E, I enjoy this the most as I get to understand people's beliefs, religion and their cultures and I find it very interesting.

Q3. What do you like most about WLD?

I like the variety of students here, I also like teaching different subjects.

Q4. What's something students might be surprised to learn about you?

I had plastic surgery when I was 9.

Q5. If you could swap jobs with anyone in school for a day, who would it be and why?

I'd like Mr Lamoury's job just for one day, so I can use the big megaphone during the fire drills.

Q6. Do you like reading, if so, what is your favourite book?

I have a kindle, which I like to use on holiday, I don't get to read much at home as I'm very busy. I do enjoy the book Coraline.

Q7. Do you have any pets?

I have cats, technically, I have 3! There's Mabel, Fang and one called Monty (he's obese!)

Interviewed by: Ethan R, Logan M and Noah P



Mr Hallewell

Q1. What made you want to work at Walton-le-Dale High School?

A: I spoke to the staff and they all seemed really nice, it also feels like a really good place to start a career.

Q2. What subject do you teach and what do you love most about it?

A: I teach History and I love the stories I get to teach, they are all unique in different ways.

Q3. What do you like most about WLD?

A: The students!

Q4. What's something students might be surprised to learn about you?

A: I'm a big sports fan, I also do snooker and running.

Q5. If you could swap jobs with anyone in school for a day, who would it be and why?

A: Definitely the dinner ladies, for the free samples!

Q6. Do you like reading, if so, what is your favourite book?

A: I do, but I don't get much time to read, my favourite book is Death and the Penguin.

Q7. Do you have any pets?

A: I have 4 dogs! Their names are Reggie, Milo, Luna and Bailey.

Interviewed by: Noah P, Logan M and Charlie Mc



Competition Time

Submit your creative writing story about a dragon to Mrs Denwood in the library, to be in for the chance to win one of these How to Train Your Dragon prizes!



First place: Ultimate Plasma Blast Toothless & How to Train Your Dragon Book

Second place: Red Death Chomping Rampage

Third Place: Dragon Catcher Set

Deadline for story submissions is Monday the 1st of December.

Miss Carr runs Scribble Squad every Thursday in D10 if you need any help with creative writing.

HISTORY

One of our ex-year 11 pupils Chloe R, wrote history, war and careers pieces for The WLD Echo and sent this submission in over the summer, requesting it be added to this edition of the school paper as her final article. Chloe is pursuing her dreams of becoming a member of The Royal Army and we are all incredibly proud of her.



A Glimpse of VE Day

May 8, 1945

The sun rose over London with a rare brightness that seemed to promise something more than just good weather. In the streets, people gathered, tentative smiles on their faces. The rumours had been swirling for days — the war in Europe was finally over.

At 3 p.m., radios crackled to life across Britain as Prime Minister Winston Churchill spoke: “We may allow ourselves a brief period of rejoicing... the German war is therefore at an end.” The effect was electric.

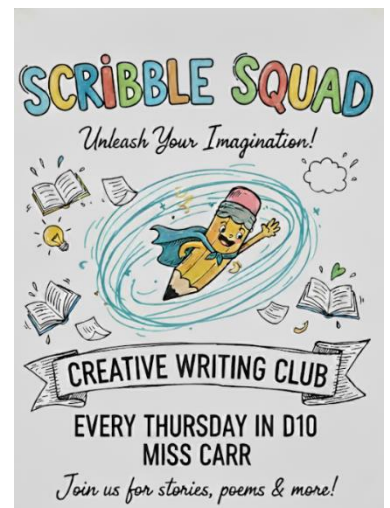
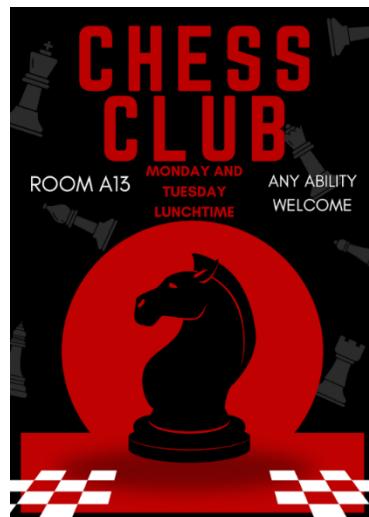
Within hours, Trafalgar Square was packed. Strangers hugged, danced, and sang together. Red, white, and blue bunting fluttered from windows. Soldiers, sailors, nurses, and civilians joined hands in celebration. Princess Elizabeth (later Queen Elizabeth II) and her sister Princess Margaret even slipped out of Buckingham Palace to join the crowds incognito — dancing and laughing with the people.

Across the ocean, in New York, ticker tape rained down in Times Square. In Paris, people poured into the Champs-Élysées, waving flags and embracing in the streets. The bells of Notre-Dame rang freely, not as a warning, but in joy.

For many, it was the first time in six long years they felt peace was real. Though the war in the Pacific still raged on, May 8, 1945, gave the world something it had not had in years — hope.

- Chloe R

WLD Poster Notices



Walton-le-Dale High Pupil News

Rugby in the school by Grayson W

Around the school grounds, groups of pupils from all varieties are in a demand for new sports! On this topic, rugby, I feel, is the one in demand. A new sport could bring so much more demand for physical activity in all people including teachers. Having some of the teachers getting involved with a new idea would help to boost fresh ideas in students, inspiring us to open our imagination. People who struggle with sports such as football, tennis, badminton and others would have a chance to spread more physical work ethic among the students.

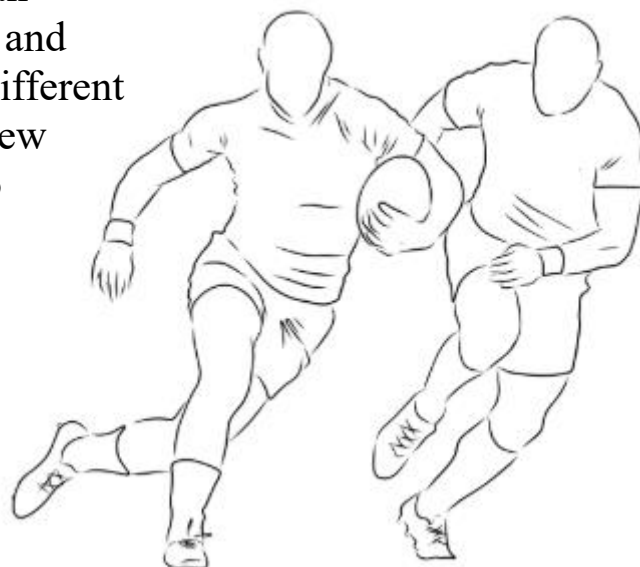
People of all sizes and athletic capabilities can join in on different parts of this sport, examples such as fast people playing as wings or more strongly built people as flanks and other such roles. It's important to note, we do not need to build a whole new pitch for this sport, we are lucky to have such a large field on the grounds of our school. The benefits of adding this sport to our school are students gaining education about different sports, this is crucial to widen their horizons and helps to better improve on their versatility skills with different objective, and also to show how different sports can open a new door for them to go through.



To finalise the importance of this idea, schools near our community such as Brownedge and Lostock Hall have such benefits and having similar related sports could suggest so much more competition and liveliness between close schools better acquainting our different communities.

- Grayson W

RUGBY



Open Evening 2025



Walton-le-Dale High School

On Thursday the 25th of September we opened the doors of our school to prospective parents to showcase what a wonderful choice Walton-le-Dale High School would be for their children, looking to choose their High School for 2026. Some of our pupils stayed until 8pm to help be tour guides, explain exhibits, play instruments, and even help with science experiments by holding fire in their hands!

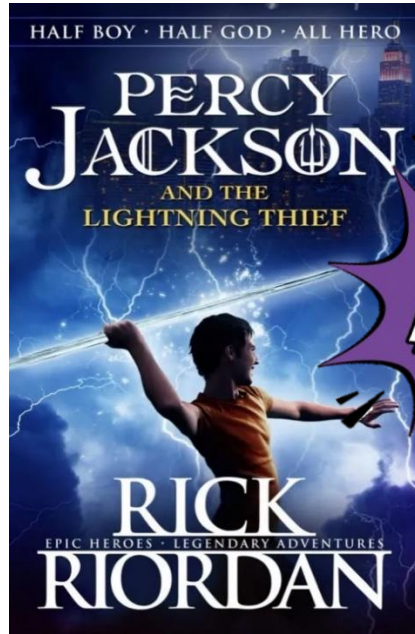
We had so much positive feedback, not just for our school, but for our pupils too.



Reading Ambassadors



PERCY JACKSON AND THE OLYMPIANS THE LIGHTNING THIEF



Our Reading Ambassadors came together to choose and discuss Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief, book versus film. The consensus seems to be that the books are better than the films, with one of our ambassadors Matilda B being particularly enthusiastic about her anti-film status on this topic.

A TV show has been made recently, with season 2 being highly anticipated as the plot and characters do seem to stay true to that of the book, though the book will always be better as you can see what the characters are thinking and feeling, and they go into more depth and history.

- The Reading Ambassadors



“Even strength must bow to wisdom sometimes.”

Percy Jackson is a great adventure story for 9–14-year-olds. There are 17 books in the whole series, I really recommend reading not just this book, but the whole series, it’s packed with lots of drama in it about Greek Mythology. The book is so much better than the films as I feel that the films are terrible, nothing like the book and would NOT recommend them.

- Matilda B

Fun Fact:

Percy Jackson’s real name is Perseus Jackson, he is the son of Poseidon and a demigod.

Percy is 12 in the books but 15 in the films, there’s also a different villain. In the books you learn more about the story. My favourite quote is “If my life is going to mean anything, I have to live it myself.” I would recommend the books and the films, even though they are different, because the blend engaging adventure with humour and Greek Mythology.

- Ethan R

Mental Health Ambassadors

Every year on **October 10th**, people around the world come together to recognise **World Mental Health Day** — a day dedicated to raising awareness about mental health and encouraging everyone to take care of their minds just as much as their bodies.

At our school, we joined the movement through **“Hello Yellow”**, a campaign led by the charity **YoungMinds**, which aims to show young people that they’re never alone with their mental health. By wearing something yellow — from bright headbands to golden socks — students and teachers filled our school with colour, positivity, and hope. Mental health affects everyone. Whether it’s stress from schoolwork, friendship worries, or bigger struggles like anxiety or depression, it’s important to remember that it’s okay not to be okay. Talking about how you feel and supporting one another can make a huge difference.

Hello Yellow is more than just a dress-up day — it’s a reminder to:

- Be kind to yourself and others
- Reach out for help when you need it
- Listen without judgment
- Celebrate the small wins



IT'S OK TO ASK FOR HELP
WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY



FRIDAY 10TH OCTOBER



You don’t need a special day to spread positivity. You can:

Check in on a friend who seems quiet.

Take a walk, listen to music, or do something you enjoy when you’re stressed.

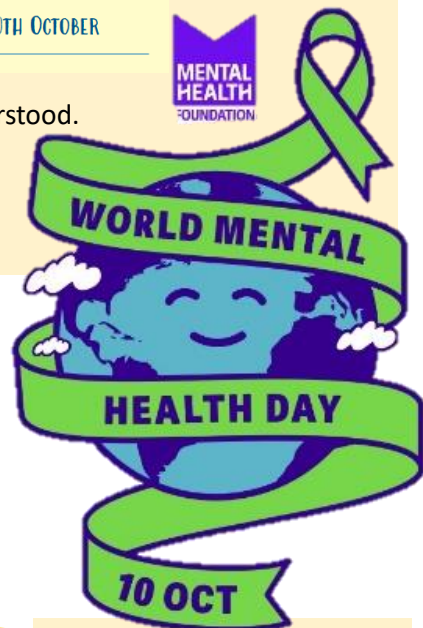
Speak to a teacher, counsellor, or trusted adult if you need support.

Keep the conversation about mental health going — every day.

Together, we can make our school a place where everyone feels seen, supported and understood.

So, let’s keep wearing our yellow hearts with pride — and remember, you are never alone.

- Riley M



On Friday the 10th of October 2025 it was World Mental Health Day, to celebrate the increasing awareness and support Mental Health is receiving and to contribute what we could, we held a “Wear Yellow” day to signify our support for Young Minds and start the conversation. A huge thank you to everyone who got involved and contributed to Hello Yellow for Young Minds.

YOUNGMINDS

We raised: **£126.64**

We all have mental health, just like we all have physical health. It’s about how we think, feel and act. Sometimes we feel well, and sometimes we don’t. When our mental health is good, we feel motivated and able to take on challenges and new experiences. But when our mental health is not so good, we can find it much harder to cope. We all have good days and bad days, but when negative thoughts and feelings start to affect your daily life and stop you doing the things you enjoy, or your ability to feel okay, this means you need support with your mental health. For example, nearly everyone gets anxious before an exam, a job interview or a first date. But if you feel anxious all the time and this is stopping you from sleeping well or meeting up with friends, you might need help.

A message from Young Minds: Thousands of you wore yellow for World Mental Health Day. Thank you for showing young people they're not alone with their mental health. Right now, the world can be a tough place for children and young people to grow up in – and they're feeling the pressure. You've helped us raise vital funds to show them things can get better.

Join Young Minds fight for children and young people's mental health. Sign up to their monthly e-newsletter for campaign updates, mental health advice and opportunities to get involved:

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/keep-in-touch/>

PUPIL SPORTS



Recently, I competed in NWKC Round 7, in qualifying, I had a kart that me and my friend agreed was bad and was at least 3-4 tenths off the pace of everyone else, so qualified last. After this qualifying me and my friend swapped into a kart which was much better.

In heat 1, I had an alright start keeping position, until I saw a gap at turn 2 and made my way past 8th, right on the back of 7th. In the next couple of laps, I kept behind waiting for a gap to open so that I can make myself another place. I made my way past in front of 7th in front of the spectator area. I was then on the back of 6th; I stayed behind for a few laps waiting for a move to open.

Once again, I got past at the spectator area again, and that's where I stayed until the end of the race.

In heat 2, I lost a position but gained one staying in 6th, after this I was all over the back of 5th, I did the same move again and was up to 5th, from 9th in the last race. I had good pace and was now all over the back of 4th, but unfortunately, he was defending heavily bringing the rest of the pack back, as we came into T5, 6th went for a really audacious move on me that didn't work and spun both of us out, I unfortunately lost all the positions I gained going back to 8th.

Most recently, I competed in an hour session at Tockwith Outdoor Karting with a couple of my friends, it was a really enjoyable day as the track was really fun, the karts were all really close, that's a really good thing. The track took a couple of laps to get used to as it has some fast bits, and also some technical and slow corners, that makes the track so difficult to master. Thankfully, compared to the day before, the track was dry and the sun was out, after this session was finished, me and my friends went on another 30-minute session, unfortunately, this session was full of yellow flags, all across the session which made it really boring but overtaking was fun!

- Ethan R

Unfortunately, because of that spin, I was in the B final, starting 4th. At the start of the race I had a good launch but 3rd got a better exit out of T1, getting ahead and I stayed where I was at the start, a couple of laps in though, 3rd locked their brakes really hard, in consequence, I ended up locking mine and spinning myself out to 7th.

After this I ended up just doing laps on my own, got the fastest lap of the race by nearly 5 tenths of a second, catching the rest of the pack up quite quickly, if I had a few more laps, I would've caught back up and maybe overtaking a few as well.

“ If you no longer go for a gap that exists, you are no longer a racing driver. ”

- Ayrton Senna



JUNIOR ARRIVE & DRIVE

160cc PETROL POWERED KARTS FOR 8 - 14 YEAR OLDS

Perfect for wannabe racing drivers, our junior arrive and drive sessions are for drivers that want to enjoy the thrill of racing without joining the academy.

Every session takes place on our full-tarmac indoor track with our 160cc petrol powered BIZ karts. No electric here.

20 MIN A&D

£39.95

BOOK

A standard 20 minute session at Rochdale's all tarmac kart track for anyone aged 8-14yrs in our 160cc petrol-powered BIZ Karts.

DOUBLE TIME

£39.95

BOOK

2 x 20 minute sessions at Rochdale's all tarmac kart track for anyone aged 8-14yrs in our 160cc petrol-powered BIZ Karts.

TRIPLE TIME

£59.95

BOOK

3 x 20 minute sessions at Rochdale's all tarmac kart track for anyone aged 8-14yrs in our 160cc petrol-powered BIZ Karts.

Balaclavas & Gloves: You may bring your own gloves and balaclava / helmet. If you do not have your own, these can be purchased on site for £5.50 per set. You are then welcome to take these away to keep for your next visit. **Arrival Time:** You are expected to arrive on site 30 mins prior to your booked karting session time.

“ The secret to winning is the patience to wait for the right moment to strike. ”

- Nelson Piquets

Lancashire Book of the Year

Lancashire Book of the Year (LBOY) is the longest running young people's regional book award in the country. It was the first book award of its kind when it launched in 1987.

We have received a collection of books chosen by publishers as the best books they have produced for the 12 to 14 age group. Year 9 students then read and shortlist the books before choosing the overall winner.

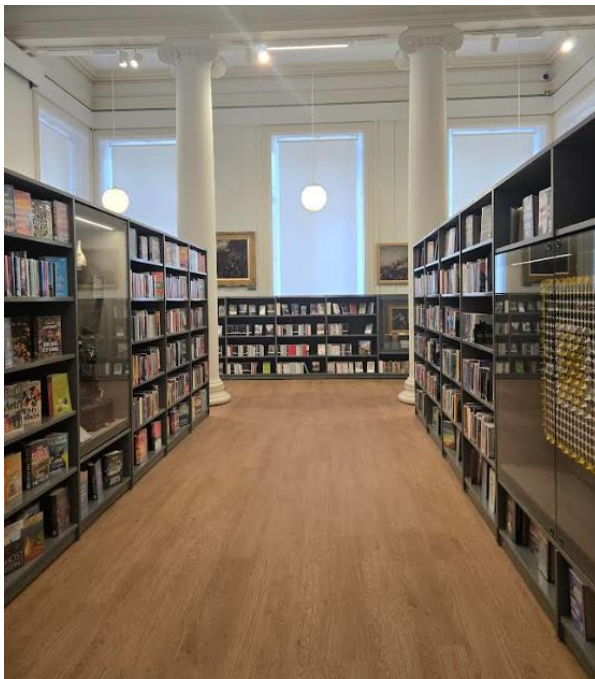


Some of our Year 9 pupils have been selected to take part in the Lancashire Book of the Year event! This will involve workshops, reading, judging, meeting up with peers and having their say in who should receive this year's LBOY award!

Upcoming dates for your diary

- Reading and judging of longlisted books (free copies given to schools) – Oct 2025 to Feb 2026
- Submitting votes for shortlist – Feb 2026
- Online shortlist announcement – Mar 2026
- Reading and judging of shortlisted books (free copies given to schools) – Mar 2026 to Jun 2026
- Online voting for winner – Jun 2026

Local News



The Harris Museum in Preston reopened on Sunday, September 28, 2025, after a four-year, £19 million redevelopment project. The celebration was led by Nick Park, the creator of Wallace & Gromit, and the event included a new Wallace & Gromit in A Case at the Museum exhibition. The transformation includes new galleries, learning spaces, a cafe, a shop, and improved accessibility, as well as the integration of the library into the main exhibition space.



Tuesday 21 October – Remembering The Battle of Bamber Bridge

In collaboration with Preston Black History Group, The University of Lancashire is hosting the premiere of short documentary, Remembering The Battle of Bamber Bridge. The film, which features Chair of Preston Black History Group Clinton Smith, explores the stance that was taken by residents against racial segregation and recounts the battle that took place on 24 June 1943.

Starting at 7pm, the film will be shown at The Media Factory in Kirkham Street. Free tickets can be secured via [Eventbrite](#).

Creative Writing



If My Life Was a Movie, What Would Be the Title?

EPISODE
ONE

By Daniella

Chapter 1: Episode One

‘Would it be worth watching? How many episodes would it be?’ Those two questions circled around my head as I desperately tried to fall asleep. After all, I had an important day coming up the next day and I really needed to fall asleep. Now, I said it was important, but it really wasn’t that exciting no matter what angle I looked at it from. ‘Who on Earth would watch it?’ Again. Again, those words slowly dissipated but I didn’t want to fall asleep anymore, so I got up and made my way to my study table. That was the first time I was using that table even though it had been there for over a year. I really hated studying; I was seated there for 32 minutes but I was not studying. Those questions kept checking in and out of my head, but I am afraid I will never find answers.

In school I was not popular, I was not a nerd, I was not athletic in any way. My life was just as boring and ordinary as life gets, nothing special ever happened. I was stuck repeating the same cycle every day. I don’t know when I started having such thoughts, but I do know that I still have them today. ‘If my life was a movie, what would be the title?’ I mean, I wouldn’t watch a show if all the protagonist did was wake up, go to school, come back, sleep, Repeat. Repeat. That’s all I did, repeat. Even if I was getting good grades and ‘going down the right path’, I felt as though I was wasting my life. I wondered if it would be something like; *The Ordinary Girl Gets on With Her Ordinary Life* or *Over and Over Again*. I don’t know about you, but I most certainly would not watch such movies or read such books. I always liked to think that if a writer couldn’t be bothered to come up with a good title or blurb, the book couldn’t be good, that’s why I didn’t agree with people who said; “Don’t judge a book by its cover”.

Just like any ordinary person, I still had my problems. The next day, I had an important History test, and I hadn’t started studying. In fact, I didn’t even know what I was still doing there, spacing out! I didn’t see what was so important about reliving past mistakes. The PAST is in the PAST! I couldn’t focus on studying; I just couldn’t help it. My teachers blamed me for it. I still had good grades though..... in some subjects. Unfortunately for me, history was not one of the things I did. I’m certain that my teacher, Mrs. Conner, HATED me. No, she DETESTED me. She made that truly clear, with no mixed signals. I couldn’t stay still in her lessons, I kept fidgeting under the desk and interrupting her mid-way through her sentences, maybe that’s why she didn’t like me. It didn’t help me because I was seated right at the front of the classroom, it goes without saying that I had her full attention.

It’s all just a misunderstanding, though. One time, I had just gotten scolded by her for scoring the lowest out of EVERYONE in my year group. It was the last period on Friday, and I was relieved when it finally ended. Ah! It must have been that black cat I walked past this morning but, me, being as dumb as I am, I dropped a banana peel on the floor. She walked by me and, unsurprisingly, she slipped on it and fell. That was the very first of the numerous detentions I would later serve. I can’t remember when, or perhaps I never knew, I fell asleep that day. But what I certainly didn’t know was that that would be the last time I’d ever sleep that year. My life was about to fall from ordinary to devastating.





ANIMAL FACTS



Parrot/Parakeet of the month!

Indian Ring Neck

The rose-ringed parakeet, also known as the ring-necked parakeet, ringneck parrot or the Kramer parrot, is a medium-sized parrot in the genus *Psittacula*, of the family *Psittacidae*.

Ringneck voices are one of the most charming among companion birds, as they tend to be comically high-pitched. They typically start talking between 8 months and 1 year old and are quick learners.

Ringnecks are social birds and enjoy interacting with their owners. They are also intelligent and enjoy learning new tricks, making them an entertaining pet for those who enjoy spending time with their animals.

The ringneck is the most widely distributed of all the parrots, as it is found naturally on two continents: Africa and Asia

Indian ring-necked parakeets or rose ring parakeets have a life span of 25-30 years

Some Ringnecks have become very good mimics and acquired a quite extensive vocabulary.

A Ringneck is unlikely to make an affectionate pet, but it could be a very clever one. In India, Ringnecks used to be trained to perform tricks, in front of people who were willing to pay to watch such amusing birds.

They are known for being intelligent and demanding, so they require a lot of attention and playtime.

While green is the most common, they can also be found in blue, yellow, or turquoise colorations, as well as various other colour combinations.

FUN FACT -

Only male ringnecks have that black and pink ring around their neck, and they only start to get it between 2 and 3 years old

- Lexi T



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Vegan Pumpkin Loaf Cake



Ingredients

For the cake

220ml/8fl oz unsweetened [almond milk](#)
 1 tbsp apple cider [vinegar](#) or distilled white [vinegar](#)
 125ml/4fl oz neutral [oil](#), plus extra for greasing
 1 tbsp [maple syrup](#)
 1 tsp [vanilla extract](#)
 200g/7oz [pumpkin](#) purée (see Recipe Tip)
 350g/12oz [self-raising flour](#)
 1 tsp [baking powder](#)
 165g/5¾oz [caster sugar](#)
 1¼ tsp ground [mixed spice](#) or chai spice
 1/8 tsp fine [salt](#)

For the icing

150g/5½oz [icing sugar](#)
 1½ tbsp [maple syrup](#)
 1 tbsp unsweetened [almond milk](#)

Last year for our October recipe, we did pumpkin pie! This year we're sticking to the same vegetable, but this time we're putting it in a vegan pumpkin loaf! We found this recipe on BBC food, check out the website for thousands of culinary masterpieces you can make at home. This recipe can be changed to suit your dietary requirements, and as always, please ask an adult for help when using sharp tools or hot ovens.

Method

1. To make the cake, grease and line a 25x16cm/10x6½in loaf tin with baking paper. (This is roughly a 1.8kg/4lb loaf tin.)
2. Stir together the almond milk and vinegar in a jug. Leave to stand for 10 minutes until slightly curdled. Whisk in the oil, maple syrup, vanilla extract and pumpkin purée.
3. Preheat the oven to 180C/160C Fan/Gas 4.
4. Sift the flour, baking powder, caster sugar, mixed spice and salt into a large bowl. Pour the milk mixture into the flour mixture and beat with a balloon whisk for 30–40 seconds, or until completely smooth. Do not overmix.
5. Pour the batter into the loaf tin and knock the tin on the worktop several times to remove any air bubbles. Bake in the centre of the oven for 50–55 minutes. Do not open the oven for the first 50 minutes or the cake may deflate. To test if the cake is cooked, insert a cocktail stick into the centre. It should come out clean with just a few moist crumbs attached. If there is still wet batter on the stick, bake for a little longer.
6. Remove from the oven and leave to cool in the tin for 15 minutes. Carefully remove the cake from the tin and leave to cool fully on a wire rack.
7. To make the icing, mix the icing sugar, maple syrup and milk in a bowl. Pour the icing over the top of the cooled cake and leave to set for 1–2 hours at room temperature. Cut the cake into slices and serve.

