

# WEST CRAVEN HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



## Principal's Welcome

Friday 12th September

Dear Parent/Carer,

It's been nice to get into the rhythm of the new academic year with a full week back at school. The new Year 7s have quickly learned their way around the school and already have a newfound confidence as they move between lessons.

The weather has certainly turned autumnal this week, and it is a good reminder for students to have a sensible outdoor coat, shoes and school bag. We do not allow students to wear hoodies as a substitute for a coat underneath their blazer. All students need a good-sized school bag and basic equipment, including pen, pencil, ruler, green pen, and calculator. Our teachers will ask students to have this basic equipment out on the desk in every lesson. We want the focus of our school to be learning. Having the basic equipment should become part of the expected daily routine. Students will have regular homework in all years and will need to transport this work safely between home and school. Our homework timetable is available on our website. As mentioned last week, mobile phones are strictly prohibited in school and if a student is seen with their phone, it will be confiscated and parents asked to collect it from the main office. This is to make sure learning is the core focus in school. If students need to contact home, they can do so via the pastoral team and school office.

We are also committed to improving students' reading. We are a Reading Academy, and we know how important being able to read is, not only as a life skill, but in order to understand what the exam papers are asking. A comprehensive study has shown that children have to have a reading age of 15 years and 7 months to be able to understand what the GCSE exam questions are asking. This is why it is so important; a student could have the knowledge and understanding in a subject but not be able to demonstrate what they know in an exam because they cannot read the material well enough! Therefore, we have retained our focus on reading by having 'Drop Everything and Read' in form time. This requires students to always have a reading book as part of their basic equipment in their bag. This could be a book from home, or the students can choose one from our well-stocked library.

The full list of extra-curricular activities is now published in the ebulletin, online and in student briefing each Monday. Please encourage your child to take part, to try something new. School life is much more than what you learn in your lessons. We want our students to have experiences and develop interests that give them a healthy work-life balance. If your child is interested in an activity or sport and we don't currently offer it, please let us know. There are also opportunities to get involved with school leadership as the form rep, school council member, or a member of the eco forum. Please make sure you talk to your child about taking part and getting involved.

I understand that parents may wish to collect their children, particularly in the poorer weather, but we do not have the space on site to allow vehicles to pick-up. The bus lane is only for the school buses. Please do not use the bus lane as it makes it difficult for the buses to maneuver. Please arrange a safe space away from the school entrance to meet your child. There are nearly 600 students leaving the site, most as pedestrians, so it is not safe to have additional vehicles at drop-off and pick-up times.

Thank you for continued support



Mr Bates, Principal



# SAFEGUARDING TEAM

## Meet Our Safeguarding Team

At West Craven High School, the safety and wellbeing of our students is our top priority. To help support our students and families, we have a dedicated Safeguarding Team in school. They are here to ensure every child feels safe, supported, and able to thrive.

You can see the team's photos on the poster, and we encourage parents and carers to be aware of who to contact if you have any concerns regarding your child's wellbeing, safety, or welfare.

If you have any concerns or need support, please do not hesitate to contact a member of our Safeguarding Team via the school office.



## Safeguarding Team

If you don't feel safe or you're worried about another student, our Safeguarding team is here to help. Come and find us anytime!



Mrs A Smith  
Deputy Principal and  
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Ms E Richardson  
Safeguarding Lead Governor



Mrs N Robertson  
Deputy Principal and  
Deputy Safeguarding Lead



Mr B Hughes  
Assistant Principal  
SENDCo and  
Deputy Safeguarding Lead



Mr J Brook  
Personal Development, Careers Lead  
Deputy Safeguarding Lead



Mrs D Gartland  
Head of Key Stage 4 and  
Deputy Safeguarding Lead



# OUR SCHOOL CORE VALUES REMINDER

At West Craven High School, we have an ambitious vision and a set of core values which guide us in all that we do.

Our Vision gives us clear direction and allows us to move purposefully towards a bright future, whilst our values are adopted by both students and staff to ensure that we work collaboratively to reach our goals. One of the benefits of our school is that we are small and therefore know each student very well. Individuality is nurtured and we are able to personalise each student's education so that they are able to identify their own future goals and career dreams. We can then create an education which will help each student to aim high and achieve their goals.

## Our Vision

An exceptional school providing the highest quality education and preparation for the rest of your life.

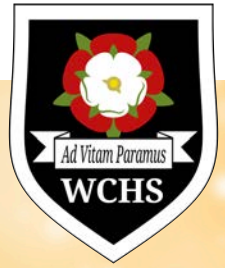
## Our Core Values

Our core values of **ASPIRE: Ambition, Supportive, Positivity, Independence, Resilience and Equality** underpin all that we do in school. Selected by students, our core values promote our high expectations and aspirations, balanced with our highest level of care and support.

Students will be awarded core value achievement points through the Class Charts website and mobile app for demonstrating our core values in all aspects of school life.



# STARS OF THE WEEK



Freya 7.AOP  
Brooke 7.MFO  
Jack 7.OCA  
Maryam 7.YGR



Jordon 8.EAJ  
James 8.KSN  
Emily 8.NHU  
Olivia 8.RSW

Mohammed 9.DRA  
Ryan 9.HWH  
Faye 9.LWI  
Oscar 9.WDA

Christopher 10.ABA  
Amalie 10.CMC  
Wajeeha 10.DWI  
Shelby-Hope 10.JPE  
Gracie 10.RGR



Harvey 11.API  
Mursaleen 11.ECU  
Natalia 11.JHA  
Noah 11.MMO

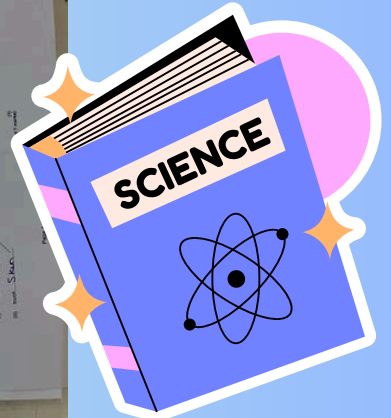
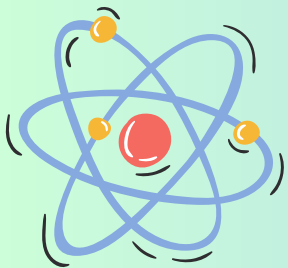
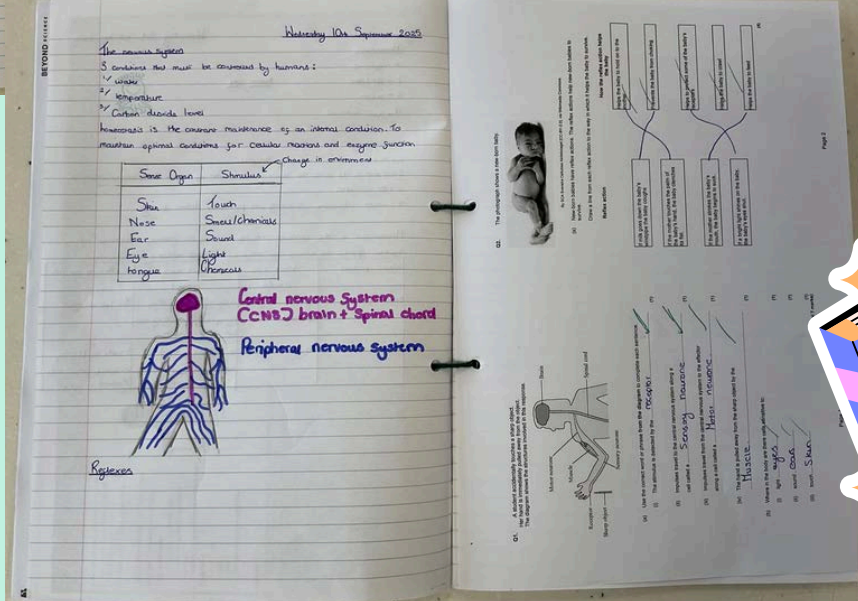
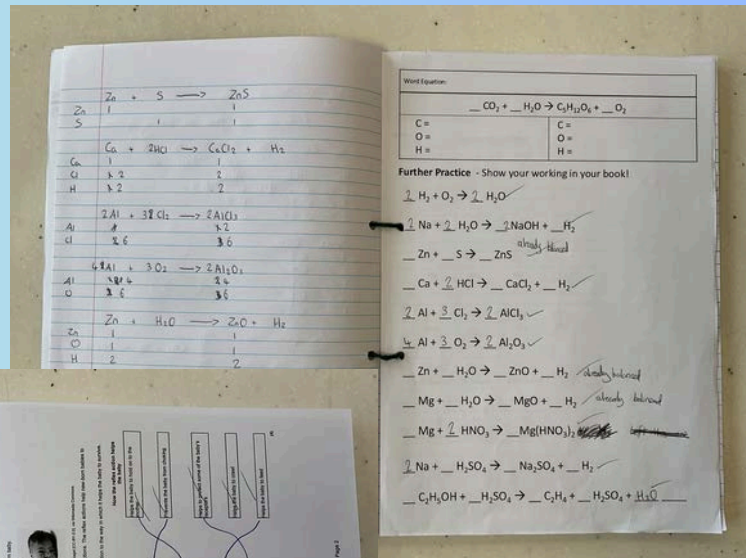
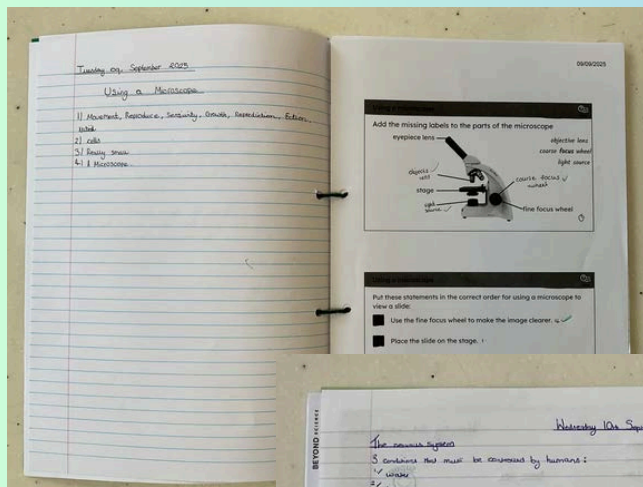
**Congratulations to this week's top students from each form group.**

# CURRICULUM UPDATE SCIENCE

The Science Department is busy with lots of exciting activities once again. In year 7 chemistry the students have been learning how to safely light Bunsen burners and in biology the correct use of a microscope. Year 8 have been learning about biodiversity and chemical reactions. Year 9 have started the year looking at how forces apply to different 'hidden' situations.

In KS4 year 10 have started their GCSE learning on the topic of organisation in biology learning about how the digestive and circulatory systems work. In chemistry they are learning how we make accurate measurements of chemicals using quantitative chemistry. Our physicists are on all things energy and energy transfers.

Our year 11s start their final year preparing for their paper 2 science GCSEs. In biology they are learning about homeostatic control of the body. In chemistry the topic of organic chemistry which is all about crude oil and how we make it useful. In physics students are learning all about forces, their effects and how they control the motion of objects.



# OPEN EVENING

## West Craven High School Open Evening – Thursday 2nd October

We are delighted to invite prospective Year 6 parents and carers to our Open Evening on **Thursday 2nd October**. This is a wonderful opportunity to look around our school, meet our dedicated teachers and support staff, and hear directly from our students about life at West Craven High School.

You'll have the chance to ask questions, explore our facilities, and gain a real insight into how our school runs day to day. With secondary school applications due by the end of October, this evening will provide valuable information to support your decision-making.

We look forward to welcoming you and showing you all that West Craven has to offer.

If your child wants to help out at Open Evening, ask them to speak to their Form Tutor.



#ASPIRE  
Pendle Education Trust



WCHS

**OPEN EVENING**

Thursday 2nd  
October 6pm - 8pm

**SAVE THE DATE**

01282 812292  
WestCraven.Barnoldswick  
West Craven High School

Book your tickets now [www.westcraven.co.uk](http://www.westcraven.co.uk)



**APPLY NOW!**

**WEST CRAVEN HIGH SCHOOL**



School places are filling up fast for September 2026

Closing date for applications  
31st October 2025



Apply now using this QR code

#ASPIRE

# PASTORAL UPDATES

Dear Year 8 Pupils and Parents/Guardians,

I hope this message finds you well and that the new school year has started positively for you all.

My name is **Mrs. Nicola Freeman**, and I am delighted to introduce myself as the new **Pastoral Lead for Year 8**. It is a privilege to be joining the pastoral team and to have the opportunity to support your children during this important stage of their educational journey.

My role is to ensure that every pupil in Year 8 feels safe, supported, and encouraged to thrive both academically and personally. I will be working closely with the teaching staff, parents, and pupils to promote wellbeing, positive behaviour, and a strong sense of belonging. I believe that pastoral care is at the heart of a successful school experience, and I am committed to creating an environment where every child feels valued and heard.

Throughout the year, I will be available to offer guidance, listen to concerns, and celebrate achievements. I encourage both pupils and parents to reach out to me with any questions or issues—no matter how big or small. Communication and collaboration are key to ensuring that we can work together to support each child's development.

I am very much looking forward to getting to know each of our Year 8 pupils and their families. Together, we can make this a year full of growth, learning, and memorable experiences.

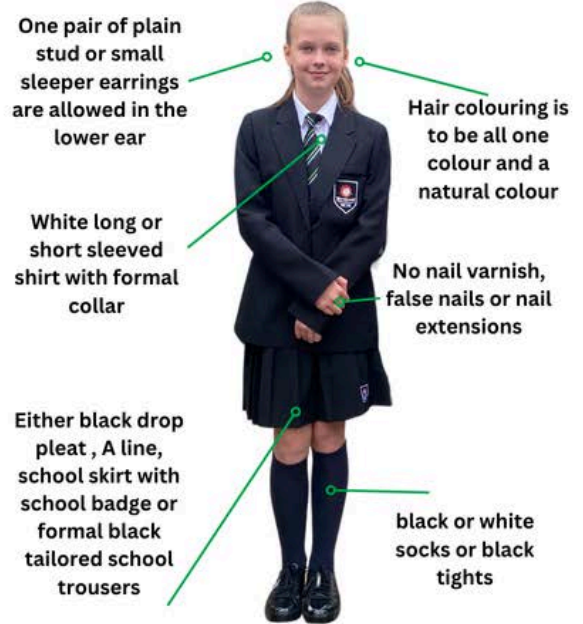
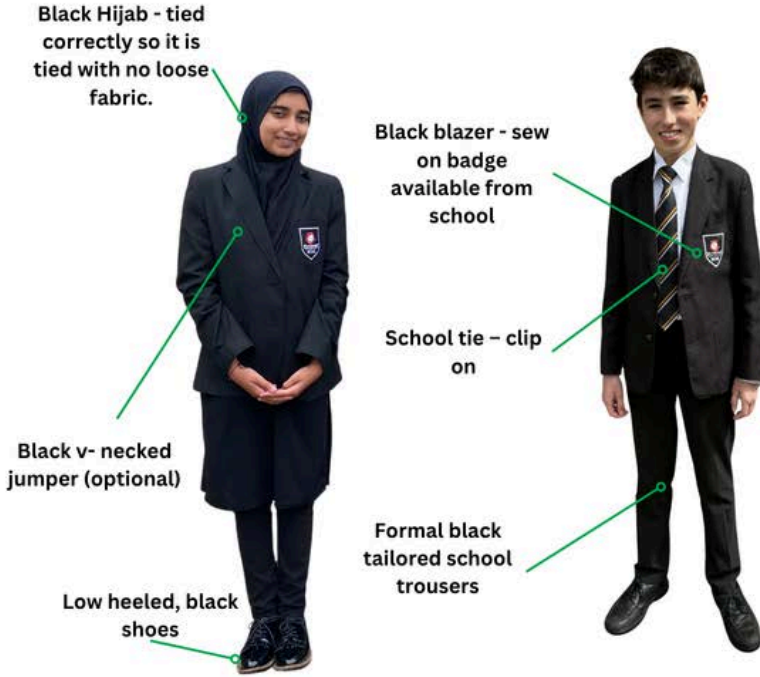
**Warm regards,**  
**Mrs. Nicola Freeman**  
**Pastoral Lead – Year 8**



# IMPORTANT REMINDERS



## OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM



### #ASPIRE PRE-LOVED UNIFORM DONATIONS

If you have any pre-loved school uniform, PE kit or appropriate school shoes which are still in good condition, please drop at our school reception or students can pass to the main office or Pastoral Leads.

Your generosity can make a real difference to other families' lives.

**DONATE**



01282 812292

[www.westcraven.co.uk](http://www.westcraven.co.uk)

### School Footwear

- Footwear must be a shoe and not a trainer, boot, pump or plimsoll.
- Shoes made by sportswear manufacturers will be deemed to be a trainer.
- Sports branded footwear is not acceptable (Nike, Adidas, Mallet, Vans, Converse etc)
- Shoes advertised as "school shoes" may not be acceptable at West Craven High School
- Shoes which cover the ankle are deemed to be a boot and not allowed e.g. Dr Martens boots.

#### NOT ACCEPTABLE



Acceptable footwear



[www.westcraven.co.uk](http://www.westcraven.co.uk)



[westcravenhighschool](https://www.facebook.com/westcravenhighschool)



[westcraven.barnoldswick](https://www.instagram.com/westcraven.barnoldswick)

# CELEBRATING SUCCESS

## Star Awards 2025

We are delighted to announce that our annual Star Awards will take place on **Tuesday 18th November 2025**. This special evening is an opportunity for us to celebrate the past year and recognise the achievement, effort, and progress of our students.

 Date: Tuesday 18th November 2025

 Colne Municipal Hall

 Arrival: from 6.30pm

 Event starts: 7.00pm

 Finishes: 9.00pm

Selected students who are receiving an award will receive a personal invitation, and their families are warmly invited to attend and share in the celebrations. Former Year 12 students are also invited to return to collect their GCSE certificates

To help us prepare, we kindly ask that all invited students and families confirm their attendance with the main office.

**[office@westcraven.co.uk](mailto:office@westcraven.co.uk)**

The Star Awards is always a highlight of the school calendar, bringing our community together to recognise and celebrate student success. We look forward to welcoming you to what promises to be another inspiring evening.



# PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

At West Craven High School, we place great importance on preparing our students not just for academic success, but also for life beyond the classroom. Our Personal Development programme helps students build the knowledge, skills, and values they need to thrive as individuals and as members of society.

Over the course of the academic year, students will spend time each week learning about a wide range of topics, including **respect, relationships, equality, consent, discrimination, bullying, the law, and British values**. They will also explore **mental health, wellbeing, healthy lifestyles, safe relationships, and making positive choices**. **Careers education and guidance** are an important part of the programme, giving students the chance to explore **future pathways and understand the labour market**. In addition, students learn about **active citizenship, social action, volunteering, online safety, and the risks and effects of alcohol, and harmful content**.

This learning is supported through weekly assemblies and tutor time activities, with guest speakers from a variety of organisations visiting school to share their knowledge and experiences.

Through this approach, our students gain the confidence and knowledge to make informed decisions, respect themselves and others, and prepare for their future.

This work will be linked to our Core Expectations in school  
**Be Safe, Be Ready, Be Respectful.**

**This also links to the Pendle Education Trust pledge.**

This week welcomed students back for their first full week and personal development was at the forefront of their activities. Year 11s have taken part in sessions to reflect on their academic progress last year and consider which courses they may want to study next year. We also have an assembly from Craven College on the courses available to them after Year 11. Our Year 10 students have been considering which work experience placement they wish to complete. In curriculum areas, such as Science, students have been looking at careers related to the topics they are studying.

Next Monday is the start of our PSHE programme in which we have guest speakers in for Year 11 and Year 9 as well as Year 7 looking at the transition to secondary school, Year 8 looking at health and wellbeing along with Year 10 looking at mental and physical health.



**Mr Brook**  
**Personal Development**  
**& Careers Lead**



# PENDLE EDUCATION TRUST PLEDGE

## The Pendle Education Trust Pledge

At West Craven High School, we want every student to enjoy new experiences during their time with us and to create memories that will last a lifetime. As part of the Pendle Education Trust pledge, we promise that all of our secondary students will take part in at least five key opportunities before leaving high school.

### These include:

- Cultural appreciation
- Exploring careers
- Fundraising
- Community involvement
- Eco-awareness

Students who work hard on the pledge and take part in, or even lead, activities will be recognised for their efforts and receive a reward at the end of the academic year.

Through these experiences, we aim to broaden horizons, build confidence, and inspire our students to make a positive difference in the world around them.

The graphic features a purple header with the title 'THE PENDLE EDUCATION TRUST PLEDGE' in large white letters. To the right is the Pendle Education Trust logo. Below the title is a white text box containing the pledge statement: 'We want all our students to have new experiences during their time with us to create long-lasting memories. Pendle Education Trust pledges that all our secondary students will experience 5 out of 5 of these opportunities before leaving high school.' To the right of the text are two circular icons: 'OUR PLEDGE' and the West Craven High School crest. The main body of the graphic is teal and lists five categories, each with an icon and an example: 1. Cultural appreciation (e.g. trip to the theatre) with a globe icon; 2. Exploring careers (e.g. attend a careers fair) with a graduation cap icon; 3. Fundraising (e.g. organise an event for a good cause) with a hand holding a coin icon; 4. Community Involvement (e.g. get involved in a community project) with a group of people icon; 5. Eco-awareness (e.g. take part in a sustainability project) with a globe and leaf icon.

## Tell Us About Your Out-of-School Achievements!

We know that our students are achieving fantastic things outside of school, and we'd love to celebrate these successes with our community. Whether it's competing in a national competition, raising money for charity, completing a first Parkrun, or any other achievement big or small – we want to hear about it!

Please share your news by emailing [jevetts@pendleeducationtrust.co.uk](mailto:jevetts@pendleeducationtrust.co.uk) and we will feature your stories in this weekly e-bulletin.



As our Year 11 students begin thinking about their next steps after high school, attending college and training provider open events is a great way to explore future options. These events give students and families the chance to learn more about the courses available, meet staff, and experience what life at each college is like. Below you'll find a list of local colleges and training providers, the courses they offer, and the dates and times of their upcoming open events. We encourage all students in Year 11 to take advantage of these opportunities to help them make informed choices about their future pathways. If you need any support with your College application, please speak to Mr Brook

## College Open Events 2025/2026

Sixth Form/College/ Training Provider	Course types available	Dates	Time
Nelson and Colne College <a href="#">Home - Nelson &amp; Colne College</a>	A Level T Level Vocational Apprenticeship	20 <sup>th</sup> September 15 <sup>th</sup> October 11 <sup>th</sup> November	10am – 2pm 5.30-7.30pm 5.30-7.30pm
Accrington and Rossendale College <a href="#">Events - Accrington &amp; Rossendale College</a>	T Level Vocational Apprenticeship	30 <sup>th</sup> September 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	5.30-7.30pm
Burnley College <a href="#">Home - Burnley College</a>	A Levels T Level Vocational Apprenticeship	17 <sup>th</sup> September	5.30-8.30pm
Craven College <a href="http://www.craven-college.ac.uk">www.craven-college.ac.uk</a>	T Level Vocational Apprenticeship	6 <sup>th</sup> October 8 <sup>th</sup> October (aviation academy) 9 <sup>th</sup> October (aviation academy) 15 <sup>th</sup> October (aviation academy) 17 <sup>th</sup> November 19 <sup>th</sup> November (aviation academy) 20 <sup>th</sup> November (aviation academy)	5.30 – 7.30pm
Myerscough College <a href="http://www.myerscough.ac.uk">www.myerscough.ac.uk</a>	Vocational T Level Apprenticeship	4 <sup>th</sup> October 15 <sup>th</sup> November	10am-12.30pm
Skipton Girls High School <a href="http://www.sghs.org.uk/sixth-form">www.sghs.org.uk/sixth-form</a>	A Level	Date TBC	Timings TBC
Clitheroe Royal Grammar School <a href="#">Sixth Form   Clitheroe Royal Grammar School</a>	A Level	12 <sup>th</sup> November	Timings TBC

**Mr Brook**  
Personal Development  
& Careers Lead



# INTRODUCING OUR SENIOR PREFECTS



## Introducing Our Senior Prefects

We are delighted to introduce our new team of Senior Prefects for this academic year. These students have been chosen for their leadership skills, positive attitude and commitment to our school community.



As Senior Prefects, their role is to support both staff and students, helping to create a positive and welcoming environment across school. They will be on hand to assist at school events, act as role models for younger students, and contribute to projects that make a real difference to school life.



Our Senior Prefects play an important part in representing the student voice and setting an example of responsibility, respect and teamwork. We know they will do a fantastic job this year and look forward to seeing the impact they will make.

**APPLY NOW**

## Prefect Applications Now Open

We are also opening up another round of recruitment for Prefects to support our Senior Prefect team. Being a Prefect is a fantastic opportunity for students to develop leadership skills, take on extra responsibility, and play an active role in school life.

Students in Year 11 who would like to become a Prefect are invited to complete an application form this week. The closing date for applications is **Thursday 19th September**.

If your child would like to be considered for this role, we would love to hear from them.

# SCHOOL DINNERS

All students must stay on the school premises during break and lunchtime.

They can either bring a packed lunch or purchase food and drinks from the canteen. Food must be consumed in the designated year group area. We have sufficient dining facilities to ensure all students can sit down at lunchtime and eat their meal with friends.

At the request of the Student Council, each student has, at present, a maximum spend limit per day of £5. This can be altered by parents/carers to any limit you feel appropriate. Limits can be set for morning break and lunchtime if required. A value meal deal can be purchased for **£2.73** per day.

## Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Universal Credit with a household income of less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- Income-Based Jobseekers' Allowance
- Income-Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, not entitled to Working Tax Credit and household income Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit Income Support
- Working Tax Credit 'run on' – the payment you receive for a further four weeks after you finish work

You can apply online, or there is information about how to apply by phone and post on the Lancashire County Council website: [here](#)

**\*Free School meal entitlement is £2.73 per day and can only be used at lunchtime. You can add money to ParentPay to allow your child to pay for extra food and drink and break and lunchtime.**

**£2.73 2 ITEM MEAL DEAL**



## PRICE List WEST CRAVEN HIGH SCHOOL

Break Items	Price	Lunch Items	Price
Hash Brown - Each	60p	Meat Main	£2.53
Croissant	£1.40	Veggie Main	£2.53
Pain au Chocolat	£1.30	Pizza Slice	£1.70
Sausage Roll	£1.35	Veggie Pizza Slice	£1.60
Vegan Sausage Roll	£1.35	Jacket potato	£1.30
Cheese on Toast	£1.40	1 Filling	£1.95
Bacon Sandwich	£1.50	2 Fillings	£2.45
Sausage Sandwich	£1.50	Chicken Wrap	£2.48
Toast	38p	Sandwich	£2.00
Bean and Cheese Bagel	£1.05	Cold Baguette	£2.45
Waffle	£1.20	Cold Wrap	£2.00
Pancakes	£1.20	Salad Box	£2.53
Half Cheese Panini	£1.10	Pasta Salad	£2.53
Half Currant Teacake	55p	Pasta and Sauce	£2.53
		Large Cake	£1.10
		Fruit Pot	£1.15
		Doughnut	£1.35
		Small Cake	75p
500ml Water	£1.05		
Radnor Carton	65p		
Radnor Fizz	£1.10		
Viva Milkshake	£1.15		

**MEAL DEAL** – Choose a main meal OR cold 'grab & go' item, with a small drink OR home-made cookie for only **£2.73**








# EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

## Extra Curricular Activities at West Craven High School

At West Craven High School, we believe that education is about more than just academic achievement. That's why we offer a wide range of extracurricular clubs, visits, and enriching opportunities designed to help students grow, explore their interests, and develop skills that will serve them for life.

Getting involved in these activities is not only fun, but also essential for personal and academic growth. From after-school clubs to educational trips and special projects, students can enrich their school experience in a variety of ways, discover new passions, broaden their horizons, and create lasting memories.

We're excited to welcome students to join these activities starting next week and encourage them to make the most of everything on offer! This programme will be updated regularly as we expand our offer.

West Craven High School <b>Lunchtime Clubs</b>					
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	
<b>Library</b> Years 10 & 11	 <b>Library</b> Years 7,8, & 9	<b>Library</b> Years 7,8, & 9	<b>Library</b> Years 7,8, & 9	<b>Library</b> Years 10 & 11	
<b>Games Club</b> Room M1 	<b>Choir</b> Lunch time Room G8 	<b>Computing</b> All Years Room G11	<b>Touch Typing Club</b> All years Room G12 		
		 <b>Creative Writing</b> Room T8 Year 7 only	<b>Karaoke Club</b> Room T7 		

All our extracurricular activities are completely free!

Please note that **Stage Door Drama Club** and **Imogen's Dance School** have limited spaces, so you'll need to register your interest at the office.

For all other clubs, you can simply turn up and join in. If you have any questions about the clubs, or if there's an activity you'd like to see added to the programme, please speak to your form tutor.

# EXTRA CURRICULAR TIMETABLE

West Craven High School

## After School Clubs



MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
<b>Badminton</b> PE 	<b>Rugby</b> YR 7&8 3G Pitch 		<b>Netball</b> Yr 9 & 10 	<b>Art</b> Room M10 (Starting after half term) 
<b>Teambuilding</b> Once Per month Starting after half (term) Room M3	<b>Netball</b> Year 7&8 		<b>Football</b> Yr 7, 8 & 9 	
<b>Languages Club</b> Room G3	<b>Basketball</b> All pupils Sports Hall 		<b>Dodgeball</b> Yr 7 & 8	
<b>Library Homework club</b>	<b>Library Homework club</b>	<b>Library Homework club</b>	<b>Library Homework club</b>	
<b>Youth Enterprise / Fundraising</b> Room G11 	<b>Band club</b> Main Hall 		<b>DT Revision Yr 11</b> Room G7 Starting after half term	
<b>History</b> Year 7,8,9 Room M7	<b>Stage Door Drama Club</b> 3:30pm - 4:45pm Room T1/2 		<b>SEN Homework Club</b> Room M8	
			<b>Imogen's dance School</b> 3:30pm-4:30pm Gym 	
			<b>Science Club</b> Room M2 	

# WE ARE A READING ACADEMY

**This week in WAARA...**

**Welcome from the Director of English, Drama and Whole School Literacy,  
Mrs Haynes-Cooper**



**Welcome back to another year of reading with West Craven!**

Students throughout key stage 3 have had their library inductions and refresher lessons and have already taken a plethora of exciting new novels out of the library for reading at home. Please encourage this with your children and ask them what they are reading at the moment. It's the perfect time to find a new book and start a new journey at the beginning of a new school year. Years 8-11 are being told their most recent reading ages this week, which will help to guide them in the books they will find both engaging and suitably challenging. New year 7s will get their reading age after they have been tested later this term, once they've settled into school life. This week though they will take a spelling test for us to determine their spelling ages, an important step to best supporting their start at West Craven.



**Photos of Y7s in their library induction lessons:**



## The librarian loves...

Sully, Miracle on The Hudson by Chelsey B Sullenberger and Jeffrey Zaslow, which tells the story of a pilot who managed to land a plane on the Hudson River. One of the main themes of this book is being prepared and ready for your moment, which makes this an apt book for September.



# WE ARE A READING ACADEMY



**50 Book Challenge**

Are you ready to take on the challenge? Throughout your five years at West Craven high school, we're inviting YOU to read 50 amazing books – starting this summer!

- ✓ Start reading over the summer holidays
- ✓ Choose from our exciting list of 50 books
- ✓ Find them in our school library or your local library

If you have not started the 50 book challenge yet, come along to the library and ask the librarian for a book list. You will receive a prize for reading 10 books.



## Author Spotlight

Roald Dahl Day is marked on the 13th September to remember Roald Dahl, who wrote books for adults and children. He was an incredibly creative person and he came up with more than 500 words and character names. He called his language Gobblefunk. Before he became an author, he was a pilot for the Royal Air Force and it was this period of time that inspired him to write his first book, *The Gremlins*. This story was eventually adapted into a film by Steven Spielberg.

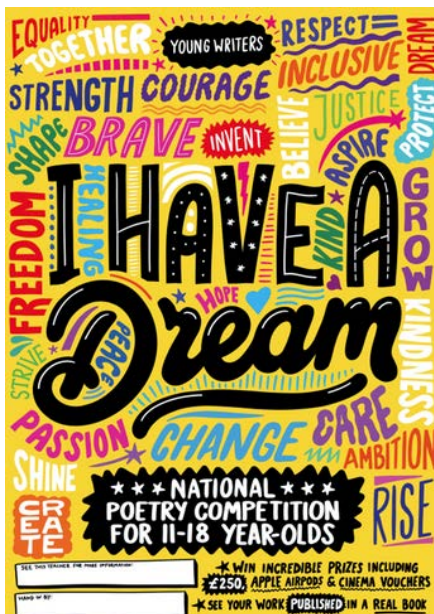


## Poetry Competition: "I Have a Dream"

Do you love writing and expressing yourself through poetry? Now's your chance! The national "I Have a Dream" poetry competition is open to all young people aged 11–18.

Not only could you see your work published in a real book, but there are also some fantastic prizes to be won – including £250, Apple AirPods, and cinema vouchers.

We'd love to see our talented young writers get involved – so why not give it a go? Share your creativity, let your voice be heard, and enter today!



**I HAVE A Dream**

\*\*\* NATIONAL POETRY COMPETITION FOR 11-18 YEAR-OLDS \*\*\*

WIN INCREDIBLE PRIZES INCLUDING £250, APPLE AIRPODS & CINEMA VOUCHERS

SEE YOUR WORK PUBLISHED IN A REAL BOOK



# PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The trustees of Pendle Education Trust are seeking a Parent Governor to join the Local Academy Council at West Craven High School and invite parents, foster parents, carers or guardians who would like to be considered, to put their names forward.

An outline of the role can be [found here](#) and we are particularly looking to recruit a parent who, as well as wishing to support West Craven High School in improving outcomes for students, has an interest in further developing the school as a community asset and working with the other Pendle Education Trust schools in the area.

If you are interested in standing as a Parent Governor and wish to find out more about what the role entails, please contact Val Townsend, Clerk to the Trust at [vtownsend@pendleeducationtrust.co.uk](mailto:vtownsend@pendleeducationtrust.co.uk)

You may also find the following website useful [www.nga.org.uk](http://www.nga.org.uk).

If you wish to be considered, you will need to complete the form below by **9am on Friday 19th September 2025** or if you wish to complete a paper form, contact the school office for this. If we have more suitable candidates than there are vacancies, an election process will be held.

It should be noted that parents who have been adjudged bankrupt, who have been removed as a trustee or who have received a prison sentence of more than three months for a criminal offence are disqualified from serving as a governor. All governors are required to complete a DBS check.

We do hope you are interested in standing and look forward to receiving your application.

**[Apply here](#)**



## Music Lessons with Andrew Gilmour (Giz)

We're excited to share that Andrew Gilmour (Giz) will be offering individual guitar, bass, ukulele, and singing lessons in school on Tuesday mornings, starting 16th September.

Students taking lessons will also have the chance to showcase their hard work at school events throughout the year – a fantastic way to build confidence and celebrate progress!

👉 Lessons are available on a first come, first served basis.

If you'd like your child to get involved, please contact:

**[info@andrewgilmour.co.uk](mailto:info@andrewgilmour.co.uk)**



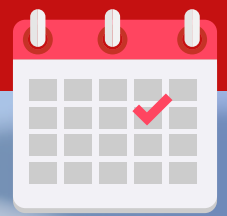
## Out of School Achievements

Jessica in Year 7 at West Craven High School was 'runner of the week' at Barlick Fell Runners running club last week. Here is a photo of her with the trophy.

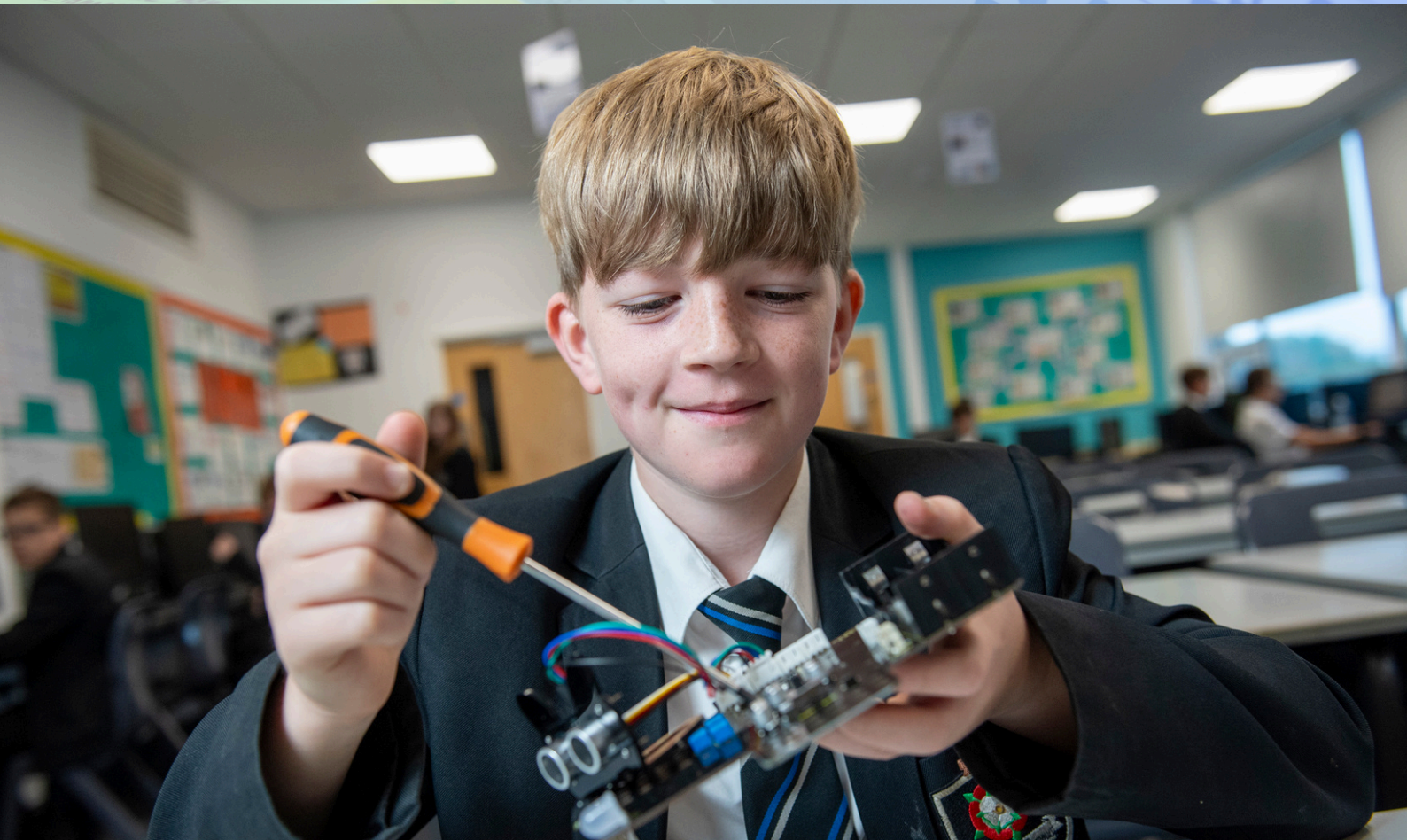
Well Done Jessica!



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



- 15<sup>th</sup> September Nelson & Colne College visit
- 15<sup>th</sup> September Lancashire Sexual Health Team visit
- 16<sup>th</sup> September Streetwise Assembly
- 18<sup>th</sup> September Year 7 Tutor Evening
- 18<sup>th</sup> September Year 11 Revision Workshop
- 25<sup>th</sup> September European Day of Languages
- 25<sup>th</sup> September Year 11 Power to Perform event
- 26<sup>th</sup> September Macmillan Coffee morning
- 29<sup>th</sup> September Year 10 one to one careers sessions
- 2<sup>nd</sup> October Year 10 Careers Event Colne Muni
- 2<sup>nd</sup> October Open Evening 6-8pm
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October - school closes for half term
- 10<sup>th</sup> November - school reopens for staff and students
- 18<sup>th</sup> November - Star Awards - Colne Muni



# OUR COMMUNITY

## Community Advertisements

In this section of our newsletter, we share posters for local events, activities, and charities.

If you would like us to advertise a community event or club, please email [jvetts@pendleeducationtrust.co.uk](mailto:jvetts@pendleeducationtrust.co.uk).

Please note that West Craven High School is not affiliated with these organisations and cannot endorse the events, promotions, or clubs. We will only feature events that we consider appropriate for our school community.

We are  
Community

## Stay connected, follow us on Facebook and Instagram

A very warm welcome to all our new Year 7 families! We are thrilled to have you join the West Craven High School community. To stay updated on school news, student achievements, important events, and reminders, we encourage all parents and carers to follow our official Facebook and Instagram pages.



**West Craven High School**



**WestCraven.Barnoldswick**



**ncc.**

Nelson & Colne  
College

# JOIN US AT ONE OF OUR

# EVENTS

**A LEVEL  
OPEN  
EVENT**

**SAT, 20 SEPT**

10.00am to 2.00pm

**YEAR 11  
OPEN  
EVENT**

**WED, 15 OCT**

5.30pm to 7.30pm

**YEAR 11  
OPEN  
EVENT**

**TUE, 11 NOV**

5.30pm to 7.30pm

**CAREERS  
OPEN  
EVENT**

**THU, 5 FEB**

5.30pm to 7.30pm

**YEAR 7, 8,  
9, 10 & 11  
EVENT**

**THU, 23 APR**

5.30pm to 7.30pm

**NEW  
STUDENT  
DAY**

**THU, 25 JUN**

All Day

**GCSE  
RESULTS  
DAY**

**THU, 20 AUG**

All Day

[ncc.eastlancslearning.ac.uk](http://ncc.eastlancslearning.ac.uk)

# There is a national Teaching Assistant Shortage

We're looking for learners who want to kickstart their classroom career with our **FREE online** courses.



**Fully-funded**



**6-week courses  
during school hours**



**Post-course  
certificate**

## Kickstart your classroom career:

- Teaching Assistant
- Behaviour Support
- Cover Support
- Midday Supervisor
- Learning mentor

**Make a difference to a child's life**

## School Support Programmes

**Level 1**

**Level 2**

**Level 3**



07707470845



[jamie.burgess@aspireeducationacademy.co.uk](mailto:jamie.burgess@aspireeducationacademy.co.uk)





**There is a national shortage of  
classroom support staff**

**Step into the classroom with our online  
School Support Programmes**



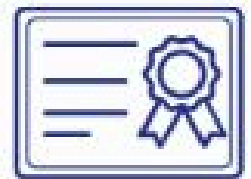
**Fully-funded**



**6-week courses  
during school  
hours**



**Meet with  
Employers**



**Post-course  
certificate**

**With career progression routes such as:**

Teaching Assistant  
Cover Supervisor  
Behaviour Support

Midday Supervisor  
Lunchtime Supervisor  
1:1 Support

Learning Mentor  
Pastoral Support  
Admin Support

**Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 Courses Available**



The teaching skills were second to none, I now feel confident that I can go into my new role as a TA knowing I have the knowledge and confidence to face anything I may come across. Thank you, Aspire.



**Enrol today:**



07707470845

