

The WLD Echo

Friday 14th of February 2025

Issue #4

Walton-Le-Dale High School

2025 Brings a Fresh Start to WLD



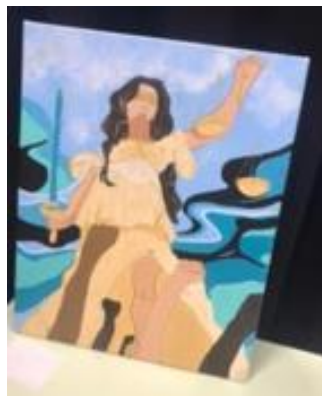
Recent Events

We're kicking off 2025 with a new Headteacher, Mr Lamoury. On the 27th of January, some of our brilliant reporters met with Mr. Lamoury to get to know him a little better and find out what wonderful plans and changes he has in store to make Walton-le-Dale High School the best it can be! Read the full interview in our next edition of The WLD Echo!

WLD's Amnesty club held a competition requiring students to enter a piece of artwork, a photo, a speech or a poem to represent human rights issues around the world.

All entries were displayed in our Human Rights Exhibition in The Arts Theatre on Thursday 13th of February. All submissions were incredible and the passion and enthusiasm our student body has for trying to create a fairer and kinder world was heart-warming. Submissions can be seen inside on our Amnesty page, winners to be featured in the next edition.

- Ethan R



Diana Award

On the 28th of January our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors attended the Diana Awards! To read about this please see the full article on their page inside.

Library

We've had some book donations from staff this month, a huge thankyou to Mrs Knight, who has donated books by David Walliams, Lemony Snicket, football books and more! They've been very well received, and some have already been checked out. We've also popped a few of the donations into the Book Swap Box! As it is now full, pupils can bring books in and swap them for one in box!

Our Graphic Novel section has been updated with over £200 worth of new books added!

The Student Librarians and Reading Ambassadors have each chosen and wrapped a book for our Blind Date with A Book event! Pop into the library and choose a book without judging it by its cover!

St Aiden's Larder

We managed to raise a whopping £309 for St Aiden's Larder, a huge amount which we know they will appreciate so much! A huge thank to all involved, from those buying tickets, to the staff selling them, organising donations and making a beautiful cake. -Mrs Rowson

.HAPPY.
Valentine's
Day

Weather Today
High 4°C, Low 2°C



• .Ready . Respect. Safe. •



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• The WLD Echo



Recent School Events



Year 11 College Interviews

With college interviews happening during the first two weeks of February, the Year 11s have been busy, busy, busy. CV's have been created and the Year 11s are being given all the tools they can to ensure that prospective colleges and future employers see all they have to offer!



Mock Exams

The mock exams took place during the first two weeks back in January, after the Christmas Holidays, this was a great way to start the New Year as it immediately gets the pupils in the head space to be tackling their GCSE's and taking every moment of class time seriously.

Progress Evenings

On the 6th of February we had a Progress Evening for the Year 9s, this was a brilliant opportunity for parents to come in and discuss their child's progress and begin discussions about their options. The Year 11 progress evening took place on Thursday the 13th of February where predicted grades were discussed. The Year 8s will be on the 27th of February.



Careers

The Careers team have been hard at work this half term ensuring our Year 11s are ready for their GCSEs and beyond. We want to ensure every pupil at Walton-le-Dale is fully prepared and ready for their future and it's been lovely to see pupils using the library to prepare for their exams and cram in additional study!

Mrs. Roberts

After 22 years at Walton-le-Dale High School, Mrs Roberts has retired.

She started with us as a Teaching Assistant, before moving on to become our Finance Assistant.

On behalf of everyone at Walton-le-Dale High School, we wish her the very best and a wonderful retirement.

Mrs Roberts shared the following poem:



When I Am Old.

When I am an old woman I shall wear purple
With a red hat that doesn't go, and doesn't suit me,
And I shall spend my pension
on brandy and summer gloves
And satin sandals,
and say we've no money for butter.
I shall sit down on the pavement when I am tired,
And gobble up samples in shops and press alarm bells,
And run my stick along the public railings,
And make up for the sobriety of my youth.
I shall go out in my slippers in the rain
And pick the flowers in other people's gardens,
And learn to spit.
You can wear terrible shirts and grow more fat,
And eat three pounds of sausages at a go,
Or only bread and pickle for a week,
And hoard pens and pencils and beer mats
and things in boxes.
But now we must have clothes that keep us dry,
And pay our rent and not swear in the street,
And set a good example for the children.
We will have friends to dinner and read the papers.
But maybe I ought to practise a little now?
So people who know me
are not too shocked and surprised,
When suddenly I am old
and start to wear purple!



Jenny Joseph

Poetry & Prose

22:53

My soul lays bare and soft after breaking the glass containing it.
 I stay there, broken pieces scattered around the ground my body is cradled upon.
 Each piece has a story, some memory or period of time attached to it,
 every childhood laugh, or teenage argument.
 Flowers hang dead besides me; symbolising the future of those who barely bare to stand the
 day today.

- Arabella R



Wanting is Needing

*Lie clothed beneath the painted sky
 where wanting is needing,
 and whisper to the souls who roam the clouds.
 Close your eyes and count to ten.
 listen.
 Focus on the cracked sound of the air swirling
 around, or the feeling of your dry skin touching
 the ground.
 He looks down, wondering where it all went
 wrong.*

- Arabella R

Bitter Morning Taste

The stars, they only shine for you
 if I take my medicine.
 Two per day with a bitter morning taste
 that lingers for too long.
 How come it's dark if it was prescribed to let light in?
 I suffer the taste of disgust on my tongue
 for you to be able to exist peacefully.

- Arabella R



Agony

The raindrops from your eyes fall onto the ground, sinking through the concrete.
 Tears so hot that the demons in hell screamed in agony from one touch.
 They beg and they plead to stop this torture,
 they say that the shedding tears caused more hurt than the eternal flames of fire they live in,
 That the tears had more heat to them than all the fires combined.
 Whoever stored this tear in their eye previously, was now a great fear of all bad and evil, since they never knew that
 they themselves could be harmed.

- Arabella R

PSHE POETRY

- B**-elieve – You are believed in and are supported
E-nough – You are enough
L-oved – You are loved and have friends and family
O-kay – You feel okay and know it's ok not to be okay
N-ice – People are nice to you
G-ood – You feel good when you are around friends and family
I-nclusion – People include you in different things
N-ow - You feel like you belong now and straight away
G-reat – Where you are is a great place



- **Khaleesi G (Yr7)**

Belonging is a place where you feel safe and loved,
 A place where there are friends and family who make you feel warm inside
 It's a blanket of hope and love for when you're not your best
 When different cultures come together and no one is left out

- **Matilda B (Yr7)**

The warmth of a person's face,
 Makes you feel in the right place,
 The wind blowing in your hair,
 Whilst you just don't care
 Because you know you are accepted even if it's
 unexpected,
 The love in the air with your chosen family,
 When they put out a hand to help you stand
 You know you truly belong even if it took long.

Belonging is the feeling of others wanting you around,
 A group together, bound,
 Family, friends, school and clubs,
 People always around to give you a hug.
 Belonging is being yourself,
 Support from others no matter the health,
 Differences accepted by all,
 There to pick you up if you fall.
 Belonging is feeling safe even when uncomfortable at the start,
 The people around with the right thoughts from the heart,
 Care and love from those around you,
 But you have to give this back too.
 A community all different but alike,
 Belonging shows you it will be alright.

- **Elena R (Yr7)**



Belonging is when you feel safe,
 Even sometimes when you are in a tough place,
 It is feeling at home,
 When you are alone
 When people tell you that you are enough,
 You rise above everything and say 'I am tough'.

- **Sammi N, Summer H, Tobey L (Yr11)**

- **Elsie C (Yr7)**

ON BELONGING

Belonging



What does it mean to belong?
 How to fit in?
 How to sing a song?
 How to be kind, how to frown
 How to help in every way you can
 To help one pregnant to another disabled
 How to let others into a happy place that you all share,
 Race, sex, appearance, what does it matter?
 For we are all human and life is our silver platter.
 From poor to rich,
 Gay to straight,
 We all belong in this game
 So help a neighbour, a friend, a stranger
 cause in this world, everything causes danger
 So be the light to guide the way
 Help someone belong today

- Willow C & Amelia M (Yr8)

BELONGING

Belonging is key to happiness

Not everyone feels the joys of belonging

Longing for a place to be

Not leaving people out

Never give up

Give a new club a chance

Include all types of people

Never let others get to you

Belonging will make you feel fulfilled

- Harvie-Jae A (Yr7)

Belonging is the first step to acceptance.
 Everybody is welcome no matter what.
 Love your neighbour just as Jesus said.
 Own your decisions, they're yours to make.
 Never give up on the dreams you want.
 Great success comes with determination.
 I better myself so should you.
 Nuances are a distraction ignore them.
 Goodness is hard to give but easy to receive.
 Be nice spread happiness around.

- Grayson (Yr7)

What does it mean to belong?

What does it mean to belong?
 Do you have to fit in to a certain category?
 Maybe its people sharing the same story.
 It could be needing to be the same,
 But that, my friend is a difficult game.
 Some prefer their own company
 Some would rather have a friend
 Do you think you understand?
 Everyone is different and some need a helping hand
 What do you think belonging is?
 Is it maybe the colour of your skin?
 Is it the gender you identify with?
 Or maybe even the gender you love.
 It is neither of these things,
 Belonging was never fitting in,
 Belonging is who you really are
 If you are yourself, you will go far,
 Remember when you are down,
 There's never any need to wear that frown,
 For you are loved and you are special
 You are yourself and nothing about that is unethical.

- Willow C & Amelia M (Yr8)

Walton-le-Dale LIBRARY

World Book Day is on the horizon and we have many things in store for the pupils at Walton-le-Dale School! Our schedule for the week is as follows:

Monday 3rd March – Door decorating begins! The Reading Ambassadors and Student Librarians will be going round and taking photos of your doors throughout the week with the winner picked on Friday. Get creative and go all out!

Wednesday 5th March - Illustrator Lucy Mulligan is coming in to do a chat & workshop with some selected art students in the library Period 5.

Thursday 6th March - World Book Day! The vouchers for books will be going out alongside some quizzes and competitions for you to do with your classes! We're also seeing the return of the Masked Reader! Can you guess the teacher behind the filter?

Friday 7th March- Author LM Nathan is coming in to do a chat and book signing with the whole of Year 9 in the Arts theatre Period 5. A link to purchase this book via Amazon has been sent out to parents on the 24th of February.

New books!

We've added over £200 worth of graphic novels to our library this month with titles such as Stitch Head, Spiderman, Babysitters Club and lots more, please come along and check out the new books!

Our Book Swap Box is officially full! Please bring in any books you would like to swap and have a dig through the books to find your next read.

Library News

The School Newspaper meetings will be moved to form time on Mondays beginning the 10th of March as attempting to meet during break or lunch has been proving troublesome.



Anti-Bullying Ambassadors



On the 28th of January we visited Kirkham Grammar School to do Anti-bullying Training which included talking about what it means to be an Anti-Bullying Ambassador.

8 schools took part in the Diana Award, and there were 4 sessions throughout the day.

The day started with a “would you rather” game which was a great way for us to get to know the other schools.

We learned some British Sign Language and are now able to sign how to say “young people can change the world” in sign language.

We also learned the 4 golden rules of being an Anti-Bullying Ambassador:

- Don't face situations alone.
- Only intervene if there are two Ambassadors.
- Always follow up with a teacher.
- When Intervening in a difficult situation you need to stay calm and collected.

“ **Young people have the power to change the world.**

- **Princess Diana** ”



Prevent

There is something new for you to fear,
Preventing it can save someone dear.
Through internet, calls and text,
Slowly, slowly, someone falls.

Informing all is what we must do,
To save them all from this terrible thing.
Limited information and status posts
Will help prevent any haunting ghosts.

If you, yes you, who is reading
Feels this way, have been suffering
Please, don't waste any time
Quickly report this crime
Before it ends your time.

- Chloe R





LGBTQ+



A Guide to Being LGBTQ+ in High School: Standing Strong Against Bullying

High school can be a challenging place for many students. Whether you're dealing with bullying based on race, religion, or sexuality, it can sometimes feel like you're being judged for things you can't control. For LGBTQ+ students, this pressure is often amplified, making it harder to simply be yourself. So, what can we do to help change the narrative and make our school a more accepting place for everyone?

LGBTQ+ students face a variety of harmful stereotypes and cruel comments. From casual slurs to hurtful assumptions about identity, the things that are said can leave lasting emotional scars. Statements like:

- "If I gave you 70p, would you turn straight?"
- "Should you be in this changing room with all these girls?"
- "If you're bisexual and single, you must be really ugly."
- "But you're not bisexual if you're dating a boy."
- "Shut up, you're a girl!" (to a non-binary student)
- "What you looking at, ya lesbian?"



These words don't just hurt in the moment—they make people feel paranoid, anxious, scared, uncomfortable, attacked, and intimidated. For students who identify as LGBTQ+, the pressure of constant judgment can be overwhelming.

But it doesn't have to be this way. Every single one of us can play a role in making our school safer and more supportive for everyone, no matter their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Top Tips for LGBTQ+ Students

1. **Don't listen to negative comments** – Often, bullying comes from people who are jealous or insecure. Don't let their words define you.
2. **Don't take personal comments to heart** – If someone's being rude or hurtful, remember: their comments say more about them than they do about you.
3. **Be proud of who you are** – Embrace your unique identity. You are valuable and important just as you are.
4. **Don't be ashamed** – Being LGBTQ+ is nothing to be ashamed of. In fact, it takes courage and strength to be true to yourself.
5. **Speak out** – If you hear or witness bullying, talk to a trusted staff member. Standing up for others can prevent further harm and promote a more inclusive environment.

Many LGBTQ+ students have shared their stories about the hurtful things they've experienced. One student recalls, "Once, I was walking home and students I didn't know were barking at me and calling me a lesbian." Another shared, "I've been called a 'she-male' for absolutely no reason at all." These painful experiences show just how damaging bullying can be, but they also highlight the importance of standing up for each other and creating a supportive community.

One student said, "I've always been scared of being openly out—especially with how bad homophobia has become in society." That fear is real, but it's also important to remember that it's often easier to be out and proud than to continue hiding in the closet. Living authentically can help relieve anxiety and create a healthier, happier life.

What You Can Do

- **Be kind and understanding** – If someone is coming out, be supportive. Your kindness can make a huge difference.
- **Challenge homophobia and transphobia** – Don't let hurtful comments slide by. Stand up for people who are being targeted, whether you know them or not.
- **Celebrate diversity** – Embrace the idea that being different is something to be proud of. In a diverse world, everyone has a place.

At the end of the day, being yourself is the most important thing. You are unique, and that's something to be proud of. If we all make an effort to treat each other with kindness and respect, we can build a school environment where no one feels forced to hide who they are.

Remember: You're not alone. You are loved, you are worthy, and you deserve to be yourself without fear. Be proud of who you are, and never be ashamed of your identity. Let's create a school where everyone feels safe, supported, and accepted.

If you or someone you know is being bullied, please talk to a member of staff. It's important to speak up—help is always available.

- Article by Anonymous





Human Rights

Amnesty



Human Rights



In the final week of January, it was Holocaust Memorial Day. The Amnesty Club and others were involved in an assembly to bring awareness of this anniversary to staff and pupils.

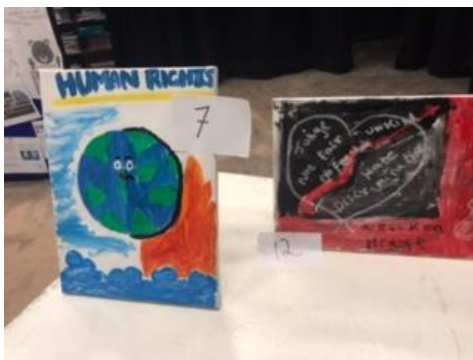
The assembly included real stories of people, what they went through and what happened to them when they immigrated to this or another country.

- Ethan R

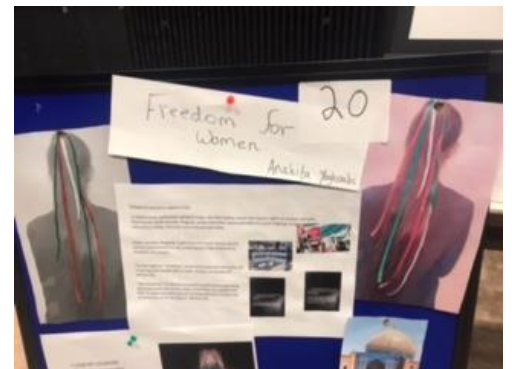


Holocaust Memorial Day

Mrs. Hill and the Amnesty Club have created a Human Rights Exhibition to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau on the 27th of January. This was on display in the Arts Theatre during lunch time on the 13th of February. It was wonderful to see such a creative and beautiful display of expression. Topics such as women's rights, human rights and personal stories were shared in the form of posters, displays, poetry and art. Peace cakes were also available to purchase and enjoy with each other.



World Peace



A very busy and successful Human Rights Exhibition led by our Amnesty Club Team. We had 120 votes all together, showing how well attended their display was. Our students did very well guiding staff and students around the different entries and projects as well as explaining their message and meaning. We also managed to display our 80 flags from Holocaust Memorial Day. All 30 entries are displayed in the Humanities office until after half term.

- Mrs. Hill

Creative Writing

The following are stories created by several talented pupils here at WLD!

The Shattered Kingdom

Valthorim was not always shattered, but this is how it happened. We begin our story on the sun drenched hills, over Summer Celebration in the town of Valthorim. It is here we meet our hero and villain of our story, Villicaty.

You see, Villicaty wasn't always a super powerful being, she was the only light in the darkest of families in the whole realm. That one morning seemed a bit off, it wasn't a normal morning. Over the sun kissed hills stood a faceless figure, staring blankly standing there... a few days later that same body of a half deer, half human stood there, not moving a muscle. A new day had started, and the figure was still there, staring deeper and deeper into her soul, out of curiosity she approached and then everything changed...

Chapter two: A Dark Turn

In a dark and mysterious bunker stood the evil figure, nourished by the mist of the foggy mountain, young Villicaty was scared to death, but still ventured closer to the figure. She got closer and closer, but the figure got further away almost like it was teleporting, that's when everything changed. As she got tired out, a butterfly landed on her arm and disintegrated into her skin. Just then a flow of energy and highly powered aura consumed her, revealing a now powerful Villicaty.

A few days later, Villicaty fell sick under an unknown disease by the work of the monster. On the verge of death, she knew that if she didn't do anything quick her beloved city would fall, so out of sheer will she got up and jumped out of the window and like she predicted the monster was stood there again. And this time, it stayed still as she approached...

-Rocco J

The Enchanted Hollow

Chapter 1: School

On a cold snowy morning Dash woke up. He cuddled up extra close to his covers this morning as it was a cold day in Alaska where he lives. High school was tough, he didn't have many friends to talk to. He was kind but like any other quiet kid he kept to himself, he would be bullied by the other students and teased for his badly trimmed hair but there was a reason...

Chapter 2: Home Life

Dash had had a rough childhood. He was in the foster care system for a year because his mum died but he always managed to stay positive thinking of his mum being proud up in Heaven, even though she wasn't very nice to him. When he lived at her house (which he didn't want to think too much about) he wanted to get away from this foster care life and amount to something, to go onto have a nice car and a nice house like all 12-year-old kids but he could not do that yet because he was stuck. He felt like he was a rat just doing what he could to survive but that wasn't the case. He wasn't stuck. He could probably find a way out of this place, but he wasn't enough of a daredevil to do that yet.

-Josh Y



The Curse of the Wendigo by Autumn T

After getting my ticket to Mexico, I sat and waited for my plane. Hours went by and I became impatient. After an eternity, my plane was ready to board.

I sat down in my seat and rested my body through the flight. After around 12 hours, I arrived at Mexico's airport. I managed to book a hotel before the flight. After a draining drive in a rental car, I made it to the hotel and set everything up in my hotel room.

Once everything was done, I began to head out to find a ranch which was well known for investigating the unusual. It was just a run-down old farm with alleged sightings of UFOs, Chupacabras etc. And tonight, I would prove the existence of this creature who had taken my half-brother. So, I began to investigate and talk to the current owners of the Ranch, asking questions about the history and lore of the place. Hours passed, the sun fell, and the crescent moon rose.

Once back in my rental car, I began my night investigation. First, I made my way to the Valley of Fire, which got its name from their hills blazing red like fire during the day. The heat was around 100 F and could reach 120°F. With many documentations of missing persons, deaths and skeletons found I began my investigation there.

I set up my equipment and lights and turned on the Rem Pod (it detects electrical signals) I called out to the spirits.

"If there's anyone here, touch the Rem Pod, it'll light up with colours when you touch it".

Silence mingled with cricket chirps was all that greeted me. Hours passed by and nothing... Close to giving up, I heard the Rem Pod beep, making me jump and face towards it. *Nothing is there, of course there's nothing there I'm in the middle of nowhere!* But then the cricket chirps gave way to silence.

"¿Qué demonios?".

Spooked, I looked around trying to find the source, but there was nothing. I knew when crickets stop chirping, danger is nearby. Chickening out, I packed up my stuff and quickly left the Valley of fire. I managed to make it back to the hotel, once in I collapsed onto the bed and shut my eyes and fell asleep.

Days passed, but no further evidence of this Skinwalker. I refused to give up, I needed more evidence. I returned to The Valley of Fire and whilst I set my things up, I heard a coyote's yowl. I stood up and began to look around frantically, the folks at the ranch had told me a monster called Skinwalker, commonly play as coyotes. The call was far but felt so...close, too close. I flashed my torch around trying to find it. Then I heard a whistle. I hesitated and even knowing it was a bad idea whistled back. Then I heard a whistle reply. My breath hitched in my throat and my body tensed like a board. Quiet steady footsteps circled me. Was it stalking or studying me? Afraid to move or breathe. My chest grew tight, strained and aching. Slowly I turned...piercing ruby red glowing eyes and a rumbling growl. Flight took over and I ran for my life. I left all of my equipment behind as I ran back to my car and drove away.

After a while, I stopped at a Saloon for a drink to soothe my nerves. I stepped into the Flying Gates, headed for the bar and ordered a Whiskey. The bartender raised an eyebrow but gave me a glass of Whiskey, I gulped it down.

"You have the nerve to stay here traveller". Said an old gruffy western voice next to me. Nerve?. "Nerve?. What on earth do you mean? Who are you anyway?!" Before I could reply back the Man spoke again "This place has more deaths than any other place in New Mexico. If you want to keep your hide, I suggest you leave".

"Leave?!. I ain't leaving this desert until I prove myself that, that So called creature exists"

"You signing a death warrant, Traveler. She always finds you first. Always". 'She'?. That.. monster is a girl!?. But before I could ask him , he leaves, I'm left in my thoughts. How can that Monster be a girl?

WLD Extra-Curricular Activities!

WLD offers a wide variety of extra-curricular activities throughout the school day. Here is a list of all clubs offered. If you have an idea for a club, that is not listed but you would like to attend, please pop it in the suggestion box in the library.

	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Lunchtime					
	Y10/Y11 Geography Revision, Mrs Ward, A17		All Years Amnesty International, Miss Hill, A14	All Years International and Cultural Celebrations, Miss Hill, A14	All Years Basketball Mr Golden, Sports Hall
		Y7 Music, Mrs Murray, A5	Y10/11 Music, Mrs Murray, A5	All Years Drumming, Mrs Murray, A5	All Years Simply singing, Mrs Murray, A5
	All Years prayer room, Mr Patel, Girls - B2, Boys - B3	All Years prayer room, Mr Patel, Girls - B2, Boys - B3	All Years prayer room, Mr Patel, Girls - B2, Boys - B3	All Years prayer room, Mr Patel, Girls - B2, Boys - B3	All Years prayer room, Mr Patel, Girls - B2, Boys - B3
	All Years Science Work Room, Mr Martin, B6	All Years Science Work Room, Mr Martin, B6	All Years Science Work Room, Mr Martin, B6	All Years Science Work Room, Mr Martin, B6	All Years Science Work Room, Mr Martin, B6
	All Years Computing A23 Mr Christie	Y11 Revision and Coursework Catch up Mrs Sweeney A22	All Years Computing A23 Mr Christie	All Years Computing A23 Mr Christie	All Years Dungeons & Dragons Club, Miss Hardman, D12
	Library, Mrs Denwood	Library, Mrs Denwood	Library, Mrs Denwood	Library, Mrs Denwood	Library, Mrs Denwood
		Year 10 History GCSEPOD A16	Year 11 History GCSEPOD A16	Y11 Revision and Coursework Catch up Mrs Sweeney A22	
			Pride Club – dates specified on notices	Year 10 History Homework help A16	
After School					
	English Mini Y11 Booster, Mr Gardner / Mrs Cox, D9	Year 11 Revision A16 'Explode the question' Past exam papers	Year 11 History Revision A16 'topic on a page' - simplified revision	GCSE Business Revision, Mr Turner, A9	GCSE Biology drop in sessions (Year 9, 10 and 11)
		All Years Arts Award, Mrs Murray, A5	All Years Singing group, Mrs Murray, A5	Y11 Music, Mrs Murray, A5	
	Homework Club, D4	Homework Club, D4	Homework Club, D4	Homework Club, D4	Homework Club, D4
	Library, Mrs Denwood	Library, Mrs Denwood	Library, Mrs Denwood	Library, Mrs Denwood	Library, Mrs Denwood
	Basketball Mr Golden Years 10-11.		GCSE Business Revision, Mr Turner, A9	GCSE English Revision, Miss Fielding	
			GCSE English Revision, Miss Fielding		
			English Mini Y11 Booster Session, Miss Christian		

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Patatas Alioli By Will C

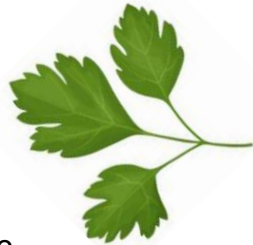


1. Wash the potatoes, then place them in a saucepan of cold water.
2. Boil on a high heat, then reduce to a simmer for 15 minutes or until soft. Let them cool before peeling (about 15 minutes).
3. While the potatoes are cooling, make the alioli. Mash the minced garlic into a paste with a mortar and pestle.
4. Mix the garlic paste and egg yolk together, a blender is best.



Ingredients

- Medium-sized potatoes
- 3 garlic cloves (minced)
- ½ teaspoon of salt
- 1 egg yolk
- ¾ cup of virgin olive oil
- 1 teaspoon of lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon of fresh parsley (chopped)



“

This is my favourite dish from Med 3 Tapas! You can also try it with different sauces like sweet chilli or tomato chilli.

-Will C

”

5. Slowly add the olive oil to the mix, stirring it as you pour. The mix should slowly become thicker. Once all the oil is in, add the lemon juice and stir.

5. Once the potatoes are cooled and peeled, slice them into 1-inch cubes and pour the alioli mix over them and gently coat the potatoes.

6. Garnish with the chopped parsley and enjoy right away!



Please enlist the help of an adult for all recipes containing an oven!



POLITICS & WORLD NEWS



Donald Trump has been sworn in as President of the United States of America for the second time. He is now the 47th US president. President Trump has stated that he believes the US will gain control of Greenland, after showing a renewed interest in taking the autonomous Danish territory. President Trump has said that US control of Greenland is an "absolute necessity" for international security.

"I think we're going to have it," he told reporters at Air Force One, adding that the island's 57,000 residents "want to be with us". The prime ministers of Denmark and Greenland have repeatedly stated that Greenland is not for sale.

-Taylor W

" Senator I'm Singaporean"

The US Supreme Court upheld a law that banned TikTok in the US unless its China-based parent company Byte Dance sells the platform. (This ban lasted 24 hours)

United States Senator Cotton displayed an unfortunate lack of education and delicacy, when he repeatedly asked the TikTok CEO Shou Zi Chew if he was Chinese. Shou Zi Chew replied multiple times that he was Singaporean. This is important as Singapore does not allow for its citizens to hold dual citizenship, Senator Cotton then proceeded to ask if Shou Zi Chew was Chinese and even went as far as to ask "are you a member of the Chinese communist party" and "are you associated with the Chinese communist party". When Chew repeated to say that he was from Singapore, Senator Cotton stated "so you are Chinese." This comment can be seen as discriminatory as Singapore [a tiny micronation and city state situated at the tip of the Malay peninsula] in the past had huge immigration of people particularly from southern China.

- Taylor W

- Donald Trump announced reciprocal tariffs, including against those nations with VAT. This would include the UK, which we had hoped to escape the President's trade war.
- He suggested Russian officials would be attending to Munich security conference, as well as those from Ukraine.
- The US could halve defence spending, he said, which is estimated at around \$850bn.
- Ukraine would have a seat at the table in any negotiation over the war, he said, after declining to say Kyiv was an equal negotiating partner yesterday.
- President Trump hopes to make a deal on TikTok and the deadline delaying a potential ban on the social media app in the US could be extended.

Elon Musk

Elon Musk sparked controversy when he made a saluting gesture, reminiscent of the Nazi salute. Michel Friedman, a prominent German-French publicist and former deputy chair of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, described Musk's actions – at an event after Donald Trump's swearing in as US president – as a disgrace and said Elon Musk had shown that a "dangerous point for the entire free world" had been reached.

- Taylor W



Army Recruitment Process

One of our reporters has decided to pursue a career in the medical sector of The British Army, she has been writing Army-related pieces for The WLD Echo to reflect her knowledge and passion for this career path and has chosen to write a piece about why she has chosen The Army and how others can do so if they wish.



It is because of my Grandad, Squadron Leader D.G.Rimmer that I have been inspired to serve in The Army. On Sunday 5 February 2017, Greater Manchester Wing wished Squadron Leader David Rimmer RAF VR(T) all the best for the future when he retired from active service in the Air Training Corps. He chose 5 February for retirement, as it is also the anniversary date of the ATC's formation. Squadron Leader Rimmer served as Greater Manchester Wing from its formation on 1 November 2011 as Media and Communications Officer. His duties as a Wing Staff Officer also included working closely with a number of squadrons. Squadron Leader Rimmer began his service as an SNCO (ATC), rising to the rank of Warrant Officer in 2002; he received his commission in 2004, was promoted to Flight Lieutenant in 2005, and to Squadron Leader in 2013. He was also Commanding Officer of 1263 (Rochdale) Squadron from 2000 to 2011.

As with all other Cadet Forces Adult Volunteers, Squadron Leader Rimmer has given so much of his time to deliver an excellent cadet experience and to organise activities to benefit the community. As a Wing Staff Officer, he has overseen organising many public parades and raising the profile of the Air Cadets through many and varied media opportunities.

One charity which has benefitted from his involvement is Broughton House, a home for ex-servicemen and women based in North Manchester. Every year, the East Lancashire Railway holds a "1940s Weekend" during the second May Bank Holiday weekend, and the Air Cadets are involved in raising money in many different ways.

(<http://www.bhch.co.uk/>)

-Chloe

Recruitment Process

I have created a Guide on how to join the armed forces.

Step 1: Register your interest by submitting an application online at: <https://jobs.army.mod.uk/apply/>

Step 2: You will have an application review. This is where you will be asked about yourself and you will receive your Recruiter.

Step 3: You will meet or chat to your Recruiter this will be 2 days after your online Army brief. This is for your Recruiter to get to know you.

Step 4: Is reviewing your medical history. This will involve asking questions about your past medical history as well as current.

Step 5: Is preparing for assessment.

Step 6: Is your Assessment Centre visit. For most people this will be Glencoe in Scotland. This is a 2 day stay where you will have a fitness test involving a 4 kg medicine ball throw, 1.5 mile run, and mid-thigh pull. You will have a medical, an Army cognitive test, as well as team building exercises and your one-to-one interview.

Step 7: If you pass your Assessment Centre visit you will be getting ready to join The Army.

Step 8: You are in The Army! You will be given your start date during Step 7, if you passed Step 6.

You can register your application from the age of 15 years & 7 months

If you are too young to join, but want to in the future, you can join the Army Cadets.

- Chloe

“ Change is never easy, but I promise you it's worth it. -Squadron Leader D.G.Rimmer RAFVR(T) Retired. ”





Chinese New Year



Though we celebrated New Years Day in England on the 1st of January, cultures and beliefs differ throughout the world. One of the most widely known alternative New Years, is the celebration of Chinese New Year, one of our reporters has compiled a description and some fun facts to explain the history and traditions of this celebration.

Chinese New Year is usually represented by one of the following 12 animals: rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, goat, monkey, rooster, dog or pig. 2024 was The Year of the Dragon!



Chinese New Year this year has started on Wednesday the 29th of January 2025.

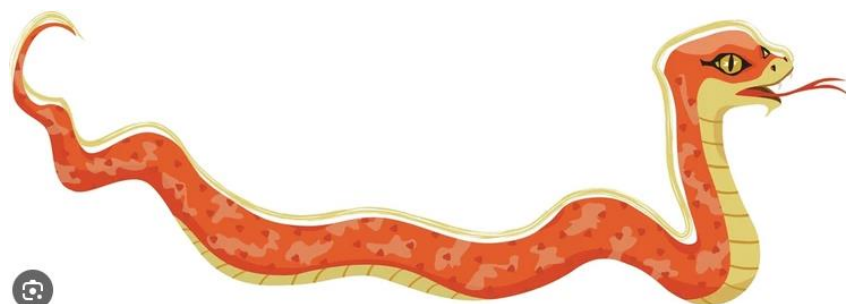
This year is the year of the snake, it symbolises promises to bring wisdom, adaptability and a sense of transformation.

Chinese New Year has a history of about 3,500 years. Its exact date is not recorded. Some people believe Chinese New Year originated in Shad Dynasty (1600 – 1046 BC) when people held sacrificial ceremonies in honour of their gods and ancestors at the beginning or end of each year.

The food usually eaten during Chinese New Year is:

- Tianzi (Dumplings)
- Dayu darou (whole fish or meat)
- Lawei (cured meats)
- Chun Juan (spring rolls)
- Chang shou mian (longevity noodles)
- Good fortune fruit
- Babao Fan (eight treasures rice)
- Tang Yuan (glutinous rice balls in sweet syrup)

-Karalee W



Blind Date with a Book

Pupils

Pictured right is our display in the library for Blind Date with a Book. The Reading Ambassadors and Student Librarians chose their favourite book, wrapped it, and wrote a list of teasers and mysterious synopsis' without giving the book away. This was a huge hit and most of the books were checked out the same day!



To celebrate Valentine's Day and start drumming up excitement for the approaching World Book Day, we've done a 'Blind Date With A Book' display in the library for the pupils and staff room for the staff, because reading is for everyone to enjoy!

Staff

We did a book display in the Staff Room too. This was very well received with staff joining in, discussing their favourite reads and bringing in books to wrap. All of the books were snapped up in time for Valentine's Day and half-term!





SPORTS



Next Year we will be getting the addition of 2 brand new teams in the form of Cadillac and Audi. Audi will replace Kick Sauber in 2026 and Cadillac will come in as the 11th team. Cadillac was confirmed in mid-2024 but Audi has been a long time coming having been confirmed in August 2022. Also, in 2026 Ford will be partnering with Red Bull, Aston Martin will be partnering with Honda, Alpine will be partnering with Mercedes, Audi will be bringing their own engine and Cadillac will be sporting the Ferrari engine.

-Will D



After ending the 2024 Formula 1 season on a high note, Lando Norris is ready to start the 2025 season. In an interview with McLaren, the British driver detailed what he has done to prepare himself to hopefully take home the drivers' championship this year.

The F1 2025 season will soon arrive with 5 new rookies joining 5 teams. Andrea Kimi Antonelli will be joining Mercedes, Oliver Bearman will be joining Haas, Gabriel Bortoleto will join Kick Sauber, Jack Doohan made his debut at Alpine last year at Abu Dhabi and will probably be continuing his career there. Finally, Isack Hadjar will debut in F1 at RB after Liam Lawson's surprise move to Red Bull. Many people believe that this season's transfers make up for last year where there were no transfers. The 2025 season is set to start on the weekend of the 4th of March.

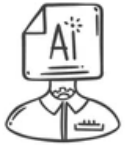
- Will D



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



The Rise of Artificial Intelligence: Shaping the Future of Technology



Artificial Intelligence, AI, is no longer an abstract idea from science fiction movies but a reality that is taking over the world at this very moment. From self-driving cars to voice assistants like Siri and Alexa, AI is fast becoming an integral part of our daily life. But what exactly is AI, and why should high school students care?

Basically, it is referred to as the development process of machines or systems that will carry out duties which call for human intelligence, such as learning from data, speech recognition, and decision making. Artificial intelligence uses algorithms for problem-solving. With time and changing phases, AI is getting more advanced, fast, and effective.

AI has already entered the school doors to change education. AI-powered tools support teachers in personalizing learning by spotting out the strengths of students and areas for development. For students, AI-driven applications may help them from math homework to language translation, thus making learning more accessible and interactive.



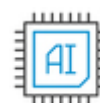
AI can also give birth to new industries and jobs. As more companies embrace AI technology, there will be a growing demand for skills in data analysis, coding, and machine learning. For students interested in technology and innovation, learning about AI opens the door to exciting careers in robotics, healthcare, gaming, and beyond.

While the future of AI is brilliant, it also brings a lot of significant questions in relation to privacy, ethics, and job displacement. The more development there is in AI, the more significant participation by students will be in discussions on the use of this intelligence within society. Understanding AI today empowers us to shape the future where technology truly serves everyone.

AI TECHNOLOGY

So, the next time you ask Siri to tell you a joke or watch one of those videos that an algorithm has recommended, remember you are seeing AI in action-and it's only just getting started!

I hope you enjoyed this article, as it was written completely by AI.



-Kamsi O

noda
Be inspired by amateur theatre

A FAMILY PANTOMIME FULL OF
FRIVOLITY AND FROGS

**Brindle
Players**

**The
Frog
Prince**

BY ANDREW O'LEARY
COURTESY OF LAZY BEE SCRIPTS

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH HALL, HOGHTON, PR5 0DE
14TH, 15TH, 16TH, 21ST & 22ND FEBRUARY 2025
MATINEES - SATURDAYS & SUNDAY AT 2.30PM
EVENING SHOWS AT 7.30PM

Tickets from £8 each www.ticketsource.co.uk/brindle-players
For group bookings and enquiries call: 07711 848994

One of our ex-pupils, Laura Brewer is a member of a local amateur dramatics company Brindle Players. She has asked that we share this poster with you all to advertise their upcoming pantomime in February half-term. They are performing The Frog Prince!

This is an amazing opportunity for any aspiring individuals, particularly those of you that are interested in music/drama/theatre or behind the scenes roles. By going along to support this fantastic group, you can get a feel for the team and maybe even join them.

We are incredibly proud to say Laura attended Walton-le-Dale, this is a wonderful chance to see what you can achieve with passion and hard work in the fields you enjoy.



Facebook: Brindleplayers



Instagram: Brindle_players



Tiktok.com: Brindleplayers

A Family Pantomime Full of Frivolity and Frogs

Welcome to the Kingdom of Anura where an ageing King Albert is preparing to hand down the throne, relinquishing royal rite to his only son, Prince Norman. But the King's evil sister, Norman's Aunt Phibian, has other plans. Will she steal the crown and leave her nephew to live out his life cursed as a frog?

Whilst chaos at Castle Croaker ensues, family and friends 'hop to it' to find the missing Prince and save the kingdom!

Join Bringle Players in their 30th annual pantomime. Meet Princess Beatrice and her three mean sisters, delightful Dame Annie Chance and her two hapless grandsons and a whole host of fairy tale characters on a madcap adventure to steal a kiss and save the day.

It's a family show jam-packed with songs, dances, comedy and magic... did we mention a LOT of frogs!
(Suitable for ages 4+)

www.brindleplayers.co.uk