Penwortham Post



December 2021



National Support School designated by



National College for Teaching & Leadership







Artsmark Gold Award Awarded by Arts Council England

Christmas Celebration

e were absolutely delighted that the Christmas Celebration was able to take place on Wednesday 8th December in the School Hall and that the corridors of school were once again ringing with the sound of music.

The students and staff have worked extremely

hard over the past few weeks to pull together some superb performances. Well done, everyone!

There was an eclectic mix of music featuring 'Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer', 'Santa Claus is Coming to Town', 'Frosty the Snowman', 'Santa Tell Me', 'Underneath the Tree' and 'Mistletoe' to name just a few! There were also some fantastic dances and a very spooky drama production of 'Smee!'. All the students performed extremely well after such a long period of silence and now we can't wait for the next one! Best wishes to you all for a peaceful Christmas.

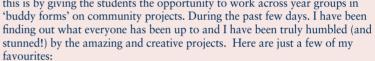
Mrs Cattanach Associate Assistant Headteacher Curriculum Leader for Music



continued overleaf...

Welcome to the end of term newsletter

This term we have been putting a lot of time and effort into rebuilding our school community, which has been so adversely affected by the pandemic. One way we have done this is by giving the students the opportunity to work across year groups in



- Creating Christmas cards to send to residents of local care homes
- Writing Thank You letters to NHS workers in local hospitals
- Creating 'Astro Packs' and distributing them to 200 local residents
- Writing letters to local councillors on a wide range of issues, including homelessness, recycling and women's' safety
- Producing food parcels for the homeless
- Creating Christmas activity packs for local primary schools
- Writing to children on the Children's Ward at Blackpool Hospital
- Creating 100th birthday cards for a local resident in a care home who did not have any visiting friends or relatives on her special day.

Finally, a massive thank you to all parents for supporting our local, national and international charities this Christmas. Yesterday, I had a fantastic night at the Penwortham Christmas Fayre with Mrs Hall and a number of Year 11 students. Thanks to your very generous donations for our tombola, we raised £240 which, unbelievably, will feed 60 orphans in Eswatani for a month.

I think the wise words of Martin Luther King are quite fitting, given everything our students have achieved this term:

'Everyone can be great, because everyone can serve'

On behalf of all the staff and governors, I would like to wish you all a peaceful and restful holiday. As I said at our recent Christmas concert, there's only one gift I want this year and that is for us all to be able to return, 'as normal' in the New Year. In these most challenging of times, all we can do is hope. Mrs K Pomeroy



Christmas Celebration Concert









PGHS News



Governors News

Years of Service to the School

Toward Jackson, Vice-Chair of Governors above received a certificate from the Lancashire Association of School Governing Bodies, in recognition of his service to the school.

Howard first joined as a member of the PTA in 1988 as his daughter started at the school. He became chair of that body and used his influence to raise funding for the school via a



number of events, such as jumble sales and gala stall sales. He also helped to paint scenery for drama productions and could often be found in school on Saturday mornings!

He was invited by the then headteacher to join the governing body, which he did in 1991. He has served as Chair, Vice-Chair and member of the Finance committee over many years and is currently Vice-Chair overall. Howard uses his influence as a Rotarian and as member and now Captain of Penwortham Golf Club in activities and events in the local community.

He has only praise for the school which he knows as parent, community leader and governor – inside and out! His two daughters attended the school; Samantha is a Detective Police Inspector and Melanie is a primary teacher locally.

Howard is not leaving the governing body just yet but wishes to explore possibilities for young golfers who might be interested in joining the junior section of his golf club.

We would like to thank Howard for his service of over 30 years as governor with Penwortham Girls' High School, in the hope he remains a governor for a few more years yet!

Ms Lorimer Russell-Hayes Chair of Governors

Parental Survey 2021

Can't quite believe it was pre-Covid when I last reported on our parental survey via the newsletter. It seems like so much has changed since then.

Certainly, much has changed in the world since then but in reviewing our parental survey, it seems that much of what you love about the school has remained or improved!

- In terms of non-academic criteria, from your perspective, you rated the
 following five areas to be the main strengths school communication,
 levels of homework, school discipline, developing moral values and school
 security.
- The following areas had made significant improvement: school communication, teaching quality, availability of resources and truancy control
- None of the criteria reviewed showed a decline since the previous survey two years ago.
- Parents considered that the school had made significant improvement in rewarding and celebrating achievement.
- More parents (89%) rate the school as good or very good than in the previous survey.
- 92% of parents would recommend this school.

The survey highlighted the fact that three criteria have increased in importance to you over the last two years; these are the happiness of your daughter, her confidence and the care of teachers. I feel that this reflects society and the influence of the pandemic, but rest assured, these areas are of great importance to school also. All similar schools performed in the same way.

In terms of the 12 Parent View questions asked, outstanding ratings were given to many elements – too many to mention! Of note though are the following areas which were rated outstanding – control of bullying, developing potential, teaching quality, the right amount of homework and regular marking of work.

The report also equated some of the scoring to Ofsted areas of judgement. Under behaviour and attitudes, all areas were rated outstanding. Under personal development, I am pleased to report that the following areas, amongst others, were rated outstanding – treating all pupils fairly and promoting racial harmony. Overall, the rating for the school is outstanding.

On behalf of the school and of the governing board, I would like to thank you for your contribution to the questionnaire. Your views remain a highly important indicator to us, along with the views of your daughters and of their staff, in showing us whether we are prioritising the right areas. It would appear that we are! I am especially pleased to see the increase in satisfaction with the way school rewards and celebrates achievement; I feel this should be influential in helping your daughters to increase in confidence and happiness after the turmoil of the last two years.

Finally, the governors would like to wish you all a happy, restful and safe festive period.

PGHS News

I Attend' Voucher Scheme

ast term, we launched a new attendance reward initiative in school.

For each week of perfect attendance (no lates, no absences) achieved by your daughter, she will receive one 'I Attend' voucher. Students will be able to collect these vouchers and exchange them for benefits that include chip day queue jumpers, tickets to lunchtime movie screenings, purchases of stationary from our new school shop or discounts on special items / events, e.g. year books and prom tickets.

We know that success in school, whether that is success in sports, music, art or in exams, starts with great attendance. Extensive research also shows that school absence can a be major contributor to a number of emotional, health and wellbeing challenges, including low mood and feelings of isolation/loneliness.

We also appreciate that Covid temporarily changed the attendance equation, with parents understandably airing on the side of caution when their daughter felt unwell. However, with now over two-thirds of our school population either vaccinated or Covid-recovered, transmission rates amongst our students are expected to fall. Of course, we will also continue to apply control measures, such as mask wearing, for as long as is necessary.

School has been in full Covid-recovery mode since September, with revised schemes of work aimed at tackling any home learning gaps. A new personal development calendar has also been introduced, to ensure our students get to

enjoy and benefit from the wider cultural and social aspects of school life, culminating last term with our first 'Literature and Language Festival'. Our GCSE intervention programme is up and running, with a calendar of targeted small group support sessions timetabled to begin post November. Clearly, students are only benefitting from these actions if they are in school.

If you have any good ideas of affordable rewards which you believe will encourage full attendance, drop me an email at b.ward@penworthamgirls.lancs.sch.uk.

Mr Ward, Senior Assistant Headteacher and SLT Attendance Lead.





Family and Student Support Manager

y name is Catherine Arrowsmith and from January 2022 I will be the Family and Student Support Manager for Penwortham Girls' High School.

As a member of the school pastoral team, I will be responsible for providing

effective support to students and their families who may be facing challenging circumstances and need additional support. Having previously worked for PGHS for a number of years, I am already familiar with its ethos and supportive environment.

I am looking forward to starting this new role and will endeavour to build and maintain positive engagement with pupils, family members and the wider community.

Mrs C Arrowsmith

Family and Student Support Manager



Art

CAT Faculty London Visit Art, Photography & Textiles 2021 – Art and Technology

his year, 15 Year 11 students accompanied Miss Morris, Mrs Freer and Mrs Gerrard for a day visit to London.

During the visit, students experienced a gallery visit to the Tate Modern, a trip around the Victoria & Albert Museum and lots of sightseeing around London.

The trip was a wonderful success and plans are already in place for the Year 10 residential trip in July 2022. Thank you to all who were involved. We hope you had a superb visit!



Art

Runshaw's Horizons'

Photography and Year 10 Art to attend their prestigious Horizons Master Class sessions.

visit and what fun we had! During Photography workshop, students were able to use Dark Room facilities to create Photograms and in the Experimental Drawing workshop, our creative pupils worked on gesso boards developing mixed media paintings. Well done to all those involved.

Miss Morris Lead Teacher for Art Design & Photography



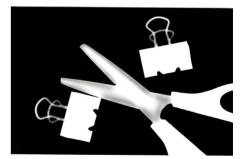
















Art

Literacy Festival Art Activities

s part of the Literacy Festival, some KS3 students took part in an 'Art & Words' session, supported by our alumni student, Miss Yates.

We looked at how art and text can combine and we used colour gels to create some exiting photographic shoots.

Later, we explored the oil pastel transfer process of using typography to create 'text portraits.' These portraits were a real success!



Artist Focus – Jenny Holzer – Art and Text

enny Holzer is an American neo-conceptual artist based in Hoosick, New York.

The main focus of her work is the delivery of words and ideas in public spaces and includes large-scale installations, advertising billboards, projections on

words and ideas in public spaces and includes largescale installations, advertising billboards, projections on buildings and other structures and illuminated electronic displays.

Miss Morris Head of Art, Design and Photography



Computing

Key Stage 3 Computing

his term the Year 7 students have been designing and creating their own game using Scratch, the game had to have a theme about healthy eating and educating others all about being healthy.

The games had to include a variety of scripts, sprites and variables. The games that have been created are fantastic with a lot of imagination and using different techniques learnt.

Year 8 students have been learning about internet searching techniques and looking into a variety of research including primary and secondary research with the girls conducting their own primary research around the topic of aliens. The students have produced some amazing information leaflets including persuasive vocabulary to inform audiences whether aliens exist or not. They have been looking at binary code and hexadecimal and are about to start to use the programming language python.

Year 9 students have learnt about advanced publisher skills,

they conducted some secondary research around magazines and looked at the design of a variety of magazines and publications. They have reviewed these publications and used these to generate ideas for their own magazine design. The students carried out primary research into magazine designs and topics for magazines and then analysed their findings and using this research, are starting to design their own professional looking magazine. The girls have amazed me at the quality of the magazines created. They are now building on their python coding skills from year 8 and giving them a taste of GCSE Computer Science.



SPORTSTAR

Computing

Old Tram Bridge Design Competition

se your creative skills to design a new tram bridge for Preston. Why not have a go over the Christmas holidays sketching, making models, or even drawing it up on CAD using 3D software like Tinkercad.

Please click on the link for further information:

http://studiojohnbridge.co.uk/old-tram-road-bridge-design-competition/

The deadline is 31st January 2022. The winner will receive a cash prize of £1000 and may see their design get built!

If you need any further help, please see any of the D&T staff.

Mrs L. Gornall
Design and Technology



GCSE Computer Science

ear 11 have completed their first round of mock exams and the results were brilliant. All their determination and hard work so far has paid off and I hope that if they continue with this positive attitude towards their work, they will continue to do well in the March mocks. Well done, girls!

The year 10 girls have had a fantastic term and have been learning the theory behind computers and starting to understand how they work and how all the components all work together and have an important role.

They have also been learning about data representation including binary, hexadecimal and two's complement. The girls have completed some assessments and there have been some incredible results! Keep up the hard work!

Year 7 and Year 8 Computing Club

ome along to room 50, Monday lunchtime from 12:45 until 1:15, learn about programming and take part in a variety of cyber security challenges as the weeks progress with the potential to enter competitions nationally.

Sign up with Mrs Bennett, Room 50. Only a few spaces, available on a first come first serve basis.

Mrs Bennett Curriculum Leader for Computing



Textiles

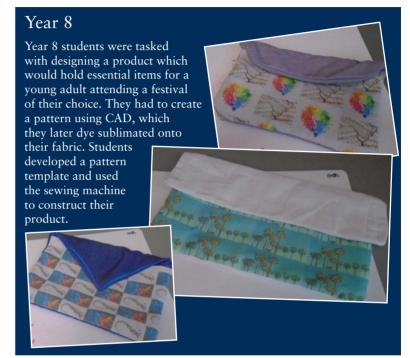
Key stage 3 Textiles

Year 7

In year 7, students have been busy designing and making a product for a small child, based on the theme of childhood adventure stories. The product must be educational and include a smart material. We had some amazing outcomes, which fully addressed the needs of the client and the task set.







Year 9

Students in year 9 Textiles have been looking at how they can encourage and promote more sustainable fashion. They explored the effects of fast fashion on the environment and then upcycled some unwanted clothing to produce a piece of home furnishing for a chosen client. They developed a range of skills and techniques, including how to use the sewing machine and how to apply applique to their cushions.

Mrs Freer Textiles



Food Preparation and Nutrition



English Department News

Key Stage 3 Spelling Bee

his term, Miss Ibrahim organised a huge 'Spelling Bee' across years 8 and 9

Each and every student participated, and the winning student from each class went forward to the final which was hosted by Ms Russell-Hayes, the Chair of Governors. The finalists were certainly put under pressure as they had to spell their given words live in front of their year group. All finalists did a phenomenal job and received a medal, while the winners of the year group received the prestigious Spelling Bee trophy.

Our English Spelling Bee Winners





Year 8 Semi-Finalists LYDIA W. versus NIAMH L. SARA A. versus ISABELLE S. MADISYN P. versus HARRIET M.





Year 8 Finalists ISABELLE S. NIAMH L. HARRIET M

English Department News



Year 9 Semi-Finalists ARUHI G. versus LARA F. SAI K. versus LACEY S. ABI C. versus MARYAM B.



Year 9 Finalists LARA F. ABI C. LACEY S.



Year 8 Spelling Bee Champion – Isabelle S

Year 9 Spelling Bee Champion – Lara F

English Department News

PGHS Christmas Poem

his year, we have established our very own 'Poet Laureate Team'.

A poet laureate is an honorary position that originates back in 1616 in England. The poetic task of the laureate is to create and craft poems that celebrate significant moments in the year.

Our dedicated team of poets have been working together to think about an important message that we wanted to spread with our Christmas poem this year. We felt inspired by the message of 'One Kind Word' which was promoted throughout Anti-Bullying week this year and wanted to continue to share a message of kindness throughout the festive season. This poem was written by Year 10 student Amber R and is a celebration of the most valuable gift one can give: kindness.

Christmas,

A time of giving and receiving,

Rushing around markets to find fluffy socks for grandma,

An ugly Christmas jumper for dad,

And a necklace for mum,

Watching their faces on Christmas morning unravel the thing you spent ages to find for them,

The thing you spent night after night reminiscing about,

The thing you saved up for since last Christmas. How about this Christmas you give the greatest gift of all

How about this Christmas you give the greatest gift of all to as many people as you can,

Something priceless yet so valuable, Something they'll remember forever,

One. Kind. Word.

Spread it like a virus,

Even just a slight smile can make someone's Christmas.

A little compliment can make all the difference.

One Kind Word.

By Amber R

Merry Christmas from Miss Starkie and the Poet Laureate Team

London 2021 – Year 11 West End Theatre trip

arly on a Friday morning, 60 Year 11 students boarded the double decker bus bound for London – slightly sleepy at such an early hour but nonetheless excited for the first residential trip that the school has been able to run since the arrival of Covid-19.

Arriving in London just after lunchtime, students disembarked at Camden Market, looking for last minute quirky gifts for their family and friends. We were all a little overwhelmed by the 1000s (yes, thousands) of stalls but very quickly got in the swing and embraced the eclectic, iconic and original that defines Camden market. We were all delighted to get something to eat after our long journey and early start!

Then, we left North London and headed to the West End for an all you can eat Pizza buffet, before heading off to see "Hamilton" the musical. As promised, "Hamilton" lived up to its reputation and was incredible. This

was something that I had been looking forward to a long time and I wasn't disappointed. Tired after our long day, we then made our way back to our hotel and a good night's sleep.

After an early start and a good breakfast, it was back into Covent Garden for another dose of Christmas magic. It always looks beautiful at this time of year; the perfect way to get into the festive spirit. Students had another chance to enjoy some free time, window shopping in the designer shops and in person shopping at the more affordable shops! After soaking up the atmosphere, we then headed off for a dose of Sixteenth Century Girl Power with "Six" the musical.

Again, we enjoyed another dose of history. It's fair to say it was delivered in a slightly different style to history lessons in school but again, an incredible musical that we all enjoyed. After we had sung our way through the trials and tribulations of Henry the Eighth's wives, we were back on the bus home. A busy weekend, but a brilliant one. Finally,

a massive thank you to all the staff who gave up two very long days so close to Christmas to ensure that the students were given this

amazing opportunity (and yes, we did enjoy the chance to do a little last minute shopping ourselves...)

Mrs Woodhouse, English Department





Geography Department News

Another packed term is coming to a close, with students across all years demonstrating their Geographical knowledge, skills and enthusiasm.

particular well done to our Year 11 GCSE Geographers; it has been a long term with a period of Mock exams at the start of November.

The Geography Mock results were pleasing overall, and we look forward to doing some detailed performance analysis after the holiday. Year 11 are very nearly finished the syllabus content, meaning we will be able to embark on an extended period of revision, exam practise and preparation. All three Year 10 GCSE classes have bedded in really well; the standard of work being produced is amazing and as a department we are already feeling confident about this cohort.



Earthy is off for a Christmas break to the islnad circled on this map, showing South East Asia and Australia. What is it called?

Email in your answers to: g.bowles@penworthamgirls.lancs.sch.uk

In the lower school, Year 7 pupils are gearing up to produce their 'Fantasy Treasure Maps', a highlight for many PGHS students when they look back on their time here.

Work hard on this, Year 7 and really show off your cartography skills. They have now moved onto a unit on 'Wild Weather' and will soon be looking at hurricanes and tornadoes.

Suggested Christmas Reading
Https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/
B01DPPNRXI?ref =cm sw r kb dp
TCF591PKW211KTA6GR2C&tag=kp02521&linkCode=kpe

Suggested Christmas viewing - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=puqszlr9u1w

Geography Society has seen numbers grow steadily in recent weeks.

We have had Goole Earth Treasure Hunts, quizzes and games and finished the term with globe bauble making. We meet Monday lunchtimes in Room 39 – come along in the new year, we would love to see you.

Year 8 students are in the midst of a unit on 'Mountain Landscapes', with study of how mountains are formed, the variable weather conditions found there and the impact of glaciers and high mountaineering.

Suggested Christmas Reading

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Freaky-Peaks-Horrible-Geography-Ganeri/dp/0439944597

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Mountains-Mind-Fascination-Robert-Macfarlane/dp/1783784504/ref=sr 1 4?keywords=mountains&qid=1638983347&s=books&sr=1-4

Suggested Christmas viewing

 $\underline{https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b0074sg0/planet-earth-2-mountains}$

https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m000rpmf/life-of-a-mountain-a-year-on-helvellyn

Year 9 are coming to the end of a unit on the 'Geography of Fashion' and we hope that the study of working conditions at home and abroad in the fashion industry has got these students thinking

There are also environmental questions to be pondered when choosing our clothes and hopefully with new purchases being made over the holiday season, students will think carefully about their choices and how to dispose of unwanted garments.

Suggested Christmas Reading

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Girl-Translation-Jean-Kwok/dp/0141042745

Suggested Christmas viewing - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8l-xXElC7iw

Have a great holiday and if you are celebrating Christmas, don't forget to ask Santa for Geography textbook of your very own and make sure you recycle all that packaging! Merry Christmas from Mr Bowles, Mr Ward and Mrs Singleton – Ho Ho Ho! Mr Bowles, Geography Department

History Department News

Remembrance Events

n November, students from Penwortham Girls' High School took part in a number of Remembrance events.

The Head Girl and Deputy Head Girl, Carla and Eva, laid wreaths at Penwortham War Memorial on behalf of the school on Armistice Day and on Remembrance Sunday. They also read the names of those soldiers from the local area who lost their lives during the First World War during the Remembrance Sunday service at the war memorial alongside students from Priory Academy and All Hallows Catholic High School.

It was fantastic to see so many students from school at the event, whether they were representing other organisations such as the Scouts, or those who had come with their parents.

The school charity council members raised money for the British Legion by selling poppies in school. Assemblies focussed on the range of Remembrance activities that

people from this country participate in, and the significance of the tomb of the unknown warrior in Westminster Abbey.

At 11am on Armistice Day, a

Caitlin I (Year 9) conducted research on the life of one of her great grandfathers, Joseph Anderson Macpheat, who fought during the First World War. Having studied photographs, documents and interviewing her grandfather, this is what she has

PTE 7799 Joseph Anderson Macpheat was only around 18 years old when he joined the army. Before then, he worked on a farm and his employer, the farmer, had to write a reference letter to show how able Joseph is to

found out:

join the army. This is a photograph of the letter.

On the 14th Ianuary 1915, he joined the 10th Battalion (military unit in the army). On the 19th September 1918, a shell exploded and blew a piece of shrapnel into Joseph's left arm. He was then left wounded on the battlefield from 5:30am on the 19th Sep till 9:00pm the following day (he was left lying there for nearly 40 hours). He was found by Canadians and taken back to his country. He was then officially discharged from the army on the 30th October 1918 (he served in the army for 3 years and 290 days).

During his time, he achieved multiple awards-1914/1915 Star, War Medal, Peace Medal, Silver War Badge (SWB).

He died on the 16th February 1936, leaving his wife (Mary Munro Smith) and his son (Duncan Macpheat).



Maths Department News

Autumn Term Assessments in Mathematics

t has been a busy term for both pupils and teachers in the Mathematics department this term.

As we come to the Christmas holidays, most pupils are completing their assessments in Mathematics. The department thought it would be a good idea to update you all as to what is being done.

Years 7, 8 and 9 are currently completing their "Progress Tests in Mathematics".

The Progress Test in Maths (PTM) assessments accurately measure how the school and students are performing – student by student, class by class and year by year.

Standardised on over 45,000 children, the easy-to-use tests assess students' mathematical skills and knowledge, helping you to understand current levels of attainment and identify any gaps in learning at both an individual and cohort level

PTM assesses two dimensions of maths learning:

- Mathematical content knowledge (curriculum category)
- 2. Understanding and applying mathematical processes (process category)

The tests are used at the start of the year to set a baseline and then at the end of the year to measure and track progress.

Year 11 have recently completed their first set of Mock examinations.

Year 11 have now had their first full experience of what GSCE Mathematics exams will look like, having completed a full exam style paper and receiving the "formula sheet" which will be available to all pupils this year.

Results so far have looked very promising and the department is looking forward to the awarding of grades after final set of mock examinations which will be undertaken in March.

Mr S. Cheal, The Mathematics Department

Y7 and Y8 Maths

s part of their learning journey, students in Year 7 and Year 8 have been taught about calculating with negative numbers using double sided counters.

These manipulatives have been really helpful in making this topic visual and interactive, so the pupils understand how, and more importantly, why we arrive to a particular answer.

Pupils were first introduced to the concept of a 'zero pair', which is a pair of numbers than when added, equal zero.

For example, we have that 1+(-1)=0.

Pupils then completed different calculations involving negative numbers using the counters.

Here is a comment from some of the pupils:

'When I first saw the questions, it looked really hard at first because of all the negatives and positivesit was very confusing! After using the counters, it helped me visually see the calculation I was completing, making it a lot easier to understand.'
(Year 7 student)

I have seen calculating negative numbers before in Year 7, but I found it really hard. After seeing the topic again with counters, it has been much easier to understand, I can use the counters in lessons to help me understand how to add and subtract negative numbers.'
(Year 8 student)

Miss Hasan, Maths Department

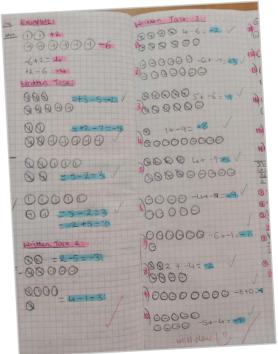












Maths Department News

Hegarty Maths MemRi

emRi quizzes are made up of 10 questions you answered correctly before. Each day the pupils are able to complete a new MemRi quiz which earns them a stamp towards a goal.

Each time they answer a question correctly in MemRi, they get MemRi points. The questions are in four different difficulty levels depending on how many times the pupils have answered that question before and the difficulty levels offer different levels of points. The questions will be slightly different each time they see them and will appear at greater time intervals.

What's MemRi?

Just keep setting homework tasks and we'll do the rest!



Here is the link to the video on how MemRi works and the impact it has on pupils understanding and retention:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d5cdgnfK8Xg

Due to the overwhelming impact that we believe MemRi will have on our students learning and their retention of prior knowledge, they have been competing in a competition to gain the most points this half term. We have been very impressed with their motivation to improve their understanding in Maths and also for their hard work and achievements on Hegarty Maths.

The Maths department look forward to see who wins this competition!

Mr McVey's Mysterious Christmaths

To Ho Ho! It's almost Christmas and time for another set of puzzles, this time with a festive theme.

Why not have a go at these whilst digesting your Christmas dinner! Provide me with the correct solutions either in person or via email by Friday 7th January 2022 to win yourself a Head's Breakfast!

Puzzle No. 1 – Pudding Palaver

Mrs Claus has made four Christmas puddings of various weights for Santa. She decides to set Barney the elf this maths challenge:



? + ? = 968g	Can you help him	? - ? = 111g
? - ? = 82g	out and replace the question marks with the weights of the puddings?	? + ? = 1161g
? + ? = 1138g		? + ? = 1220g
? + ? = 1079g		? - ? = 252g
? - ? = 170g		? - ? = 59g

Puzzle No. 2 - Christmas Elf Bells

Three of Santa's Elves ring the grotto bells to welcome in the festive season.

- The first bell rings every 6 minutes,
- The second bell rings every 7 minutes,
- The third bell rings every hour.

If all the bells ring together at noon, at what time will they next all ring together?

Puzzle No. 3 – Present Prices

Five presents were bought for Christmas





The red and purple presents together cost £25,

The purple and blue presents together cost £13,

The blue and gold presents together cost £21,

The gold and green presents together cost £24,

The green and red presents together cost £31

What is the total cost of all five presents?



Mr R McVey Maths Department

Maths Department News

'Luminated' Maths Lessons

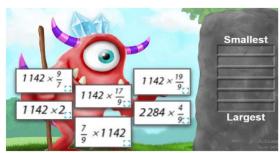
'Lumio' (formerly known as SMART Learning Suite Online), is a digital learning tool for today's changing teaching environments.

This web-based software helps to create engaging lessons that students can interact with in class, remotely or on their own time all on their own devices.

Now that we can once again book devices in the classroom, we can use Lumio to create engaging and interactive lessons. All lessons can be enhanced using the customisable components including games, collaborative workspaces and much more. The customised activities and games provide automatic feedback to keep learning on track. These can then be delivered to student devices quickly and easily, all from a browser. Using Lumio, students can take ownership of their learning independently and the game-based activities, keeping students motivated and actively learning through interactive content on their own devices.

All learning is visible to the teacher and the class with a dashboard master view of each piece of work.

The example shows an interactive activity 'Rank Order' where the students are ordering solutions interactively from smallest to largest. Immediate feedback supports learning. Pupils can then work through other pages at their own pace so that no time is wasted. This is also an example of teaching for mastery. The activity makes pupils think mathematically about the size of the answer.



In our weekly functional skills lessons, year 10 use Lumio for a range of activities to improve their working memory, helping them to recall key facts and formula

alongside working interactively. Students also answer functional skills questions using 'Response' so that I can identify areas of weakness to target during the following weeks or target misconceptions and improve exam technique.

The 'individual handout' activity in Lumio allows the teacher to see the students' work progressing in real time. As a teacher, I can

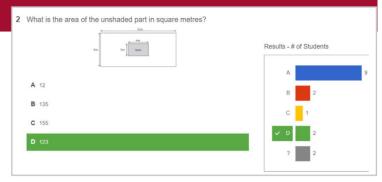
provide immediate feedback if the student is struggling.

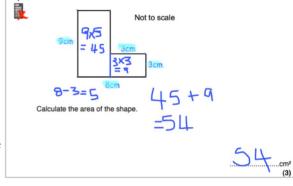
The word search is a great tool for recapping key words and an additional sheet is used to match the definitions.

More recently, during our 'Drop down day', our

buddy group made Christmas cards collaboratively using Lumio for our community project. These are going to be printed out and sent to residents in our local care homes.

Mrs S Bennett (UK Smart Ambassador / Assistant Maths Hub Lead for Abacus NW)









hat a busy first term it has been here in the MFL department!

As the term draws to a close, I would like to thank all our students for working so hard in their French and German lessons and giving their all. Year 7 have worked on learning how to introduce themselves and we have written to our penfriend letters in Germany. Year 8 Germanists have learned how to describe their past holidays and learned our new favourite word 'Kakerlaken'.

Year 8 French students have learned how to introduce themselves, give personal information and opinions. Year 9 students have also been working hard and have produced some lovely letters and cards to send over to France and Germany.

A huge well done to Year 11 for working through a really busy term and mock exams, pushing towards our goals next year and taking on the new challenges as we prepare for our mock speaking exams in January.

A big cheer for our Year 10 students embarking on their first term of GCSE French and German and producing some outstanding results in their recent Module 1 assessments alongside a brilliant attitude. Well done, girls!

Christmas Card Competition CGE

ur annual MFL Christmas Card competition has been launched with full gusto!

Students have been invited to create a Christmas card in either French, German or any other language they know. We have already received some outstanding entries!

These will be judged and prizes will be delivered to the winners and runners-up in each year group during the last week of term.

Best of luck to all entrants!



MFL STARS of the Term

SRA:

Y7: Mia-Grace C, Lois W, Jemima A 8p: Hattie C, Elizabeth B-R, Amy McV 8g: Aysha M, Rosie Y, Saskia H 9p: Jennah K, Mya G, Victoria K 9g: Heather P, India A, Charlotte B Y10: Charlotte B, Louise P-R, Elyse F Y11: Abby L, Eliya D, Sana R

CGE:

Y7: Uswa H, Naomi S, Lucia V 8G: Dayana E, Scarlett G, Emma C 8P: Emma D, Georgia J, Safa A 9G: Olivia S, Emily K, Ieeman M-S 9P: Elli-Ann S, Jennifer K, Bismah C 10B: Jessica B, Sana A, Isla B 11B: Holly B, Amelia S, Mia C

MWI:

Sumairaa B, Grace S, Sophia A
 Grace A, Evelyn W, Grace I
 Lyla K, Esme H, Ruby T
 Carly W, Maisy E, Florence B
 Maryah M, Maisie K, Saga G
 Abi C, Hannah B, Fatima P
 Amy B, Lucy S, Zainab V.

7P: Tanisha S, Olivia H, Abeeha F

Mrs Gill:

8G: Aysha M, Vidhya P, Emily B
8P: Eden F, Amy Mc, Abigail K
9G: Heather P, Charlotte B, Charlotte R
9P: Jennah K, Mya G, Maisie W
Y10: Tilly P, Emma B, Elijah K
Y10: Isabel C, Zahra S, Alexa L
Y11: Zahra N, Carla D, Ellie R
Y11: Jaz C, Marwa AG, Zahraa K

Year 10 French Video

uring the festival, Year 10 French had the opportunity to make a video for our French penpals in Lille.

They had to talk (in French, bien sûr!) about friendship and explained what being a true friend means to them. Well done, Louise, Charlotte, Stevie, Olivia, Isabel, Sofia, Joudy, Maryam, Beth and Sian for volunteering. We all loved watching the video!

Year 8 postcards

Tear 8 have been working hard this term on the topic of holidays.

BREAKING NEWS

To finish off our module and to show off the knowledge we have learned, 8Ge3 made some wonderful postcards to describe a holiday they have been on using the past tense.

Miss Gelder has been super impressed with the creativity of the language and the effort that went into the design of these postcards. They look fabulous and include lots of brilliant German.



Mrs Gill, Curriculum Leader for MFL

Berlin Wall and German Reunification CGE

s part of our cultural enrichment this term, the girls have learned all about the Berlin Wall, it's fall and subsequent reunification of Germany.

To coincide with the public celebrations in Germany, we created an artwork using our hands on brightly coloured card. It takes pride of place in our new MFL corridor and I think you'll agree it looks amazing!



In our final two weeks of term, we have looked at how our French and German friends celebrate the Christmas festive period and that kicks off a little earlier in Germany with Nikolaustag on the 6th December.





We learnt about how the German children leave their boots out for St Nikolaus to come and hopefully leave us treats if we are good enough! Mrs Gill's Year 8 class have also been lucky enough to be selected to take part in a video call with our German partner school 'Sickingen Gymnasium' which has been a great opportunity for us to ask and answer questions and find out about life in Germany.

We wish you all a wonderful, safe and relaxing Christmas and look forward to sharing our language joy in the new year and further our links with our German and French schools.

Mrs Gill, Curriculum Leader for MFL

MFL Manchester Christmas Markets Trip. Friday, 10 December

hen we left a rainy Penwortham at 3.00pm and arrived an hour later in a rainy Manchester City Centre.

The streets, however, were lit up with Christmas lights and it all looked very festive. We set off from Cross Street and had 3 areas to explore. The first job for the staff (Ms Russell-Hayes, Miss Shahi, Mrs Gill and myself) was to check out the crèpes au chocolat. I must say that they were délicieux!

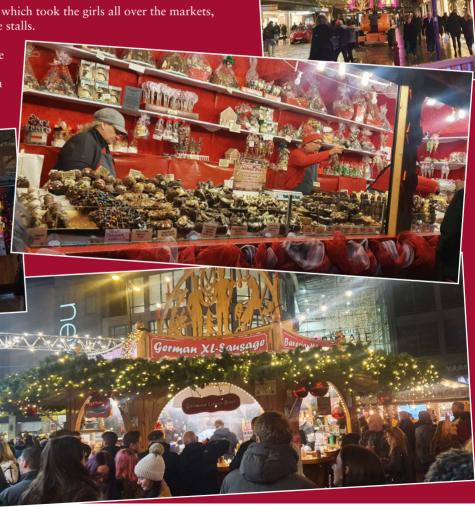
All the students had a Christmas market quiz to do, which took the girls all over the markets, meaning that they would have to look at most of the stalls.

After making lots of purchases (by the look of all the bags!) and eating lots of European delights, we left Manchester at 7pm. Everyone seemed to have had a lovely time, despite the rain.

The winners of the quiz are, Sian H, Katie B and Joudy A. Well done, girls! Prizes

(bought at the markets) are on the way!

Mrs Williams, MFL Department



Performance, Sport & Health Faculty Department News

PE Department

Football

Pootball at PGHS started in September and successfully recruited the highest number in all of our extra-curricular clubs.

A large number of girls competed at the South Ribble Tournaments across the years. Year 8 came 3rd and Year 7 came 5th at the mixed Year 7 and Year 8 tournaments.

Year 10 and 11 came runners up at the competition at Balshaw's. It was a great team effort and the girls were unbeaten after completing all their games. The two top teams finished with level points, so it had to go down to goal difference to decide the winners. This reflects on their dedication and hard work. Well done, girls!

Additionally, we had several girls who were successful at South Ribble Football trials in Year 9 and 10. The girls who are successful at the trials were Evie M, Ebba G, Saga G, Tuva G and Rachel W. We have a number of girls in Year 7 and Year 8 currently going through the trials in their age group. Good luck to all our footballers!

The PE Department



Dance

Year 7 and 8 Dance Club has been extremely popular this term. We also have had the help of some year 10 GCSE dancers for their practices and we are hoping for the year 7 and 8 dancers to perform their dance in the Christmas show later this term.

Year 10 GCSE dancers are also hoping to perform in the show to demonstrate some of their exceptional practice.



Dancers

Tell done to our brilliant Dancers for their fantastic performances in the Christmas Celebration Show!

A group of 5 Year 10 GCSE Dancers performed an exceptional contemporary routine to Sia's 'Snowman' song.

A group of Year 7 and Year 8 Dancers, led and joined by another group of Year 10 GCSE Dancers performed a festive, upbeat routine to Mariah Carey's song 'All I Want For Christmas Is You'.

They certainly got everyone into the Christmas Spirit! Well done for all your hard work, girls!

The PE Department

Performance, Sport & Health Faculty Department News

PE Department

Netball

ongratulations to our year 10 netball team players won their league match against All Hallows this week 22-21.

Year 9 played well, however were defeated by All Hallows at their home game and scored 12-5.

Year 10 players: Olivia S, Evie M, Tilly P, Olivia W, Bethany G,

Molly H, Darcy P. Players' player: Tilly P Coaches' player: Evie M

Year 9 players: Hannah B, Charlotte B, Lucy R, Lottie J

Alice W, Ella H, Maisie K, Sophie M.

Player's player: Lottie J Coaches' player: Charlotte B

PE Department



Nov 17th - Home games against Balshaw's. Both teams worked really hard in all 4 quarters of the game. Great effort, girls!

Y11 - 14-6 Win - Players' Player: Darcey W, Coaches' Player: Katie H Y9 - 15-24 Loss - Players' Player: Lottie J, Coaches' Player: Libby W

Nov 23rd - Away games against Leyland St Mary's for Y10 A and B teams. Both teams played amazingly to secure two comfortable wins. Well done, girls!

Y10 A team - 43-3 Win – Players' Player: Olivia S, Coaches' Player: Lola U Y10 B team - 9-3 Win – Players' Player: Sian H, Coaches' Player: Esha C



PGHS netball practices have been a great success.

e have had up to 80 netballers attending clubs on a regular basis after school on Mondays.

The South Ribble netball leagues have started, with some teams already playing at a high standard. The PE department have now decided to give girls more practices at lunch time to prepare them for the next round of the competitions, whilst selecting A and B team players.

The Monday practice remains for all year groups, however specific additional practices are scheduled for years 7, 8 and 9.

Year 7 practice is on Thursday at lunchtime with Mrs Finnigen. Year 8 practice is on Monday lunchtime with Miss Shahi. Year 9 practice in on Thursday lunchtime with Mrs Tompson.

The PE Department



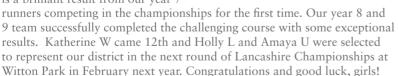
Performance, Sport & Health Faculty Department News

PE Department

Cross Country

It has been great to finally resume our fantastic, highly established extracurricular activities, fixtures and competitions after a long period of restrictions.

We started our Sport Clubs from September with a range of different activities at both lunchtime and after school. In addition to this, we had our first interform competition of the vear, which was the cross country. This took place in November and despite the cold afternoon, we had an amazing turn out from all the year groups to complete the 2K course. Lola U, Holly L and Enya H were the top 3 runners! Soon after, we continued with a dedicated team of runners at the club, practising for the South Ribble Championships. It took place on Saturday 20th November at Hutton Grammar School. Holly L came 1st in the year 7 race and Amaya U came in 9th position overall. This is a brilliant result from our year 7







Music Department

A Fond Farewell to Mrs Hooke

rs Hooke has taken the very difficult decision to retire after teaching
Piano, Keyboard and Theory here at Penwortham Girls' for over 20 years.

As well as being a talented pianist, Mrs Hooke also enjoys writing her own music and this is one thing I know she is looking forward to in the future.

Mrs Hooke has been a tremendous support, not only to the many hundreds of students she has taught in her time here but also to the other peripatetic staff and not to mention myself and my colleagues in the Music Department.

In her time with us, Mrs Hooke embodied every single one of our PGHS Core Values. She is ambitious for her students, always encouraging them to reach their potential; She is compassionate and always has a friendly ear for anyone whenever they need it. She is dignified - always treating everyone with respect (even if they forgot what time their lesson was!) Mrs Hooke encouraged her students to be curious by seeking out new music and new styles to play. She encouraged students to show social responsibility by working together effectively with each other in musical ensembles and our school productions. Most of all, Mrs Hooke was resilient and encouraged her students to be too. To be a successful musician, you must be resilient; learning to play an instrument is not easy and can only be done by practising over and over and over again.

Mrs Hooke, we will all miss you tremendously, your kind, caring and gentle nature and welcoming smile. We wish you a very happy, enjoyable and musical retirement and cannot thank you enough for everything that you have done for us all at Penwortham Girls' High School.

Mrs Cattanach, Associate Assistant Headteacher Curriculum Leader for Music



Religious Education Department News

Spirited Arts Competition: YR 7 – Respecting Religions

he year 9s have just finished studying a unit which explores the basic features of traditional religions.

This is an experiential learning unit whereby students are characters in a story, shipwrecked on a desert island. Along the way, students meet religious characters facing difficulty.

The students understand that they have to take own the responsibility and commitment of learning about the different religions so that they can find a way for all religions to live in harmony together on the island. Throughout this unit, students

1st - Abeeha F: Abeeha had dedicated an impressive amount of

showed great compassion and social responsibility.

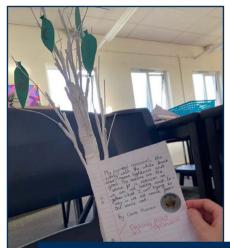
At the end of their journey on the island, students were given the challenge of creating a piece of art work / symbol which demonstrates the importance of respecting all religions.

The RE department felt very moved by their entries - if only the whole word had the same attitudes towards religious tolerance as our year 7s!

Miss Brooks, RE Department

Abeeha had dedicated an impressive amount of time to her symbol. The teachers were blown away by her baked piece of art work! Not only did she bake a delicious cake and decorated each slice with a symbol from a religion, she explained how the design of a cake promotes respect between all religions. Abeeha explained how when a slice is taken out of the cake, it is no longer whole or as appetising. This was compared to the religions of the world and without them, our society would not be whole or as exciting as it is today.

Religious Education Department News



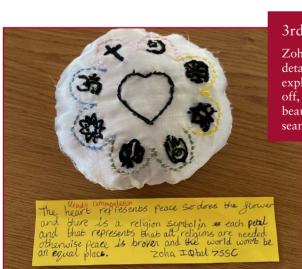
4th - Willow H:

Willow's canvas art work is a great example of how powerful abstract painting can be. Willow explained how every religion has its own 'space' to represent its own right to exist as a unique religion with fascinating features. However, the colours merging together demonstrate that the religions 'harmonise' together to bring 'light to the world'.



2nd - Uswa H:

Uswa's entry was incredibly imaginative. She has paid great attention to detail as at first glance, you might not notice that she has made the decision to paint her tree trunk white but she draws your attention it when she explains how she chose this colour due to its symbolism of peace and purity. Uswa made something as simple as leaf, hold so much meaning as she explained that just as when leaves start to fall from a tree, the tree would die. If we pushed out religions in the world, our sense of community would too die out.



3rd - Zoha I:

Zoha's art work is so intricately detailed, it truly is beautiful. She explained that when a petal falls off, the peace is broken, just like the beauty of a flower. What a talented seamstress you are, Zoha!

5th - Izzy S:

Izzy demonstrated a clear interest in her religious studies as it is clear that at home, she researched further into the content studied in class. She had a unique twist to her work as she explained how good and bad people can exist within every religion which portrays a powerful message, "Religion does not determine whether some is good or bad." The entirety of Izzy's work demonstrates great attention to detail.

Stem Festival

ur next festival is called 'STEM Festival' where we will be celebrating all topics on Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.



We are looking to hold a careers 'speed dating' event on Monday 7th March for our current Year 10 and 11 students. The aim of the day is to showcase careers and inspire the younger generation. The day will run from 10am until 3pm with lunch provided. You will be asked to talk about your career and about your job the routes you took to get into your current position and what skills you need. The girls will come up with some insightful questions for you to answer too. So, if you have a job anything to do with Science, Technology, Engineering or Maths and can get involved on this day please let me know by emailing: r.honeyman@penworthamgirls.lancs.sch.uk

If you know of any family members or other adults who would like to help, please ask them to email me.

Thank you to those who have already contacted me.

Mrs Honeyman, Curriculum Leader for Science

STEM Club Update

Tt's an exciting time at STEM club.

We have been learning how to programme our LEGO robots! These robots are able to do many things, such as move items from place to place, follow lines of colour and they can stop when they sense an obstruction.



us the chance to win money for the school and also attend the Big Bang Science Fair in Birmingham in March. The students have been great so far and have managed to programme the robot to follow a set route. They now have to work with an environmental theme and make the robot do 8 tasks within 5 minutes.





If any other students would like to attend STEM club, we meet every Monday after school in Room 34. Come down and join us!

Mr Dean, Science Department

Diffusion – Movement into and Out of Cells

he year 7 students have been studying biology this half term, learning about the structure of cells.



Understanding the role of diffusion in the role of exchange of substance across cell membranes is a concept that underpins many aspects of biology. This includes the adaptations of organs such as the lungs and the small intestine, where exchange of substances is vitally important.



The year 7s have enjoyed making flip books to help them understand how particles move from areas of high concentration to areas of lower concentration.

Mr Knee, Science Department

Science Club

his year, Science Club has started off with a bang!

A large group of keen scientists have been taking part every Wednesday lunch time in a wide range of fun and exciting scientific experiments, investigations and challenges.



So far, students have created and raced balloon rockets, explored

the wonders of acids and alkalis, used the chromatography technique to create butterflies, had some fun making flaming ghosts at Halloween, learnt a technique to create a density tower. Science club is open to all Year 7 and Year 8 students.

Anyone wanting to attend can just turn up and get involved on Wednesday lunch times at 12:45.

Miss Forrest, Science Department



Waves

s part of the ten big ideas in Science, Year 8 are learning about light in the unit of 'Waves'.



They have used the ray boxes to understand reflection and refraction. They have also looked at how a camera works and have produced some information leaflets based on their own research.

They also had the opportunity to make a pin hole camera. Students enjoyed making them and looking through them across the school field. They were surprised to see that the image formed was upside down, helping them to understand how we see objects and how a camera works. For the rest of the unit, they will be looking at the eye, how we see objects, different lenses and dispersion of light.

Mrs R Cahill, Science Department

October - November 2021 LEADERBOARD **Educake Science** Online Homework and Revision Year 8 Year 7 Year 9 Year 10 Year 11 Daren C Neve H Heather P Tuva G Amelia S 7GFO 8RCA 9SHS 10SCH 11MSH

MOST QUESTIONS ANSWERED: Esme M-K (11MSH)

Year 11

This week in Biology we have been learning about the structure of the eye.

Students had the opportunity to dissect an eye and look at the structures in more detail. How many features do you know?

Mrs Honeyman, Curriculum Leader for Science









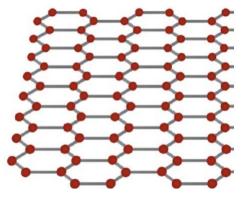
Graphene – the New 'Wonder' Material

Year 10 have recently studied graphene in Chemistry Unit 2 Bonding, structure and properties of matter.

Graphene was only isolated from graphite in 2004 by two researchers at Manchester university, Prof Andre Geim and Prof Kostya Novoselov. Their discovery led to them being awarded the Nobel prize in Physics in 2010. Subsequently, the National Graphene institute was set up in Manchester in 2015.

This one atom thick material is now set to revolutionise almost every part of daily life.

Graphene is stronger than steel, yet incredibly lightweight and flexible.



It can conduct electricity and thermal energy and is also transparent.

One new use of graphene has just recently hit the headlines as it is going to be used to resurface parts of the A1 motorway in Northumberland. This work will hopefully produce a stronger road that could lengthen the motorway's lifespan. The resurfacing could also improve driver safety and reduce the frequency of roadworks because the road will be more durable. The uses of graphene could be endless!

To find out about more applications, visit this website:

https://www.graphene.manchester.ac.uk/learn/applications/

Mrs Goodwill, Science Department

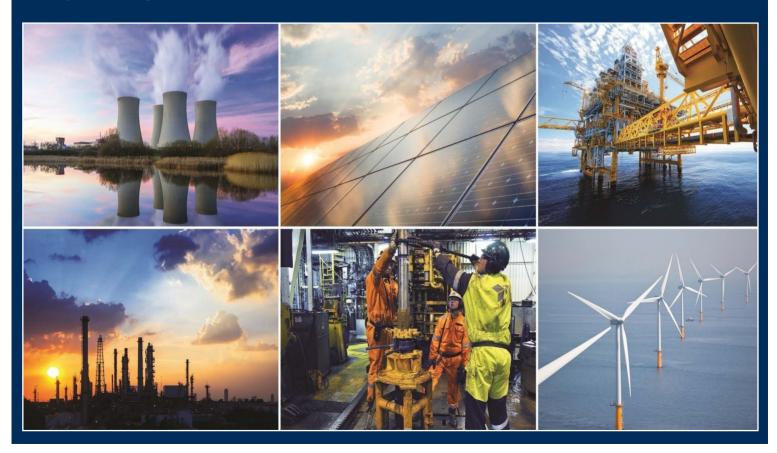
Organic Chemistry

his half-term, year 11 have started their Organic Chemistry topic, in which they will learn about the structure and properties of carbon-based molecules.

One of the most important families of molecules is alkanes, a key constituent of crude oil. To give this topic some context, all of year 11 had a talk about the energy industry, given by a former oil industry worker (me). I talked the pupils through the uses of crude oil, the demand for it and how it is obtained.

The girls learned about life on oil rigs and had a chance to discuss the pros and cons of a career in the industry, discussing the pay, career progression, working conditions and environmental impact. The talk closely followed the COP26 talks and linking to that, we looked at other careers within the energy industry. To help the girls to understand the trends in energy use and the growth industries of the future, we were fortunate to be joined by an Energy Industry Analyst from Scottish and Southern Energy. Hopefully, for some of the girls, this sparked an idea that might lead them to a successful career in the energy industry.

Mr Coogan, Science Department



National Online Safety Mobile App

Tt's time to get #OnlineSafetySavvy

Children are spending more time than ever online. As adults, we need to do everything we can to keep them safe in the digital world. However, with new apps, games and platforms emerging every day, how can you stay in the know?

Say hello to the new National Online Safety mobile application.

With all online safety knowledge available at your fingertips, the NOS app empowers parents and teachers to understand and address online safeguarding risks – anytime, anywhere.

The world's most comprehensive online safety app, it's packed with insightful courses, explainer videos, webinars and guides on topics that will help you protect the kids you care about when they're online.

FREE Online Safety App for Parents & Educators!

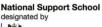
We're excited to launch our FREE mobile app, giving you access to instant information about the latest apps, games, devices & more.

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