

WEST CRAVEN HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Principal's Welcome

Friday 22nd May

Dear Parents / Carers

I hope you are ready for this weekend's mini heatwave and can take advantage of the bank holiday on Monday. It has been a week of celebrations as we look to congratulate those who have achieved success and positive praise from their teachers. I am passionate about our rewards taking more of a focus than our sanctions. If we get the culture right in school, students will not need reminding of rules and sanctions because everyone will follow our values. Every day our school awards positive points as follows;

Ambition: Students who are always equipped for school, always on time and excellent attendance. Students that have work towards achieving challenging targets and take pride in their work.

Supportive: Students that offer help to classmates without being asked and encourages peers who are struggling. We award points to those who work cooperatively in group tasks, those who listen respectfully to others' ideas and build on them. We celebrate students who look out for others' wellbeing and show kindness in their actions, treating everyone how you would like to be treated!

Positivity: For consistently being polite and kind to other students, staff, and visitors. For always using respectful language. These students have a 'can-do' attitude and face challenges with a positive mindset. Students also receive positive points if they consistently wear the correct uniform.

Independence: Positive points are given to students that start tasks promptly without reminders, those who work confidently and try their best on a task. These students make decisions about how to approach work and will attempt strategies to solve problems for themselves. We also give positives to students who read or listen to teacher feedback and make the improvements needed to improve their work and learning.

Resilience: Teachers give positives to students who keep trying, even when work is challenging. Students may make mistakes, but they look at where they have gone wrong and try again! We reward students who accept mistakes and failure as life lessons and use feedback without becoming discouraged. We give positives to students who stay focused, even when things don't go as planned and who show patience when learning something new, persevering with difficult tasks.

Equality: We don't just accept difference at West Craven, we celebrate it. We give positives to students who always treat fellow students and staff with respect. Students who challenge unkind or unfair behaviour appropriately. Young people who show respect for different opinions, cultures, and identities. We reward students who take turns and ensure fairness in group situations. These students ensure others are not left out and values everyone's contributions equally.

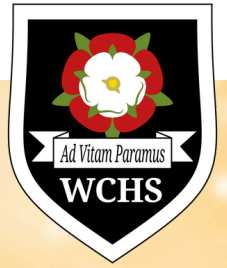
We also have Achievement and Effort awards at the end of each half term, awards for wider contribution to school as nominated by Pastoral Year Leads and form tutors, Positive Postcards home, Positive phone calls home from staff on Friday, Stars of the week, Work of the Week, 100% attendance prizes, Employability awards, The Principals award is given to just 1 student in each year, each half term. We have a school filled with amazing, talented and inspirational young people. It is a privilege to celebrate them everyday! Have a wonderful half-term break.



Mr Bates, Principal



STARS OF THE WEEK



7

Hanna 7AOP
Gracie 7 MFO
Eva 7OCA
Dylan 7 YGR



8

Ayesha 8 EAJ
Henry 8KSN
Haris 8NHU
Archie 8 RSW

9

Madiyyah 9 HWH
Connor 9 AYO
Evie 9 LWI
Oscar 9 WDA

10

Owen 10ABA
Kai 10 KMC
Millie 10 DWI
Lexsy 10 JPE
Isabelle 10 ASC

11

Skye 11 API
Zakariya 11 DRA
Ashton 11ECU
Mackenzie 11 MBA
Fahad 11 MMO
Tyler 11MYU

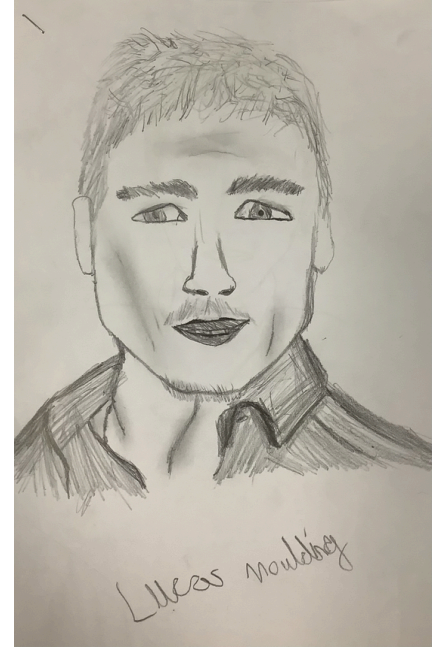
Congratulations to this week's top students from each form group.



CURRICULUM UPDATE ART

Creative Skills Developing in Year 8

Our talented Year 8 students have been busy honing their artistic skills, focusing on developing their portrait work. It's been fantastic to see their creativity grow, with students showing real attention to detail and confidence in their techniques.



Meanwhile, our school choir has been working incredibly hard in preparation for the upcoming Pendle Festival, which will take place on 9th June. Their dedication and enthusiasm have been wonderful to see, and we are all looking forward to supporting them as they represent our school at this special event.



Mrs H Whittle
Head of Creative & Vocational

SPORTS UPDATE

Spar Lancashire School Games 2026 – Pennine Lancashire Event

Our students recently took part in the Spar Lancashire School Games 2026 – Pennine Lancashire Event, an inspiring This Girl Can initiative aimed at boosting confidence, engagement and participation in physical activity.

The event brought together Year 9 students from across the region for a fantastic afternoon focused on fun, inclusion and teamwork. Our students represented the school brilliantly, showing great enthusiasm, maturity and a willingness to try every activity on offer.

Throughout the afternoon, students enjoyed a wide range of activities including spin classes, yoga and beach sports, alongside a variety of other team-based challenges designed to encourage participation and confidence.

The event provided a valuable opportunity for students to:

- Build confidence and resilience
- Develop teamwork and communication skills
- Take part in physical activity in a fun, pressure-free environment

We are incredibly proud of all the students who took part – they were a real credit to the school and fully embraced the spirit of the event.

Well done to:

Ella
Laaibah
Eva
Ellie



Mrs Bateman
PE Teacher



HALF TERM AWARDS

☀️ Half Term Awards Celebration ☀️

We were delighted to celebrate our half term award winners, recognising the fantastic achievements and dedication shown by our students across the school.

A special congratulations goes to Oliver (Year 8), who was a double award winner, receiving both an ASPIRE Award and a 100% Attendance Prize – an outstanding accomplishment!

We also proudly recognised our Principal's Award winners for the half term. These students have consistently demonstrated excellent effort, attitude and commitment to their learning:

Year 7 – Zoya

Year 8 – Blake

Year 9 – Layla

Year 10 – Casey

Year 11 – Harry

Well done to all of our award winners – your hard work and positive attitude continue to make us proud. Keep up the fantastic work!



THE ADDAMS FAMILY EXPERIENCE



The Addams Family Experience – Summer Show 2026

We are delighted to invite families and members of our local community to our much-anticipated summer production of The Addams Family Experience! Our talented students have been working incredibly hard alongside Stage Door Youth Theatre to bring this exciting and entertaining musical to life, and we cannot wait to share it with you.

The performance will take place on **Tuesday 14th July 2026 from 6:00pm – 7:00pm** at West Craven High School.

This is a free event, and everyone is warmly welcome to attend. To help us manage numbers, we kindly ask that tickets are booked in advance via our Eventbrite page.

[Click here to book tickets](#)

We look forward to seeing you there and celebrating the fantastic achievements of our students in what promises to be a brilliant evening of entertainment.



PASTORAL UPDATE YEAR 7

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this message finds you well.

This year has really flown by, and as we approach the end of the academic year, the excitement is building with the summer holidays just around the corner. It has been a fantastic year for our Year 7 students as they now look ahead to the prospect of becoming Year 8 students. This will bring new opportunities, fresh challenges, and even more chances to shine.

We are especially proud that some of our Year 7 students recently took part in a Cyber Day, where they explored the fascinating world of cybersecurity, digital responsibility, and online safety. They embraced the experience with enthusiasm and curiosity, representing the school with pride and demonstrating excellent teamwork and maturity. It was wonderful to see them engaging so positively in such valuable learning.

As we break up on Friday, I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate all that our students have achieved this term. Their hard work, determination, and positive attitudes have made us incredibly proud. We wish everyone a happy and well-deserved half term—take time to relax, enjoy the break, and stay safe. We look forward to welcoming you back, refreshed and ready for the exciting weeks ahead.

Thank you for your continued support

Mrs Harper



EXAM REVISION TIMETABLE

Year 11 Exam Revision Timetable – Week Beginning Monday 1st June

As we return from half term, we are launching a full programme of exam revision sessions and booster classes to help support our students during this crucial examination period. These sessions have been carefully planned by subject staff to provide targeted revision, exam practice and final preparation ahead of upcoming GCSE exams.

We strongly encourage all students to attend the sessions relevant to them, as they are an excellent opportunity to build confidence, strengthen knowledge and receive additional support from teaching staff.

Parents and carers are asked to please add these sessions to your diary and support your child in attending wherever possible. Regular attendance at revision sessions can make a significant difference in helping students feel prepared and successful during the exam season.

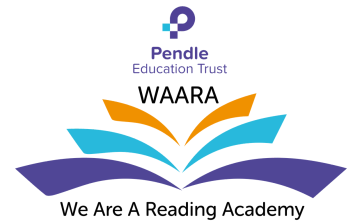
Thank you for your continued support as we work together to help our students achieve their very best.

	Monday 01/06/21	Tuesday 02/06/26	Wednesday 03/06/26	Thursday 04/06/26	Friday 05/06/26
8.00am -8.45am		Science Booster	Maths booster	History booster	English Booster
Form time		AQA Combined Science: Trilogy - Physics Paper 1 F/H 1hr 15m	EdExcel Mathematics Paper 2 (Calculator) F/H 1hr 30m	AQA History Paper 2 2hrs	AQA English Language Paper 2 1h 45m
Period 1		AQA Physics 1 F/H 1hr 45m			
Period 2					
Period 3	Science Revision session	Maths Revision session	Geography Booster Revision session	English Revision session	Science Revision session
12.25pm - 1pm					
Period 4			AQA Geography Paper 2 1hr 30m		
Period 5					
	Monday 08/06/21	Tuesday 09/06/26	Wednesday 10/06/26	Thursday 11/06/26	Friday 12/06/26
8.00am -8.45am	Science Booster	Spanish booster	Maths booster	Geography Booster	Science Booster
Form time	AQA Combined Science: Trilogy - Biology Paper 2 F/H 1hr 15m	EdExcel Spanish Listening F 45m	EdExcel Mathematics Paper 3 (Calculator) F/H 1hr 30m	AQA Geography Paper 3 1hr 30m	Science: Trilogy - Chemistry Paper 2 F/H 1hr 15m
Period 1	AQA Biology 2 F/H 1hr 45m	EdExcel Spanish Listening H 1hr			AQA Chemistry 2 F/H
Period 2					
Period 3	Spanish Revision	Maths Revision session	Geography Revision	Science Revision	Hospitality booster
12.25pm - 1pm					
Period 4					WJEC Hospitality & Catering 1hr 20m
Period 5			EdExcel Russian Writing 1hr 20m		AQA Polish
	Monday 15/06/21	Tuesday 16/06/26	Wednesday 17/06/26	Thursday 18/06/26	Friday 19/06/26
8.00am -8.45am	Science booster	Spanish Booster	Spanish Booster		
Form time	Science: Trilogy - Physics Paper 2 F/H 1hr 15m	EdExcel Spanish Reading F 45m	EdExcel Spanish Writing F 1hr 15m		
Period 1	AQA Physics 2 F/H 1hr 45m	EdExcel Spanish Reading H 1hr	EdExcel Spanish Writing H 1hr 20m		
Period 2					
Period 3	Spanish Revision	Spanish Revision session			
12.25pm - 1pm					
Period 4					
Period 5					



The librarian loves

Am I German or Autistic II. A second book in a series exploring identity, neurodivergence, and belonging.



Word of the Week
Vindicate is a verb meaning to prove that what someone said or did was right or true, after other people thought it was wrong.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was born on 22 May 1859 in Edinburgh into a prosperous Irish family. He trained as a doctor, gaining his degree from Edinburgh University in 1881. He worked as a surgeon on a whaling boat and also as a medical officer on a steamer travelling between Liverpool and West Africa. He then settled in Portsmouth on the English south coast and divided his time between medicine and writing.

Sherlock Holmes made his first appearance in 'A Study of Scarlet', published in 'Beeton's Christmas Annual' in 1887. Its success encouraged Conan Doyle to write more stories involving Holmes but, in 1893, Conan Doyle killed off Holmes, hoping to concentrate on more serious writing. A public outcry later made him resurrect Holmes. In addition, Conan Doyle wrote a number of other novels, including 'The Lost World' and various non-fictional works. These included a pamphlet justifying Britain's involvement in the Boer War, for which he was knighted and histories of the Boer War and World War One, in which his son, brother and two of his nephews were killed. Conan Doyle also twice ran unsuccessfully for parliament. In later life he became very interested in spiritualism.

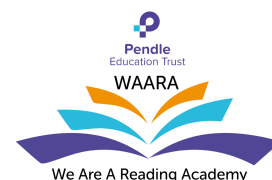
Conan Doyle died of a heart attack on 7 July 1930.

A selection of his books are available from the school library.



WE ARE A READING ACADEMY

May is National Walking Month. Although the weather has not been fantastic recently, hopefully half term will be sunny and dry. The librarian has collated a display of nature themed books, ideal for reading over half term. If your young person enjoys nature, their ideal book may be waiting for them in the library.



Lancashire County Council libraries will be open over the half term for pupils who require books. Our local libraries are an ideal place to revise in. It is free to join your local library, and reservations are free for under sixteens. Their digital service is always open.



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Support accessing Free School Meals

If your child does not already have Free School Meals, you may be eligible 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 less than £16,190
- 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: <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-school-meals/>

Applications need to go directly to Lancashire County Council and not to the school. If you would like support or need assistance with completing Free School Meal forms, or also travel pass application forms, you can contact the ELLIE Centre at Barden Campus. ***The phone number for parents/carers is 01282 682275 and the ELLIE Centre is open to parents/carers Monday – Friday 09:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. during term-time.***

Drop in and see us:

Monday to Friday 9am – 1pm

**ELLIE at The Faith Centre, The Burnley Exchange, Barden Lane, Burnley,
Lancashire. BB10 1JD**



CRISIS AND RESILIENCE FUND

If your family is going through a hard time or facing an unexpected crisis, your local district council may be able to help.

From 1 April, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) introduced the Crisis and Resilience Fund (CRF) to support local welfare services.

The fund will run until 31 March 2029 and is paid for by the UK Government.

The CRF replaces the Household Support Fund (HSF), which ran from October 2021 until 31 March 2026. Because of this change, free school meal vouchers will no longer be available during school holidays.

How your district council can help

District councils can help with urgent needs such as food, essential household items and other practical support

You may want to contact your district council if you are dealing with things like:

- sudden money problems
- a family emergency that makes it hard to cover basic needs
- trouble getting food or essential household items
- a change at home that leaves you without immediate support
- extra pressure on your household budget, for example during the school holidays
- Each district has a team that can talk to you about your situation and explain what help is available in your area. This support may come directly from the council or through local community organisations.
- To get help, visit your district council's website or contact them by phone.
- If you are not sure which district council covers your area, you can check by entering your postcode at www.lancashire.gov.uk/district-council.
- If you are already getting support from a professional, for example through a Family Hub, school, health visitor or Early Years practitioner, then they can help you to contact your district council.



Online Safety Newsletter

June 2026

Pinterest

You need to be at least 13 years old to use Pinterest.

Pinterest is a social media app, where users can share images and videos (called Pins). Users can browse through the images based on their stated interests, for example cooking. Users can then 'pin' (save) these images to their own boards to revisit.

There is content on Pinterest that is not suitable for young people to see. Also, did you know that there is a messaging element to it, so your child could be interacting with strangers? Therefore, if your child is using Pinterest, it is important to show your child how to use the blocking and reporting tools. You can find out more information, including how to set up parental controls here:
<https://help.pinterest.com/en/article/resources-for-parents-and-caregivers-of-teens>

Find out more here:
<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/news-blogs/what-is-pinterest-what-parents-need-to-know/>

Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translate tool on our web version:
<https://www.knowsleycitylearningcentres.org.uk/june-2026-secondary/>

Online Scams

It is important to be aware that scammers can target your child whilst online through social media, messaging apps and games. These scams often look genuine, and children may not have the digital literacy skills to question their authenticity. This can happen across lots of platforms that your child is accessing, for example Roblox or TikTok. Scams can include:

- Offering in game currency.
- Befriending your child, which can then lead to requests for money or account details/personal information.
- Phishing links, with the intention of sharing malware or requesting account details/personal information.

What can I do?

It is important to have regular conversations with your child about what they are doing online and remind them to:

- Never share passwords or verification codes.
- Speak to you or another trusted adult if they are unsure about anything.
- Ensure appropriate parental controls and privacy settings are in place.
- Talk to your child about the different scams that can appear online and remind your child to check links before clicking on them.
- Remind your child that if they do think that they have been scammed, then to tell you straightaway.

Further information

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/how-deal-online-scams-parent-guide>



Digital Footprints

When we go online, we create a digital footprint, which is a record of what we do online. This can be by visiting websites, sharing photos, liking or commenting on other people's posts or playing games. It is important that children are aware of the digital footprint that they are creating and the lasting effect it can have. Childline provides further information about digital footprints, including advice on how to protect our privacy online:

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/taking-care-your-digital-footprint/>

Risks of Auto saving

Does your child use the likes of WhatsApp, which may automatically download any image/video that is sent to them to their phone's own camera roll? We would advise switching this feature off.

Children may receive lots of photos/videos, particularly within group chats, that they have not requested. If auto download is allowed, then your child does not have control over what is being saved to their camera roll. Potentially, it may also be content that you would not want your child to have saved. Additionally, from a safeguarding perspective, if everything is automatically downloaded to your child's camera roll, it can become difficult to ascertain the source of the image.

How can I disable this feature?

If your child is using a platform that allows this, then there is usually an option to disable this feature, so your child has control over the images saved to their device. The option to disable will be within the settings of the App, here is how to do this on WhatsApp:

- In WhatsApp, go to settings (click on 'You' in the bottom right).
- Click on 'Chats'.
- Toggle 'Save to Photos' to off.



Deepfake content

Deepfake content, also known as synthetic media, is computer generated content that looks and sounds real. Deepfake content can be used to spread misinformation, used in scams, or used to cause upset to others. It can be difficult to spot, so it is important to be aware of it.

Find out more here:

<https://swgfl.org.uk/topics/synthetic-media-deepfake/>

Emoji Meanings

Did you know that some children and young people may be using emojis to mean something completely different? For example, a cap emoji may be used to represent a lie. It is important that you are aware of how emojis can be used and keep up to date with the way in which they can be used as their meanings are changeable. You can find out further information here:

<https://www.bark.us/blog/emoji-slang-guide/>

Omoggle

Omoggle is an online platform that is for adults only. However, you can simply lie and say you are over 18 to access it. The platform joins two strangers together and uses AI to rate their appearances in a "mog battle."

As you are paired up with a stranger and can see and hear them, there are serious safeguarding concerns and **young people should not be accessing this site.** Find out more here: <https://www.waynedenner.com/omoggle-parent-guide/>

"Retro – Photos with Friends" App

This is a photo sharing app, and it is rated as 13+ by the App store. The aim of the app is users share their photos with close friends only, like a photo journal. Whilst it is marketed as a safer alternative to other social media apps, you do need to be aware of the following:

- Privacy and data access.
- It does include group chats so there is still the potential for cyberbullying and peer pressure.
- Users may feel safer sharing images as it is with close friends, but content can still be shared with others (through screenshots).

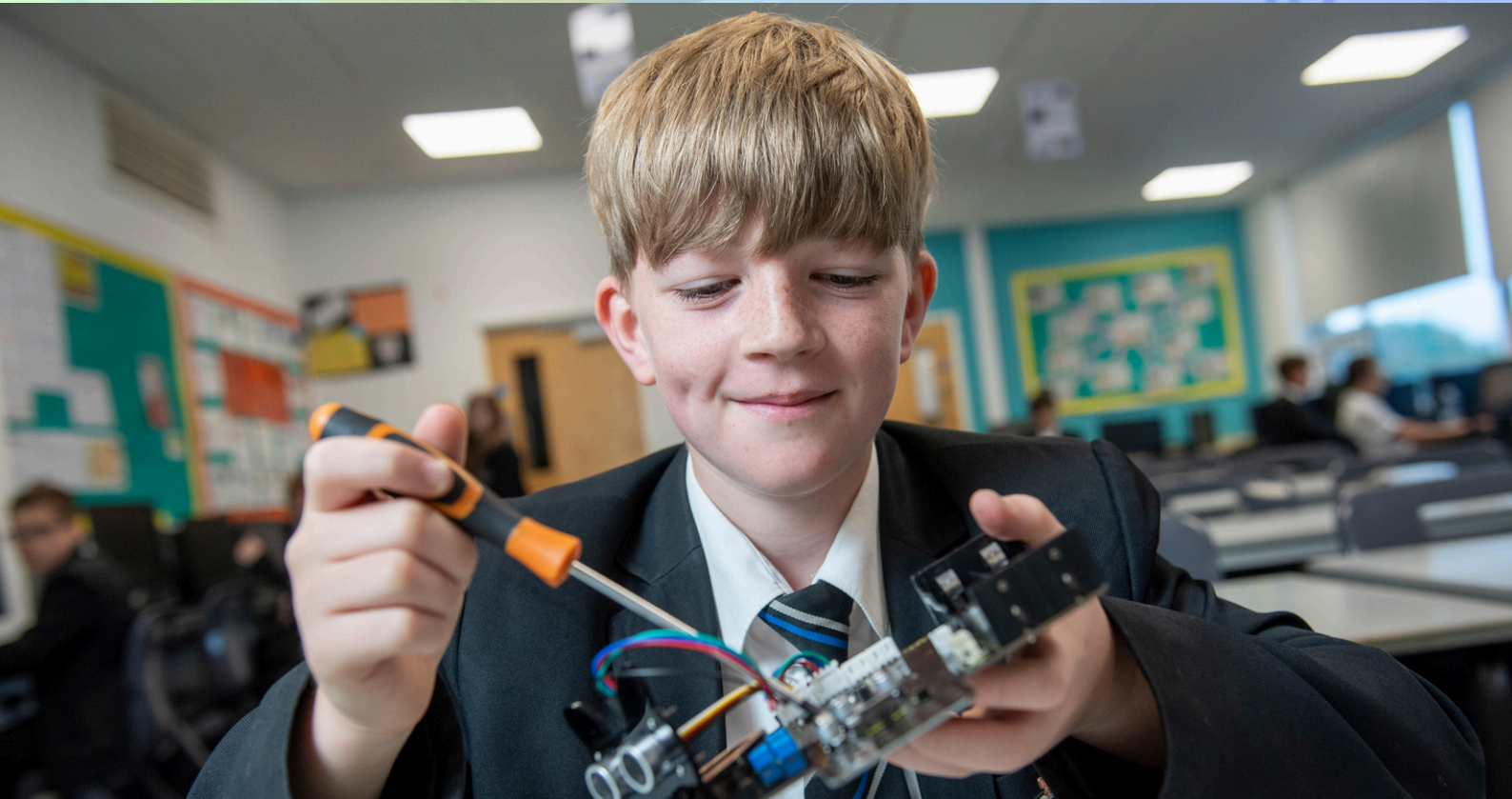
If your child is using this app, make sure you check that privacy settings are set up appropriately.

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date released 01.06.26. The inclusion of any links does not imply any affiliation with or endorsement of the linked websites, documents, or videos, nor are we claiming any ownership or copyright in the content of the linked materials.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



- 1st June – School Reopens
- 1st June – Nelson and Colne College PSHE Visit
- 4th June – World Environment Day
- 4th June – Year 8 Parents’ Evening
- 8th June – Year 10 1-to-1 Careers Meetings
- 8th June – Nelson and Colne College PSHE Visit
- 9th June – Pendle Schools Music Festival at the Muni
- 18th June - Year 10 Barclays Life Skills Session 4
- 22nd June - Year 10 One to One Careers Sessions
- 22nd June - NCC PSHE Visit Year 7
- 25th June - Year 11 Prom - Crow Wood
- 2nd July - Year 6 - Transition Day / Evening
- 3rd July - Year 10 taster session at NCC
- 7th July - Summer concert and GCSE Art exhibition
- 14th July - Adams Family Experience 6-7pm
- 22nd July - End of term - student dismissed at 1pm



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

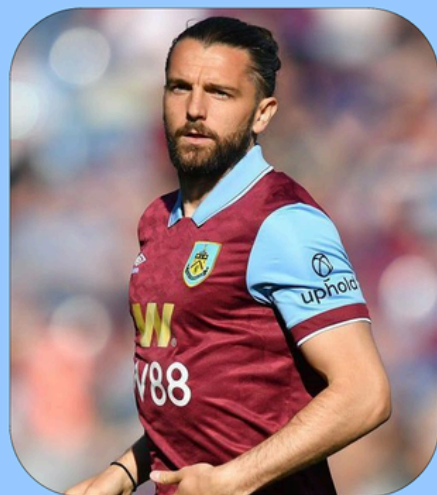


WestCraven.Barnoldswick



One Of Our Own: Burnley Made and Played

- a new *Clarets Collected* exhibition



Join us at Burnley Library to view the **launch of a brand new exhibition** about Burnley Football Club **celebrating some of the home-grown footballing talent** that has played in Claret and Blue down the years – from goalkeeper Willie Smith in the 1880s to Jay Rodriguez and Naomi Hartley in more recent times.

Saturday
23 May 2026
Burnley Library
11.30am - 2.30pm



Drop into our **FREE** launch event and enjoy:



- The new exhibition plus other items from the collection
- FREE light refreshments
- Children's craft activities, including badge-making
- Full-size table football and Subbuteo
- Pre-owned football books for sale

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

HELPING NEURODIVERGENT CHILDREN NAVIGATE THE ONLINE WORLD

Neurodivergent people tend to be early adopters of technology, and many influential innovators in this space are neurodivergent themselves. It's therefore likely that a neurodivergent child or young person may be drawn to the online world from an early age. This isn't a concern in itself, but understanding both the benefits and potential risks is essential. Here are ten key considerations to support safe and positive online experiences for neurodivergent children.

1 TREAT ONLINE LIKE THE REAL WORLD

You wouldn't allow a child to cross a road without guidance – you'd hold their hand, use a pedestrian crossing, and model safe behaviour. In the same way, a neurodivergent child's first experiences online should be supported by an adult who can guide and explain safe and responsible digital behaviour to them from the outset.

2 MODEL RESPONSIBLE USE

Children learn from what they see. Show all children, regardless of neurotype, what responsible internet use looks like. Reflect on your own use of social media and AI. Consider how often you use them and your own understanding of these platforms. Talk openly about when and why you use these tools, helping all children develop a balanced and informed approach.

3 KNOW YOUR LIMITS

Current government guidance suggests no solo screen use below the age of two, with a maximum of one hour per day for two- to five-year-olds. Screen time can support communication and connection when shared with an adult. However, passive watching can affect neurodivergent children's attention and language skills. Focus on the type of content they watch, encouraging slower-paced and meaningful material rather than fast-paced, overstimulating content.

4 CONSIDER AGES AND STAGES

For older children and teenagers, agreed limits are important. Screen time can be beneficial, but it should form part of a balanced lifestyle. Neurodivergent children may find online communication easier than real-world conversation, supporting their social interaction. However, it shouldn't be their only option. Encourage a range of activities, including creative play, physical exercise, and opportunities for real-world connections.

5 KEEP CONVERSATIONS OPEN

Discussions about online safety should begin early and continue as children grow. However, neurodivergent children may worry about getting things wrong or being misunderstood, meaning these kinds of conversations should feel open and fair, rather than like a lecture. If a child encounters a problem – such as a scam or inappropriate content – they need to feel able to speak to a trusted adult without fear of judgement or embarrassment.

6 BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE

You aren't expected to be an expert, but it's important to stay informed about the platforms, games, or apps neurodivergent children use in order to provide practical support. Social media platforms have age limits, and many apps and games offer parental settings that can control access. Schools and families should work together to understand these tools, helping neurodivergent children use them safely while keeping up to date with new features and changes.

7 SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES

Children and young people often know more about current technology than adults, meaning it's important to recognise that controls may be bypassed. Clear, predictable boundaries should be used, based on trust and consistency. Involving children in discussions that affect them helps them feel heard. This is particularly important for neurodivergent children, who may respond strongly to perceived unfairness.

8 UNDERSTAND AI CONTENT

The internet now includes large amounts of AI-generated content, including images, videos, and stories. These can be difficult to identify. Children should be encouraged to question what they see and check the information using trusted sources. Neurodivergent children may interpret content literally, meaning adult guidance is important in helping them recognise what's real and reliable – and what isn't.

9 EXPLAIN AI LIMITATIONS

AI isn't the same as a search engine. It generates responses based on prompts and patterns, and its accuracy depends on how it's used. Sometimes, it produces incorrect or unrealistic information, known as 'hallucinations'. Both adults and children need to understand this and learn how to check information carefully using reliable and trusted sources.

10 CLARIFY AI RELATIONSHIPS

AI can feel conversational and personal, but it's not capable of real relationships. It learns from patterns in user input rather than human understanding. Some neurodivergent children may experience a sense of connection with AI chatbots, particularly if they find social situations challenging. It's therefore important to explain that these are simulated conversations and aren't a substitute for real, human relationships.

Meet Our Expert

Catrina Lowri is a neurodivergent former SENCO and Advisory Teacher who works with nurseries, schools, colleges, and businesses to improve inclusion for neurodivergent people. She is the Founder and Director of Neuroteachers and the author of "The Other 29 – How Supporting Your Neurodivergent Learner Can Improve Teaching and Learning for the Whole Class".



See full reference list on our website