

Penwortham Post




December 2017



Penwortham Girls'
High School

Celebration of Christmas

On Wednesday 13th December we held our annual Christmas Celebration in the school hall.

The evening was a resounding success and I wholeheartedly agree with the words of an audience member saying 'It's the start of Christmas now we've had the Christmas Concert!'.




Continued overleaf...

Welcome to the Autumn Term edition of the Penwortham Post.



I am immensely proud to be the headteacher of PGHS and the actions and endeavours of our pupils remind me of this on a daily basis. An excellent example was when our Soroptimisses were presented with their Charter earlier this term. Our school is the very first to set up such an organisation, mirroring the work of Soroptimist International who work tirelessly to support and empower women and girls across the globe. Although they were only formed a few months ago, our Soroptimisses have already raised enough money to support the secondary education of Zodwa Dlamini, an orphan living in Swaziland.

I was equally impressed by Kate Lund, Jess Turner and Amy Buckle who single-handedly organised and ran a tombola at the Penwortham Christmas Market last week. They managed to raise a staggering £230, which will go a very long way towards supporting another young girl's education in Swaziland. I think both of these examples prove that it is very much the 'season of goodwill' here at PGHS!

On behalf of all the staff and governors, I would like to wish you all an enjoyable, peaceful and restful holiday and all the very best for 2018.

Mrs Karen Pomeroy, Headteacher



Celebration of Christmas

The girls were fantastic and have worked tremendously hard in their extra-curricular clubs to be able to perform to such a high standard. Our excellent Year 10 dancers performed carefully choreographed routines to 'Somewhere Only We know', 'Let it Go' and 'A Christmas Medley' whilst our talented actresses performed their version of 'A Christmas Carol'. There were many superb performances from the School Orchestra, Choir, Brass, Woodwind and String groups not to mention our Steel pan ensemble who also showcased their talents. It was so pleasing to see some of our Year 7 students taking part in their first concert despite having only been playing an instrument since September. It was also lovely to hear the many positive comments as parents, family and friends left - your support is very much appreciated. I'd like to conclude by saying congratulations to all the girls that took part and thank them for all their hard work and dedication.

Merry Christmas, everyone!



Crazy for You

On Wednesday 29th November 49 pupils went to see the musical 'Crazy for You' at Manchester Opera House.

The musical was fantastic and many pupils commented on the talented performers who, as well as acting and singing, were also providing much of the musical accompaniment. A particular personal highlight was seeing a double bass being moved around on a single wheel whilst being played - an impressive sight! Girls were delighted to find out that Tom Chambers from Casualty/Strictly Come Dancing was playing the leading male role! The pupils were a joy to accompany and a great night was had by all. Thank you for making the evening so enjoyable girls - we look forward to seeing 'Wicked' in March.

Mrs Cattnach
Head of Music



Music Department News

Arts Award

A number of pupils in Year 9 have been working hard on their Bronze Arts Award and should have them ready for submission before Christmas.

Once these are all collated we will welcome into school a moderator who will hopefully confirm all girls deserve their award. Look out in future newsletters for an update on their progress.

Mrs Cattnach
Head of Music

'The Little Mermaid'

On Wednesday 6th December 49 Year 7 pupils had a fantastic evening at 'The Little Mermaid' Pantomime at The Everyman Theatre in Liverpool.

The actors and actresses were also playing in the band when not on the stage and it was amazing watching them transfer from one thing to another. We were all up singing and dancing and a great time was had by all. We hope to do it again next year.

Mrs Cattnach



School Governors

A message from the Chair of Governors

As we approach the end of another successful term at PGHE, I would like to thank Governors who have left and new Governors who have just joined us. Thank you to Peter Smith, Governor since 2010 and Chair of Staffing who resigned this year due to ill health. Peter was a key Governor and his contributions will be missed.

I also want to welcome our new Parent Governor, Mrs Ainsworth and our new Co-opted Governor, Mr Williams who have joined our Governing Body this term.

On behalf of the Governing Body I want to thank Mrs Pomeroy, all the staff and students for their hard work over this term.

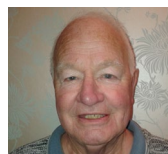
We wish you all a Merry Christmas!



J Mackey



P Smith



D Williams



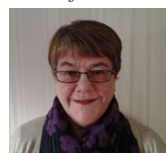
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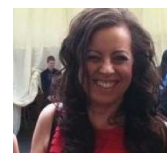
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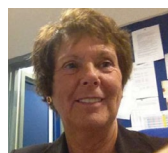
A Stirland



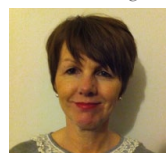
C Wooldridge



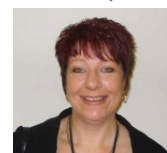
C Lloyd



G Pashley



J Gordon



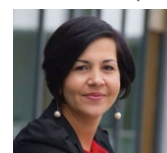
L Russell-Hayes



J Roy



G Fawthorp



S Midjek-Conway

Photography in Action at the PGHS Annual Awards Evening

This term, a group of photography enthusiasts took their camera skills to the next level by volunteering for our Annual Awards Evening.

With a high level of professionalism, our volunteers set up their tripods and took a range of shots as our past Year 11 students collected their awards.

The evening was a huge success for our budding photographers whose images will feature in future publications. Well done to Olivia Roy (Year 11), Sara L'Bekkari (Year 11) and Sophie Chohan (Year 8).



Able and Talented at Runshaw!

On Thursday 7th December, a group of Able and Talented Art students were specially selected to take part in a Design Skills Workshop held by Runshaw College.



Our students had the opportunity to explore creatively with a range of mixed media outcomes in a Further Educational setting.

They greatly benefited from the day and gained an understanding of advanced techniques and practices commonly used at A-Level.

Miss Morris

Computing

This term has been a busy term in the Computing department.

Year 11 iMedia students are working hard at completing their Photography portfolios as part of their coursework. Their portfolios have to promote and advertise the local area. It was decided they would take photographs of Avenham Park, as there are a range of historic buildings and architecture along with recreational activities for a variety of ages.



VEX Robotics

Following the VEX Robotics success over the last two years, we are once again preparing for the competition. This time we will take six budding roboteers from Year 8.

The challenge, 'Ringmaster' is as tough as ever but with guidance from the Year 10 members and previous winners (Tech-X-Press), we are working towards a repeat of last year's performance.

A new robot is under construction and once complete, will have the ability to negotiate the game board, as well as collecting, manoeuvring, arranging and dropping multiple rings. All in just sixty seconds!

Members of the team must also program the robot, giving it the intelligence to complete the task alone. There's also the STEM project to think about which must be based on 'Robotics Engineering & Ethics'. This is relevant to today as engineers anticipate a future with robots far more intelligent than ourselves.

Our group's chosen topic involves robots and elderly care, examining how robots could change it and the potential consequences of this. The competition is in February and we are hopeful that with some hard work and enthusiasm 'Tech-X-Press' will be triumphant.

Emma Fielding, Imogen Halliwell and Maariya Farooq (Year 10)

Primary School workshops

2018 is welcoming a number of primary schools into the Computing department to complete various workshops ranging from Online Safety to programming using the Microbits.

We are very much looking forward to working with the pupils in a fun and engaging way.

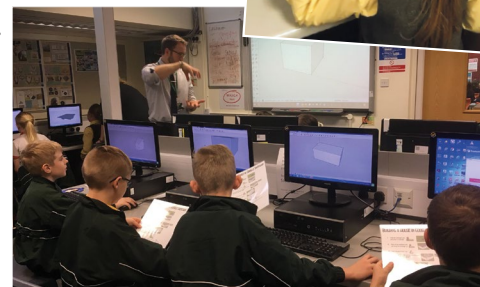
Mrs Smith, Head of CAT Faculty

Technology Primary Event

On 5th December the Technology Department hosted 'Be a Design Engineer for the Day' event for primary school pupils.

Pupils from Ashbridge Independent School joined us and the event was a huge success. Feedback from pupils and staff was very positive. The pupils produced some really creative Christmas decoration designs which they completed back at their school. They were introduced to three different pieces of software from 3D design to animation.

Mr Farrington, Technology Department





Food Technology Department Visit to St. Omer, France

At the end of the summer term staff from PGHS took a group of Year 8 and 9 students on an educational visit to St. Omer, France. Girls sampled a range of culinary delights including snail purée and speciality French breads.



Girls visited one of the snail farms in the area and sampled snail purée, which was served in a pastry shell. The girls commented on how creamy, rather than slimy it was once baked. Garlic, chocolate and cinnamon were served alongside and greatly enjoyed by the girls.



Pupils also visited a traditional village bakery where bread making was demonstrated using a clay oven that was over a century old. This was of great interest as part of the food curriculum looks at bread making in depth. Mrs Waterhouse allowed the girls to interpret and translate the information to Mrs Khan so that she could take notes. The science behind the process was also explained.



Finally, a visit to a sweet factory enabled the girls to compare traditional methods and industrial methods of production. Pupils witnessed the use of liquid glucose and the addition of food colours, dyes to cut the sweets and machinery to shape. The girls were keen to purchase gifts and sweets to take back to their families.

From a food preparation perspective, girls enjoyed looking at primary and secondary food processing methods, whilst sampling French cuisine and tasting new foods.

Mrs Khan

Food Technology Co-ordinator

BBC Good Food Show

On 1st December pupils attended the BBC Good Food Show Live at the Birmingham NEC.

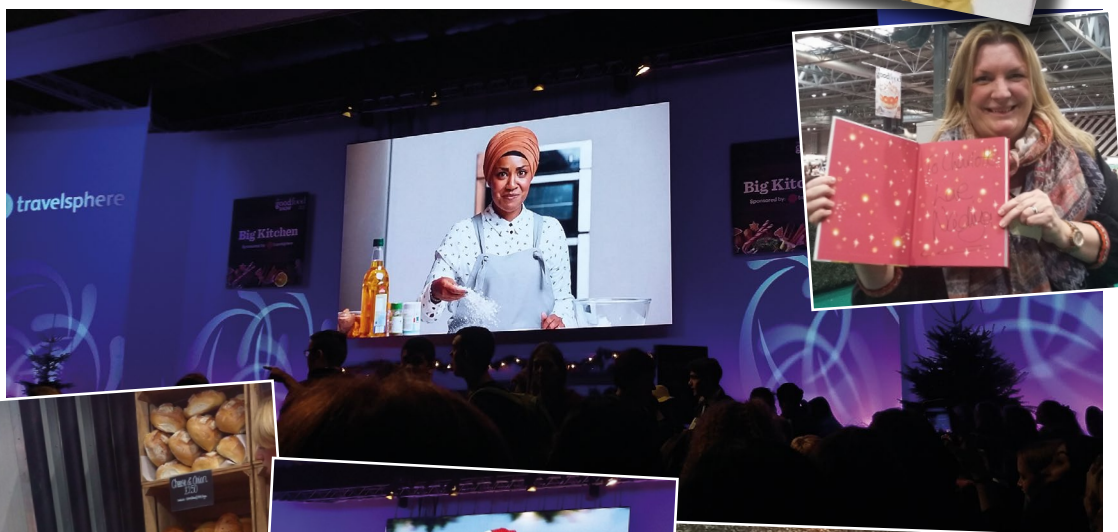
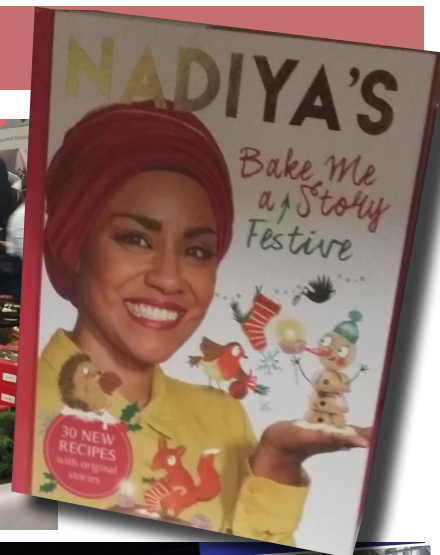
Pupils walked around the great halls in groups, sampling tasters and visiting stalls from international, national and regional food businesses.

Pupils watched celebrity chefs demonstrate cooking skills and techniques. This included the use of seasonal vegetables and a family skills session.

Two cookbooks being promoted were Nadia Hussain's Festive cookbooks and "Fire and Smoke," by Rich Harris. Nadia held a book signing session and Mrs Jennings managed to get her copy signed. The day ended with a special show, held by Nadia, especially for secondary schools. During this demonstration, Nadia prepared and baked a vegetable nut roast and a baked Christmas custard pudding.

The girls' behaviour on the trip was exceptional and we look forward to the Summer Food Show in June.

Mrs Khan
Food Technology Co-ordinator



School Of Rock!

The English department's annual trip to London proved to be a huge success this year.

Over 40 staff and pupils left early on Friday 9th December for an afternoon visit to The Imperial War Museum. All the girls agreed it was a fascinating experience as it tells the stories of people's experiences of modern war from WW1 to conflicts today. One of the most interesting exhibits was the Secret War room which explores the undercover world of espionage, covert operations and the work of Britain's Special Forces. We discovered how threats both at home and abroad were dealt with through the strategies and techniques of the men and women behind some of the most secret espionage missions of the last century.

All that spying proved hungry work so we then ventured into London's city centre for a buffet tea at Pizza Hut. The highlight of the evening was the visit to Shaftsbury Avenue to see the award winning musical 'School Of Rock'. Based on the iconic, hit movie, this irresistible new musical follows Dewey Finn, a failed, wannabe rock star who decides to earn an extra bit of cash by posing as a supply teacher at a prestigious prep school. There he turns a class of Straight A pupils into a guitar-shredding, bass-slapping mind-blowing rock band. The musical had us all dancing in the aisles and we were all definitely ready for bed once we got back to the hotel!

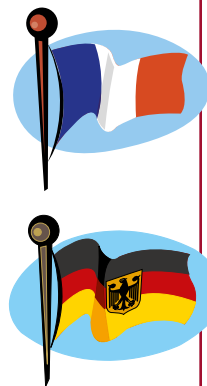
The next morning we had a lovely continental breakfast at the hotel and then visited Covent Garden for a day of Christmas shopping. It looked beautifully festive with all the Christmas lights and decorations. Eloise Yeung, a Year 11 pupil, summed up the weekend perfectly at the end of the day when she declared 'Right, I'm ready for Christmas now, bring it on!'

Miss Thackeray, English Department



Modern Foreign Languages

Well done to all year groups who have been working hard in their French and German lessons since the start of the new academic year.



We began in September with a language swap with our new Year 7s learning German. Pupils have learned how to use a bilingual dictionary, to have good pronunciation and how to conjugate (conga)verbs in the present tense through mime and through tests! Most Year 8 groups also started to learn German as well as French and are working their way through different structures and vocabulary.

Memory is key! Year 9 pupils have had a successful term in their lessons and have prepared well for assessments. There have been some notable achievements in French speaking assessments. Lauren Palmer, Darcey Johnson, Ellie Grant, Carys Bourne and many others were able to adapt their spoken answers under test conditions. In German, Year 9 pupils have been learning vocabulary and structures to enable them to talk about leading a healthy lifestyle. They are currently preparing for an assessment from memory to show off their knowledge.

Year 10 have had a good start and have experienced the new GCSE through transcription, translation and preparing for speaking assessments.

Year 10 and 11 are using the new LOVEIT mats to help them personalise their work
L= links; **O**=opinions;
V= variety of structures; **E**= extending sentences;
I= Interesting words (avoiding using same words);
T=tenses

Mrs Rourke, Head of MFL

Geography Department News

This has been a whirlwind of a term with loads of fantastic Geography produced across all year groups.

Year 7 are currently imagining the impacts of a hurricane blowing through Preston and we have had some interesting stories produced. There seems to be a running theme that the school is damaged and the holidays have to be extended!

Bob the Boulder was once again a triumph in Year 8 with many fantastic pieces of work on display in rooms 32 and 39; come along and have a look. Well done to everyone that got a piece on the wall and to the year group in general – the standard was very high.

Year 11 remain the 'guinea pigs' as they are the first year group through the new GCSE – uncharted waters! They are doing well and we hope they can maintain high levels of enthusiasm and motivation as we enter, what is effectively, their final term – you can do it!

The Department Christmas Tree is up, decorated with items made from recycled materials. Please come and have a look and why not try to make one yourself: Medals to all students who place a recycled decoration on the tree and prizes for the best entries.

Have a great holiday and if you are celebrating Christmas don't forget to ask Santa for an up-to-date Ordnance Survey map. Merry Christmas from Mr Bowles and Mr Ward – Ho Ho Ho!

Mr Bowles, Head of Geography



Here are some of the winners in the last round of Where's Earthy; well done to Eliya Davies (Year 7), Ellie Moon, Vicky Martindale-Wood (both Year 8) and Emma Biltcliffe (Year 9) who spotted Earth was on the ferry across the Mersey last time round.



Here is a slightly festive looking offering this time round. Usual rules apply – email your answer to g.bowles@penworthamgirls.lancs.sch.uk and be as specific as possible.

Anti-Bullying Week

Odd Socks Day

To launch a week of activities to coincide with Anti-Bullying Week we encouraged our girls to wear odd socks to school.

All Different

All Equal

#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK



Odd Socks Day, held on Monday 13th November, was a national event organised by the Anti-bullying alliance. The day aimed to give pupils the opportunity to express themselves, show-off their individuality and celebrate all that makes each of us unique and different. This was achieved with splashes of colour, riots of spots and contrasting stripes; representing individual opinion, beliefs, hopes and ambitions.



Remembrance Weekend 2017

On Friday 10th November 40 Year 9 students departed from school at 4am to visit the battlefields of the First World War in Belgium and France.



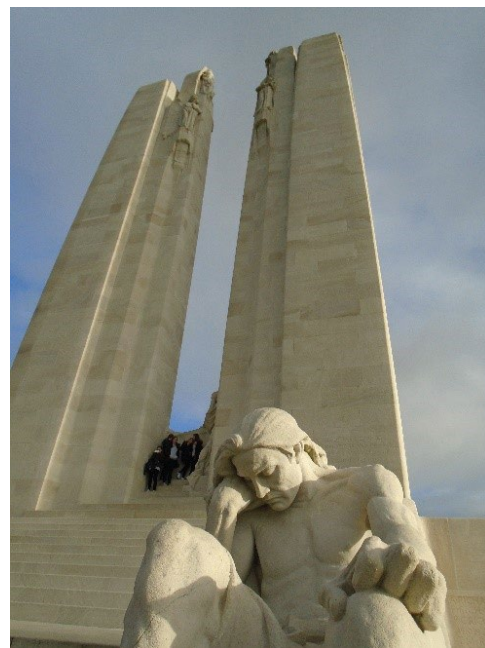
After a long coach journey to Dover, students enjoyed seeing the white cliffs from the ferry and seeing the coastline of France come into view. After arriving at the accommodation in Langemark, near Ypres, students enjoyed an evening of ten pin bowling. The itinerary for Armistice Day was packed with commemorations, museums and memorials. The day began with a visit to Poelcapelle British Cemetery, where students successfully located the headstone of Harry Humble, a young man from Leyland Road in Penwortham who fought and died during the war. Incredibly there was a photograph of Harry attached to the headstone which made the visit even more special. The group then moved on to Tyne Cot, where the students observed the 2 minutes silence next to William Hewitt's grave (a local man). After a visit to Sanctuary Wood to walk amongst the preserved trenches, students then witnessed the Canadian Army, press and military band descend on Hill 62 in preparation for



a ceremony commemorating the Battle of Mount Sorrel. Students then visited Ypres town centre and enjoyed the hospitality and charisma of Hans De Groot, the owner of a famous chocolate shop. The Menin Gate was the next destination where names of relatives were found and stories about the structure were heard from our impressive guide, Konrad. In the evening the students returned to the Menin Gate to take part in the Last Post Ceremony. Olivia Wilkinson, Amber Cernandes-Tolson and Carys Bourne had the honour of laying a wreath on behalf of the school.



On Remembrance Sunday the group travelled to the Somme area of France to continue their study of trench warfare and its effects. The first stop was at the Thiepval Monument, where the 11am silence was observed, as well as a private ceremony commemorating those members of the Preston Pals who fought and died there. Hannah Cowley, Nicole Bullen and Freya Jukes were given the honour of



laying a wreath on the Stone of Remembrance on behalf of the Friends of Penwortham War Memorial.

The tour then made stops at Newfoundland Park, the Ulster Tower and Lochnagar Crater. A final visit was made to Aveluy Communal Cemetery where a small wreath was laid beside the headstone of Edward Darlington, a local man from the Middleforth area of Penwortham, who died in 1916.



History Department News



On the return journey students made a visit to Vimy Ridge Canadian Memorial, which commemorates over 11,000 soldiers who lost their lives during the Battle of Vimy Ridge in April 1917. After delays at Calais and during the drive back home, the group finally returned safely to school at 10pm.

A special thank you must go to Mrs Thomas, Mrs Woodhouse and Mr Bowles for their hard work supervising the students during the visit. The superb behaviour of all



students for the duration of the trip must also be noted. Throughout the visit students conducted themselves with the maturity and solemnity required for such a visit. With high praise coming from all members of the public and organisations that came across the students, including compliments from the usually austere UK Border Force, the students can be proud of the way they represented the school and their families.



In addition to the visit to Belgium and France, Kate Lund, Jess Turner and Charlotte Hamer laid a wreath on behalf of the school during the Remembrance Ceremony at Penwortham War Memorial on Sunday. The service was well attended as always, and many students took part in the Remembrance Parade from St Leonard's Church, as part of various youth groups from the local area. A special thank you goes to Mrs Cattanaach for supervising the students during the event.

Mr Herbert
Head of History

Hardwick Hall

In October, 92 Year 11 historians visited Hardwick Hall in Derbyshire as part of their in depth study of Elizabethan England.

A requirement of the new GCSE History specification is an investigation of a historic site, focussing on the analysis of the internal and external features and an evaluation of its purpose.

Hardwick Hall is an excellent example of Elizabethan architecture at its most extravagant, and the students were treated to a guided tour of the Great Chamber, the Long Gallery, the ornate bedrooms and different perspectives of the impressive external façade. The students returned to school with a deep understanding of the key features of the hall, and are now fully equipped to tackle the historic site question on the GCSE exam. The students represented the school superbly during the visit and their behaviour and attitude to learning was praised by the tour guides and the members of the public

Mr Herbert, Head of History

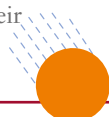


PE Department News

Dance

The Dance Studio has been brimming with pupils working hard in preparation for the Celebration of Christmas concert and the Senior Citizens' Christmas Party.

A selection of dance styles and Christmas songs were chosen enabling everyone to get in the Christmas spirit! Year 10 worked hard on their choreography and produced some fantastic performances for the Celebration of Christmas concert.



Netball

The South Ribble Netball League is underway.

All year groups have started their matches and the results so far are very pleasing. There are still many matches to play and lots to be contested!



	PLAYED	WON	LOST	DRAW
Year 7	2	2	0	0
Year 8	3	3	0	0
Year 9	5	3	1	1
Year 10	6	4	0	1
Year 11	6	1	4	0

Once again Year 7 netball is proving popular with many pupils taking part every week. The girls have been developing their tactics ready for game play and fixtures. They are very committed and work hard in every training session. As part of the leadership course, some of our Year 10 and Year 11 pupils are leading training sessions or umpiring games. Our trainee sports leaders have made a huge impact and are evolving in to very capable leaders. Well done, girls!



South Ribble Badminton Competition

The PGHS under 16 badminton team came 3rd in the South Ribble Badminton Competition on Friday 10th November.



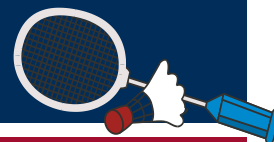
We beat All Hallows 3-2 and Brownedge St Mary 3-2 in the first round of the competition. We went forward to the semi final but lost 2-3 to Balshaws.

Team players:

Emily Broadbent, Mariya Farooq, Ellen Hanratty, Emma Fielding, Grace Halliwell and Katherine Taylor.

Coach's Player: Emily Broadbent

Players' Player: Ellen Hanratty



Extra-Curricular Activities

We are currently offering a full programme of extra-curricular activities which include:-

Basketball, Badminton, Table Tennis, Dance, Netball, Handball, Hockey and Football.

Coaches from Nippon UK lead our Year 11 core PE pupils through a certificated Self-Defence course and some of the Years 10s are currently undertaking training in Sport Leadership.

After the Christmas break netball matches and tournaments continue and there will also be Indoor Cricket Competitions at South Ribble Tennis Centre.

Mrs Burns, Head of PE

South Ribble Indoor Athletics Championships

Congratulations to Year 8 on winning the South Ribble Indoor Athletics Championships. There were some outstanding performances on the night.

Team Athletes were: Eden Staines, Lauren Coulthard, Darcy Smith, Katie Boardman, Lottie Marsden, Amani Valli-Carter and Katie Mathison.

Coach's Athletes of the Competition: Amani Valli-Carter, Darcy Smith

Athletes' Athletes of the Competition: Eden Staines, Lauren Coulthard

Our Year 7 team came a very commendable 5th in the Indoor Athletics Championships. They worked very hard as a team and won 3 of the events. The standard of competition was very high and they 'gave their all'.

Team athletes were: Freya Appleton, Lois Reid, Jessica Martin, Felicity Alison, Sophia Renwick, Aamina Parvez, Macey Betham, Alims Hoque and Esme Macfadyen-king.

Coach's Athlete of the Competition: Lois Reid, Esme Macfadyen-king

Athletes' Athlete of the Competition: Freya Appleton



South Ribble Schools' Cross Country

The South Ribble Schools' Cross Country Championships at Hutton Grammar School was held on Saturday 14th October.

Results:

Under 16 Girls: 3rd overall

Alissa Darbyshire: 1st

Mimi Mayer-Payne: 10th

Under 14/Year 8 & 9 Girls: 2nd overall

Scarlett Sutton: 1st

Katie Mathison: 3rd

Lois Carroll: 11th

Year 7 Girls: 3rd overall

Freya Appleton: 3rd

Maynie Lavery: 12th

Keira Jackson: 24th

Alissa, Scarlett, Katie, Freya and Mimi may all go forward to represent Lancashire in the next round in the New Year (awaiting confirmation).



PE Kit

As the weather is now turning colder it is advisable that all pupils have a school hoodie for lessons.

All pupils are allowed to wear blue or black (plain) leggings under their skort. The tracksuit bottoms are also available, but, these are an additional cost and are not compulsory.

Please ensure that all PE kit is clearly named and identifiable.

Inter Form Cross-Country

Our annual Inter Form Cross-Country was held on 6th October. The weather was cold but dry which made it more enjoyable whilst the competitors completed the 2k course around the school field and buildings. There was great team spirit with the largest number of girls competing to date.

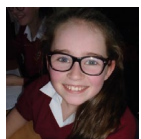
Form Champions:- 7H 8H 9P 10J 11S

	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
1st Place	Freya Appleton	Katie Mathison	Scarlett Sutton	Alissa Darbyshire	Mia Kelly
2nd Place	Maynie Lavery	Lauren Coulthard	Lois Carroll	Mimi Mayer-Payne	Maisie Saul
3rd Place	Ellie Riley	Eden Staines	Millie Wright	Annie Pearce	Bronwen Davies

Maths Department

With the first term coming to an end, what have Year 7 made of their initial experiences of maths here at PGHS?

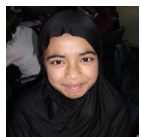
I asked my group to give their thoughts and opinions on the subject earlier this month and below is a sample of what they said:



Carla Duckett

"I enjoy maths because we do lots of group work and don't

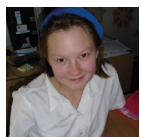
take things too fast. I enjoy multiplying and dividing negative numbers because I like the rule about good things and bad things happening to good and bad people. I'd never learnt this before and it helps me to remember what to do!"



Aisha Begum

"I have enjoyed maths during the first term because I feel I am always

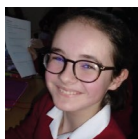
challenged. I have learnt how to use a lot more of the functions on my calculator!"



Charlotte Boorne

"Maths is made really fun at PGHS! I enjoy listening to

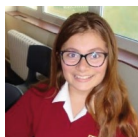
funny songs that help me to remember facts like how to find the mode, median, mean and range"



Mya Jagatia

"Yes, I like maths at high school. I challenge myself more and more

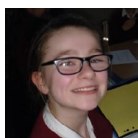
as the mathematical problems increase in difficulty! My teachers encourage us to try our best"



Lucy Powell

"I've learnt about π and how to work out the area and

circumference of circles. I really enjoy algebra and I love going home and testing my mum and dad on what I've learnt!"



Ruby Reed

"I liked fractions and finding the area and perimeter of

lots of different shapes. I had never learned about reverse percentages before!"

Christmas Maths Puzzle

All of these questions are about just the twelfth day of Christmas and not the days before it!

- 1) How many presents were given to me by my True Love altogether?
- 2) How many birds were sent by my True Love?
- 3) How many people did my True Love send to entertain me?
- 4) How many wings are there in the song?
- 5) How many legs are there in the song?
- 6) If I shared all of my presents with you, how many would we have each?
- 7) If all the people who had to read music needed glasses, how many pairs of glasses would be needed?
- 8) How many of the gifts are definitely female?
- 9) How many letters are there in the verse?
- 10) If each maid managed to get 4 pints of milk a day, how many pints of milk would I have to drink in a leap year?

See back page for the solution

Mr McVey
Maths Department

The Twelfth Day of Christmas

On the twelfth day of Christmas,

my true love sent to me

Twelve drummers drumming,

Eleven pipers piping,

Ten lords a-leaping,

Nine ladies dancing,

Eight maids a-milking,

Seven swans a-swimming,

Six geese a-laying,

Five golden rings,

Four calling birds,

Three French hens,

Two turtle doves,

And a partridge in a pear tree!

Soroptimisses Charter

On Friday 24th November, we hosted our Soroptimisses Charter in the new Training Suite.

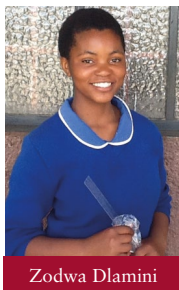
This event was a celebration to mark the founding of the Soroptimisses, the membership of our girls and the incredible work they have done already.

Parents, governors, staff, pupils, local Soroptimist members and Seema Kennedy (South Ribble MP) were in attendance and were welcomed by Mrs Pomeroy. The ceremony was officially opened by Karen Rainford, member of Soroptimist International Preston Branch and founder of our Soroptimisses.

Before certificates and badges were presented, Ashleigh Worden, Aamina Ismail and Jawharah Bodi (Year 11 members) lit 3 candles representing Hope, Peace and Friendship. Each of the girls had also written a short speech to explain the importance of these qualities in being a member of the Soroptimisses. The speeches will be featured in the regional Soroptimist International newsletter.



Pictures of the school that Zodwa will be attending.



Zodwa Dlamini



In her President's speech, Charlotte Hamer (Year 11) spoke about the importance of the work of the Soroptimisses in making her feel like she was giving back to society, not just on a local level, but globally.

Norman Yates, a representative from Partners in Education Swaziland gave the guest speaker address, announcing that they have recently found a girl who needs a sponsor in order to start secondary school. Thanks to the money raised by our girls, Zodwa Dlamini will be able to start school in January (the start of the academic year in Swaziland). This is an incredible achievement and something the girls are extremely proud of – in just 6 months they have raised the funds to change the life of a girl who would otherwise have missed out on her secondary education – something that we so often take for granted. I am so impressed by the dedication the Soroptimisses have shown to improving the rights of women and girls around the world, and this is just the beginning of their work.



The ceremony was closed by Maureen Howarth, Regional President of Soroptimist International North West and Isle of Man. She congratulated the girls on making



history as the first ever school Soroptimist club. She recognised the importance of the Soroptimisses as their future and the assurance that their work will continue for many more generations. Our girls are taking the work of this long-established society into the modern era and are essential to its continued survival.

Many parents and family members attended the event to support the girls and congratulate them in their successes so far. Cakes donated by the girls, parents, staff and members of Soroptimist International Preston Branch were served after the ceremony with £71.02 raised through donations alone.

I am so proud of the girls and what they have achieved this year – I look forward to the future growth of the Soroptimisses here at Penwortham Girls' High School.

Miss McDermott

Head of Religious Studies & Citizenship

STEM Club

This term we have started our STEM Club for Years 8-10 in collaboration with the Technology Department.

The aim of this club is to provide a place for the girls in our school to explore their personal strengths and skills and apply their knowledge of scientific concepts and technology while developing themselves in logical thinking and teamwork.

We have done several activities and challenges so far, based around solving problems and creative design tasks. We are now moving on to applying these skills to producing an entry to a national engineering competition for girls.

The competition is called Talent 2030 and is open to girls aged 11-18.

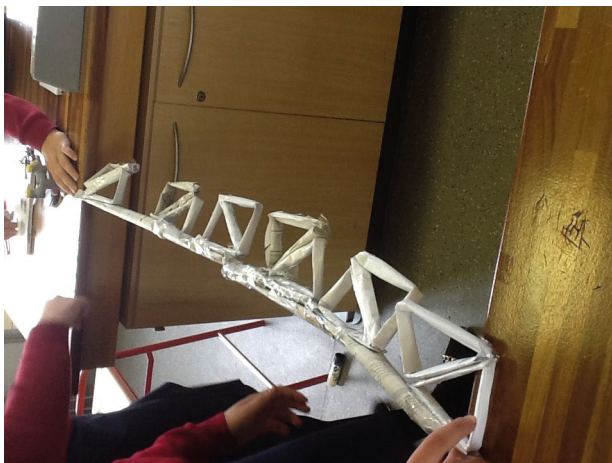
"The competition invites girls to solve the major challenges of the 21st century, to get creative, get thinking and most of all – have fun!"

<http://www.talent2030.org/>

Some of the ideas which the girls are already starting to develop are brilliant and we are really excited to see what they come up with.

STEM Club is still open to new members... it is not too late!

We meet in Room 36 from 3.30-4.30pm afterschool on a Monday and is open to Years 8-10.



STEM Science, Technology,
Engineering, Mathematics

Science Club

PGHS Science Club has returned this term with a group of keen, young scientists hot on the heels of the master criminal that made off with Mr Coogan's last chocolate biscuit.

So far Mrs Goodwill, Mrs Hall and Mrs Cahill are in the clear, with the remainder of the science staff still firmly in the frame.

Science Club is held at lunchtimes every Thursday at 12.45pm in room 45. Pupils have used microscopes to analyse hair and fibre samples as well as carrying out various flame tests to narrow down the field of suspects. Pupils have conducted powder analysis and chromatography, as well as looking at finger prints and handwriting samples in order to wheedle out the wily villain. Pupils have also been trying a variety of experiments including dissection, making fireworks (safely of course) and preparing, and comparing the quality of, various slimes.

Science Club is open to all Year 7 and 8 pupils and anyone wanting to attend should come and speak to Mr Coogan, or alternatively, just turn up and get involved.

Mrs Honeyman

Head of Science

Red Rose Humanities Conference

Red Rose Humanities Conference

Penwortham Girls' High School notched up another huge success on the 27th October, hosting the first ever Red Rose Humanities Conference.

A staggering total of over 100 History, Geography and Religious Studies teachers came to the event, representing schools from across the North West. An impressive range of guest speakers joined them, including university lecturers, serving teachers, exam board representatives and several other organisations like the Philosophy Council and the Royal Geographical Society. Delegates were spoilt for choice on the day, with sessions ranging from Q and As to lectures.

The event was a personal triumph for Mr Ward, Director of Teaching School and organiser of the entire conference (right down to the freshly delivered breakfast croissants!). He said "It was fantastic to bring together so many professionals under one roof and to see so much enthusiasm from both the speakers and the delegates throughout the day. Truly inspiring and hopefully the first of many."

Perhaps the best indication of the success of the event comes from the overwhelming positive feedback from the delegates with 100% rating the conference as good or very good. You can read a selection of the many positive comments below, alongside photographs taken during the day.

"A great day, the staff from my school are still buzzing with ideas."

"A cracking conference and brilliant day - so much to think about and do."

"So great to hear from university professors, examiners and teachers all on one day."

"So much crammed into 5 lively sessions."

"Excellent to have a day specifically aimed at humanities."

"A superb day, very relevant to the current issues facing my subject and education as a whole."

Mr Ramsdale, Assistant Headteacher



Learning Support Department News

Learning Support

The Learning Support Department has been relocated within school this year and we are now based in Room 11 before school and during both break and lunchtimes.

Although officially a homework club, pupils looking for additional support will always find a friendly Teaching Assistant on duty.

At lunchtimes there are different clubs on offer led by the TA team and we encourage girls to join so that they can fully immerse themselves in to school life:

- Craft Club with Mrs Embley (Thursday lunch, Room 41)
- Flim Club with Mrs Hardie (Friday lunch, Room 41)
- British Sign Language Club with Mrs Davies and Sienna Birchall, one of our Year 7 pupils (Thursday lunch, Room 7)

I would also like to take this opportunity to introduce you to our Learning Support Prefects for this year: Eleanor and Sharfaa.



Hello. My name is Eleanor Woods and I am a subject Prefect for the Learning Support Department. I am kind, hard-working, helpful and friendly. I like to spend my spare time with my dog and enjoy baking cakes. One of my responsibilities as a Learning Support Prefect is to help Mrs Embley at Craft Club. I really enjoy doing this because I get to help other people.



Hello. My name is Sharfaa Ahmad and I am a subject prefect for the Learning Support Department. I am caring, supportive, happy and kind. In my spare time I like to be with my friends and I sit with them in the hall at lunchtime. One of my responsibilities as a Learning Support Prefect is to help Mrs Hardie at Film Club. I really enjoy doing this because I like watching films.

Miss Parker
Learning Support Department

Maths Solution: 1: 78 2: 23 3: 50 4: 46 5: 146 6: 39 7: 23 8: 20 9: 253 10: 11,712



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