

WEST CRAVEN HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Principal's Welcome

Friday 5th June

Dear Parents / Carers

A warm welcome back to all in our community for this final half term in 2025-26. At least the weather was the right way round for once; beautiful sunny weather during the holiday and met with rainy wet days on return to school! Despite it being the final half term, there is still a lot of work to be done and most of our students have their exams to face over the coming weeks. Please remind your child to be respectful of exam signage when moving around school. None of our students would purposefully disrupt an exam, but we do have some who talk loudly to each other or forget that exams are taking place. We will keep reminding them, so it would help if you could do the same.

Assemblies this week were feeding back to the students following their student voice. The feedback was extremely useful and it was good to show the students that as a Senior and Whole School team we take on board what young people have shared with us. It was extremely pleasing to see that the top reason given by all students when asked why they attend school was to learn and get the most from school. 43% of our students take part in extra-curricular activities. This is excellent, but we would like participation to be even higher. All of our extra-curricular activities are free for our students to take part in, including stage door and Imogen's school of dance. We try and keep the cost of trips to a minimum, just to cover the cost. If the cost ever is an issue for a family, please tell us and we will do what we can to help. We want all students to be happy and thrive at school, and these extra experiences are what can make a big difference.

When asked what was important in school, our students were very mature and insightful. They listed Attendance as the most important factor, and they would be absolutely right; If you are not in school, you won't get anything from it! They also highlighted the importance of uniform, 'calmness', and a school where there is mutual respect. The results were informative and it pleasing to see that the students recognise and value the same high expectations that we have a school and these are lived through our core values, ASPIRE

Some of our Year 8 students attended the Mega-day challenge at Nelson Colne College this week. The students took part in a number of technology based challenges. Staff from the college were very complimentary about the students and how they conducted themselves on the day. They completely immersed themselves in the challenges and were excellent role models for the school. Well done to all involved.

We don't just ask the students, but we also ask you at every parent's evening to complete a questionnaire. Last night was Year 8 parents' evening, and it was lovely to see so many of you here to listen to your child's progress this year. It was also the last parents' evening of the year, so we have now asked parents from all year groups. Over 82% of parents say that their children are happy and safe in school, which is the most important measure. We know that that means some don't feel they are, so we have work to do. We are proud to have the Leading Parent Partnership Award, and we will continue to work with parents and the community to make West craven the best school for this community.



Mr Bates, Principal



STARS OF THE WEEK



7

Logan 7AOP
Inaaya7 MFO
Harry7OCA
Brooke 7 YGR
Amelia PYL

8

Owen 8 EAJ
James 8KSN
Elliot 8NHU
Summer 8 RSW
Connie PYL

9

Pippa 9 HWH
Eva 9 AYO
Max 9 LWI
Ellie 9 WDA
Ella PYL

10

Alice 10ABA
Lacy- Mae10 KMC
Ayesha 10 DWI
Henry 10 JPE
Kai 10 ASC
Shelby PYL

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



CURRICULUM UPDATE FOOD TECH

Year 7 Get Creative in the Kitchen

Our Year 7 pupils have been showcasing their creativity in the kitchen by making vibrant rainbow salads. Using a wide range of ingredients, students demonstrated fantastic invention skills and took great pride in presenting their dishes beautifully.

It was wonderful to see such enthusiasm, teamwork, and attention to detail – with some truly eye-catching and colourful creations on display!



Mrs H Whittle
Head of Creative
& Vocational



CURRICULUM UPDATE SCIENCE

Whilst year 7 and year 8 pupils have been revising, completing and taking part in MAD (making a difference) time for end of year exams. There has still been time for year 7 to complete learning on metals and non-metals also physics topic energy. Year 8 have been showing off their practical skills whilst taking part in some fantastic chemical displacement reactions linked to learning on the periodic table.

Year 9 pupils have completed the foundational GCSE skills linked to energy, learning about the 8 stores, 4 transfers and completing practical lessons investigating the specific heat capacity of different metals. Classes in year 9 are now focusing on the best revision strategies to use to help them prepare for the upcoming end of year test. Who will then move onto practical application of magnets and waves.

Year 10 have the tough job of preparing for their first series of mock GCSE exams, identifying gaps in their knowledge and filling them, addressing misconceptions and correcting them. Then to further developing the skills of extended writing and mathematical application, problem solving, reasoning and describing scientific investigations and findings. In order to help revision booklets have been issued to pupils one for each science mock paper – biology, chemistry and physics. If you do not have a copy please see Mrs Scott in M1. These will be useful for the final GCSE exams aswell.

Finally good luck to all year 11 who are half way through their final exams and have been working so well to be their best. 😊



SPORTS UPDATE

Year 7 Rugby Taster Session

Our Year 7 boys recently took part in an exciting rugby taster session, delivered by a qualified coach as part of a programme supported by England Rugby. This was the first session in a four-week programme, giving students a fantastic opportunity to develop new skills and experience the sport in a fun and supportive environment.

The boys thoroughly enjoyed the session and demonstrated great enthusiasm and teamwork throughout. They are already looking forward to the next session as they continue to build their confidence and skills in rugby.



Mr Wilson
Head of PE

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2026

World Environment Day, celebrated every year on 5th June, is a great opportunity for our school community to reflect on how we can care for the planet and create a healthier future for our young people. The 2026 theme encourages us all to make small, meaningful changes that support sustainability.

At West Craven High School, we are proud to be taking positive steps towards a greener future. One of our recent projects has been the upcycling of our bike shed, giving it a fresh new look and making it a more welcoming and practical space for students. This initiative was funded through the Pendle Education Trust Sustainability Fund, in partnership with Nelson and Colne College, Reed Recruitment, Taylor Shaw and Silentnight Bed Company. We hope this will encourage more of our students to cycle to school and make full use of the facilities.

We are also delighted that our art students are supporting Barnoldswick's Great Big Green Week this Saturday, where they have been busy upcycling old clothes and T-shirts as part of this community celebration of sustainability. It's fantastic to see their creativity making a positive difference beyond the classroom.

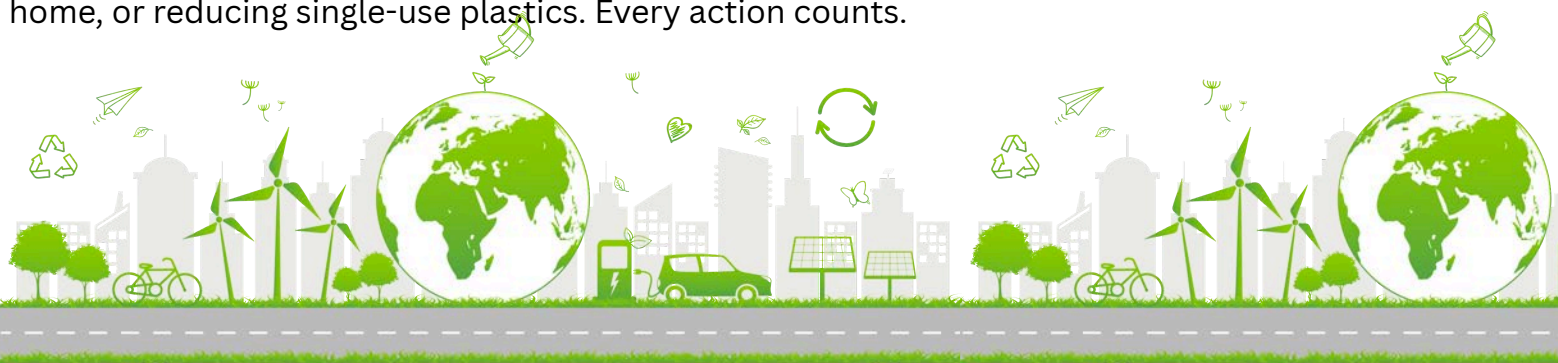
We also recently took part in No Mow May, allowing areas of our school grounds to grow naturally and support pollinators such as bees and butterflies. This small change helps to boost biodiversity and shows how simple actions can have a positive impact on the environment. We are excited to be developing our outdoor learning spaces. Thanks to a £1,000 Ernest Trust Outdoor Essentials Grant, we have purchased a range of new resources for our quad area, including a polytunnel, plants, bat boxes, bug hotels, planting equipment and outdoor furniture. This will allow students to learn outside the classroom, develop practical skills, and deepen their understanding of the environment.

Simple everyday actions can make a big difference. Walking or cycling to school, turning off lights, recycling waste, and reducing single-use plastics are all habits that students can develop and carry with them into adulthood. We would love to see more of our students choosing active travel where possible, supporting both the environment and their own wellbeing.

Families can also get involved at home by planting flowers for pollinators, growing vegetables, or spending time outdoors exploring local green spaces. These small activities help children develop a sense of responsibility and care for the world around them.

As parents and educators, we all play an important role in shaping the next generation's attitudes towards sustainability. By working together, we can inspire our young people to become environmentally conscious citizens.

This World Environment Day, we encourage everyone to think about the small changes they can make—whether that's walking or cycling to school, making use of our bike shed, recycling more at home, or reducing single-use plastics. Every action counts.



THINK BEFORE YOU PRINT

Also this week we are reminding ourselves about our pledge to becoming carbon net zero by 2030 which we are doing across Pendle Education Trust. One of our key priorities is reducing the amount of printing. This not only saves paper, but also reduces the use of photocopiers and printers which are high energy usage due to needing to seal the toner at high temperatures, so then need to have a lot of inbuilt fans to cool them down again. We're also supporting the reduced use of paper through online resources, including being able to submit homework and independent learning online through ClassCharts and other platforms.

THINK BEFORE YOU PRINT!
Do you **really** need to print that?

Pendle Education Trust

TIPS FOR SAVING PAPER

- 01 **BE SELECTIVE ABOUT WHAT YOU PRINT**
- 02 **GO DIGITAL - READ, SEND & STORE DIGITAL DOCUMENTS**
- 03 **USE PRINT PREVIEW TO CHECK YOUR DOCUMENT IS CORRECT**
- 04 **USE BOTH SIDES OF PAPER**
- 05 **RECYCLE**

SAVE PAPER, SAVE MONEY, SAVE FORESTS!

The infographic features a central orange circle with the text 'TIPS FOR SAVING PAPER' and a blue printer icon. Five colored callouts (01-05) are connected to the central circle by a black line. The background is a dark purple gradient.



Year 8 Explore the World of Technology at MEGathon

Our Year 8 students recently enjoyed an exciting and hands-on trip to take part in the MEGathon, a fast-paced technology event designed to give young people a real insight into careers in the tech industry.

Throughout the day, students rotated through a series of engaging activities, each designed to mirror real-world roles within the technology sector. From building and programming LEGO robots to competing in an AI prompt challenge, the experience brought learning to life and showcased just how varied and exciting careers in technology can be.

One of the highlights of the day was the LEGO Robotics session, where students worked in teams to design and programme their own robots, developing key skills such as problem solving, precision and teamwork. They also took part in an AI challenge, learning how to communicate effectively with technology to achieve the best results.

Students also stepped into the role of digital investigators during a 'Digital Detective' activity, using publicly available information to solve challenges—just like professionals in cybersecurity and law enforcement. The day rounded off with a high-energy cyber challenge where students raced against the clock to crack a series of problems, testing their resilience and ability to work under pressure.



MEGA DAY

Across the day, students developed a wide range of important skills, including critical thinking, creativity, resilience and adaptability. They also explored a variety of potential career pathways such as robotics engineering, cybersecurity and software development.

Most importantly, the experience helped students to see how their everyday strengths link to real careers, leaving them feeling inspired, motivated and more confident that a future in technology could be within their reach.

It was a fantastic opportunity, and we are incredibly proud of how our students embraced each challenge and represented the school throughout the day.

Big thanks to MEGA Hub from IN4 Group for travelling over to deliver the session at Nelson and Colne College from Midea City.



NATIONAL CHILDRENS SURVEY

Help Your Child's Voice Be Heard – National Survey Opportunity

We are encouraging all families to support their child in taking part in an important national survey led by the Children's Commissioner, called "The Big Future."

This short survey (around 5 minutes) gives children and young people aged 0–18 the opportunity to share their experiences, concerns and hopes for the future. The information gathered will help shape government decisions about childhood and the support available to young people.

Many young people can feel that their views are not always heard – this is a valuable chance for them to make a real difference and have their say on a national level.

How you can support your child:

- Encourage them to take a few minutes to complete the survey
- Talk about the questions together if they need support
- Reassure them that their opinions matter

 <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/the-big-future/>

Thank you for helping us empower our young people to share their voices and shape the future.



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 8

Welcome back to all our Year 8 pupils and parents following the half-term break. I hope you have had a restful and enjoyable time with family and friends.

It has been wonderful to see pupils return to school refreshed and ready to continue their learning this half term. We are looking forward to a positive and productive few weeks ahead. A special well done to the pupils who took part in the 'Escape Your Future' presentation delivered by Becky and Paul from Nelson and Colne College. All pupils engaged positively throughout the session and represented the school extremely well. This was a fantastic opportunity to begin thinking about future pathways and aspirations, and we are proud of how maturely everyone approached it.

We have lots to look forward to over the coming weeks, including the Blackpool rewards trip and Sports Day in July – both now just a few short weeks away. These are always highlights of the term and a great opportunity for pupils to enjoy and celebrate their achievements. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Nicola Freeman
Pastoral Lead – Year 8



YEAR 11 PROM UPDATE

Year 11 Prom Update

We are pleased to confirm that our pre-order has now been submitted to Crow Wood Hotel, including all students' meal choices and dietary requirements.

We will also have a professional photographer attending the evening to capture our Year 11 students as they arrive dressed to impress and enjoy their special celebration.

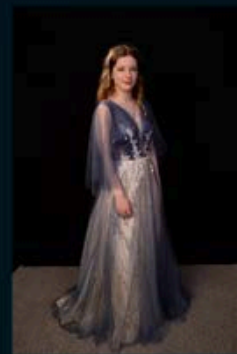
Photographs can be pre-ordered at a cost of £7.50 for one photograph or £15 for three photographs. If you would like to place an order, please include the school name and your child's name when making payment. Further information on how to order can be found below.

Thank you for your support, and we look forward to celebrating with our Year 11 students.

PROM PHOTO PRE-ORDER

(ON THE NIGHT PRICE £10 EACH)

PLEASE SEND £7.50 FOR ONE PHOTO OR £15 FOR THREE TO THE ACCOUNT BELOW. PLEASE STATE THE SCHOOL AND YOUR CHILD'S NAME WHEN PAYING SO I CAN ENSURE THEY GET THEIR PHOTOS ON THE NIGHT. THANK YOU
A/C KERRY HARGREAVES 01-01-35 23744456



KERRY HARGREAVES
PHOTOGRAPHY



www.westcraven.co.uk



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



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

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.

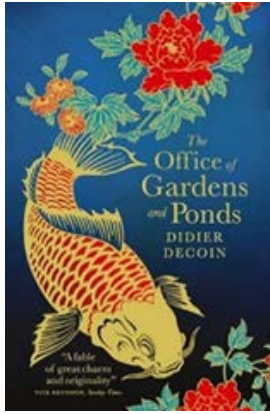
We strongly encourage all students to attend the sessions relevant to them, as they are an excellent opportunity to build confidence, strengthen knowledge and receive additional support from teaching staff.

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.

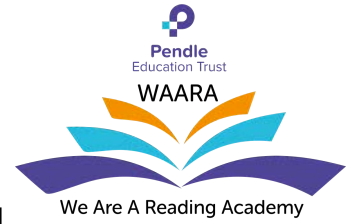
	Monday 08/06/26	Tuesday 09/06/26	Wednesday 10/06/26	Thursday 11/06/26	Friday 12/06/26
8.00am -8.45am	Science Booster	Spanish booster	Maths booster	Geography Booster	Science Booster
Form time	AQA Combined Science: Trilogy - Biology Paper 2 F/H 1hr 15m AQA Biology 2 F/H 1hr 45m	EdExcel Spanish Listening F 45m EdExcel Spanish Listening H 1hr	EdExcel Mathematics Paper 3 (Calculator) F/H 1hr 30m	AQA Geography Paper 3 1hr 30m	Science: Trilogy - Chemistry Paper 2 F/H 1hr 15m AQA Chemistry 2 F/H
Period 1					
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 AQA Polish
Period 5			EdExcel Russian Writing 1hr 20m		
	Monday 15/06/26	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 AQA Physics 2 F/H 1hr 45m	EdExcel Spanish Reading F 45m EdExcel Spanish Reading H 1hr	EdExcel Spanish Writing F 1hr 15m EdExcel Spanish Writing H 1hr 20m		
Period 1					
Period 2					
Period 3	Spanish Revision	Spanish Revision session			
12.25pm - 1pm					
Period 4					
Period 5					





The librarian loves

The Office of Gardens and Ponds by Didier Decoin. It tells the story of Miyuki who has to transport eight carp to the Japanese Imperial Palace. The author spent 14 years researching and writing this novel. He effectively recreates a vanished world, conjuring pungent smells and forested landscapes, footnoting traditional clothing and legendary creatures. The cover is exquisite and the contents do not disappoint.



Rick Riordan was born on the 5th June 1964. He is the author of the extremely popular Percy Jackson books. A range of his books can be found in the school library. The Puffin website has a list of all his books and a quiz to help you find out your godly parent:

<https://www.penguin.co.uk/discover/childrens-articles/whos-your-godly-parent-rick-riordan-quiz>

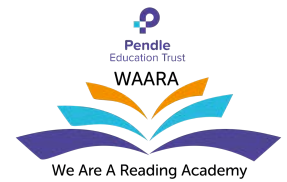
Word of the Week

Redolent is an adjective from the Latin verb olēre ("to smell") and is a relative of olfactory ("of, relating to, or connected with the sense of smell"). In its earliest English uses in the 15th century, redolent simply meant "having an aroma." Today, it usually applies to a place or thing permeated with odours. Scent and memory are famously linked, and an extended use of redolent to mean "evocative" or "suggestive" links them again, as in "lollipops redolent of childhood."

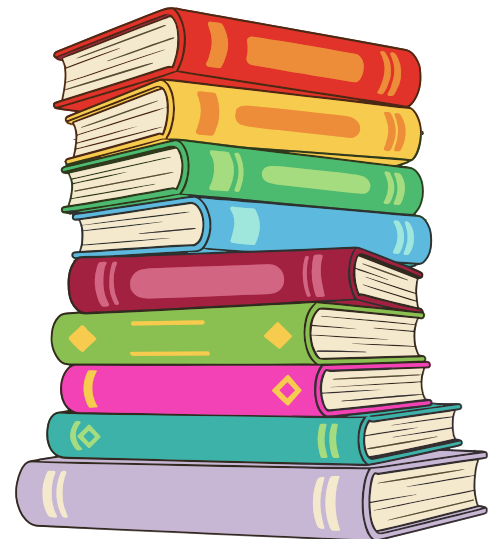


June is Pride Month. One impactful way to introduce children to communities of all kinds and promote empathy and understanding is through reading books. The Pride display in the library has a range of books that encourage pupils to develop empathy and compassion and challenge stereotypes. By offering young readers stories that reflect a wide range of backgrounds and experiences, we can cultivate a generation of compassionate individuals who celebrate difference and stand up for their school community.





Hi-Vis fortnight gives libraries the opportunity to highlight the services they offer for visually impaired people. The school library has a wide selection of large print books. The librarian can help pupils with specific disabilities gain access to digital copies of their books. Please contact the school if you require any further information about these services.



EXTRA CURRICULAR – SUMMER TERM 2

We are pleased to share details of our Summer 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, Cricket, Rounders, 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		
	Youth Enterprise / Fundraising Room G11	Creative Writing Room T8 Year 7 only		

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS – SUMMER TERM 2

West Craven High School (Summer term 2)

After School Clubs



MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
<p>Cricket (Year 7 & 8)</p> 	<p>Rounders Year 9 & 10</p> 		<p>Cricket (Year 9 & 10)</p> 	<p>Art Room M10</p> 
<p>French Club Room G3 Year 10s</p> 			<p>Science Club Room G4</p> 	
<p>Library Homework club</p>	<p>Library Homework club</p>	<p>Library Homework club</p>	<p>Library Homework club</p>	
<p>Rounders Yr 7 & 8</p> 	<p>Band club Main Hall</p> 		<p>SEN Homework Club Room G6</p>	
	<p>Stage Door Drama Club 3:30pm - 4:45pm Room T1/2</p> 		<p>Imogen's dance School 3:30pm-4:30pm Gym</p> 	

Water safety – Important message for parents and schools





Following recent tragic incidents involving water, this is an important reminder of how quickly situations can change. As the weather gets warmer, more children and young people are spending time around rivers, lakes and the coast, increasing the risk of harm.

Even on hot days, open water can be dangerously cold, and conditions are often unpredictable.

Children and young people may not always recognise these risks, so it's vital that key safety messages are shared.

Key water safety messages

Please help reinforce the following advice with children and young people:

-  **Stop and Think:** Check for hidden hazards such as deep water, currents and cold temperatures
-  **Stay Together:** Never go into or near water alone; choose areas with lifeguards where possible
-  **Call 999 in an emergency:** Ask for the Coastguard at the coast, or Fire & Rescue if you are inland
-  **Float** – If you fall in, stay calm, float on your back and control your breathing



WATER SAFETY

Cold water shock

Many recent incidents have involved cold water. Even strong swimmers can be affected. Sudden immersion can cause panic, loss of breathing control and reduced ability to swim.

If you fall into water:

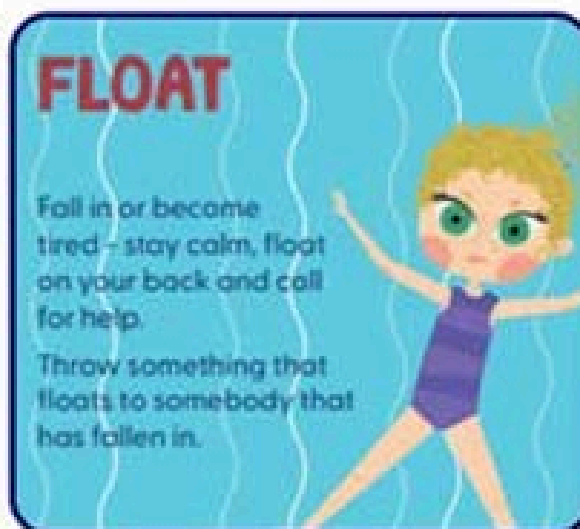
- Try to stay calm: The effects of cold water shock usually pass within the first minute
- Float on your back to regain control of your breathing
- Once calm, call for help or swim to safety if possible

A Life-saving skill: Float to Live

Teaching children how to float could save a life:

- Tilt your head back with ears in the water
- Relax and breathe slowly
- Move hands and feet gently to stay afloat

In an emergency:



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



- 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



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ONLINE GROOMING

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Online grooming is when someone builds a relationship with a child or young person online to gain their trust for the purpose of sexual abuse, exploitation, radicalisation, or criminal activity – such as county lines or financial scams. According to the NSPCC, police in the UK recorded over 7,000 offences involving sexual communication with a child in a single year – an increase of 89% since 2017/18.

STRANGERS USING FAKE IDENTITIES

Groomers often pose as children or teenagers online to build trust. They may create convincing fake profiles, share photos stolen from real people, or mimic the interests of the child. By pretending to be someone their age, they make conversations feel safe and relatable. Over time, they may ask for personal details, photos, or suggest meeting in person, exposing children to significant emotional and physical harm.

EXPLOITATION THROUGH GIFTS AND FLATTERY

To gain trust quickly, groomers often send gifts, gaming credits, or money. Alongside material offerings, they use excessive compliments, affection, and attention to create emotional dependency. These tactics make children feel valued and special, lowering their defences. Once trust is secured, groomers may escalate their requests, often asking for photos or private conversations, making the child feel pressured or indebted to continue.

GROUP CHATS AS HIDDEN PATHWAYS

Unmonitored group chats on platforms like WhatsApp or Discord provide a cover for groomers. They can watch how children interact, identify those who seem vulnerable, and then move conversations into private messaging. This transition makes detection difficult for trusted adults. The seemingly harmless group setting often masks the presence of predators, giving children a false sense of security.

THE RISE OF SEXTORTION

Sextortion involves pressuring children into sharing explicit content, then blackmailing them for more. Offenders may claim to have hacked a child's device, threaten to share images with friends or family, or demand money. Many victims remain silent out of fear and shame. This growing crime is particularly dangerous because children often feel trapped, believing there's no safe way to escape the situation.

GAMING PLATFORMS AS GROOMING GATEWAYS

Games like Roblox, Fortnite, or Call of Duty, which include live chat features, are frequent targets for groomers. Conversations often begin casually during gameplay and can become manipulative over time. Groomers may offer in-game gifts, credits, or exclusive add-ons to build rapport. Children using headsets or private chat features are especially at risk, as conversations are harder for adults to monitor.

CRIMINAL & RADICALISATION RISKS

Grooming is not always sexual. Some offenders manipulate children into criminal activities such as drug running or online fraud. Others attempt to radicalise young people with extreme ideologies. Groomers often use fear, money, shame, or promises of belonging to control their victims. These forms of exploitation can be just as harmful as sexual grooming, and often leave lasting psychological and social consequences.

Advice for Parents & Educators

KEEP CONVERSATIONS REGULAR

Rather than having one "big talk" about online safety, weave conversations into everyday life. Ask questions about children's online friendships and interests. Share real-life examples to make discussions relatable and encourage honesty instead of secrecy. When children feel comfortable discussing their digital lives, they are far more likely to share concerns or admit when something feels wrong, reducing the chance of risky interactions going unnoticed.

UNDERSTAND THE PLATFORMS CHILDREN USE

Take time to learn about the apps, games, and social platforms children are on. Familiarise yourself with privacy settings, parental controls, and group chat features. Use resources like The National College guides or conduct quick searches to stay updated. By understanding how these platforms operate, you'll be better equipped to set boundaries, guide safe use, and notice any unusual or concerning online behaviour early.

CREATE A "TELL ME" CULTURE

Children often keep silent because they fear being punished or losing access to their devices. Reassure them that coming forward with concerns won't get them into trouble. Emphasise that you are there to help, not judge. Creating a safe, open environment encourages children to speak up if something feels wrong, and helps to ensure they don't suffer in silence when facing potential grooming risks.

STAY ALERT TO WARNING SIGNS

Be attentive to both behavioural and digital red flags. Sudden secrecy, mood swings, or new online contacts may signal a problem. Watch for unexplained gifts, new social media profiles, or changes in sleep patterns. Increased anxiety or reluctance to attend school can also be indicators. Regularly checking in and showing interest in those whom they communicate with online help prevent small issues from escalating into serious risks.

Meet Our Expert

Staffordshire Police is dedicated to keeping people safe and tackling crime across both the physical and digital world. The force continues to strengthen its digital investigation and safeguarding capabilities to protect children and vulnerable people online, working in partnership with local, regional and national organisations, schools, and the wider community.





Wild Explorers: Into The Wild

A 2-day experience for young people aged 10 - 16. Into The Wild provides an opportunity for young people to unplug from technology and benefit from all that nature has to offer.

Into The Wild is a 2-day experience that will give young people (10-16 years) increased responsibility and challenge.

You will have the opportunity to set up your own shelter, make your own campfire and cook the food on the fire along with other activities on the day.

The 2 days will be centred around building confidence, leadership, teamwork and resilience.



Price

£95 per child for 2 days inc food
Childcare vouchers accepted

Age

10 - 16 years

Must be in year 6 or above

Upcoming Dates

21st & 22nd July

3rd & 4th August

1st & 2nd September

Please note: this is a 2 day experience.

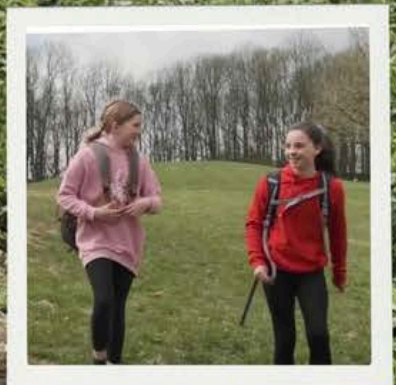


Time

9.30am - 3.30pm

Location

Broughton Hall Estate



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