

WEST CRAVEN HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Principal's Welcome

Friday 26th September

Dear Parent/Carer,

On Thursday evening we invited all Year 11 and their parents into school for our Power to Perform event. This was a chance to outline the importance of approaching the final year with the right mindset from the very start. The year will go quickly for Year 11s, with the first exams starting on 11th May. We have outlined the key dates and deadlines for students and parents and offered support on how to revise. We have also issued revision guides and materials for all subjects. The presentation will be available on our website and all students will be able to get revision materials from their teachers if they missed the event. As I said on the evening, it is about supporting every student to achieve to their full potential. We will work with the students and the parents to do all we can to ensure that students are successful this summer.

We held our MacMillan Coffee morning on Friday this week, where families could join us for a 'cuppa and a cake'. This has proved to be a popular event with many parents and grandparents joining us on Friday morning. It was a lovely atmosphere in the main hall, which had been laid out with our best china cups, as children came from their lessons to join their family and enjoy some time together. There was a huge spread of baked cakes from parents, staff and students. As Principal I took my role very seriously in taste testing as many as possible!

As I hope you have heard, we now have Drama on the timetable in Year 7, 8 and 9 and we have Stage Door and Imogen's School of Dance after school each week. I was extremely pleased to see that 40 students have already taken up this extra-curricular offer, and I can't wait to see what performances and shows we will be able to put on as a school in the months ahead. If your child wasn't lucky enough to secure a place this term, please let us know and we will make sure that all students get this opportunity over the course of the year. Similarly, if your child has a hobby or interest that could be an extra-curricular activity in school, please ask them to tell their tutor. There might be someone who shares your child's passion just waiting for some students to show an interest so they can start a club. We will be asking all of the staff if there is anything they would like to run additionally also.

It is our Open Evening next week on Thursday evening, which is an exciting opportunity to meet the new Year 5s and 6s and their parents, and show the community all that we are doing at West Craven High School. The event runs from 6pm to 8pm on Thursday 2nd October and I look forward to meeting those new to our community, as well as those who already know us through siblings or relatives already at the school.

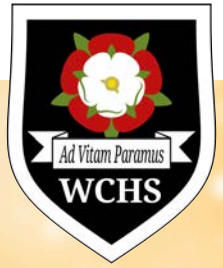
Thank you for continued support



Mr Bates, Principal



STARS OF THE WEEK



Freya 7.AOP
Brooke 7.MFO
Charlie 7.OCA
Jessica 7.YGR



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

Eva 9.DRA
Ellie 9.HWH
Qasim 9.LWI
Ellie 9.WDA

Saman 10.ABA
Mya 10.CMC
Millie 10.DWI
Ella 10.JPE
Ethan 10.RGR



Izobel 11.API
Maisie 11.ECU
Miya-Elize 11.JHA
Tyler 11.MMO
Daisy 11.MTU

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

CURRICULUM UPDATE HISTORY

A Journey Through History

It's been an exciting start to the term in the History Department, with each year group exploring a different chapter of the past and asking big questions about how people lived, fought, and thought.

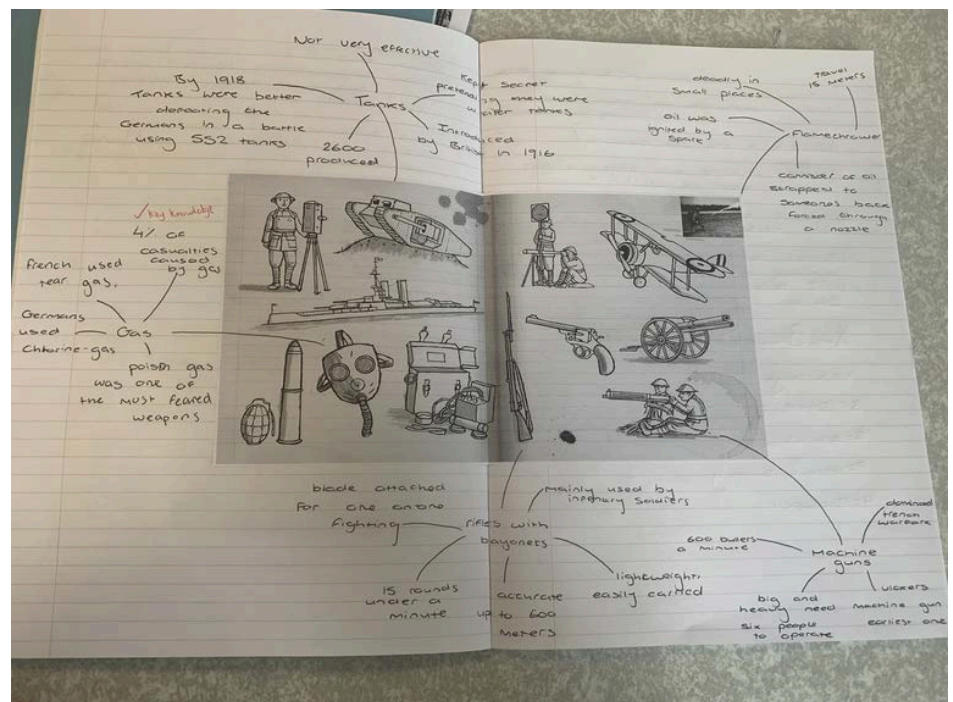
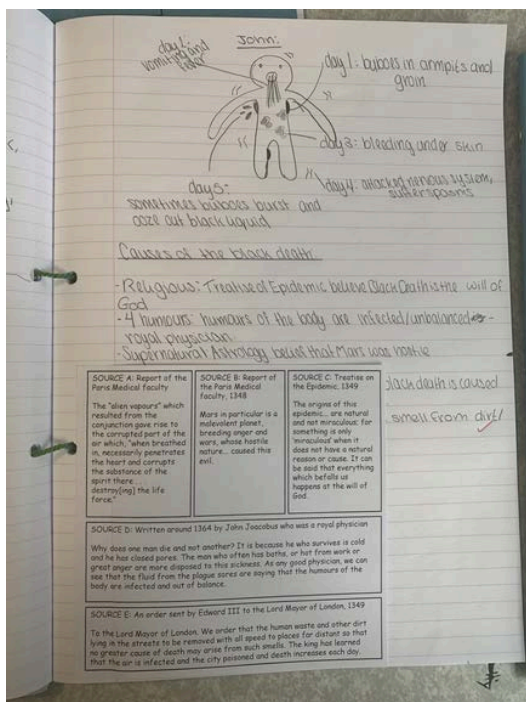
✨ Year 7 have travelled back to Roman Britain, discovering how the Romans arrived and, more importantly, how they managed to keep control. From legions to leaders, students are starting to see just how much Rome shaped our island's story.

👑 Year 8 have stepped into Tudor England, tackling the drama of the Reformation. With Henry VIII's "Great Matter" at the centre of events, students are uncovering how one king's personal choices had enormous consequences for religion and politics across the nation.

⚔️ Year 9 have been digging into the First World War, asking why it became known as "The Great War." They've explored life in the trenches and looked at how devastating new weapons changed warfare forever.

👼 Year 10 have begun their GCSE journey with the history of medicine. Right now, they're using the Black Death as a case study, exploring Medieval ideas about what caused disease – and how those beliefs paved the way for change.

History is alive in every classroom, and our students are doing a brilliant job bringing the past to life!



EXCITING NEWS: SENECA LEARNING IS HERE!

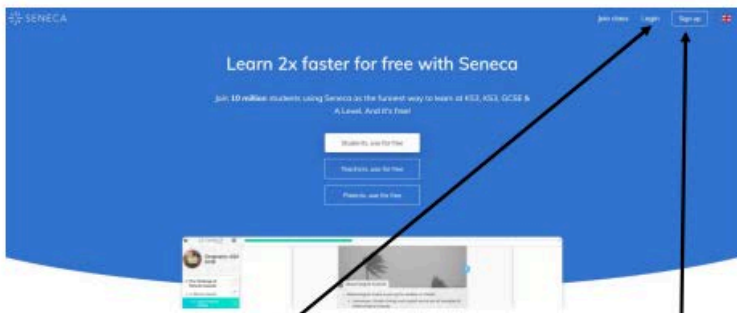
We are thrilled to announce that, starting this week, Seneca Learning is now our online platform for History homework!

You can access Seneca Learning either by downloading the app on your phone or tablet, or by logging in via a web browser such as Google Chrome or Safari.

Don't worry—the way you complete your homework remains the same.

How to log in:

1. Use your school email address and password (the same one you use to log in to school computers).
2. Make sure to click on "Continue with Microsoft" first.
3. Once logged in, click on the Assignments tab to find your homework.

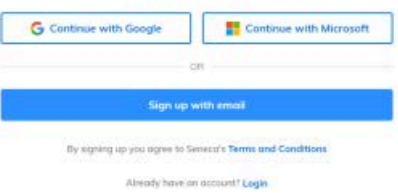
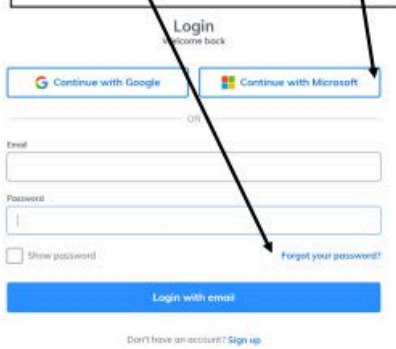


You can log in 2 ways. Click on continue with Microsoft and enter your school e-mail and password.

OR

You can login by using your school e-mail and clicking on forgot password. Seneca will send a password to your school e-mail.

If you are unsure, you have an account. You can sign up with Seneca. You must use your school e-mail. If you have an account already you can use the forgot password method to login.



You can then click on any assignments you have to complete.

The image below will have all your recent assignments set, the ones that have been done and any missed.



Mr Davidson
Head of
Humanities and
MFL

If you run into any difficulties logging in, please refer to this guide.

For any other issues, don't hesitate to contact your normal History class teacher.

Happy learning!



SPORTS FIXTURES

Year 8 Football Off to a Winning Start

The football season kicked off in style last night as our Year 8 boys secured a fantastic 2–0 victory over Colne Primet Academy. It was a strong team performance, with goals coming from Thomas and Daniel to seal the win.

Well done to all the players for their hard work and determination – a brilliant start to the season!



Year 7 Football v Primet

The Year 7 boys also played their first competitive fixture for the school on Wednesday evening. They showed great promise in a convincing 3–0 victory over local rivals Primet. Goal scorers were Leo, Charlie, and Owen.

A fantastic start to the season for the team!

West Craven Pupils Take on Cycling Challenge for National Fitness Day

Wednesday marked National Fitness Day, and pupils from West Craven celebrated in style by taking part in a cycling challenge at the West Craven Sports Centre. The event encouraged students to embrace physical activity, enjoy some friendly competition, and experience the benefits of staying active. Students pedaled their way through various cycling challenges, showcasing teamwork, endurance, and determination. The day was a great reminder of the importance of keeping fit while having fun.

Well done to all the pupils who took part – your energy and enthusiasm truly made National Fitness Day a memorable one!



Mr Wilson
Head of PE



SPORTS FIXTURES

Year 10 Netball: West Craven vs Primet

It had been a long time since our Year 10 girls had played a netball match, and the nerves were certainly visible. From the start, a confident Primet team took control, but our girls showed great resilience, continuing to work hard throughout the game.

The final score was 16-2 to Primet, but goals in each half helped lift the West Craven spirits. Special congratulations to Amber, who was awarded 'Opposition Player of the Game' for her outstanding performance.

A big thank you to the four girls who stepped in at the last minute to ensure our team could take to the court. With more practice as a team, we're confident the girls will continue to grow stronger.

All Year 10 girls are welcome to join practice on Thursdays from 3:15-4:00 pm.



Year 9 Netball: West Craven vs Primet

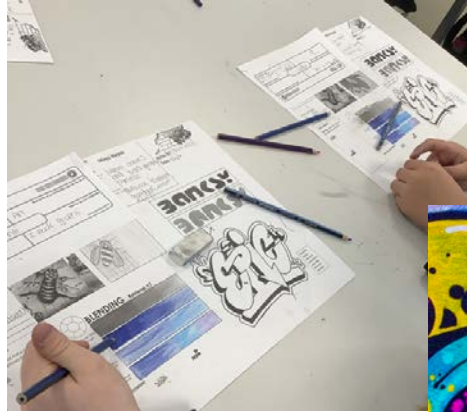
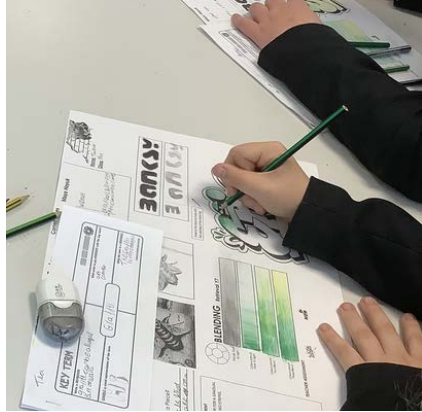
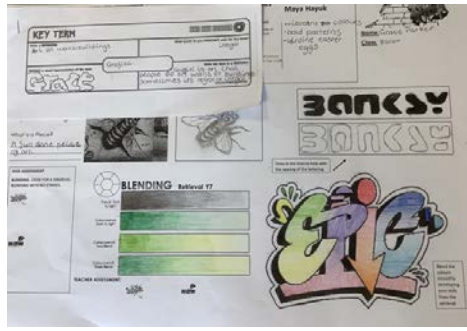
Our Year 9 netball team got off to a fantastic start, winning their first league match against Primet Academy with an impressive 19-0!

Most of these girls have played together since Year 7, and their teamwork, positivity, and ambition were clearly on display throughout the game.

Mara Gill was awarded 'Opposition Player of the Game,' though it was a tough choice, as every single player contributed to a fantastic team performance.

All Year 9 girls are welcome to join practice on Thursdays from 3:15-4:00 pm.





Year 8 Art Showcase: Graffiti Highlights

Our Year 8 students have been exploring the vibrant world of graffiti art this term. They have experimented with bold colours, dynamic lettering, and imaginative street-style designs. Here are some highlights from their work:



1. Creative Lettering

Students designed their own graffiti tags, focusing on unique fonts, 3D effects, and shadowing techniques. One standout piece featured interlocking letters with bright neon highlights, showing a strong grasp of depth and perspective.

2. Character Design

Several students integrated cartoon-style characters alongside their lettering. These characters added personality and narrative to the graffiti, making the pieces feel alive and expressive.

3. Colour and Texture

Many Year 8 artists experimented with contrasting colours, gradients, and patterns to make their work pop. Some used stippling and cross-hatching to create texture, giving the illusion of spray paint techniques.

4. Street Art Inspirations

Students drew inspiration from famous graffiti artists like Banksy and Lady Pink, learning how social messages can be embedded in street art. A few pieces incorporated symbolic imagery to tell a story beyond the visual impact.

EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

¡Hola! Bonjour! Hallo! Ciao! 🗣️

We were thrilled to celebrate European Day of Languages this Thursday in school!

This special day was all about embracing the joy of languages, cultures, and communication. It was a wonderful opportunity to remind our students – and ourselves – how languages connect us, open doors, and make the world just a little smaller. 🌍

During the week, students took part in a range of form-time activities put together by Madame Pearson & Señorita Attwood-Jones, helping everyone get involved and adding a touch of multilingual magic to the school day.

💡 **Ways the school got involved:**

- Students greeted each other in different languages: “Guten Tag!”, “Buongiorno!”, “Hej!”
- Staff joined in by using foreign phrases in lessons across all subjects.

A huge thank you to everyone who participated and helped bring languages to life!



OUR NEW PREFECTS



Welcoming Our New Prefects

We are delighted to announce that five new Prefects have now been appointed to join our Senior Prefect team for this academic year.

These students have been chosen for their positive attitude, commitment to school life and their willingness to take on responsibility. As Prefects, they will play an important role in supporting our Senior Prefects, helping at school events, and being positive role models for younger students.

We are proud of all the students who applied and would like to congratulate our new Prefects on their appointment. We look forward to seeing the contribution they will make to our school community over the coming months.

HOSPITALITY & CATERING

Year 7 Get Cooking!

Our Year 7 students have kicked off their practical cooking lessons with a delicious start – porridge! They have been learning key skills such as weighing, measuring, and cooking porridge from scratch. The results look fantastic, and it's been wonderful to see their enthusiasm in the kitchen. Well done, Year 7!



HOSPITALITY & CATERING

Year 10 Students Perfect Their Cheesecake Creations

Our Year 10 Hospitality and Catering students have been busy in the kitchen, developing both their culinary and presentation skills. Over the past few weeks, they have been creating a range of delicious cheesecakes, carefully experimenting with flavours, textures, and decorative garnishes.

The focus has been on mastering the art of presentation—learning how to make each dessert visually appealing as well as tasty. From fresh fruit toppings to drizzles of chocolate and artistic arrangements, students have demonstrated creativity and attention to detail.

These practical sessions not only enhance their cooking skills but also build confidence in presenting dishes professionally, preparing them for future studies or careers in the hospitality industry.

The results were as impressive as they were delicious, showcasing both talent and teamwork in our Year 10 cohort.



PASTORAL UPDATES

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers,

I am writing to introduce myself to you as your child's Pastoral Lead for this academic year. It is my pleasure to lead this year group, raising standards, expectations, progress and attainment.

As we begin the Year 10 Key 4 stage journey, I'd like to extend a warm welcome to all families. This year marks a significant step in your child's educational path, as they begin to take on greater responsibility for their learning and personal development.

Week commencing 16th March–27th March 2026, Year 10 will have a fantastic opportunity to complete **work experience**, which is a valuable way to explore career interests, build confidence, and develop key skills.

When arranging work experience placement with the support of Changing Education there are several key pieces of paperwork and legal requirements that must be completed to ensure, compliance and safety hence we would like the work experience form back in to school at you earliest convenience.

Your support in helping them find a placement and reflect on their experience is incredibly important.

As a pastoral lead I am committed to supporting every student academically, socially, and emotionally. Year 10 is a time of growth, challenge, and opportunity, and I aim to create a nurturing environment where students feel safe, valued, and motivated to achieve their best.

I encourage open communication and partnership with parents, as your involvement plays a vital role in your child's success. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns throughout the year.

I look forward to working together to make this a positive and productive year for all.

Warm Regards

Hinna Janjua | Pastoral Lead, Yr10



POWER TO PERFORM

Thank You for Attending – Power to Perform Parents' Evening

A huge thank you to all the Year 11 parents and carers who joined us on Thursday 25th September for our Power to Perform Information Evening.

It was fantastic to see so many of you engaged and ready to support your child through this important year.

Every Year 11 student has now received their revision pack, containing guides, resources, and access to online tools to help them get started. With mock exams beginning in November and final GCSEs in May 2026, preparation really does begin now.

*If you were unable to attend, your child can collect their revision guides and subject postcards directly from their class teachers.

We are confident that, with your continued support at home, our Year 11 students will develop the routines, resilience, and confidence they need to succeed.

Thank you once again for attending and for your ongoing support – together, we can give our students the Power to Perform! 💪



#POWERTOPERFORM



www.westcraven.co.uk



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



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

FUNDRAISING

Macmillan Coffee Morning - Thank you !

A huge thank you to all the parents and carers who joined us for our Macmillan Coffee Morning today. Together we raised a whopping **£332.34** for Macmillan Cancer Support!

We hope you enjoyed the lovely cakes – and thank you so much to everyone who donated. Your generosity made the morning such a success.

Congratulations to our Star Bakers:

- 🏆 Year 7 – Isabella
- 🏆 Year 8 – Cora & Olivia (joint winners)
- 🏆 Year 9 – Madiyyah
- 🏆 Year 10 – Eva
- 🏆 Year 11 – Chrissy



Thanks again for supporting such an important cause – we're so proud of our school community. ❤️



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Our Personal Development calendar continued this week with Mrs Parkinson delivering assemblies on Independence. The assembly looked at different stages of independence as students go through their teenage years into becoming young adults and the different challenges they will face. As a school we are constantly encouraging our students to be more independent, whether that be with their organisation, their attitude to school work or taking part in extracurricular activities.



During tutor time this week, students had a careers focus looking at a variety of jobs including an accounts assistant, audiologist and an assembly production manager. Each week, students will look at a different career with a focus on the skills needed and the progressions within the job.

Next week we continue our PSHE programme with students looking at friendships, the dangers of vaping, mental health and careers.



Mr Brook
Personal Development
& Careers Lead



OUT OF SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

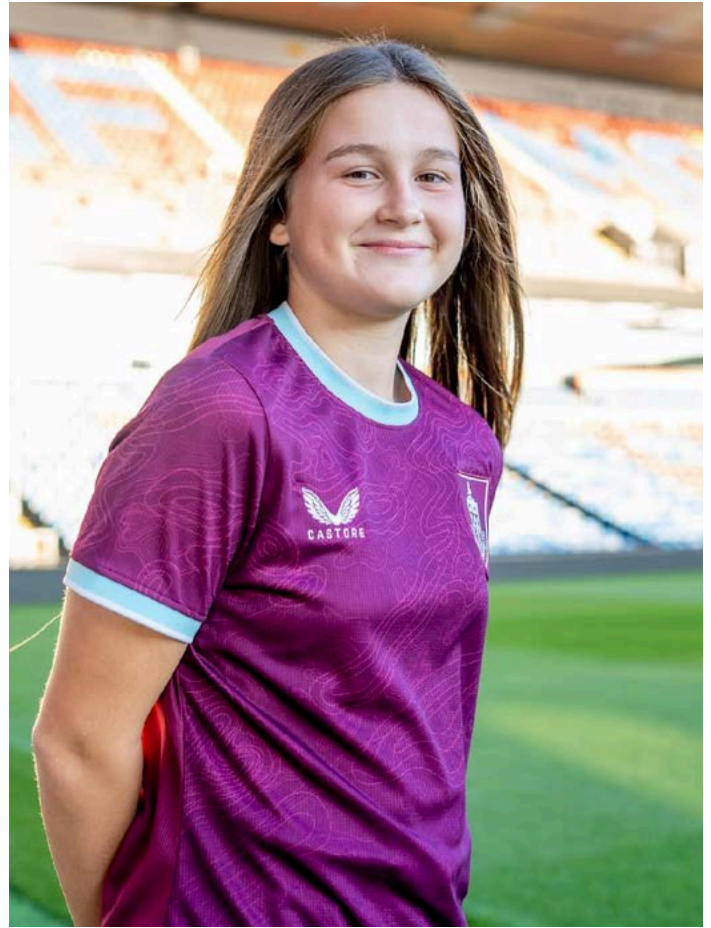
🌟 Out of School Achievement 🌟

A huge congratulations to Olivia (Year 8, West Craven High School) on her incredible football success! ⚽

Olivia currently plays for both Burnley Women U14 and Accrington Stanley Women U14, and has now achieved the fantastic honour of being selected to represent Lancashire Schools U14.

Over 150 girls attended four trials, and Olivia's talent, determination and skill have secured her place in the final squad of just 23 players.

We are extremely proud of Olivia and can't wait to see her continue to shine on the pitch! 🌟👏



Out of School Achievement

Congratulations to Bella! This year, Bella has joined the Pendle Leisure Trust Talented Athletes Program. She recently competed for Lancashire at the Inter Counties Championships in York, running the 800m leg of the relay medley.

As part of the program, Bella will receive free gym membership at West Craven Leisure Centre, where she trains twice a week, in addition to her sessions with Blackburn Harriers.

If your child has recently competed at County level, they could be eligible to join this scheme and receive free gym membership with Pendle Leisure too!

If you would like to share your child's out of school achievements, please contact

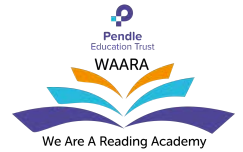
jevetts@pendleeducationtrust.co.uk



WE ARE A READING ACADEMY

The Scholastic Book Fair is Coming!

We're excited to announce that the Scholastic Book Fair will soon be arriving at our school—a fantastic opportunity to spark imaginations, discover new stories, and celebrate a love of reading together.



Build the Buzz – Win Free Books!

To kick things off, we're running a whole-school competition! It's a brilliant way to get everyone involved, and there are £25 worth of free books from the Fair up for grabs as prizes. Speak to **Mrs MacDonal** in the library to find out more.

Easy, Cashless Payments

Parents can now pay quickly and securely using a QR code, either at the Fair or remotely. Simply scan the code to access the parent pay website. Payments can be tracked by logging into your Scholastic Book Fair account.

Something for Every Pocket

With books at a wide range of prices, there's something for everyone—helping every family enjoy the Fair, even with the rising cost of living.

Exclusive Author & Illustrator Events

As part of the Fair, you'll also get access to a brand-new programme of virtual events. From writing workshops to "drawalongs," there's something to inspire every age group—running throughout the school term!

 Date: **13th November 2025**

 Location: **School Library**

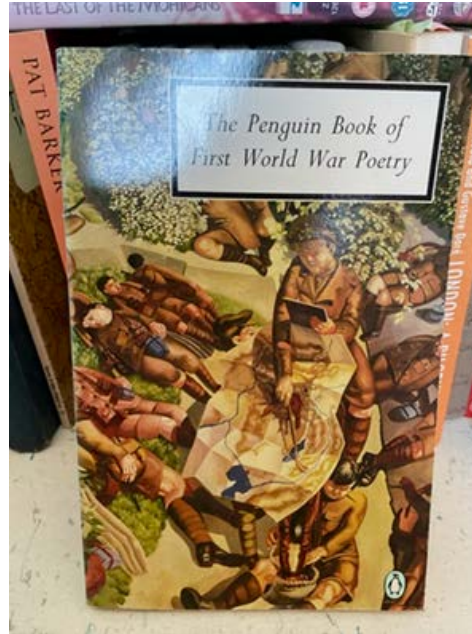
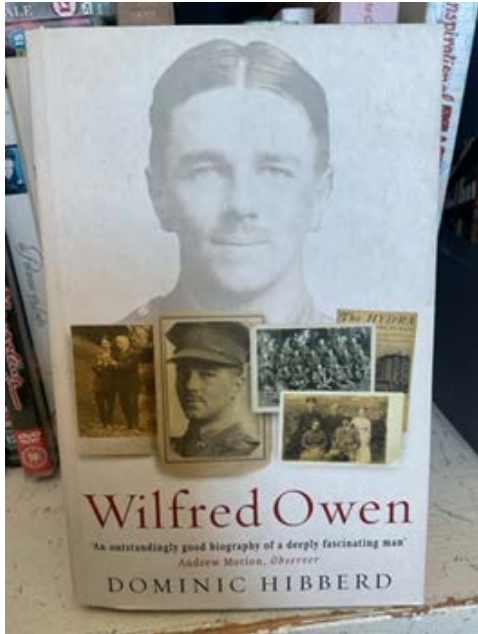
Let's make this Book Fair our best one yet—full of fun, creativity, and, of course, books!



WE ARE A READING ACADEMY

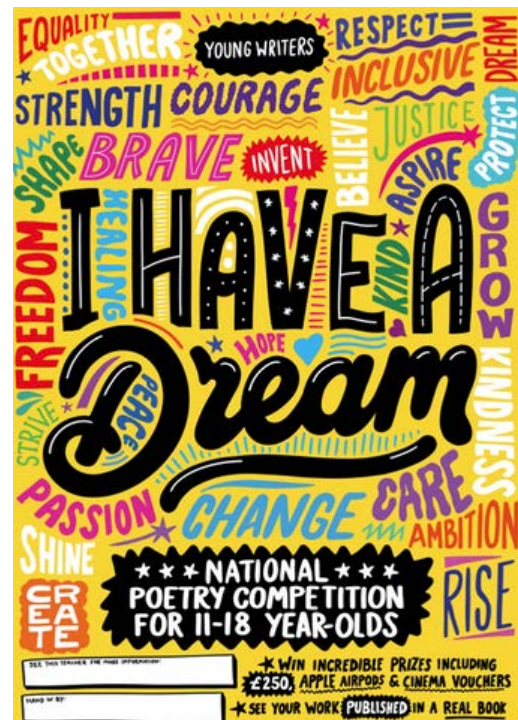
This week in WAARA...

Year 8 have visited the library in their English lessons this week, exploring a large selection of fiction and non-fiction relating to the theme of war, conflict and identity. They were practicing their summary writing skills by reading sections of the resources and identifying the key points.



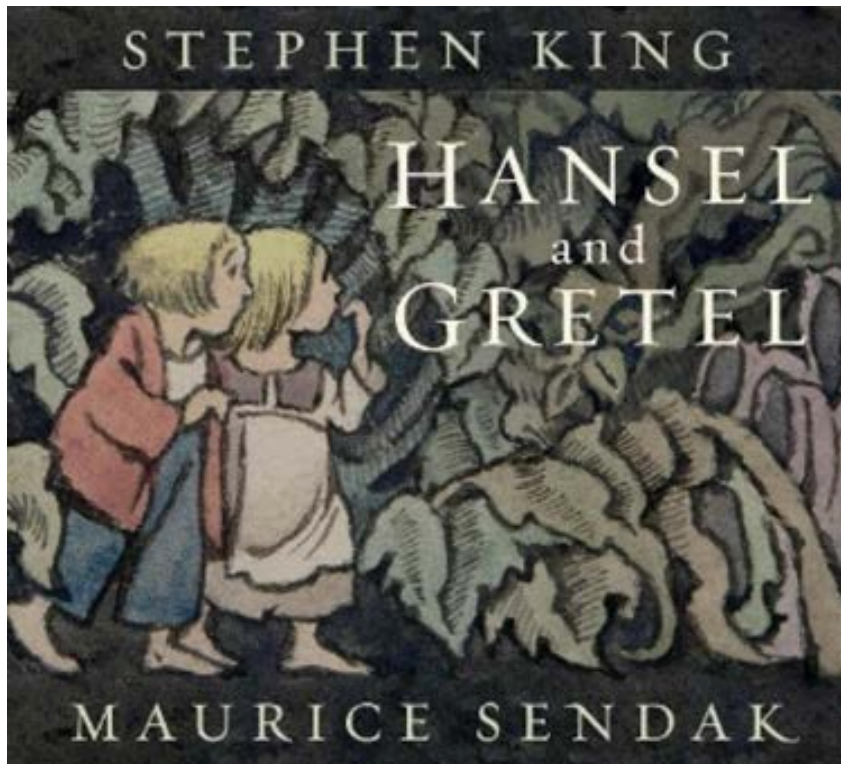
Next week is National Poetry Day on **Thursday 2nd October!** This year the theme is 'PLAY'. What poem will you write which embodies this theme? Next week's newsletter will feature some examples from our students.

Poetry Competition



Hand your entry into Mrs Haynes-Cooper in T3 by Friday 10th October!





The librarian loves this reimagining of Hansel and Gretel by acclaimed authors Stephen King and Maurice Sendak. The illustrations are exquisite.

The 26th of September is the European Day of Languages. Come along and have a look at the display in the library and learn lots of interesting facts about the wide variety of languages spoken across Europe.



Students who are interested in languages and culture, may want to try and read a book set in a different country or translated into English from its original language. September is World Kid Lit Month, an ideal time to explore literature from other cultures.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY






- 25th September Year 11 Power to Perform event
- 26th September Macmillan Coffee morning
- 29th September Year 10 one to one careers sessions
- 2nd October Year 10 Careers Event Colne Muni
- 2nd October Open Evening 6-8pm
- Friday 24th October - school closes for half term
- 10th November - school reopens for staff and students
- 18th November - Star Awards - Colne Muni




CHILDREN'S DENTAL CARE

{MY} DENTIST BARNOLDSWICK



 *Exciting News for Local Families* 


We're thrilled to announce that our dental practice has secured a brand-new NHS contract to provide dental care for children under 16! 

This means we can now welcome more young patients to our practice — offering oral health care, fun activities, and even some goodies along the way! 


Whether it's your child's first visit or you're looking for a new dental home, we're here to make every experience positive, comfortable, and fun.

To register your child, please contact the Practice on the below or pay us a visit!

Let's help our kids grow up with strong, healthy smiles!  

 01282 817053

 Harrison Street, BB18 5DY

 Appointments available now!



ACCEPTING NEW NHS CHILDREN

{MY}DENTIST BARNOLDSWICK



- ✓ Access To Routine Dental Care
- ✓ Access To Oral Health Sessions

DID YOU KNOW...

Only 56% of children in the UK saw an NHS Dentist regularly in 2023, and around 1 in 4, of 5-year olds in England have experienced tooth decay!



📍 **BB18 5DY**
☎️ **01282 817053**



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.

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



Firework Code



- Always supervise young children
- Light sparklers one at a time
- Keep pets indoors
- Keep them in a closed box
- Follow all instructions carefully
- Stand well back

DO's

&

Don'ts

- Never return to a lit firework
- Don't give sparklers to under 5's
- Don't set fireworks off after 11pm
- Never put them in your pocket
- Never throw them

For more information visit:
www.lancashirefire.org.uk/bonfires-and-fireworks.aspx

Bright Spark

Fireworks, The Law and You



Fireworks can only be purchased from registered sellers for private use between:

- 15th October - 10th November
- 26th December - 31st December
- 3 days before Diwali or Chinese New Year

It is illegal to sell fireworks or sparklers to anyone under 18

It is illegal for anyone under 18 to possess fireworks in public

If you are caught with fireworks in public you could be given an on the spot fine of £80

It is an offence to set off fireworks between 11pm and 7am

It is also an offence to obstruct emergency workers

If you are caught committing any of these offences you could be given an on the spot fine or be taken to court where you can be given a heavier fine or prison sentence.

Bright Spark

THINK ABOUT IT.

I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE FUNNY TO THROW FIREWORKS



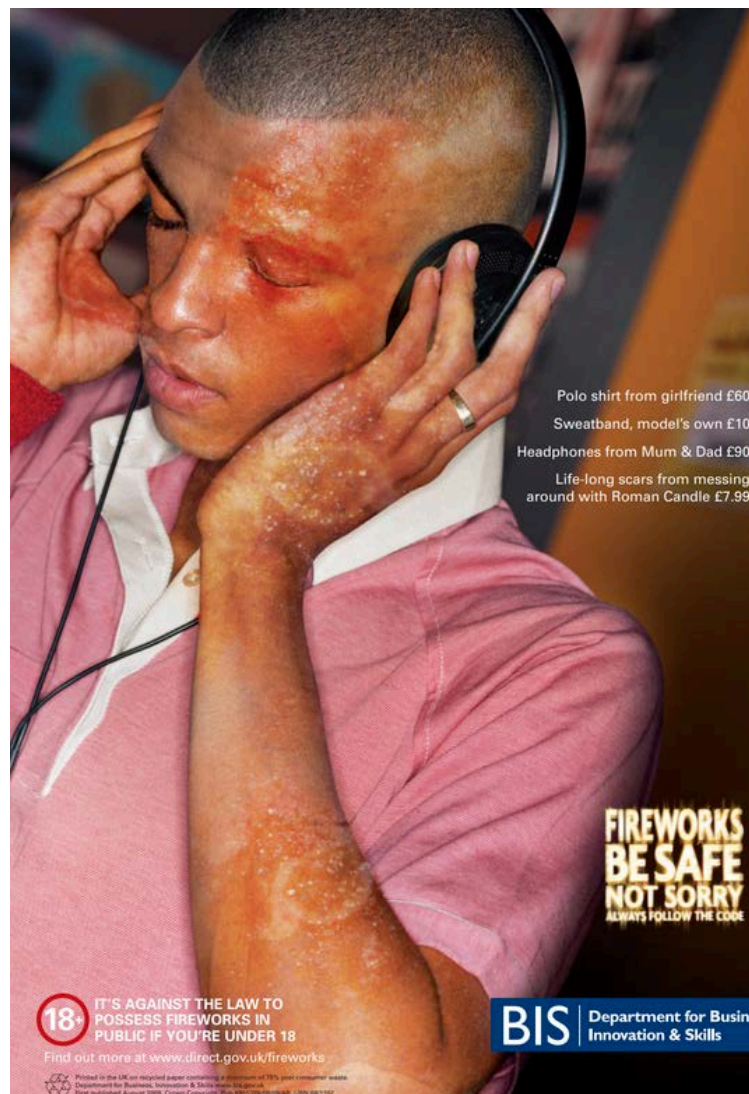
Bright Spark

Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service

@LancashireFRS

www.lancashirefire.org.uk

making Lancashire safer



- Polo shirt from girlfriend £60
- Sweatband, model's own £10
- Headphones from Mum & Dad £90
- Life-long scars from messing around with Roman Candle £7.99

FIREWORKS BE SAFE NOT SORRY
ALWAYS FOLLOW THE CODE

18+ IT'S AGAINST THE LAW TO POSSESS FIREWORKS IN PUBLIC IF YOU'RE UNDER 18

Find out more at www.direct.gov.uk/fireworks

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BIS Department for Business Innovation & Skills