



WEST CRAVEN HIGH SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



FRIDAY 20TH MARCH 2026



STARS OF THE WEEK



7

Ruby
Libby
Sasha
Imaan

8

Emily
Mohammed
Oscar
Ethan

9

Ryan
Ava
Peter
Ella

10

Holly
Toby
Anna
Summer
Reuben

11

Jacob
Humaira
Shamaela
Simra
Rosanna
Anyia

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



EXAM INFORMATION

Mock Results Day: Reflecting and Refocusing for Success

On Monday, students will take part in our Mock Results Event during assembly, where they will receive the outcomes of their recent mock examinations. This is an important milestone, giving students a clear picture of their current progress and highlighting areas of strength as well as opportunities for improvement.

Following the assembly, students will spend Period 1 completing a series of structured reflection tasks. These activities are designed to help them carefully review their performance, identify key priorities, and focus their revision time effectively. By reflecting on what went well and where they can improve, students will be better equipped to channel their efforts and energy towards achieving the best possible outcomes in their final exams.

We encourage all students to approach this process with a positive mindset, using their mock results as a valuable stepping stone on their journey to success.

GCSE Summer 2026 Examination Timetable

As we approach the summer term, we would like to share the full GCSE examination timetable for Summer 2026. If your child is in Year 11, please take some time to review the schedule carefully and make a note of all their exam dates.

Having these dates clearly recorded will help both you and your child plan ahead and ensure they are fully prepared for each examination. We encourage students to begin organising their revision time effectively and to arrive at each exam feeling confident and ready.

Thank you for your continued support during this important period.

West Craven High School – Exam Information



Mrs Markham
Data & Exams Officer



WORK EXPERIENCE UPDATE

Year 10 Step into the World of Work

This week marked an exciting milestone for our Year 10 students, as every student successfully secured and began their two-week work experience placement. It has been fantastic to see them take their first steps into the world of work, gaining valuable insight into different industries and developing key employability skills.

Throughout the week, staff have been in regular contact with employers, carrying out check-in phone calls to ensure that students are settling in well and making the most of their placements. We are incredibly proud of how our students have conducted themselves so far, demonstrating punctuality, enthusiasm, and a willingness to get involved in their roles.

Next week, staff will be visiting students in their workplaces, and we are very much looking forward to seeing them in action and hearing directly from employers about the positive contributions they are making.

We hope all of our Year 10 students continue to enjoy this valuable experience, and we look forward to hearing all about their placements when we return after the Easter break.



Ms Janjua
Year 10 Pastoral Lead



CURRICULUM UPDATE : SCIENCE

Dearest Gentle Readers, Another term has drawn to its elegant close within the esteemed halls of our Science Department, and one cannot help but wonder what marvels and mysteries have unfolded behind those laboratory doors. Fear not, for the veil shall be lifted, and the wonders revealed.

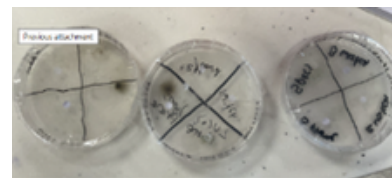
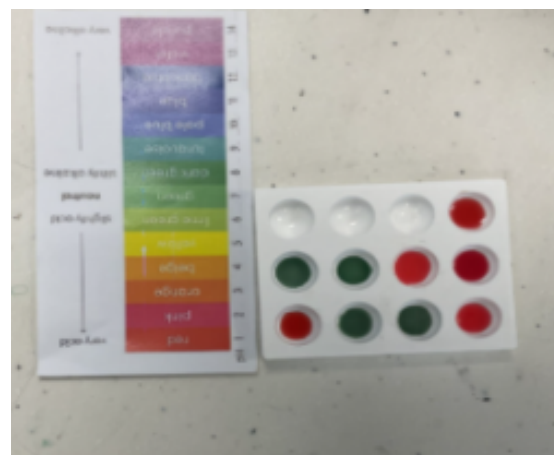
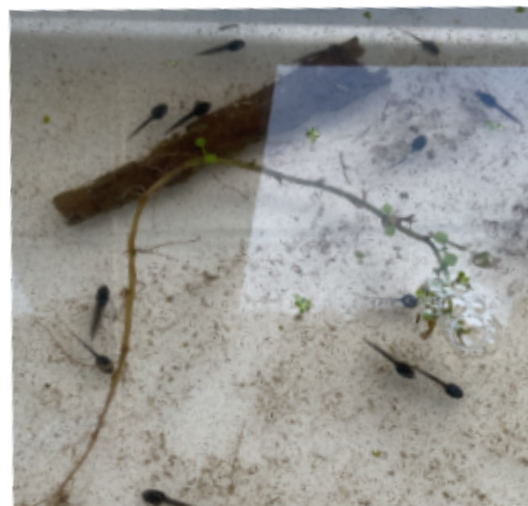
Whispers have drifted through the corridors—rumours of amphibious creatures making themselves quite at home in our classrooms, and mechanical hands capable of grasping objects with the precision of a seasoned debutante accepting a dance. There has even been talk of a universal indicator, a most obliging substance, revealing the deepest secrets of acids and bases with but a single drop. Models of lungs fashioned in our own likeness, metals coaxed from solution as though by alchemy, and the mesmerising sight of an atomic isotope decaying before our very eyes—such spectacles have graced our laboratories this term.

Our Key Stage 3 scholars have ventured through the realms of atoms, plant reproduction, biodiversity, and the ever-pressing matter of global warming. Meanwhile, our Key Stage 4 pupils have navigated the waves—both literal and figurative—explored the mysteries of magnetism, unravelled the chemistry of the atmosphere, and even acquired the noble art of water purification, a skill most useful should one ever find oneself stranded upon a desert island.

We have triumphantly completed our second set of mock examinations and have seen great success in our revise, test, and reteach approach across both key stages. Science Week, too, brought its own delights—experiments aplenty, and even the occasional plant dissection, for those brave enough to wield the scalpel.

A petri dish with black writing on it

And now, as the Easter bunny prepares its annual promenade and chocolate eggs make their seasonal debut, we look ahead with optimism. May we, like our students, continue to rise from strength to strength in the coming term. May you and your families be blessed with rest, joy, and renewed vigour.



Kevin Snyman
Second in Science

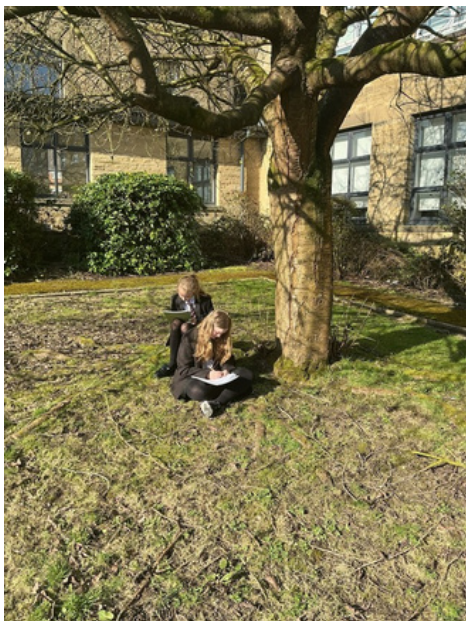


CURRICULUM UPDATE : SCIENCE

Year 7 Enjoy Outdoor Revision Session

This week, our Year 7 students enjoyed a refreshing change of scenery during their revision lesson. Equipped with a comprehensive worksheet designed to help them recap key topics using the notes in their books, the class took advantage of the beautiful weather and moved their learning outdoors.

Working together in the sunshine, students engaged enthusiastically with the activities, demonstrating focus, teamwork, and a positive attitude toward their revision. It was a wonderful opportunity to combine productive study with the benefits of fresh air—making learning both enjoyable and effective.



Miss Evora
Science Teacher

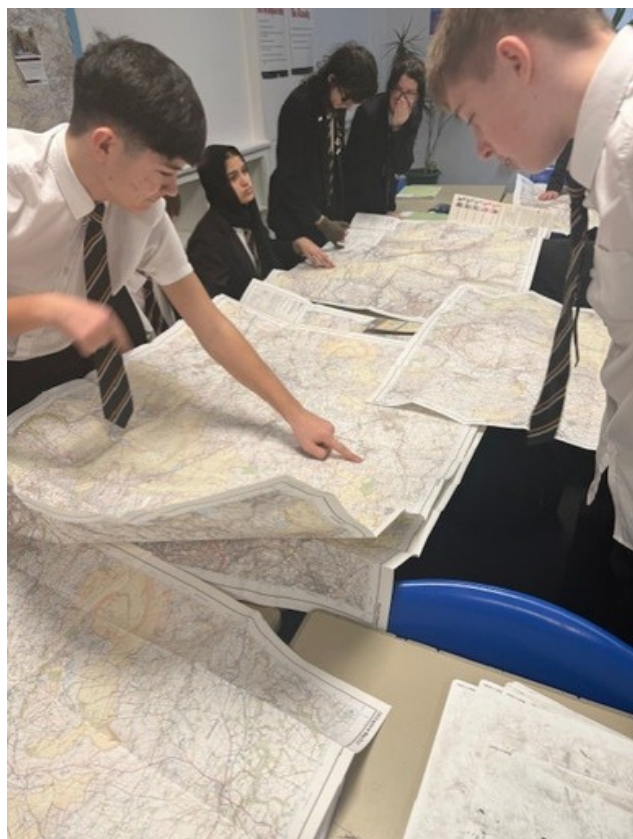


CURRICULUM UPDATE : GEOGRAPHY

Year 10 students have been studying the formation and development of a range of UK physical landforms as part of the AQA GCSE Geography specification. This has included gaining an understanding of key river and upland features such as V-shaped valleys, levees, waterfalls, and meanders. Students have explored the geomorphic processes responsible for these landforms, including erosion, transportation and deposition.

To support the specification's requirement to develop competence in geographical skills, students have also applied this knowledge to real-world contexts by identifying and locating these landforms on Ordnance Survey (OS) maps of the local area. This has enabled them to interpret contour patterns, recognise physical features, and make connections between theoretical learning and the UK's physical landscape.

Through this work, students are strengthening both their understanding of UK physical landscapes and their OS map-reading skills, which form an essential part of the AQA GCSE Geography assessment.



Mrs Wilkinson
Geography Teacher



JEKYLL AND HYDE ON STAGE

A Classic Mystery Comes to Life: Jekyll and Hyde Performed in School

This week, our Year 11 students had the exciting opportunity to watch a live theatre performance of Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde in school. The production was arranged to support students with their GCSE English Literature studies and provided a fantastic opportunity to see the well-known story brought to life on stage.

Originally written by Robert Louis Stevenson, Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde explores powerful themes such as duality, good versus evil and the complexities of human nature. Seeing the characters and key moments performed live helped students deepen their understanding of the text, its themes and the dramatic tension within the story.

Experiencing the story through theatre allows students to engage with the narrative in a different and memorable way, helping them visualise important scenes and better interpret the language and character motivations they study in class. Performances like this are a valuable part of preparing for GCSE examinations, as they help reinforce knowledge and build confidence in analysing the text.

The production was thoroughly enjoyed by our Year 11 students and provided another engaging opportunity to support their learning as they continue preparing for their upcoming GCSE English Literature exams.



Year 7 Netball: Strong Team Performance Against Park HS

Our Year 7 netball team put in a fantastic performance against Park High School, battling hard in very windy conditions. Despite a narrow 1-0 defeat, the girls showed great determination, resilience, and teamwork throughout the match.

It was particularly encouraging to see so many players confidently trying out different positions during each third of the game, demonstrating their versatility and willingness to learn. The team worked tirelessly for one another and represented the school brilliantly.

A special mention goes to Izzy McFadden, who was named Player of the Match for her outstanding performance as Goal Keeper, making some excellent interceptions and defending superbly under pressure.

We now look ahead to next week, where the team will be competing in the Year 7 Pendle Schools Tournament, hosted by Pendle Vale. We wish them the very best of luck!



Mrs Bateman
PE Teacher

PASTORAL UPDATES YEAR 9

Year 9 Update

In recent weeks, Year 9 students have had valuable opportunities to learn more about their future pathways. Our visit to the Pendle Education Trust Careers Event allowed students to explore a wide range of careers and gain insight into roles they may not have considered before. We were incredibly proud of the way students represented the school, showing maturity and respect throughout the event.

Alongside this, students have received important information in assemblies about their GCSE options. Taken together, these experiences are designed to help students develop a clearer understanding of their interests, strengths, and motivations, while also increasing their awareness of the opportunities available to them in the future.



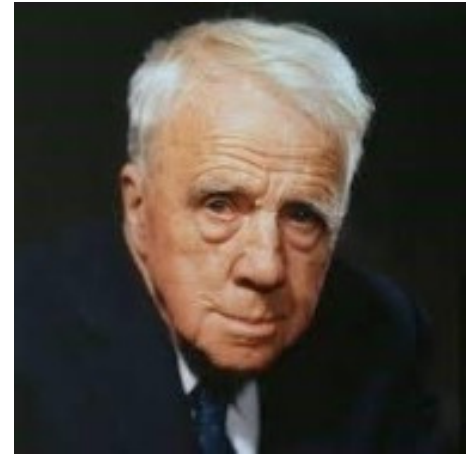
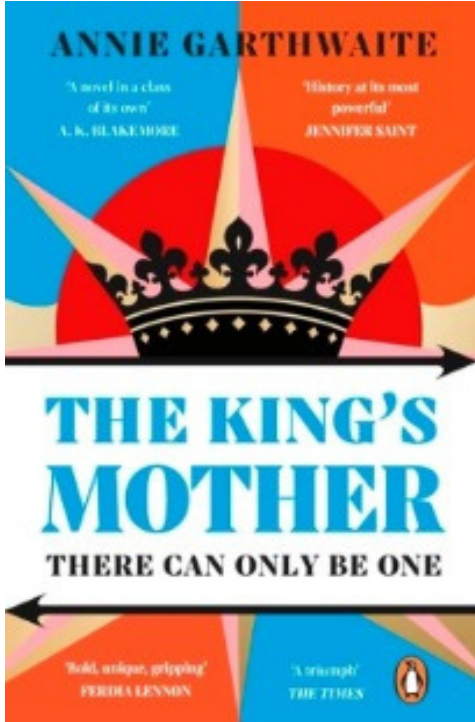
Mrs Waddington
Year 9 Pastoral
Lead



WE ARE A READING ACADEMY

The librarian loves

The King's Mother by Annie Garthwaite. It tells the story of Edward IV and the War of the Roses from a female perspective. It is an interesting retelling of this period of history.



Robert Frost was born on March 26 1874 in San Francisco. He was greatly admired for his depictions of rural life in New England, and he received the Pulitzer Prize four times. His poem, The Road Not Taken, is reproduced below:

The Road Not Taken

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveller, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.

Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—

I took the one less travelled by,
And that has made all the difference.

Word of the week: Altruistic

The word altruistic is an adjective. If your behaviours are altruistic, you show concern for the happiness and welfare of other people rather than yourself.



EXTRA CURRICULAR – SPRING TERM 2

We are pleased to share details of our Spring Term 2 extracurricular programme, which offers a wide range of lunchtime and after-school clubs designed to enrich students' learning and support their personal development.


This half-term, students can take part in a variety of activities including Homework Support Club, Stage Door Drama Group, Volleyball, Imogen's Dance School, Band Club, and many more. These opportunities give students the chance to develop new skills, explore their interests, and build confidence outside the classroom.





All students who attend extracurricular activities will receive positive points on ClassCharts, recognising their commitment and participation. In addition, students who regularly attend clubs throughout the term will be awarded a certificate at the end of the term to celebrate their involvement.

We encourage all students to get involved and make the most of the fantastic opportunities available.

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 		



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS – SPRING TERM 2

West Craven High School (Spring Term 2)



After School Clubs

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
Indoor Football (Year 7 & 8) 	Netball (Year 7&8) 		Football 3G pitch (Year 7&8) 	Art Room M10 
Volleyball Gym YR7&8 Boys & Girls				
French Club Room G3 Year 10s 			Science Club Room M2 	
Library Homework club	Library Homework club	Library Homework club	Library Homework club	
	Band club Main Hall 		SEN Homework Club Room G6	
History Year 7,8,9 Room M7 	Stage Door Drama Club 3:30pm - 4:45pm Room T1/2 		Imogen's dance School 3:30pm-4:30pm Gym 	



OUT OF SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT

Student Achievement Spotlight

We are delighted to celebrate the fantastic achievements of Abel (Year 7), who recently took part in the ITFU Midlands Open Championships on 15th March.

Abel demonstrated great skill, focus and determination throughout the competition, proudly earning two bronze medals:

- Bronze in Patterns, competing against a strong group of 14 students
- Bronze in Sparring, showing resilience and impressive technique

This is a wonderful accomplishment, and we are extremely proud of Abel's dedication and hard work.

Well done, Abel!



If you would like to share your child's out of school achievements, please contact jevetts@pendleeducationtrust.co.uk

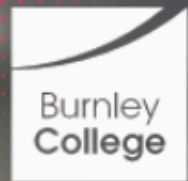


College Open Events

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>



BURNLEY COLLEGE
SIXTH FORM CENTRE



Sixth Form Centre

Year 7-11 Open Evening

In Year 7 or 8?

Explore our campus and explore your options.

- ✓ Find out about your different pathways/subjects at College?
- ✓ Get advice choosing the GCSEs you need for your dream career

In Year 9, 10 or 11?

Plan the perfect pathway to achieve your goals.

- ✓ Get advice and guidance on your future
- ✓ Check out our unrivalled enrichment activities
- ✓ Hear from the Principal and Tutors
- ✓ Be among the first to sign up for our free taster sessions, BC Programmes
- ✓ Apply on the night (for year 11s)

Save the Date

WEDNESDAY 6 MAY | 5.30PM - 8PM

A LEVELS | VOCATIONAL STUDY | THEMIS APPRENTICESHIPS | T LEVELS



www.westcraven.co.uk



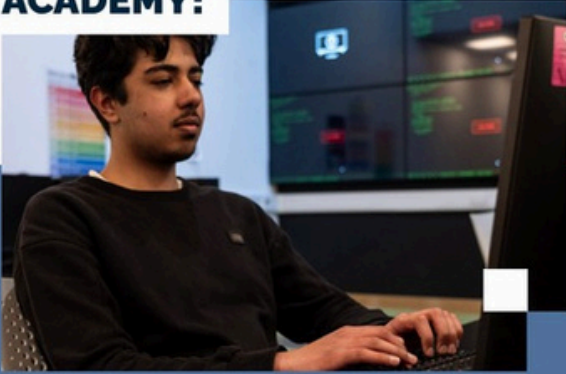
[westcravenhighschool](https://www.facebook.com/westcravenhighschool)



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



Join us after school at our: **FUTURE DIGITAL SPECIALIST ACADEMY!**



What is it?

An after school academy designed to connect you to our curriculum and your future Career. Upskill and find out more about our Digital and Cyber courses and get "hands on" whilst having fun, meeting new friends and working in our state of the art Digital and Cyber suites and industry innovation Hub.

Turn over to find out more...

When is it?

We have regular academies throughout the year starting in **January 2026 onwards**. Sessions take place on across both our college campuses on Tues/Wed.

Time

4.00PM - 6.00PM

Where?

In our **Digital and Cyber Suites** and **Industry Innovation Hub**.

Who is it for?

Year 10 and Year 11 pupils with an interest in all things IT, Cyber and future Digital careers.

What can you expect?

- ✓ Meet our **Digital & Cyber Team**
- ✓ Practical activities on **Cyber Fundamentals**
- ✓ **Programming and coding** tasks
- ✓ Digital safety, networking and threat awareness training
- ✓ **Problem solving** activities
- ✓ Find out more about **Careers, Courses and Apprenticeships** in Digital and Cyber related industries
- ✓ By experiencing both cyber and coding pathways, pupils will **gain a deeper understanding of the core skills** needed in modern digital careers, helping them feel informed, confident and inspired as they **consider their next steps into further study**.

Book your place now!

Scan the QR Code below to register your interest and reserve your place!

Limited numbers, first come first served. We will also operate a waitlist.



SCAN ME
To register your interest.

Any questions?

Contact: schools@eastlancslearning.ac.uk



Join us after school at our: **FUTURE ENGINEERS ACADEMY!**



What is it?

An after school academy designed to connect you to our curriculum and your future Career. Upskill and find out more about our professional Engineering courses whilst having fun, meeting new friends and designing your own working clock!

You will design and engineer the clock and it's parts using our Engineering workshops to master your project and receive a certificate for your achievement.

Turn over to find out more...

When is it?

We have regular academies during the year on a **Tuesday evening**.

Time

5.30PM - 7.30PM

Where?

In our state of the art **Engineering workshops** at Nelson and Colne College

Who is it for?

Year 10 and Year 11 pupils with an interest in all things Engineering and Design Technology.

What can you expect?

- ✓ Meet our **Engineering Team**
- ✓ An introduction to **Computer Aided design (CAD)**
- ✓ Information on **Engineering Careers and Apprenticeships**
- ✓ **Practical activities** in our Engineering labs
- ✓ **Work on a design project** and engineer a working clock
- ✓ Find out more about our **Engineering Course offer**
- ✓ Meet our **Engineering students** and an **Engineering employer**
- ✓ **Plus much more!**

Book your place now!

Scan the QR Code below to register your interest and reserve your place!

Limited numbers, first come first served. We will also operate a waitlist.



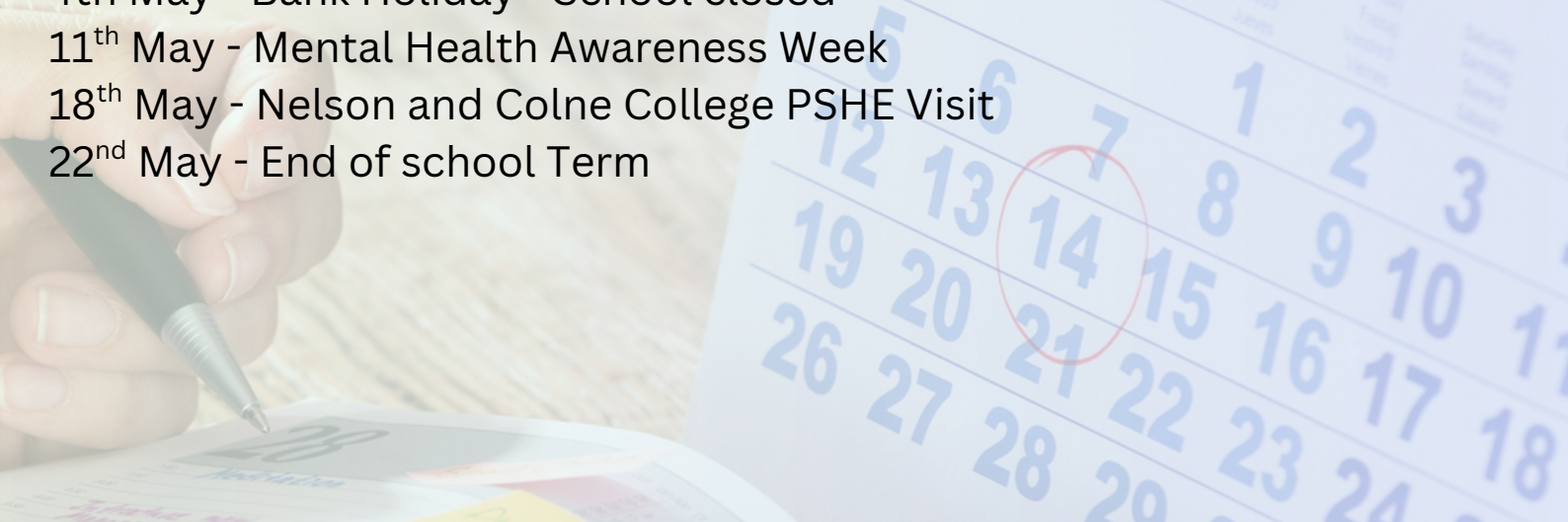
SCAN ME
To register your interest.

Any questions?

Contact: schools@eastlancslearning.ac.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 23rd March Year 10 Work Experience Week 2
- 27th March End of Term - school closes
- 13th April - school re-opens.
- 20th April - Lancashire Sexual Health Team visit
- 20th April - Nelson and Colne College PSHE Visit
- 27th April - Year 10 - Careers Meetings
- 30th April - Year 10 Parents Evening
- 4th May - Bank Holiday - School closed
- 11th May - Mental Health Awareness Week
- 18th May - Nelson and Colne College PSHE Visit
- 22nd May - End of school Term



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

TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

(Certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Online videos are often associated with apps such as YouTube, but among teens, TikTok is king. The app provides a potentially addictive, never-ending stream of short clips tailored to users' interests based on their viewing habits. Around half of British children use TikTok, and while most content is benign, Ofcom considers it the app where young people are "most likely to encounter a potential harm".

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

TikTok's Following Feed shows videos from known creators, while the default For You Feed serves endless clips based on viewing history. Most are harmless, but unsuitable content can still appear, and watching for long enough signals interest to the algorithm. Although TikTok bans illegal or inappropriate uploads, the volume of posts means some slip through, increasing the chance that children encounter age-inappropriate material before it is detected or removed.

BODY IMAGE AND DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Ofcom reports that most online harms for girls involve body image, while boys more often see dangerous stunts. Both types appear frequently on TikTok and spread quickly through its engagement-driven algorithm. Harmful challenges have included the "blackout" trend, where users held their breath until passing out. Families filed lawsuits after children died linked to the trend, showing how extreme or risky content can rapidly reach young people and negatively influence them.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but children can still spend money. TikTok coins, costing £9.99 to £224.99, let users buy gifts for creators. TikTok Shop adds risk by allowing purchases from influencers or companies, sometimes leading to poor-quality items driven by persuasive marketing. A Canadian investigation found TikTok collected personal data from many children for targeting and advertising despite age limits, meaning young users may lose control over their personal information.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Between 1.6 and 1.9 billion people use TikTok, meaning there's a high risk of unwanted attention from strangers. Accounts created by over-16s (or young people using a fake date of birth) are set to public view by default. This means that not only is someone's profile visible to everyone else on the app, it also suggests their videos to others and allows anyone to download or comment on them.

MISINFORMATION AND RADICALISATION

TikTok's short videos may appear lighthearted, but they can expose young people to harmful ideas. Misinformation is common, and Ofcom reports that nearly one third of 12-15-year-olds use TikTok as a news source, increasing the chance of seeing racist, misogynistic, extremist or conspiracy material. Even brief clips can influence impressionable users and shape their worldview, making discussions about critical thinking, propaganda and online influence especially important for parents and educators.

ADDICTIVE DESIGN

TikTok's fast-paced stream of eye-catching videos can be potentially addictive for young users. In 2024, UK children spent an average of 127 minutes per day on the platform, double the time recorded in 2020. Excessive use can disrupt sleep, increase irritability, and distract from healthier activities. Constantly skipping between short clips may also affect attention span, making it harder to focus on longer tasks such as homework or reading.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account to their child's in order to manage settings remotely. Parents can then turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen time limits, make accounts private and manage whether their child can send messages – and if they can, to whom. Children cannot alter these settings without parental approval.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If a child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's good practice to discuss the potential risks. Ensure they don't share any identifying personal information or respond to dangerous trends, and that they know to talk to a trusted adult if they're worried by interactions on the app. With more teens using TikTok for news, it's important to talk about misinformation and propaganda.

BLOCK IN-APP SPENDING

Parents can restrict in-app purchases on iPhone and Android devices to prevent accidental or impulsive TikTok spending. Young people can easily spend large amounts on TikTok coins or low-quality products promoted through TikTok Shop. If a disappointing purchase occurs, turn it into a discussion about influencer marketing and how online promotions can be misleading.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as is failing to complete homework or skipping meals. Remember, the parental controls are there for a reason, and it's never too late to introduce limits.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



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