

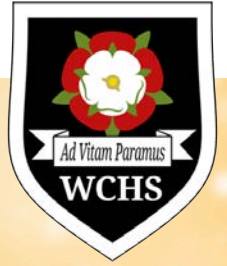
WEST CRAVEN HIGH SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER



FRIDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2026



STARS OF THE WEEK



7

Alex
Elsa
Imogen
Jessica



8

Ava
Eva
Blake
Mason

9

Shakira
Cole
Freya
Noah

10

Sophie
Noah
Edward
Artem
Zach

11

Amelia
Mikolaj
Yvette
Isabella
Hannah
Miya - Elize

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



CURRICULUM UPDATE MATHS

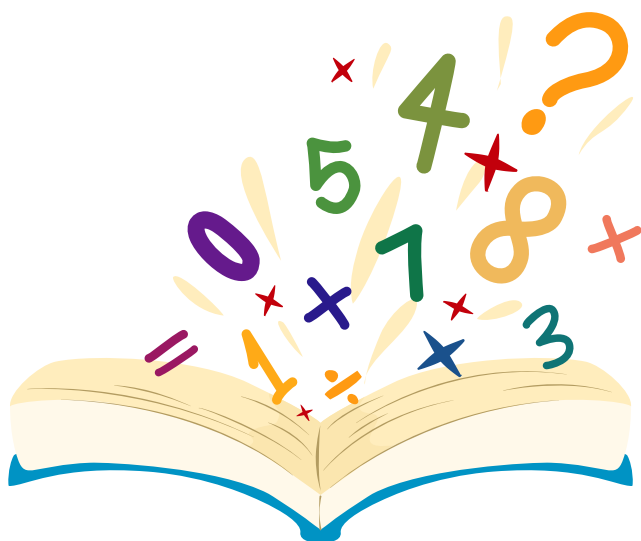
Students across all year groups have continued to make strong progress in their Mathematics learning this term. Year 7 are currently working on fractions, decimals and percentages, building the essential skills needed to move confidently between different forms of number. This topic strengthens their fluency and prepares them for more advanced proportional reasoning later in the year.

Year 8 are developing their algebraic thinking as they tackle one-step and two-step equations, learning how to use inverse operations and balance methods with increasing accuracy. They will soon be moving on to percentages, where they will apply their number skills to real-life contexts such as discounts, increases and comparisons.

Year 9 have now completed their Maths and Money topic, gaining practical experience in areas such as budgeting, payslips, interest and financial decision-making. They have now moved on to straight-line graphs, where they are exploring gradients, intercepts and the link between algebraic rules and graphical representations.

Year 10 recently completed their assessments, giving them the opportunity to reflect on their strengths, identify areas for development and set clear goals for the next stage of their learning. Teachers are now using the assessment information to guide targeted support and ensure students continue to make strong progress.

Finally, Year 11 are preparing for their upcoming mock exams. They are focusing on revision strategies, consolidating their understanding of key topics and developing exam technique to maximise their performance. This is an important opportunity for them to practise under exam conditions and build confidence ahead of the summer GCSEs.



Mr Bilal
Head of Maths



YEAR 11 MOCK EXAMS IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Year 11 Mock Exams – Important Information

We have published a detailed Mock Exam Information Booklet for our Year 11 students and families, which can be accessed via the link below.

This booklet contains essential guidance to help students prepare effectively for their mock examinations taking place throughout February and March. It includes:

- The full mock exam timetable
- A revision timetable for the February half-term holiday (invite only)
- Subject-by-subject information on what students should focus on
- Revision topic lists for each subject
- Advice on what students need to be doing after their mock exams
- And much more helpful support and guidance

We strongly encourage all Year 11 students and parents/carers to read this booklet carefully together. The mock exams are an important opportunity for students to practise exam conditions and identify areas for improvement ahead of the summer GCSE exams.

Please click the link below to access the booklet and ensure your child is fully prepared and supported over the coming weeks.

<https://www.westcraven.co.uk/page/?title=Year+11&pid=96>



FEBRUARY HALF TERM REVISION SESSIONS

February Half term Revision sessions (Invitation only)

Monday 16th – Friday 20th February

Morning Session: 10:00am – 12:00pm

Afternoon Session: 12:30pm – 2:30pm

Day	Morning Session (10:00–12:00)	Afternoon Session (12:30–2:30)
Monday 16th February	Spanish – Mrs Atwood-Jones (G2)	—
Tuesday 17th February	Maths – Mr Balal (G16) & Mr Pickles (G14) Business Studies – Mr Hussain (G11)	—
Wednesday 18th February	Spanish – Mrs Atwood-Jones (G2) English – Miss Moore (T8) English – Mrs Murray (T9) Science – Mrs Scott (M1)	English – Mrs Murray (T9) English – Miss Moore (T8) Science – Mrs Scott (M1)
Thursday 19th February	—	—
Friday 20th February	—	—



YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

Important Work Experience Update – Action Needed

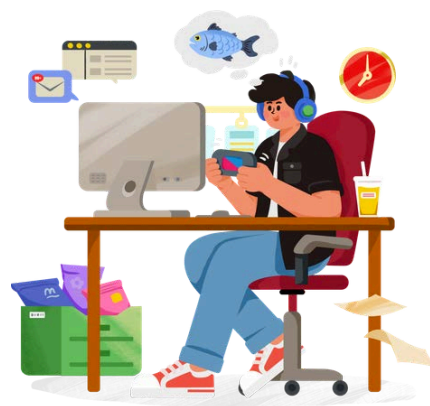
We are contacting parents and carers of students who do not yet have a confirmed work experience placement for the upcoming Work Experience Programme taking place from **Monday 16 March to Friday 27 March**.

Work experience is a key part of your child's personal development, and we want to ensure every student is able to take part. At this point, your child is still without a placement, and we are asking for your support to help secure one as soon as possible.

What Counts as a Suitable Placement?

A work experience placement does not need to be linked to your child's future career plans. Many different settings are acceptable, including:

- Shops or supermarkets
- Offices or administration roles
- Nurseries or primary schools
- Care homes
- Garages or trades
- Hairdressers or barbers
- Cafés or restaurants
- Family or friends' workplaces
- Charities or community organisations



If you, your workplace, or someone you know may be able to offer a placement, please encourage your child to enquire as soon as possible.

Submitting the Placement

Once a placement is agreed:

Your child must upload the details to the Changing Education online platform. A link to complete this has been sent to their school email address.

We will then carry out the required health and safety and safeguarding checks. These checks can only begin once the placement has been submitted online.

If Your Child Is Struggling

If your child is finding it difficult to secure a placement, please contact school as soon as possible. We are here to help and can provide further guidance or assistance.

Thank you for your support in helping us ensure your child is able to take part in this valuable experience.

Mrs Janjua
Year 10 Pastoral Lead



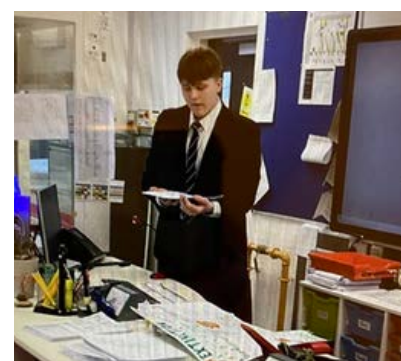
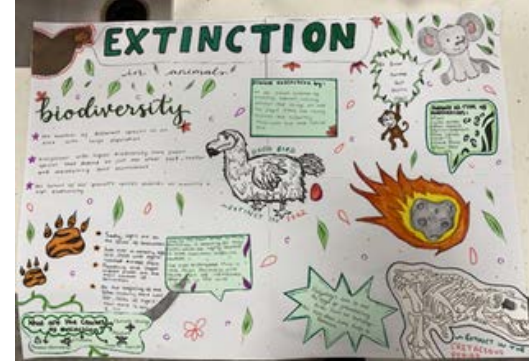
CURRICULUM UPDATE SCIENCE

Our students have had a fantastic and hardworking half term in Science, showing real commitment and curiosity across all year groups.

Year 7 have been busy building strong foundations in key scientific ideas. They have explored light waves, learning how light travels and how we see; investigated genes and inheritance, discovering how characteristics are passed from parents to offspring; and developed practical skills while separating mixtures using filtration, evaporation, distillation and more. Last week, they focused on revision for their end-of-half-term test, followed by targeted reteaching sessions to strengthen understanding and support continued progress.

Year 8 have followed a similar structure this half term while diving deeper into new content. They explored modelling waves, looking at how waves behave and how we represent them scientifically; variation and the importance of biodiversity; and fuels, considering their uses, efficiency and environmental impact. Students have approached their learning with great enthusiasm and engagement throughout.

Year 9 have been working on more advanced biological concepts, developing deeper learning in the topic of cells. Their studies included the role and potential of stem cells, the process of mitosis in growth and repair, and the mechanisms of movement across cell membranes. They investigated diffusion, osmosis and active transport, applying their knowledge to real biological systems and practical examples.

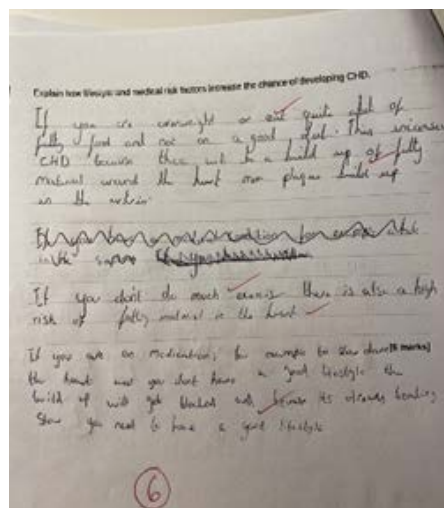
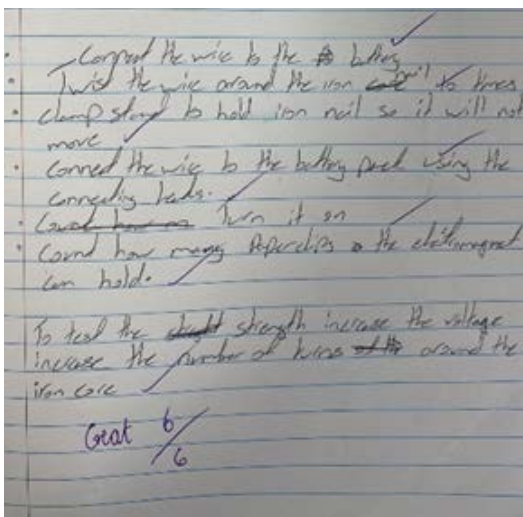
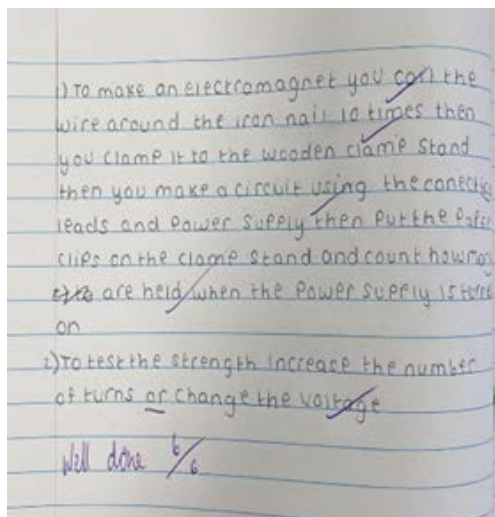


Year 10 are progressing well through the AQA GCSE Science curriculum this term. They recently completed their mid-year assessments and have since been focusing on developing stronger application of knowledge, particularly through extended-writing practice. It has been fantastic to see growing confidence across classes, with some students already achieving full marks in classwork and showing excellent performance in their end-of-unit tests. Their hard work and focus are setting a strong foundation for continued success as they move further into their GCSE studies.

Year 11 have continued to work with real determination as they move through the final stages of the AQA GCSE Science curriculum. In preparation for their upcoming Paper 2 mock exams after the half-term break, classes have been revising thoroughly, completing end-of-topic assessments and then reviewing their performance to identify areas for improvement. Teachers have been providing targeted reteaching of key concepts to secure deeper understanding and boost confidence.

Alongside revision, students have been strengthening their practical knowledge through hands-on activities such as gas tests, flame tests and investigative required practicals. They have also engaged in ecology research tasks and presentations, allowing them to apply scientific ideas in more independent and analytical ways. Their effort, focus and maturity during this important stage of their studies have been excellent to see.

Across all year groups, we are incredibly proud of the effort, resilience and scientific thinking demonstrated this half term. We look forward to celebrating more achievements as their learning continues to grow.



Andrea Scott
Head of Science



NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

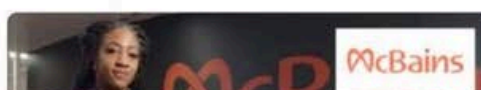
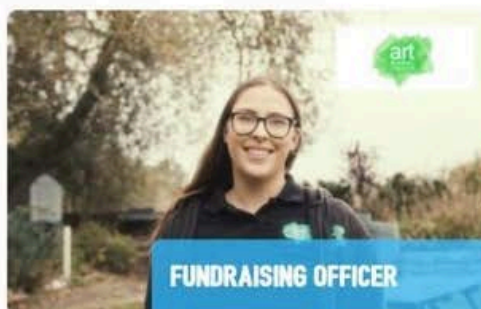
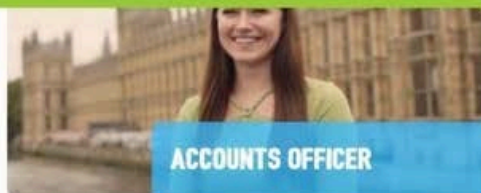
Discover the amazing world of apprenticeships through a collection of short Apprentice Story films. This collection showcases the breadth and variety of apprenticeships, including Firefighting, Engineering, Broadcasting, Zookeeping and more.

Apprentices are all around us, often working in surprising roles, watch the Apprentice Story films below.

<https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/apprentice-story-films/>



MEET THE APPRENTICES!



WORK EXPERIENCE WEBINARS FOR PARENTS

Invitation for Parents & Carers: Work Experience Webinars for Local Employers

Dear Parent/Carer,

The Lancashire Careers Hub is running a series of free 30 minute webinars for local employers who may be interested in offering flexible workplace experiences to young people across Lancashire.

Many parents and carers run or work in local businesses, and these sessions are a great opportunity to learn how simple it can be to get involved. Flexible options include:

- A one day project
- A short class visit
- A few hours of workplace insight

Your involvement helps create more meaningful opportunities for young people in our community.

Upcoming Webinar Dates (30 minutes each)

February: 11 (09:30), 18 (16:30), 25 (13:30)

March: 3 (09:30), 10 (16:30), 17 (13:30), 26 (09:30)

April: 2 (16:30), 9 (13:30)

Register here: [Modern WEX: Practical Guidance for Employers – Registration Form – Fill in form](#)

Parents and carers are very welcome to join the Lancashire Careers Hub team at any session to find out more.



ONLINE BOOK FAIR

We're excited to be running another Book Fair, this time online!

By clicking the link below, you can browse a wide range of books and place your order online. All books purchased will be delivered directly to school for students to collect.

Students can view the selection using the leaflets available in the library, which also include full instructions on how to place an order.

Please click the link below to browse the books and order online:

[Scholastic Book Clubs – Parents – Your Club – Scholastic Shop](#)

SCHOLASTIC

GET READY FOR THE BOOK FAIR

FILL OUR SCHOOL WITH FREE BOOKS WHEN YOU BUY FROM THE BOOK FAIR*

DOG MAN Mothering Heights by Dav Pilkey

GIRLS RULE by Alesha Dixon

The Smeds and Smoes by Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler

TOM GATES RANDOM ACTS OF FUN by Liz Pichon

OPEN SESSION

WEDNESDAY 18TH FEBRUARY

**FOOTBALL,
NETBALL &
EDUCATION
PROGRAMME**



ncc.
Nelson & Colne
College



BURNLEY
FC IN THE COMMUNITY



www.westcraven.co.uk



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



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



Unlock your potential

We're proud to say we've invested in apprenticeships at Rolls-Royce for over 100 years. Today, we have 11 locations across the UK that offer Apprenticeships in different forms. This ranges from Y9 students (14 years old) to those switching their careers later in life - there is no one route in or upper age limit.

Roles open. Apply now!

Machinist/Inspector

Starting Salary: £17,595 per year

Location: Barnoldswick

Duration: 4 years

CLOSING DATE: 8th March 2026 11:59pm

We also offer the following apprenticeships:

- Young Apprenticeships
- Higher Apprenticeships
- Degree Apprenticeships

Why choose an apprenticeship?

Your journey at Rolls-Royce has the potential to take you to places you hadn't imagined possible! Along the way you'll:

- Study for industry-recognised qualifications
- Earn a competitive salary with annual pay rises
- Receive support, learning and development
- 33 days' holiday per year (including bank holidays)
- Enjoy discounts at nationwide stores, gyms, discounted health care, free digital GP and more!



Scan QR code or click [here](#) to find out more about apprenticeships at Rolls-Royce.



Apprentice in the Spotlight

Lily Curtis is from Bristol, and currently in her second year of the machining technician advanced programme.



What does a typical day look like for you as an apprentice at Rolls-Royce?

Day to day, I work on a variety of machining projects with experienced professionals. There are many opportunities within machining at Rolls-Royce, and being an apprentice allows you to become familiar with them all.

What advice would you give to your younger self about making an application?

Be open minded and embrace new opportunities which come your way.

How did you overcome the nerves to complete the application process?

By reminding myself that Rolls-Royce aren't looking for someone who already knows everything about engineering, but someone who is dedicated to making the most out of an opportunity to learn.

What makes you feel valued as an apprentice at Rolls-Royce?

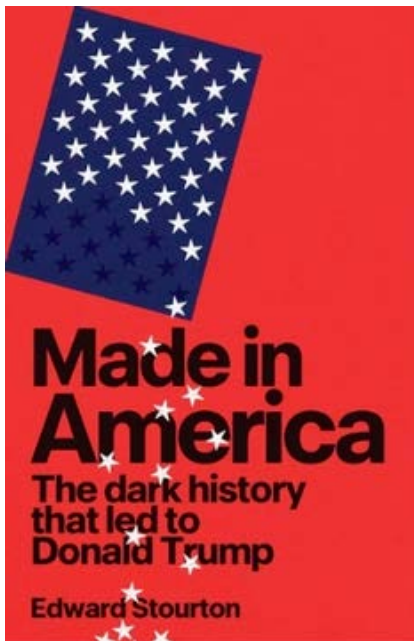
My contributions are recognised, and I am treated as a genuine member of the team. The support, trust, and investment in my development show that the company cares about my future. There is always encouragement, praise and recognition for the things that I do. This motivates me to perform to the best of my ability every day.



College Open Events

College Name	What do they offer?	When?
Nelson and Colne College	Vocational A-Levels T-Level Apprenticeship	<i>Thursday 5th February 2026 - 5.30pm to 7.30pm (Careers open event)</i> <i>Thursday 23rd April 2026 - 5.30pm to 7.30pm (Year 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 event)</i> <i>Thursday 25th June 2026 – All day (New student day)</i> <i>Thursday 20th August 2026 – All day (GCSE results day)</i>
Accrington and Rossendale College	Vocational A-Levels T-Level Apprenticeship	<i>Tuesday 3rd February 2026 – 5.30 to 7.30pm</i> <i>Tuesday 28th April 2026 – 5.30pm to 7.30pm (Careers open Event)</i> <i>Tuesday 28th April 2026 – 5.30pm to 7.30pm (Year 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 event)</i> <i>Friday 26th June 2026 – All day (New student day)</i> <i>Thursday 20th August 2026 – All day (GCSE results day)</i>
Burnley College	Vocational A-Levels T-Level Apprenticeship	<i>Wednesday 21st January 2026 – 5.30pm to 7.30pm (Themis careers event)</i> <i>Tuesday 10th February 2026 - 5.30pm to 7.30pm</i> <i>Wednesday 6th May 2026 - 5.30pm to 7.30pm (Year 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 event)</i>
Craven College	Vocational T-Level Apprenticeship	<i>Wednesday 11th February 2026 – 3.00pm to 6.30pm (Apprenticeship and careers fair at Craven College)</i>
Myerscough College	Vocational T-Levels Apprenticeship	<i>Saturday 7th February 2026 - course advice morning</i> <i>Saturday 18th April 2026 - course advice morning</i>
North Lancs Training Group	Apprenticeship	<i>Wednesday 18th March – 1pm to 6pm (Accrington)</i> <i>Thursday 26th March – 1pm to 6pm (March)</i>
Training 2000	Apprenticeship	<i>Wednesday 28th January – 4.30pm to 7.30pm</i> <i>Thursday 29th January – 4.30pm to 7.30pm</i>





The librarian loves

Made in America by Edward Stourton, which presents the well-argued question: "how did America get to this place?" Some of the history contained within this book is new to me and I am learning a lot. It is an intriguing book.

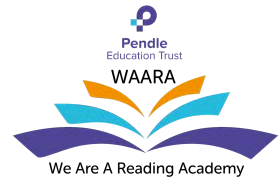


Image for National Year of Reading Library Messaging
47 Olympic Logos and Symbols From 1924 to 2028 - Colorlib
If pupils are enjoying the Winter Olympics, the library has a well-stocked sports section. The message of the National Year of Reading is to reconnect reading with the things that already inspire us. Pupils that enjoy winter sports can #goallin by reading books on their hobbies and personal interests.



National
Year of
Reading
2026

Word of the week: Slalom

Slalom is a noun and it is a timed race over a winding or zigzag course past a series of flags or markers. If you are following the Winter Olympics, you may have come across this word.

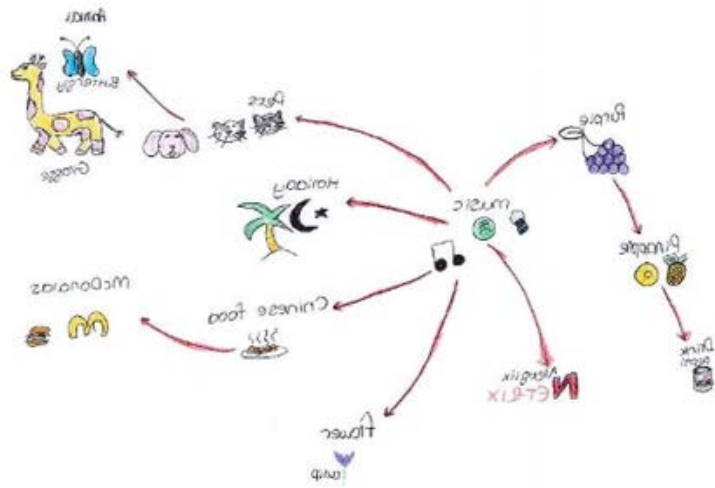
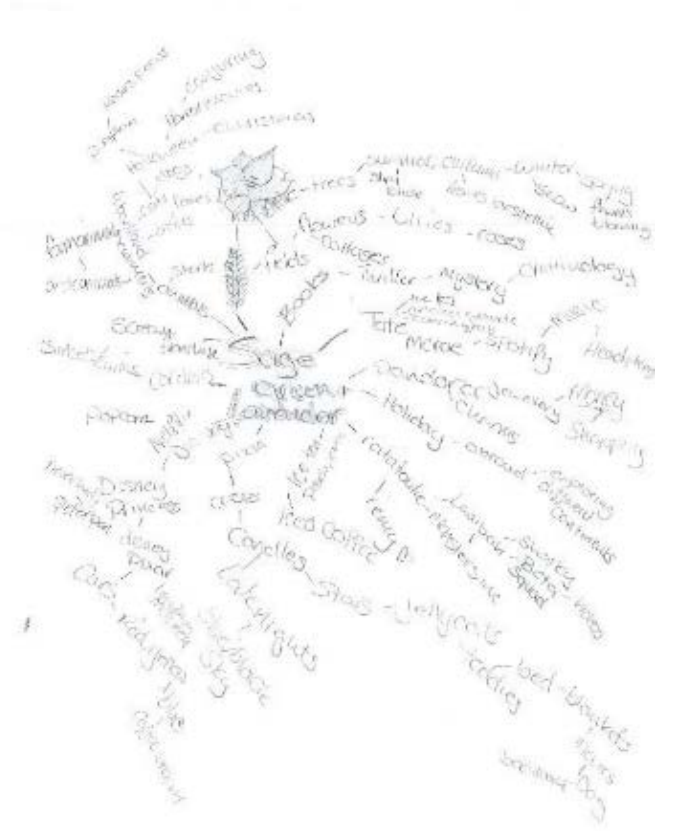


WE ARE A READING ACADEMY

The theme for National Storytelling Week 2026 is Soundtrack Your Story. Everyone has their own musical story - whether it's in the songs we love and the music we dance to, through British Sign Language and the rhythms we feel, the soundscapes of everyday life, or the soundtracks we hear in films and games.

Music connects us to words. It helps us express who we are and how we see the world.

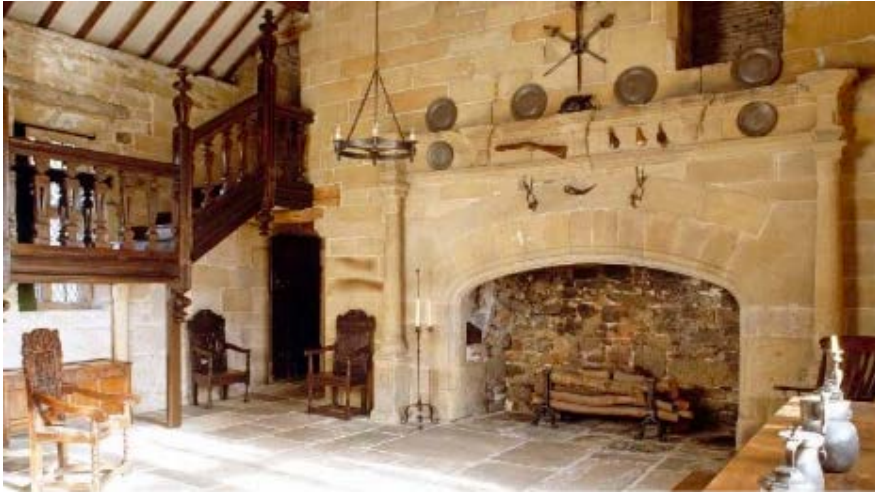
Research highlights that exploring stories through lyrics can be an effective way to re-engage young people with reading for enjoyment and writing for pleasure. Slightly more than 3 in 5 (60.7%) children and young people age 8-18 regularly read song lyrics digitally. Writing song lyrics is also popular among children and young people age 8-18, with slightly less than 1 in 5 (17.8%) reporting that they write lyrics on a screen at least once a month. The librarian held lessons this week on how pupils can tell their own story through music and lyrics. The pupils were extremely engaged and created some wonderful work.



Lancashire County Council
On the 20th February between 2.30pm – 3.30pm
Colne library are holding their own event for
National Storytelling Week all about Greek Gods.
Please contact the library directly to book a place
colne.library@lancashire.gov.uk

WE ARE A READING ACADEMY

East Riddlesden Hall's history | Yorkshire | National Trust East Riddlesden Hall is holding an exhibition called "Lights, Camera, Bronte on Saturday 14th February between 10am and 4pm. The exhibition is showcasing the rooms and objects used during several film and television adaptations of Wuthering Heights.



Lord of the Flies premiere date and trailer released Lord of the Flies has been serialised by the BBC. The book has been adapted by Jack Thorne, who also wrote Adolescence. If pupils want to read the book before watching the programme, the library has a copy.



Books to support mental well-being are permanently on display in the library. Please contact the school librarian if you would like any further information on the titles in stock.







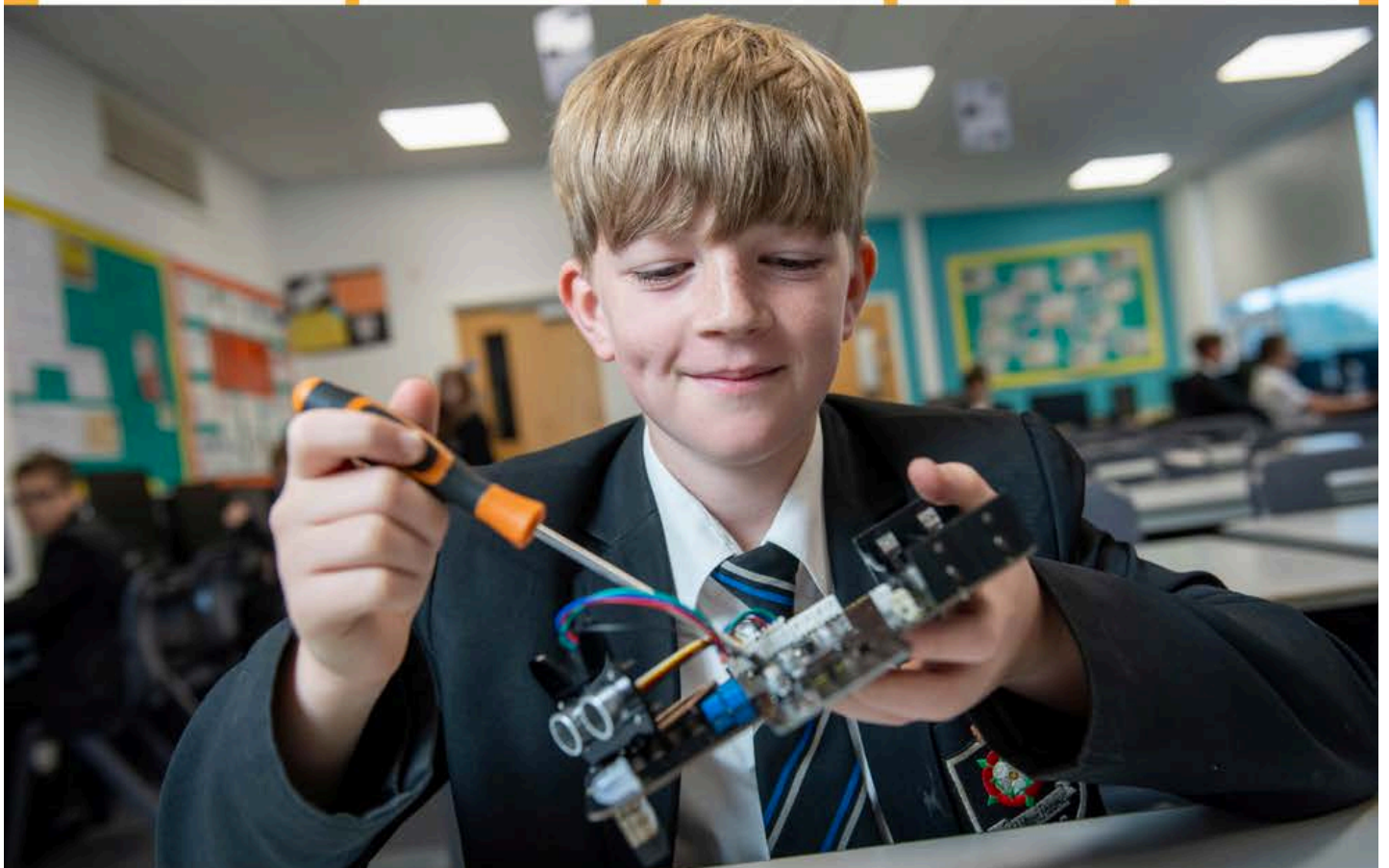
LUNCHTIME CLUBS – SPRING TERM 1

West Craven High School

Lunchtime Clubs



MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
Library Years 10 & 11	 Library Years 7,8, & 9	Library Years 7,8, & 9	Library Years 7,8, & 9	Library Years 10 & 11
	Choir Lunch time Room G8	Computing All Years Room G11	Karaoke Club Room T7 	
	Youth Enterprise / Fundraising Room G11 	Creative Writing Room T8 Year 7 only 		



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



23rd February - School re-opens

27th February Year 9 STEAM Festival at Nelson and Colne College

5th March World Book Day

11th March - Easter Concert

12th March Pendle Education Trust Careers Day

12th March Year 7 parents evening

14th March Maths PI Day

16th March Year 10 Work Experience Week 1

17th March - DWP Year 8 session - Routes to Employment

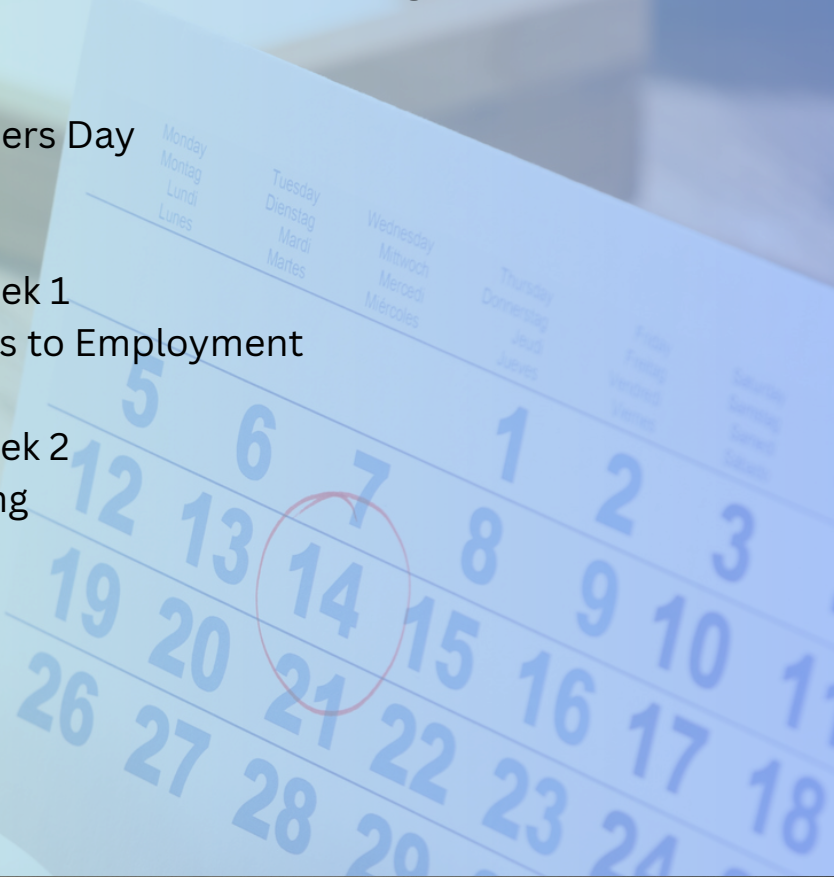
18th March Year 9 Vaccinations

23rd March Year 10 Work Experience Week 2

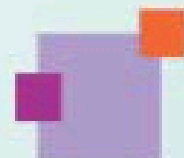
26th March - Year 11 Intervention Evening

27th March End of Term - school closes

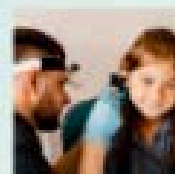
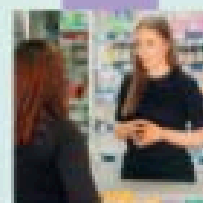
13th April - school re-opens.



Most pharmacies can help you with **seven common conditions** without needing a GP appointment



- **Sinusitis**
(adults and children aged 12 years and over)
- **Sore throat**
(adults and children aged 5 years and over)
- **Earache**
(children and young adults aged 1 year to 17 years)
- **Infected insect bite**
(adults and children aged 1 year and over)
- **Impetigo**
(adults and children aged 1 year and over)
- **Shingles**
(adults aged 18 years and over)
- **Urinary tract infection**
(women, aged 16 to 64 years)



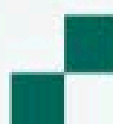
Ask your pharmacy for more information about this free* NHS service



Visit your
Pharmacy First!



*NHS prescription charge rules apply where a medicine is supplied





Family Homework Club

Children and Family Wellbeing Service would like to welcome you to our Family Homework Club.

Our staff are eager to support your family with home reading and school homework.

For children in reception class to year 6 and their parents / carers

Access to computers is available.

**First session
Wednesday 14th
January 2026
3.45 - 4.45**

**NELSON FAMILY HUB,
LEEDS ROAD, NELSON,
BB9 8EL**

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



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about STREAMERS

Livestreaming has become a big part of the entertainment people consume, and what began as a series of gamers sharing their screens has grown into a huge industry packed with personalities - and potential risks for your children. With over 2.5 million people watching Twitch, the most popular streaming service, at any one time, it's important to remain aware of the risks associated with streamers.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT



Some gaming streamers will stick to family-friendly titles, but others will play more violent games that tend to be more popular. Non-gaming streamers could, in theory, discuss just about anything, and some streamers will often stream in revealing outfits.

NEGATIVE INFLUENCES



While things have improved, streamers are often paid by companies to promote products, and this isn't always stated explicitly. While it's unlikely these goods will be harmful to your child, some streamers and influencers have engaged (knowingly or not) in scams in the past.

FINANCIAL HARM

Streamers will often have donation buttons on their screens for users to submit money. What can start as small amounts can quickly spiral as streamers engage with paying viewers more often, potentially leading to financial issues.

UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS



Influencers often showcase how glamorous their lives are, making some users feel as though they are lesser. However, it's important to stress that, in many ways, this is an act, or at the very least, not common. Logan Paul, who has been successful as a streamer and influencer, has a Pokemon card worth \$5 million but this is atypical of anyone working in the medium.

MISINFORMATION



Streamers are, in many ways, just like us - and they can get things wrong or reel off an opinion without having thought about it. Some can simply say awful things to get a rise out of viewers or to sway them to their side of a hot topic.

ADDICTION AND SCREEN TIME



If your child is watching a lot of a particular streamer, it can be just as damaging to their social life as playing too many video games.

Advice for Parents & Educators

EXPLAIN HOW STREAMING WORKS



For a younger viewer, being a streamer or influencer seems aspirational, but it involves a lot of work and no small degree of good fortune. Streamers are often managed and unable to speak freely due to sponsors, and influencers are just that - influencing young minds, for better or for worse.

DO NOT LOG PAYMENT INFORMATION



Streamers can reward donations with additional content, on-camera "shout outs" and more. If you're unsure about who or what your child is watching, consider avoiding linking payment information. This is especially notable with Twitch, which is owned by Amazon and therefore has some crossover.

CHECK OUT STREAMING PLATFORMS



While Twitch was the de facto streaming service for years, YouTube has gained popularity, too. Then there are Kick and Rumble, which have grown in popularity with moves for big-name streamers - despite many being dogged by controversy.

SET SCREEN TIME LIMITS



You can set screentime limits for mobile apps on iOS and Google, but with other platforms like a PC it may be more difficult to keep tabs. Consider checking in regularly to ensure your children aren't watching content they shouldn't be.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Games Editor of the Daily Star, and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



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