

Penwortham Post



July 2019



Penwortham Girls' High School

Year 11 Valedictory Dinner

On the evening of Tuesday 9th July, it was time to say our goodbyes to our current Year 11 at their farewell prom held at the Barton Grange Hotel.

The girls began to arrive and no expense had been spared on the cars. What a glamorous and fitting way to arrive and to set the tone for what was to be an amazing celebration of their time at PGHS!

The dresses were beautiful and the girls really did look stunning. From the moment we arrived, there was a mixture of nerves and excitement. The atmosphere was electric and the girls sang and performed throughout the evening.

The DJ kept the entertainment going, even encouraging staff participation and performances. Girls' danced the night away and many a high heel was discarded in the process.

It was a fantastic evening with lots of happy faces. A fabulous finale to their time at Penwortham Girls' and more than well-deserved following all their hard work.

Good luck to the class of 2019. We hope to see you all on 'Results Day' on the 22nd August.

Special thanks go to the following; Barton Grange Hotel, Another Boutique (for balloon decoration) and Petit Amour Proms (wedding and occasion hire who provided the lighting - see Instagram @petitamourhire)

Please see page 2 for photos of the evening.

Mrs Burns
Year 11 Raising Achievement Coordinator



Welcome to a 'bumper edition' of our Penwortham Post, celebrating what has been an overwhelmingly successful year at PGHS.



Not only have we broken school records on Sports Day, we have beaten our ambitious school attendance target and raised a record amount for charity - £6312!

As I write, we have just completed two hugely successful Futures Days, which have included a wide range of engaging activities and the opportunity for our students to interact with over 60 local and national employers. Many thanks to those parents who generously gave their time – you have truly inspired our students!

I hope you have an enjoyable and restful summer holidays – and that this wonderful sunny weather continues!

Mrs Karen Pomeroy, Headteacher



2019 Valedictory Dinner



PGHS Passport to Success – Expeditions!

On Monday 24th June and Wednesday 26th June Year 7 and 8 students completed walks to meet the ‘expedition’ criteria in their PGHS passport to success.

Year 7 students completed the 10km circular walk around Penwortham and Preston, taking in 5 local parks including Avenham and Miller. The Year 8 students completed the ‘intermediate’ expedition by tackling the more challenging ascent to Darwen Tower, which provided superb views of Lancashire. The students showed a real determination to complete the 13km route. During both walks students supported and encouraged each other right to the end, and were fantastic ambassadors for our school in the local community. Congratulations to all participants!

Mr Herbert,
Associate Assistant Headteacher



PGHS Walking Society hits the heights on its inaugural walk

The staff at PGHS like a challenge and this was no exception.

Setting off on a fairly unpromising morning, by the time we’d reached the Langdale valley the sun was out and that’s when sensible people would have put on suntan lotion (never mind). The walk didn’t get off to a good start; Mrs Walker’s dog, Pip, slipped its harness and sprinted back to the minibus. Then, only minutes later, Mr Dean went over on his ankle and had to abandon the walk (in favour of sitting outside a pub - in the sunshine).

The climb up Stickle Ghyll to the top of Harrison Stickle is unrelentingly steep and it wasn’t long before Miss Garlick was complaining (to be fair, she wasn’t the only one). Her dog Norm was fine though and continued to drag her up to the top. Eventually, we reached the summit and the cameras came out. Norm stole the show; he’s a natural! Mr Herbert has ordered a picture of Norman for his mantelpiece, having taken quite a shine to his new canine companions.

It was a great day, made perfect by the glorious weather and the magnificent setting. Everyone took a solemn vow at the end of the walk to come on the next one and recruit some new members too.

Mr Ramsdale, Senior Assistant Headteacher



Lancashire Evening Post Education Awards 2019

Congratulations to Sarah A and Chloe H in Year 11.

Both students were nominated for Lancashire Evening Post Education Awards. Sarah was nominated 'Young Scientist/Engineer of the Year' and Chloe was nominated for the 'Performing Arts Award'. The ceremony took place on the evening of Wednesday 19th June. Sarah won the 'Young Scientist/Engineer' award and Chloe was highly commended for the 'Performing Arts Award'. Well done, girls.



Superhero Run

On Friday 10th May, 46 pupils along with 10 members of staff, took part in a charity run through Hurst Grange Park. Students and teachers dressed as superheroes in aid of Rock FMs Superhero Day, raising money for 'Cash 4Kids'.

Wonder Woman (Mr Farrington) and Superman (Mr Herbert) started the race off, leading the sprinters at the front. First Aider Woman (Mrs Walker) and Bat Woman (Mrs Avery) stayed at the back, keeping the troops together.

It was a very successful run and everyone looked fantastic in their costumes. We managed to raise a staggering £867.00 for Rock FMs 'Cash4Kids' charity. Thank you to all the students and staff involved.

Well done to everyone involved.

Mrs Davda



C.A.T. Faculty

It's been a very busy year within the C.A.T. faculty. We've promoted our subjects to students and this has proven to be successful and the feedback from the Pupil Voice surveys has been very positive. This is a result of the dedication and commitment shown by all faculty members.

September welcomes a new member of staff into the faculty; Mrs Gornall will start in September and will be teaching full time in technology. We are all looking forward to the changes that this will bring and looking at working with a variety of different materials and equipment within Technology, including the introduction of Fashion and Textiles.

Feature Artist: Burton Morris

As part of the Year 8 Sweet Treat Unit, students have looked at artist Burton Morris. Morris is best known for his bold, graphic 'Pop Art' depictions of various modern icons.

His subject matter includes everyday objects that portray popular culture. We discussed how his distinctive style is characterised by radiant black outlines and vivid colours that emit energy in all of his artwork.

Students learnt how the 'Pop Art' movement inspired Morris's own style. We investigated the art of taking inspiration from sources such as magazines, film stars, comics and food advertising.

Miss Morris, Lead Teacher for Art



Art

Year 4/5 Art & Sculpture

On Tuesday 9th July, a group of Year 4 and 5 students from Broad Oak Primary School visited PGHS for a Kirigami (切り紙) Art and sculpture workshop.

Students learnt that Kirigami is a variation of origami that includes cutting paper, rather than solely folding the paper as is the case with origami.

During the day, the students produced a beautiful selection of Art sculptures and looked at how many artists are redefining this medium with 3D and 2D installations.



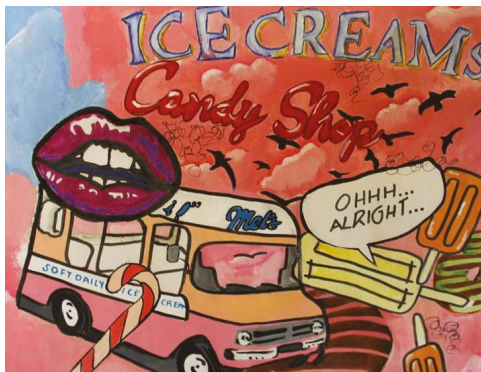
Art

GCSE Art Exhibition 2019

On Monday 5th July, parents, staff, students and friends all had the opportunity to view the talented work produced by our GCSE Art and Design students.

The GCSE Art Exhibition showcased the range of stunning pieces that our Year 11 students have been working on for their Art & Design coursework and exam this year. If you didn't get a chance to see the artwork, here are a few highlights from the event.

May I take this opportunity to thank all the Year 11 Art & Design students for their hard work, dedication and commitment this year.



Food Technology

Food preparation and nutrition.

On 9th July, we welcomed Year 5 students from Ashbridge Primary school for a Pizza making workshop.

Our Year 9 students did a fantastic job supporting the Year 5 visitors. At the end of the session, they distributed certificates for team work, individual excellence and overall winners.

Year 5s measured out ingredients and made a 'healthy' pizza. We explored the science of cookery and the use of yeast as a biological raising agent. They were an absolute pleasure to teach and they've already asked when they can come back to PGHS.

Mrs Khan,
Food Technology Coordinator



Year 10 Practical Exams

Year 10 ended the term by completing their mock practical exam. This was a demanding practical that showcased the skills they've acquired throughout the year. This year, tasks set by the exam board were:

- Asian cuisine from a particular country or region
- Teenage nutrition and 3 dishes suitable for teenagers

Our students often use the motto:

'If you fail to prepare, you prepare to fail.'

Luckily the Year 10 students have shown exceptional organisation and planning, producing detailed time plans that include dovetailing tasks.

Mrs Khan
Food Technology Coordinator

Technology

BTEC Creative Media and Productions

Next academic year, there will be a brand new course for Penwortham Girls' High School. As part of this course, myself and Mr Ramsdale took 14 Year 9 students to Media City for the day to take part in a workshop delivered by Salford University.

The workshop allowed students to use the filming equipment and select a recent public event to produce a news report. Students spent some time researching their chosen subject and then wrote a script. In the afternoon, students spent some time in Media City, interviewing members of the public and filming them with the professional equipment. Each student had the opportunity to go into the recording studio to professionally record their scripts.

It was a fantastic day and the students are eagerly awaiting their completed news reports.

I would like to thank the team at Salford University. They gave the students the confidence and enthusiasm to interview and film members of the public. It was a memorable trip and we hope to be able to continue to work together in future.

Mrs Smith, Curriculum Leader for C.A.T. Faculty



Technology

BAE SYSTEMS
INSPIRED WORK

Year 9 BAE Systems Workshop

On Wednesday 26th June, 20 Year 9 students were given the exciting opportunity to attend a 'Support Products' workshop at the Academy for Skills & Knowledge at BAE Systems in Samlesbury.

Throughout the course of the day, students were informed of the various different roles and career opportunities available in engineering and at BAE Systems. The event was supported by a wide range of employees from BAE, many of whom had volunteered to speak to students. We had a tour of the new training academy and their state of the art facilities. We were informed that the academy supports and trains hundreds of students each year.

Our visit coincided with the launch of the new 'Tempest' aircraft, from BAE Systems. As part of the launch, they had a scaled replica of the aircraft on display. Students were even able to sit in the replica aircraft!

We had a fantastic day, the girls behaved impeccably and came away feeling inspired and motivated about a possible career in engineering.

Mrs Freer, Teacher of Technology



Key Stage 3 Computing

This year, Year 7 students have learnt a variety of skills; these have ranged from online safety to simple programming language.

In Year 8, students have examined stop frame animation skills and developed their programming technique using 'Python' and the Micro:bits.

Finally, Year 9 have looked at developing future technologies, the 'Python' programming language and website creation.

All students have studied the units successfully and have made good progress throughout the year.



Technology

International Women in Engineering Day

To celebrate International Women in Engineering Day, we held an engineering challenge with some Year 8 and 9 students. As part of the challenge, students designed and constructed a rocket then launched them on the school field.

The girls worked in groups of 4 and had to consider aerodynamic design, speed and distance. Once the designs were constructed, we launched them on the school field (see photos opposite).

All students proved that they have the skills and ability to be the next women engineers.

Well done, girls.

Mrs Freer, C.A.T. Faculty



Technology

GCSE Computer Science

Year 11 have had a productive two years of GCSE Computer Science.

The theory content has proven to be challenging, at times, but students have risen to the challenges with enthusiasm. I'd like to thank the Year 11s for the dedication they have shown throughout their GCSEs.

Year 10 have had a positive start to their GCSE Computer Science. Again, it has been challenging at times but the girls have risen to the challenges and have demonstrated good progress.

GCSE Computer Science has proven to be a success among Year 9s and a positive number of students have chosen this subject as an option. Here's hoping that PGHS is nurturing a future Bill Gates or Steve Jobs! We are looking forward to working with a new cohort of Computer Scientists.



**ENTHUSE
Partnership**

Earlier this year, Penwortham Girls' High School applied and was appointed the lead school of the government approved ENTHUSE partnership scheme.



The program is designed to inspire young people into STEM subjects and STEM related careers. We are proud to be the lead school for the local area, linking together a range of South Ribble primary and secondary schools. PGHS (and the schools within the partnership) have access to funding and opportunities to help raise the profile of STEM, design and technology and engineering.

We would like to introduce students to the many career opportunities available to them. With links to local businesses and industry, STEM ambassadors, STEM clubs and competitions, students will have a greater understanding of this industry.

If you are interested in STEM, particularly D&T and engineering, come and speak to us and look out for exciting opportunities taking place from September.

Mrs Freer
C.A.T. Faculty

Primary Online Safety

The PGHS computing department welcomed Year 4 students from New Longton Primary School and Year 5 students from Hoole St Michael Primary School.

The students spent an afternoon looking at online safety. They discussed what they already understood about being safe online and what they wanted to find out. They then watched some films about the dangers of being online and of taking 'selfies'. There were lots of discussions about 'selfies' and about keeping private information, private.

Towards the end of the session, students created an online safety poster. They printed these off and took them back to school to create a display.

Thank you to all our primary school visitors. You took part in all the activities and had fun along the way!

English Department News

Blood Brothers Workshops

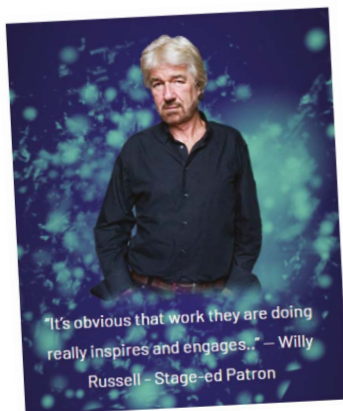
For the second year running, we were delighted to welcome Mike Southern, form Stage-Ed into school to deliver a series of workshops to all of Year 9.



The focus of these workshops is to give students a “hands on” approach to our GCSE set text ‘Blood Brothers’, so they can begin to develop an understanding that this is a text that is meant to be performed, not just read! The workshops are highly practical and engaging, aimed at developing practical drama skills. Initially, many students are a little nervous that they may have to perform, but Mike is so superb at putting students at ease and building their confidence, any “stage fright” is quickly overcome. These workshops are always well received and are a great way for students to understand this set text from a different angle.

Mike, who delivers the workshops is a professional actor and has worked with us for many years now, including on some of our previous Arts week performance. Michael co-founded Stage-ed 2012. Michael played ‘Sammy’ in Blood Brothers in the West End for 10 years, as well as a year on the UK National tour. On screen Michael has appeared in numerous short films, and also has feature film credits. He has worked closely with Willy Russell to develop the workshops – a real endorsement from the playwright himself!

But don’t take my word for it, this is what our students said:



“Amazing”, “Fantastic!”, “Really funny and enjoyable”, “Everyone got involved but because they wanted to – even the really quiet ones”, “Can I do it again this afternoon?”

A great end to the year for Year 9, who impressed all the staff with their knowledge, enthusiasm and get up and give it a try attitude.

Mrs Woodhouse,
Curriculum Leader for English

Paula Rawsthorne Author Visit

We are really proud of our flourishing library and we have an excellent stock of Young Adult fiction titles that have been selected with our students in mind

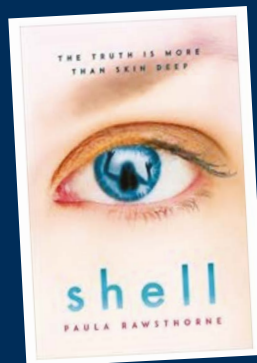
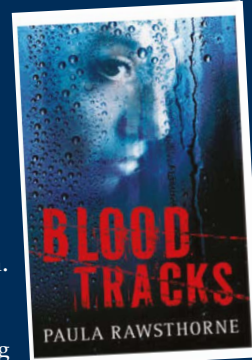


On 10th July, the latest in a long line of visiting Authors came in to school to talk about her writing – Paula Rawsthorne. After winning the Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators Undiscovered Voices competition, Paula’s first novel – The Truth About Celia Frost – was published to widespread critical acclaim. A former social worker, she writes with about the issues facing young people today.

Paula’s presentation consisted of readings from her novels which intrigued many of the students. Girls then had the opportunity to ask about her work. Year 7 and 8 were an attentive and appreciate audience and asked thoughtful questions about her characters and the inspiration for her novels.

Many students bought a signed copy of her latest novel; the feedback I have so far is that students couldn’t put it down. Hopefully, this will have infected them with the reading bug ready for the summer holidays!

Mrs Woodhouse
Curriculum Leader for English



Lancashire Book of the Year – encouraging reading

Lancashire Book of the Year is the longest running young people's regional book award in the country.

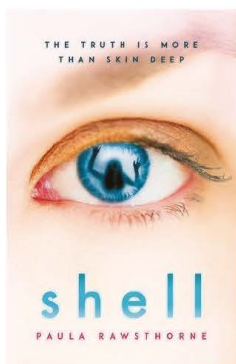
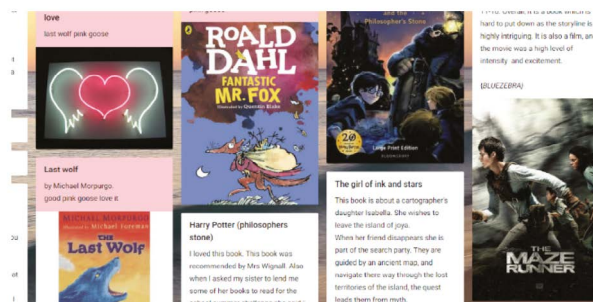
The award remains one of the few book awards in which young people themselves are solely responsible for choosing both the shortlist and the overall winning book. The award is voted for by Year 9 students in high schools around the county. Each school is given a collection of books, submitted by publishers as being the best books they had produced for the 12-14 age group. The young people then read and shortlist the books before choosing the overall winner.

From a longlist of 60 fiction titles, the shortlist was announced on 5th March 2019 with each one guaranteed to be a really good read, endorsed by the young people of Lancashire.

We are still waiting for the winner to be announced, but if you are looking for something to fill those long summer days, this would be a great place to start as there is a great selection of authors and genres. Hopefully, you'll be able to sit in the sun with a cool drink and a great book (hopefully – this is Lancashire!)

In addition, as part of our mission to promote reading, all of Year 7 are being encouraged to take part in the summer reading challenge. There are 3 levels to this challenge – read a book recommended by a peer, read a book recommended by a teacher and finally, read a classic. Students are uploading their mini reviews onto padlet so that we can track their progress through the challenge. The English department have been HUGELY impressed by the number of posts so far on the padlet page – another great place to look for book recommendations if you're looking for something new.

Mrs Woodhouse,
Curriculum Leader for English



Year 9 Volcano Models

Once again, the submissions for this year's Volcano Model Project from Year 9 students have been absolutely OUTSTANDING!

The Geography Department are in agreement that the standard is as high, if not higher than it has ever been- we don't know how they do it! We feel the students have really pushed themselves to be as creative as they can. We have had students making volcanoes from papier-mâché, builders foam, modelling clay and of course lots of CAKE! We have also seen the introduction of a knitted volcano, one made from bourbon biscuits and a volcano board game. We are really impressed with the level of detail the students are going into, and would like to thank them for the time and hard work they have put into creating such amazing pieces of work!

Merits and Head's Commendations were awarded to a large number of entries, so the students need to come and check their volcanoes. The staff have also picked out three entries for **Highly Commended** certificates.

Headteacher's Commendations to: Grace A, Emma S, Erin F, Abigail F, Olivia B, Mackenzie H, Macey M, Katie B, Kathryn L, Faatimah H, Heather P, Katie H, Nabeelah M, Emily N and Jess B.

Mr Ward Highly Commended Certificate –Ruth B– This volcano was so original and creative, we have never had anyone knit a volcano before. She has spent a long time preparing and creating this masterpiece - well done, Ruth!

Mr Bowles Highly Commended Certificate –Ella W – This volcano has a realistic shape, accompanied by an informative diary showing how the volcano was made- Excellent work Ella!

Miss Wignall Highly Commended Certificate- Aimee C, Mali C, and Ellie B - This model was inspired by Mount Tambora, it had been very well constructed showing both the interior and exterior. This model was also accompanied with a booklet that included key features of the volcano and a fact file on Mount Tambora's last eruption. It was also very creative. I loved the pump idea- FAB volcano!

Year 10 Progress Leaders Highly Commended Certificate - Emily N D – The mixture of mediums used here is excellent and there are many accurate labels. The model also shows the volcano mid-eruption. Great effort!

It would be great if all students came down to the Humanities Corridor to have a look at the AMAZING work on display! Here are photos of just a few.

Miss Wignall

Geography Department





Geography News



A thank you from Mr Bowles...

Year 8 are currently doing a unit of study on countries as Superpowers.

Students were set the extension task of a collage or item that sums up the USA as a cultural superpower. Jessica W (8J) made some spectacular cupcakes with Americana themes...and best of all gave them to me! As you can see, these went down very well in the Bowles household. Thanks Jessica (and her mum!) the skill shown was very impressive and I can vouch for how tasty they were - Geo-tastic!



Mr Bowles

Curriculum Leader for Geography



Have a great break

Remember, you are always a Geographer, both in and out of the classroom. Over the summer, try to spread your wings a little. If you are able to, why not see some of our local countryside.

If you are going further afield, have fun and be a respectful and interested tourist, and regardless of where you are off to don't forget to send us a postcard from your travels. Have a great summer and bon voyage from Mr Bowles, Mr Ward and Miss Wignall.



Where's Earthy?

Email your answer to g.bowles@penworthamgirls.lancs.sch.uk. You must be as specific as possible with your answer. Clue; some of you have been here recently. An OS map for the first correct answer!

History Trip to Berlin

4 1 Year 10 and 11 students have recently returned from a superb History trip to Berlin, Germany.

After arriving at Schönefeld Airport on Thursday 4th April, students made the short coach journey to Hotel Schultz, a modern hotel located in what would have been the Eastern side of the Berlin Wall. On Friday 5th, students were treated to an extensive walking tour of the main historic and cultural sites of Berlin. The tour included the famous Karl Marx Allee, Alexanderplatz, Checkpoint Charlie, the site of the Führerbunker, Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe and the Reichstag. Students also visited the superb DDR Museum which gave a unique insight into the everyday lives of Germans living behind the iron curtain and the Topography of Terror, which gave harrowing accounts and photographs from the Holocaust.

On Saturday the 6th we visited the East Side Gallery; a preserved section of the Berlin Wall that includes the famous 'Fraternal Kiss' between Erich Honecker and Leonid Brezhnev. At the end of the East Side Gallery, students visited the Wall Museum which included a fascinating collection of photographs and interviews outlining the impact and legacy of the construction of the Berlin Wall. The visit then continued to the East Berlin district of Lichtenberg, unexpectedly running into an enormous march against the gentrification and increases in rent experienced by the residents of the area. After negotiating the crowds, students made their way to the site of the Stasi prison. The guided tour was a real highlight of the trip, showing the true horror of living in the DDR. Students learnt about the interrogation techniques used by the prison guards to extract information from inmates as well as a whole range of human rights abuses.

Due to the late return flight time, there was plenty of time on the final day to visit more of Berlin. Students ascended the iconic TV Tower for magnificent views of the city, and then visited the Berlin Historical Museum which had some impressive artefacts from Germany's past. The return flight to Liverpool Airport was on time, meaning students returned back to PGHS just before 1am on Monday morning. I would like to thank the members of staff who gave up part of their Easter break to help supervise the visit, and the students who were enthusiastic and great ambassadors for the school. I hope that you had an enjoyable and memorable time!

Mr Herbert, Curriculum Leader for History



Year 10 GCSE Historians: Spanish Armada

Year 10 GCSE Historians are currently studying the British Depth Study component of the course: Elizabethan England.



As part of the exam, students are expected to explain the significance of a historic site within the period. This year, students have been given the Spanish Armada in the English Channel as their focus. Therefore, what better way for Year 10s to spend the Summer Holidays than to become experts in the English victory over the Spanish in 1588! Below is some suggested reading/viewing:

- Radio 4s 'In our time' with Melvyn Bragg - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00v1qyb>
- Dan Snow's BBC documentary on the Spanish Armada: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YIDA8cquOcU>
- The History Channel's Spanish Armada Documentary: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_a5RADAb2dQ
- National Archives – Primary Source Investigation - <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/education/resources/god-blew-they-were-scattered/>
- Spartacus Educational Website: <https://spartacus-educational.com/TUDarmada.htm>

Mr Herbert, Curriculum Leader for History

Our students have been incredibly busy in their French and German lessons this past term working on a variety of skills.

Most notably our Year 10 students have prepared well for their recent mock speaking examinations with some outstanding performances from several students including: C.Bourne, E. Grant; N.Bullen, and L. Palmer in French and H. Hemsworth, A. Ashcroft and L. Parker in German. Their commitment to their language learning is fantastic and shows how regular learning of vocabulary and practice of grammar structures can impact on progress. The students are also using the GCSE POD and Duolingo to improve their memory and extend their vocabulary which is giving them a wider knowledge and opportunity to understand how to learn a language, i.e. little and often. Year 10 should now check SMHW for further support provided over the Summer in preparation for year 11 and to recap on topics covered so far. Equally, Year 9 students have now chosen their preferred language for study at GCSE and recently enjoyed a talk on the value of language learning given by a senior lecturer from UCLAN. This inspired the students to consider what they could use languages for in their future careers e.g. engineering ; legal work or in finance and how learning one language opens up the door to others. Pupils in French have had the opportunity to watch another French film called 'Mon meilleur ami' the story of an art dealer looking for a best friend. This supports our mission within the department to promote the value of language learning and the idea of language immersion that helps to improve pronunciation and develop comprehension skills. Students enjoyed it but their favourite film is remains 'Les Choristes'. Don't forget to check out SMHW for further support over the Summer in preparation for year 10 GCSE.

Silent Starters in MFL

This term we have been trialling the most effective silent starters in MFL.

A silent starter should be accessible to all abilities in the class and should reflect on the previous learning of the group. Most popular ones in French have been activities on the IWB and ones which consolidate the use of tenses. SMARTonline has also been good for differentiated starters in a small group.

A collection of these are included below in which

- students had an answer but had to work out the question.
- students had to work out the tense.
- students worked on different levels of translation.
- students had to match up the answer with the question.

Mrs Waterhouse,
MFL Department

Foundation
Translate this passage into English.
À Nice, les cours au collège commencent à 8h20. Les élèves doivent arriver à l'heure. On doit respecter les adultes. Maintenant, les portables et les jeux électroniques sont interdits. Dans le passé, on pouvait les utiliser.

Higher tier. Translate this passage into English.
Selon un sondage, les jeunes sont aujourd'hui collés à leur smartphone. Ils y sont tellement accrochés que la majorité des Français de 13 à 24 ans indiquent ne pas pouvoir sortir sans portable. Ils veulent être connectés partout, toute la journée. Beaucoup d'adolescents français préféreraient abandonner leur télévision plutôt que leur téléphone.

- Où vas-tu en vacances? **Je vais avec ma famille**
- Comment voyages-tu? **Je me baigne dans la mer**
- Où loges-tu? **Je suis en Espagne**
- Avec qui vas-tu? **Je loge dans un hôtel**
- Que fais-tu? **Je vais en avion**

CHALLENGE – can you add any time phrases or link words to extend these answers?

1.....? Je m'appelle Sara
2.....? Très bien, merci.
3.....? J'ai douze ans.
4.....?
Mon anniversaire, c'est le vingt octobre.
5. Comment es-tu? (clue = character).....

Extra - can you answer 4 and 5 about yourself?

Présent **Passé**

Je vais en ville
J'ai rencontré mon amie
Je mange un hamburger
Je suis allée au cinéma
Nous avons regardé un film

CHALLENGE – Can you put any of the above into the **elle** form? Eg – She is going into town.

Auf Wiedersehen

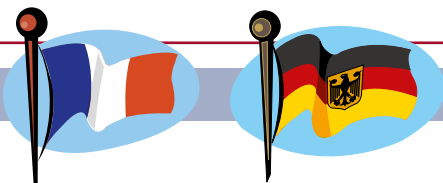
When it was suggested to me that I should write about my favourite class as my final contribution to this newsletter before I retire, I agonized. What a dilemma. How could I choose? So, I decided to dedicate this to all my classes, both past and present, and to my current Year 9 in my role as their Raising Achievement Coordinator, as they've been brilliant.

Over more years than I will admit to, I have had the privilege to teach German to countless budding linguists, to see their language develop over time from, in

most cases, zero at the start of Year 7 or 8. Some have matured as linguists and discovered an innate talent for languages. For others, German has been more of a struggle, but one which most is ultimately overcome when they go on to receive their fiercely fought-for GCSE result.

Overall, it has been a pleasure. I feel proud to have played my part, however small, and I will miss you all.

Mrs. K Akers, MFL Department, Raising Achievement Co-ordinator, Year 9



Feroza

After leaving PGHS in 2011 with 10 GCSEs' A* - B, I moved on to Runshaw college to study A levels in Mathematics, Biology and Chemistry.

My passion for problem solving and logical thinking led me to study Mathematics at The University of Manchester, where I was further exposed to the beautiful world of Mathematics and learnt about the abstract concepts of Mathematics as well as its applications to the real world. I learnt about the use of Mathematics in the manufacture of Dyson products, and the role of mathematical modelling in the analysis of iron meteorites which could help us understand the formation of the solar system. My love for Mathematics led me to complete a master's in applied mathematics.

Studying a degree in Maths opens you to a wealth of opportunities, hence I worked in software development for some time before deciding to pursue my passion, which has always been teaching. In 2016, I was invited to travel to Indonesia as part of a programme by the British Embassy in Jakarta to teach English there. It was a phenomenal experience and affirmed my decision to become an educator.

In October of 2018, I returned to the school which nurtured and developed me in my teenage years. This time, I joined as a member of staff being nurtured and developed in my professional career. Having the honor to study and teach at Penwortham Girls' High School is an opportunity I could only dream of. I have thoroughly enjoyed being mentored by Mrs Walsh & her Mathematics department, and every day I am inspired by the hard working, supportive staff to be the best teacher I can be. Recently I was awarded a Mathematics scholarship by the Institute of Mathematics and Applications so I will begin my teacher training in September.

You never know, in a year or two, I may end up teaching you!

Miss F Seth



Be prepared

“Failure to prepare is preparing to fail” – Benjamin Franklin

As we ourselves begin to organise our classrooms for the start of a new school year, the theme of preparation is high on our agenda. In mathematics, organisation and preparation are key components to success. Many of the objectives that students are expected to achieve, require specific mathematical equipment. We would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents, guardians, and students themselves of the essential equipment list that is required for all mathematics lessons.



Black / blue pens

Green pens

Whiteboard pens

Pencils

Sharpener

Rubber

Ruler (ideally 30cm)

Protractor

Compass

Scientific Calculator
(recommended calculator: Casio FX85GTX)

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs S. Walsh

Head of Mathematics

Summer Sums

Another fantastic year of progress from all our students at PGHS and a well-deserved rest ahead.

The summer holidays are an opportunity to relax, spend quality time with friends and family and prepare for another successful year. Of course, this relaxation can come in many different forms. For some, your summer sanctuary may be found by immersing yourself into a novel, for others it may be embarking on a long walk through countryside, however for us in the mathematics department our road to relaxation is paved with puzzles!

And this summer, we would like to invite you to join us...

We have carefully selected six problem solving questions from the most recent GCSE specification. Each question requires logic, numeracy skills and some mathematical reasoning to justify your solutions. A key focus in all of our planning and teaching this year has been to develop academic vocabulary and encourage our students to think and speak like mathematicians. These questions complement this vision perfectly!

Remember, this is our idea of fun; this is not a homework task and there is certainly no expectation for any student to complete all six for the start of September. We simply want to provide families with an opportunity to work together to assimilate some of the maths problems that students will face in the upcoming years. To encourage you a little further, we will be collecting in all completed answers in the first week back and prizes will be awarded for the best quality work.

We sincerely hope you will enjoy discussing each of these questions with your daughters. Having had the pleasure of working with them all year, we are certain you will be impressed by their resilience, mathematical vocabulary and reasoning skills.

Wishing you all a happy, healthy and safe summer.

Mrs Walsh, Curriculum Leader for Maths

1

Sam buys 20 boxes of oranges.
There are 25 oranges in each box.
Each boxes of oranges costs £7
Sam sells $\frac{2}{5}$ of the oranges he bought.
He sells each of these oranges for 40p.
He then sells each of the remaining oranges at 3 oranges for 50p.
Did Sam make a profit or did Sam make a loss?
You must show working to justify your answer.

2

The table gives information about the cost of cinema tickets.

Cinema tickets	Before 5pm	5pm and after
adult ticket	£6.35	£7.55
child ticket (aged 2-12)	£4.75	£5.65
teen ticket (aged 13-18)	£5.05	£6.05
Family ticket (for 4 people)	£19.00	£22.60

Mr and Mrs White have 2 children.
One child is aged 10. The other child is aged 14
Mr and Mrs White and their 2 children go to the cinema after 5pm.
It is cheaper for Mr and Mrs White to buy 1 family ticket than to buy 4 separate tickets.
How much cheaper?

3

Axel and Lethna are driving along a motorway. They see a road sign.
The road sign shows the distance to Junction 8
It also shows the average time drivers take to get to Junction 8

30 Miles to Junction 8
26 minutes

The speed limit on the motorway is 70 mph.
Lethna says "We will have to drive faster than the speed limit to drive 30 miles in 26 minutes."
Is Lethna right? You must show how you get your answer.

4

In a school, the ratio of boys to girls is 2:3
20% of the boys are left handed
70% of the girls are right handed
What percentage of all the students are left handed?

5

Three bananas and two pears cost 95p.
Five bananas and three pears cost £1.51
Find the cost of ten bananas and ten pears.

6

Edward and his four friends go on holiday.
The total cost of the holiday is £3600.
Edward is going to stay longer than his friends and he is going to pay 35% of the total cost. The rest of the total cost is to be shared equally between his four friends.
Edward says, "I pay twice as much money for the holiday than each of my friends."
Is Edward correct? Explain your answer.

United Kingdom Mathematics Trust Junior Mathematical Challenge 2019

At the end of April, it was finally time for our Year 7 and 8 students to take on the challenge of the UKMT Junior Mathematics Challenge 2019.

Expectations were high, particularly after a very strong performance from the Year 9 and 10 students in the Intermediate Challenge in March.

More than 90 students took part this year, which was our largest entry by far. They were up against students from over 4000 other schools across the UK. The standard of participation is high, where only the best achieving students can receive an award.

Once over, the long wait for the results envelope began and on that fateful day the department was once again delighted to see a large number of students recognised for their individual performances. Year 8 performed admirably with eighteen students receiving awards. However, the stand out performance was from Year 7, with two gold awards and ten other students being recognised for their achievement.

Furthermore, Mia S in Year 7, who not only achieved the best result in school, was also invited to take part in the follow up event, the Junior Mathematical Kangaroo 2019. This extra event is there to recognise the achievement of the top achievers in the Junior Mathematical Challenge. We are very excited and await the results!

Some advanced dates for your diaries:

UKMT Intermediate Mathematical Challenge (Years 9 and 10)
– Thursday 6th February 2020

UKMT Junior Mathematical Challenge (Years 7 and 8)
– Thursday 30th April 2020

Mr S. Cheal

The Mathematics Department

This year's prize winners are as follows:

Mia 2 (Year 7) – Best in School, Best in Year and Gold award.

Zaynab B (Year 8) – Best in year and Silver award.

Hana M (Year 7) – Gold Award

Silver awards also went out to the following students:

(Year 8) Eliya D, Ellie R, and Belle M.

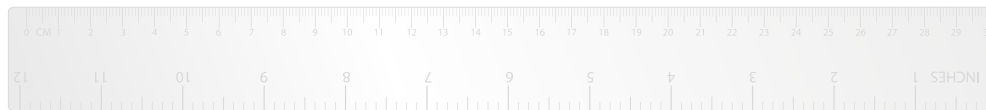
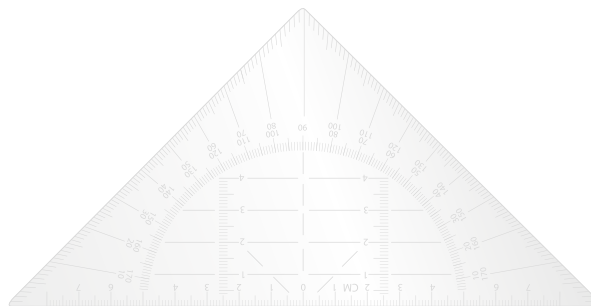
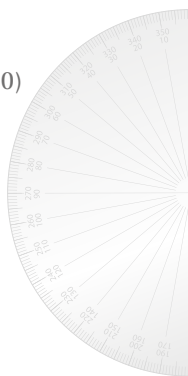
(Year 7) Zahra S, Katie B and Maddison T.

Bronze awards also went out to the following students:

(Year 9) Lucy P, Morgan W, Jessica S, Evie S, Hannah Y, Hidayah A, Darcey W, Lily S, Keira W, Malakhiyah W, Olivia S, Laura G and Amelia S.

(Year 7) Anna K, Libby D, Lucy S, Tilly P, Lottie B.

Congratulations to all students involved. The department is very much looking forward to the Mathematical challenges next year.



PE Department

Sports Presentation Evening

On Thursday 27th June, staff, students and parents assembled in the school hall to celebrate another year of sporting success.

The evening was an opportunity to thank students for all their hard work and dedication to PGHS School Sport and Dance. Sadly, we couldn't give an award to everyone but we had lots of nominations and debates regarding the final winners. I would like to thank you all once again for the effort, hard work, determination and team work skills you have displayed throughout the year, as well as on the evening itself.



Lancashire School Game

On Tuesday 2nd July, the U13 Cricket team were selected to represent South Ribble in the Lancashire School Games.

We had a fantastic day! In the group stages, our first game was against the Ribble Valley District. The final score was 236 runs (PGHS) to 216 runs (Ribble Valley). In our second group game, we beat West Lancs 252 runs to 217 runs. We then progressed to the semi-final and played Pendle District. Throughout the event, students were focussed and determined. During the semi-final, numerous wickets were taken during the game and this meant that PGHS made it to the final. During the final game, PGHS played against a very strong Chorley team. Chorley eventually won 238 runs to 213. Our PGHS team played an excellent tournament and came 2nd in Lancashire. An amazing achievement! Well Done!

PE Department

Sports Day

On Thursday 4th July, PGHS held their annual sports day. This year, our Sports Day had been adapted to ensure that all students had a role to complete and win points for their form.

Included in the running order of the day was the usual Athletics competition, an Interform Rounders Competition, as well as a number of non-sporting roles. All roles completed were judged and contributed towards their forms overall sports day points total. The roles that students could be involved in were a Form Journalist, Form Photographer, Time Keeper, Form Banner Co-ordinator and a Stall co-ordinator. We had some excellent performances produced within these areas from students taking pictures of Mr Ramsdale winning the staff 800m race, to students interviewing teachers for their newspaper article. There was only one rule, everyone in the form had to have a role for the day.

All students arrived in school in their PGHS PE kit. This enhanced the community team spirit we were trying to promote for the day which was also helped by Mr Ward and Mr Ramsdale's rendition of 'We Will Rock You' to start the afternoon's proceedings. Form tutors sat with their forms to support their runners in each race as they sat along the 100m finish line. We saw NUMEROUS PGHS records broken on the day as well as fantastic sporting performances. What I thought was truly amazing about the day, was the team spirit each form group portrayed and the way all year groups congratulated winners as they returned to their forms.

I am looking forward to next year's Sports Day already! Mrs Naylor

Curriculum Leader for Performance, Sport & Health



PE Department



Robin Park: Athletics Competition

On Friday 28th June, we competed in the annual South Ribble Athletics Competition at Robin Park.

During the event, we won races, broke South Ribble records and worked together as a team.

A special mention to the following South Ribble record holders:

Year 8 Relay Team (Darcey W, Donalia M, Lois R, Jess M)

Darcy S (Y9) in Discus

Amani V-C (Y9) in the 200m and 300m

The final results for the day:

Year 7 – 6th

Year 8 – 3rd

Year 9 – 1st

A fantastic effort by all the competitors!

Mrs Naylor, Head of Performance, Sport and Health



Music Department

Music Mania Day

On Tuesday 9th July we hosted Music Mania Day and welcomed pupils from Cop Lane, Lever House and Mere Brow to join us for a fantastic session of music making.

Bringing with them their brass and woodwind instruments, the hall was ringing to the sound of wimmoweh and African favourites in no time at all. Supported by our peripatetic teachers Mrs Maddocks, Mr Crane and Mrs Hughes and our brass and woodwind musicians, the pupils worked hard all morning rehearsing and then gave some superb performances to their families, teachers and supporters. It was tremendous to see so many pupils performing instruments together and having fun. We look forward to hosting another of these events in the near future. Well done everyone and thank you to all the staff involved.



‘I loved The Mighty Zulu Nation that visited us on Thursday 11th July. Their enthusiasm and happiness put smiles on everyone’s faces!’

‘I think that The Mighty Zulu Nation was a fantastic display of all different arts and got the whole school together. It allowed people to become more confident and it was a great opportunity to be part of, especially since I love the arts and have a passion for this.’



Performance, Sport & Health Faculty Department News

Music Department

Arts Week

Arts Week 2019 was an absolutely amazing experience and if you didn't have the opportunity to attend the concert on July 11th then you really did miss out!



The Mighty Zulu Nation Theatre Company spent the day at Penwortham Girls' with their inspiring energy and tremendous harmonies pulsing through the school corridors. Year 7 and 8 pupils were treated to a rousing display of music, dance and drama, which allowed everyone (including staff!) to get involved. After their performance, dancers, singers, drummers and artists were able to work alongside The Mighty Zulu Nation. They learned songs and dances to perform in the final concert, whilst the artists created some superb art work which was displayed on the evening.



The concert was a tremendous success with pupils from brass, woodwind and orchestra performing some iconic songs, whilst our actresses produced some superb extracts from 'The Lion King'. The dancers produced an amazing 'Cheer Mash-up!' whilst Emily and Alice performed a moving dance depicting the poverty found in some parts of Africa.

We were also pleased to be able to invite a number of guests from the 'Seasons' charity to watch our performance. When interviewed at the interval and asked which part they enjoyed the most they said they loved it all due to the uniqueness of every performance. They also said it was nice to meet so many positive, helpful and talented pupils when the young often do not get good publicity. At the end of the evening, all the audience left with smiles on their faces and we thank you all for your appreciation and thanks too!

'The assembly was amazing The Mighty Zulus were so talented and made my morning super positive and I felt great after!'

'Energetic and enjoyable, full of crowd contributions, keeping spirits high!'

'Very good assembly - enjoyable and fun - they must come again!'



RE in the world this week: Eastern Festivals

4th July: Ratha Yatra (Chariot Journey) Hinduism

This festival is observed most notably in Puri in the Indian state of Orissa. Thousands of devoted Hindus take part in processions, where they pull huge waggons (rathas) supporting images of Krishna (Lord of the Universe). It celebrates the supreme God's arrival to free humanity and relieve them from their sufferings. Seeing Lord Krishna at the event is considered a huge privilege. Even if you just touch the chariot, it's believed that any sins are instantly forgiven and you are restored as a virtuous person. The chariot represents the body, and the deity represents the soul. This reminds Hindus that Krishna is guiding them through life. Ratha Yatra is also celebrated in Britain, with processions through various parts of London.



Year 7s have spent a significant amount of time exploring Hinduism and there has been a focus on the different deities belonging to the religion. Anybody who goes the extra mile to enhance their subject knowledge by looking into this festival will be worthy of a Head's breakfast!

Suggested Link: <https://www.hostelbookers.com/blog/destinations/southeast-asia/ratha-yatra-hindu-festival/>



6th / 7th July: Chokor Buddhism

This Tibetan Buddhist festival commemorates the first teaching (the turning of the wheel of law/life) given by the historical Buddha. It is a colourful and relaxed mid-summer festival in which statues of the Buddha and copies of the scriptures, engraved on narrow, rectangular wooden blocks, are carried round the district with music and jollity. This symbolises the promulgation of the Buddha's teaching. The whole community,

clerical and lay, male and female, join in the processions and the picnics that follow. Year 9s have spent a significant amount of time exploring Hinduism this year, studying the Buddha's teachings. Looking into this festival would be a great way to broaden subject knowledge into how these teachings are commemorated today.

Suggested link: <https://www.tibettravel.org/tibetan-festivals/chokor-duchen-festival.html>

Soroptimist News

With the Soroptimist Society increasing popularity at PGHS, we have decided to separate into 3 groups.

This ensures all our meetings are kept productive and that nobody feels left without purpose. If you are intrigued to hear more about Soroptimisses or you have an interest in any of the following areas, feel free to join us on Monday lunch times in Room 30!

- Raising money to sponsor two girls' education in Swaziland (£640 per year!)
- Raising awareness about small charities / organisations and helping small businesses
- Publicity – creating newsletters and organising displays

Maarya and Aaliyah Badat in 7A are two Soroptimist members who joined us half way through their first year at PGHS. They have both written a short description of their experience this year. This will be published in the official Soroptimist Society newsletter.

Our final Soroptimist fundraising event for the year took place on Sports Day. We created pick and mix cups suitable for all dietary requirements. We also sold ice lollies and cold refreshing drinks which were a big success on such a hot day. All together, we raised £185.86 which will make a great start to our goal of £640 for next year!



BREAD SCIENCE

11 Year 8 students are currently studying the topic of 'Ecosystems'. During this topic, we have been learning about the process of fermentation.

Yeast is the driving force behind fermentation, the scientific process that allows dough to become a well-risen loaf of bread. Yeast is nothing more than a single-celled fungus, so how does it do it?

Yeast works by breaking down sugar (glucose) and releasing carbon dioxide (CO₂) and alcohol (ethanol) as products.

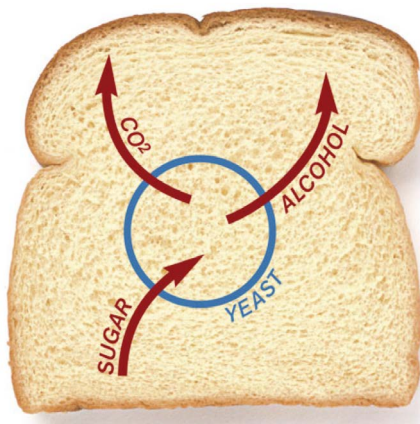
glucose → carbon dioxide + ethanol

The essentials of any bread dough are flour, water and yeast. As soon as these ingredients are stirred together, enzymes in the yeast and flour cause large starch molecules to break down into smaller glucose molecules.

Yeast feeds on this glucose, producing carbon dioxide and ethanol. The carbon dioxide is released as a gas, causing bubbles to form and increasing the volume of the dough. The alcohol produced mostly evaporates from the dough during the baking process.

Why not try baking some bread of your own at home?

Miss Forrest, Science Department



Chester Zoo Visit

This year in Science, one of the more recent topics that Year 7 have been learning about is 'Genes', which included the importance of biodiversity and conservation.

To help with this, students spent the day at Chester Zoo. They enjoyed their time learning about animals such as the rhino, penguin, chimpanzee and many others, plus the fantastic conservation work that is going on there. The students were impeccably behaved as always and enjoyed the day. It was lovely to hear them share their experiences of what they had gained from the day on their return journey home. The students that didn't attend, spent some time looking at zoos and their work. They also looked at the positives and negatives of them and produced some excellent presentations on some of the animals. Next academic year, they will study 'Ecosystems' as part of their Science course. Hopefully the trip has given them an invaluable insight into this topic already, by getting to see first hand, the animals and plants interacting with their environments.

Mrs Cahill,
Science Department



School's Physicist of the Year – Lauren P

Some of the county's most talented young scientists have come together at the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) to celebrate their abilities and achievements in physics at a special awards evening. This was held on July 2nd 2019.

It is the tenth time UCLan has hosted the Lancashire Schools' Physicist of the Year Awards which is sponsored by the Ogden Trust, a charitable trust that aims to promote the teaching and learning of physics. Schools from around the region are invited to select their highest achieving Years 10 and 12 pupils to be recognised at the prestigious event.

Lauren was selected as one of only 18 pupils across all of Lancashire.

Recipients of the award were handed a book token and a certificate from the Ogden Trust but more importantly, are given access to a wide range of benefits. These include undergraduate scholarships, travel grants to undertake independent travel for voluntary work, studying abroad and taking part in research trips over the next few years.

Mrs Honeyman, Curriculum Leader for Science



Using Models in Science

When learning about the wonderful world of Science, students must grasp some difficult and sometimes alien concepts.

This can be extremely hard to achieve, which is why we use different models to represent this in school.

The current Year 7s are studying the Earth topic, which is all to do with the structure of our Earth, the solar system, phases of the moon and the life cycle of stars. When teaching the students about the solar system and space in general, the students find it very hard to visualise and understand the magnitude of the sizes that we are talking about. To help the students with this, I took my Year 7 class out onto the playing field, without models of the different planets. We used a trundle wheel to correctly place the different planets in order. On completion, the sun and the first four planets are within 6 metres of each other however, Neptune is 98 metres away from the sun. This allows the students to understand why we haven't been able to travel to these distant planets and why we know so little about them.

In the same topic, we teach about the different phases of the moon. Many students believe that the moon is very similar to the sun and emits its own light. This is a common misconception; the moon reflects the light from the sun. The students struggle to understand how this is possible, as it is night-time when they can see the sun. By using a variety of models to demonstrate, the students can see the different phases of the moon. Eight students stand in a circle and with black pieces of card and a piece of chalk, they produce the eight different phases of the moon. One student holds a ball above their head in the middle of this circle (this is the moon). The final student holds a lamp above their head (this represents the sun). The eight students are then asked to draw what they can see on their black piece of card. As a result, we end up with eight phases of the moon, ranging from waxing and waning crescents to gibbous moons. The students can then understand how the moon reflects light in the different stages of its cycle.

Mr Dean, Science Department












Science Department News

Symbols in Science

In the spirit of peer scrutiny, Science has had to speak a universal language to overcome communication barriers.

Symbols have become commonplace within the scientific community and have filtered down into every society, helping to keep people safe.

GHS01 Explosive 	GHS02 Flammable 	GHS03 Oxidising 
GHS04 Gas Under Pressure 	GHS05 Corrosive 	GHS06 Acute Toxic 
GHS07 Harmful / Irritant / Skin sensitizer 	GHS08 Carcinogen / Germ cell mutagen / Reproductive toxin 	GHS09 Hazardous to the aquatic environment 

Symbols are also used to speed up the scientific process assigning symbols to all of the chemical elements.

47 Ag 107.8682	Titanium 22 Ti 47.867
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To speed up the start of Science lessons, common symbols and formats are being used to speed up the beginning of lessons.

Initial signs have been positive and students are quickly settling down at the beginning of each lesson, ready to be enlightened by the wonders of Science!

Mr D Knee, Science Department

Silent Starter – leave some space for your objective

5 July, 2019

Last lesson: What is the formula for pressure in a fluid?
Give symbols and units

Last week: Define a moment

Last month: Name a scalar and a vector quantity



Science Club Wildlife Photography

This half-term, Science Club have set up a motion activated camera in a small area of woodland in the school grounds.

The aim is to get photos of the local wildlife, including deer, as I have been reliably informed by Mr Turner. If we can find out which wildlife is present, we could then look into ways of encouraging more animals into the area.

We set the camera up to film 60 second videos, using a standard camera plus night vision. We then put down some food to tempt the wildlife into view. We chose banana, apples, nuts and seeds. Unfortunately, it was a rather windy week! The majority of the 160 minutes of footage we obtained showed leaves blowing in the wind, with the occasional sparrow or finch.

We had a discussion and have now decided to move the camera to a quiet corner of the field, hopefully less affected by moving branches. Again, we will set out a range of food and cross our fingers that the elusive deer makes an appearance. Fingers crossed.

Mr Coogan, Science Department

Fireworks

What Makes Fireworks Colourful?

That was the question asked of the Year 6 students when they had a Science lesson on sampling day. Fireworks contain metals and when burned, they give off different colours. Using a Bunsen burner, the students burned four different metal solutions and noted down their observations. The metals burned were calcium (orange red flame), copper (green flame), sodium (orange yellow) and potassium (lilac). Students were then asked to design their own firework and identify the metals in them.

Mrs Goodwill, Science Department



Learning Support Department Moving On To High School Sessions

Towards the end of the summer term, the Learning Support Department were joined by a number of Year 6 pupils who will be starting with us in the autumn term.

They came to take part in our annual 'Moving On To High School' workshops.

The M.O.T.H.S sessions are designed specifically for pupils with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities; they can also be helpful for pupils who struggle socially, or who find the prospect of High School a scary thought.

They have had three sessions which involved getting to know each other; getting to know their buddies and more importantly getting to know their way around school! They even had the opportunity to witness Penwortham Girls' High School's Sports Day- the premier event on our sporting calendar! The girls were supported by Mrs McGibbon the school's SENCO and Mrs Cattanach their Year 7 Raising Achievement Co-ordinator.

All the girls have found the sessions useful. A special thank you goes out to their fantastic buddies who did a great job of making our MOTHS feel at ease. We look forward to seeing our new Year 7 students in September.

Mrs K McGibbon



Mental Health Awareness Week

13 - 19 May



Year 11 enjoyed various activities such as aromatherapy, creative colouring, relaxing teas, celebrity yoga and mindfulness apps with an excellent turn out to all events!

The relaxing tea session was so successful that Year 11 are continuing to make and drink Chai Teas after obtaining the recipe from Mrs Khan. Students also wore a 'silly accessory' on Friday to raise money for the 'Young Minds' charity. Our school library has also opened a 'Shelf Help' book collection. This is an assortment of non-fiction books on a range of topics, including how to maintain good mental health and coping with stress.

Happy Minds Council

We are extremely pleased to announce that PGHS now has its very own Happy Minds Council which has been formed as a result of the hard work and dedication of Beth (Yr10) and Rose (Y11). Moving forward, this group of girls will meet as part of the School Council and will be responsible for championing positive mental health throughout the school. During their first meeting, the girls came up with the following ideas which we look forward to taking part in in the future:

- Assemblies, and posters to raise awareness within all year groups.
- Having a display board near the library stairs all year round which offers help, guidance and support.
- Cards with positive messages on that get passed around from year group to year group spreading positivity.
- Peer Support Group in the library to support pupils.
- More fundraisers to raise money for books for the library to support positive mental health and charities such as Young Minds and Childline.
- Charity concert to raise awareness and money for mental health charities

Mrs Cattanach, Associate Assistant Headteacher



Governors' Report

There is an air of change in the governing board this term – an excitement to look forward to the new school year!



Sometimes, a change in Ofsted's focus brings an air of doom but the new framework that starts in September 2019 has made us all review current practice. Of course, with our current outstanding status, we are still exempt from routine inspections but that does not stop us from taking on board some of Ofsted's recommendations which are rooted in much research. We are never complacent and we never want to stand still. As a governing board, we have each had a chance to air our views on how we currently manage our meetings and how we organise our work. We will begin the new year with a newly organised meeting structure and revised focus areas. We have this term undertaken a group training session, as well as the training each of us undertakes each year. We are keen to welcome new governors who will start with us in September but will also thank those who are leaving us this term; one member of staff we, as a governing board, wish to thank especially, is our clerk Catherine Arrowsmith who has kept us organised and prepared in all elements of our work for a number of years now – we will miss you Catherine and we wish you well in your future working life.

Each year, each of us focuses on an aspect of school improvement. We try to become experts in our own areas and to meet with relevant members of staff as required. One area I have been reviewing this term is that of Parent Voice. You will be aware that we ask your views via Parent Forum and the Kirkland Rowell Parental Survey on a regular basis but we also employ internal short questionnaires to gauge your views when you attend parents' evenings. Obviously, we have parent governors who sit on the governing board but these questionnaires give us more information to add to student views and staff views that we also collect and analyse.

Our internal questionnaires appear very positive. Over 5 parents' evenings this academic year, we asked you for your views on the eight statements below.

Statement	Agree or strongly agree	Disagree or strongly disagree
My daughter enjoys school	90%	10%
I am pleased with my daughter's progress	96%	4%
Teaching is good at this school	95%	5%
The school meets my daughter's individual needs	93%	7%
The school deals effectively with unacceptable behaviour	97%	3%
The school keeps my daughter safe	93%	7%
The school is effectively led and managed	95%	5%
The school is meeting my expectations	94%	6%

Our externally validated and analysed report appears to confirm much of the same but gives greater detail. Some notable findings of the most recent report, which is based on the year September 2018 to March 2019, are outlined below:

- 93% of Year 7 parents said they would recommend this school to other parents. The overall rating in this area has remained high for the last 4 years.
- 84% of parents would rate the school as good or very good at ensuring new students settle in well.
- Over 70% of all parents who responded said that this school develops potential in students, that teachers are caring and that parents' evenings give valuable information.
- 75% of parents said that the school gives the right amount of homework, 73% said this includes the right amount of challenge and 77% said the marking of work is regular and effective.
- In terms of what the school does well, parents rated most highly the discipline and security, the development of moral values, the control of bullying, school facilities and social health education.
- In terms of what parents felt the school needed to develop, was the area of the celebration and achievement of rewards; you will be aware that this is an area the school – and particularly Mr Ward and Mr Ramsdale - have been developing this year and have improved further for September.

Obviously, these questionnaires are only reliable if they contain findings from most parents; as a school, we are lucky to have involved and engaged parents so please continue to give your views in this way. During the course of next year, as many governors as possible will continue to attend events at which you are present so that we can continue to hear your views informally also.

As we near the end of this academic year, can I thank you, on behalf of the governing board, for your continued support and challenge and wish you an enjoyable summer break.

Lorimer Russell-Hayes (Chair of Governors)

Head Girl and Deputy Head Girl

Head Girl

Hello, my name is Susanna. I would like to take this as an opportunity to introduce myself as the Head Girl of Penwortham Girls' High School.

I am exceptionally grateful for the opportunity to represent such an astounding establishment. As Head Girl I hope to make our outstanding school even better.

With Misbah, the Student Leadership Team and student body, we hope to make a positive difference to the life of all students! Since joining the school in 2015, I believe I have flourished and developed my confidence as an individual. I have learned so much throughout the past four years, not only within lessons, but also interacting with other pupils of all ages. This is what I hope we can emulate in the future, aiming for all girls to thrive in school. I will provide unlimited support and leadership, ensuring all pupils achieve their desires. One way I believe we can achieve this is through expression. Personally, I adore art and feel that creativity is key to unlocking one's individual flairs. However, this is not just in typically 'arts subjects' but instead translated throughout the entire school. My passion is to ensure that this artistic element is prominent throughout school, promoted through the 'Creative Minds Council'. Finally, I would like to express my excitement for next year and the pride instilled when I consider each and every talented girl I will be representing.



Deputy Head Girl

Hello, my name is Misbah and I would like to introduce myself as the new Deputy Head Girl of PGHS.

I am extremely appreciative of being able to represent a school I love so much, as I move into my final year here at PGHS. I would recommend PGHS not only because of its fantastic GCSE results and its outstanding rating by Ofsted, but also the friendly environment which allows every girl to excel in whatever they do. Throughout my four years here, this school has offered numerous opportunities that have brought out the confidence in me which did not exist when I first joined here. I have had the opportunity to take on many roles and responsibilities and even organising entire charity events. As Deputy Head Girl, I will be actively working with my fantastic team to further improve every girl's academic journey through school. I look forward to working with my peers and the rest of the students and hopefully doing justice to the role.



Penwortham Girls'
High School

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