

WEST CRAVEN HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Principal's Welcome

Friday 2nd October

Dear Parent/Carer,

This week was our Open Evening. We welcomed 130 families through our doors on Thursday night to come and see what West Craven High School is all about. We asked our students at the beginning of last week if any of them were able to help on the night and support the school. 86 of our students came back to school, dressed in their pristine full uniform for 5:30pm and stayed until gone 8pm. They were polite, welcoming and articulate, as they helped prospective parents and students find their way around the school. These students will all receive a reward in assemblies next week and I am extremely grateful to them for giving their time up to represent our school.

The Year 5 and 6 parents spoke very highly of the school and the students while on their visit, as they explored the different classrooms and activities; from dissections to dressing up as your favourite artist, and everything in between. Parents listened to our Head Boy and Girl, Evan Walton and Isabella Hartley about their time at West Craven. Deputy Head Boy, Layton Greenhalgh and Deputy Head Girl, Amy Devereux spoke about careers, and Deputy Head Girl, Martyna Wisniewska spoke about the strong sense of community within the school. All five students delivered their speeches confidently to a packed school hall and spoke eloquently about their experiences of school. There was also a speech from 2 Year 7 students, Scarlett Wood and Jack Clark, who spoke about what it was like to join West Craven High School. I was very proud of how well they spoke to a large adult crowd after just 3 weeks in the school. I have every confidence that these students have a great future ahead of them at West Craven and beyond.

The Open Evening finished at 8pm on Thursday night and it was a genuine struggle to get staff, students and children to stop enjoying the activities and conversations they were engaged in. It was lovely to see so many families from the community and share all that we are doing as a school. I hope to see many of them again in September 2027.

As we move into October it is just a reminder for students to have a sensible outdoor coat and school bag. Also with the days drawing shorter, with darker evenings and mornings, it is a reminder for students to take care and ensure that they are wearing outdoor clothing that can be seen.

I have spoken to the staff and students about making every minute of every lesson count. With this in mind, I would like to remind parents of our procedures for dealing with punctuality to lessons. Arriving late to lessons is lost time learning and it interrupts the learning of others when the teacher has to stop the lesson. In school we ask that registers are completed in the first 5 minutes of the lesson. This gives everyone plenty of time to move across school. If a student is late to a lesson without a valid reason, the teacher will record how many minutes they were late by on the register. If a student is later than ten minutes to their lesson, they will receive a 40 minute truancy detention. The vast majority of our students arrive before the register is closed and will be happy knowing that their lessons are less disrupted by late arrivals.

Thank you for continued support



Mr Bates, Principal



STARS OF THE WEEK



7

**7ABA - Faith
7EEV - Michael
7SHO - Aaliyah
7DWI - Parker
PYL - Alexis**

8

**8JPE - Summer
8MFO - Gracie
8YGR - Ava
8OCA - Saanvi
PYL - Ava**

9

**9EAJ - Jordan
KSN - Lucas
RSW - Ethan
NHU - Noah
Lucy - Grace**

10

**WDA - Mara
HWH - Ellie
SAH - Peter
AYO - Sophie
PYL - Harry**

11

**ECU - Kai
MTV - Eva
DRA - Layton
API - Eva
PYL - Bill**

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



PASTORAL UPDATE YEAR 10

As we started the new academic school year in our assembly we reflected on the opportunity of a fresh start and how individuals can choose to make their future self-proud. This included a complete reset on all ClassCharts points, starting the year with a clean slate and a 100% positive ratio. Students have returned and have made a cracking start to their key stage 4 studies and their option choices. Walking the corridors seeing such fantastic, calm and focused learning has been a pleasure over the last 4 weeks. It clearly shows me as their Pastoral Lead, that they are determined to succeed in their academia. Year 10 are clearly loving the positive points they have been receiving on ClassCharts as they are continually asking for them. I hope you are also reveling in the positivity too.

Year 10 will soon be receiving information about Work Experience and how to access and arrange placements in the area. This will be delivered in an upcoming assembly. If students can have some thoughts in the meantime as to what they would like to access, it would help speed up the process and ensure they are able, as far as possible, to match their choices.

Thank you all for ensuring your child has returned with great uniform and fully equipped for learning - I appreciate that this is hard in the current climate. Should you find yourself in need of support as the year continues, please do not hesitate to get in touch - we are always able to assist.

As always, thank you for your continued support.



Helen Smith
Year 10 -Pastoral Year Lead



CURRICULUM UPDATE GEOGRAPHY

A Journey Around Our World

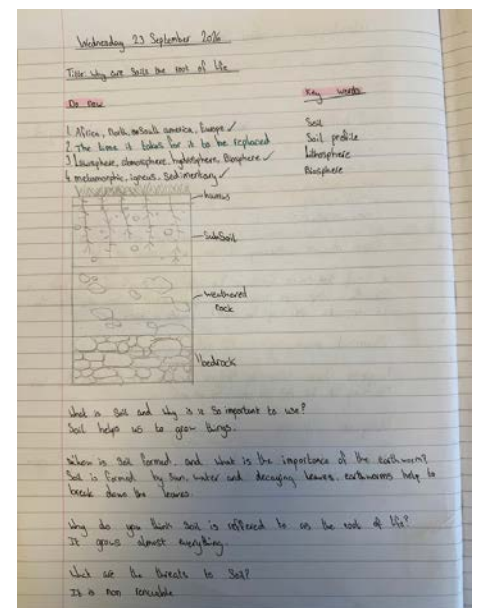
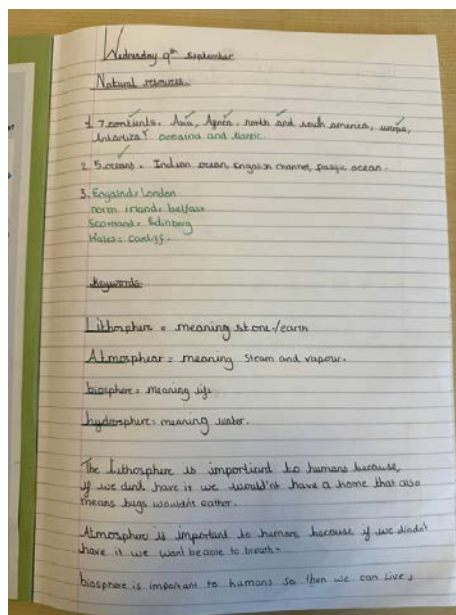
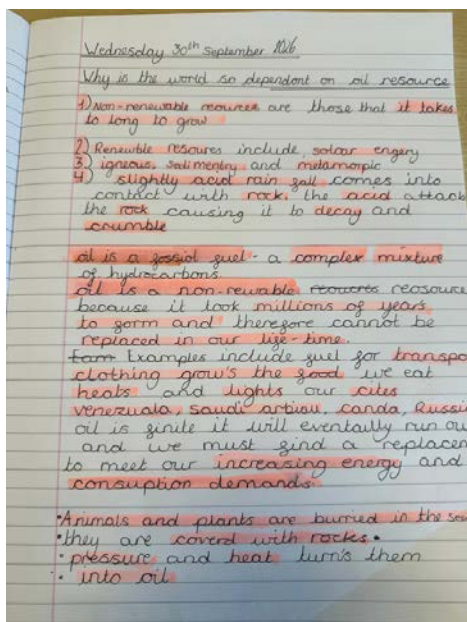
It's been an exciting start to the academic year in the Geography Department, with students exploring a wide range of physical and human environments while developing their understanding of the world around them.



 **Year 7** have been exploring Natural Resources, investigating how resources such as food, water and energy support life across the world. Students have examined why access to these resources is not equal, considering how factors such as climate, wealth and development can affect people's quality of life. Through real-world examples, they have begun to explore the challenges of sustainability and the importance of responsible resource use.

 **Year 8** have been studying Development, exploring the question: Why are some countries more developed than others? Students have investigated how factors such as education, healthcare, technology and infrastructure can influence development, while examining global patterns of inequality. Through case studies and data analysis, they have developed a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities faced by countries around the world.

 **Year 9** have been exploring the diverse continent of Africa, investigating both its opportunities and challenges. Students have examined the causes of poverty, challenged common misconceptions, and studied the continent's varied physical landscapes and ecosystems. A particular focus has been the Sahel, where they have explored how drought, desertification and food insecurity can affect people's lives.



CURRICULUM UPDATE GEOGRAPHY

A Journey Around Our World

 **Year 10** have begun their GCSE Geography studies with a unit on Coasts and Rivers, investigating the physical landscapes of the UK. Students have explored the processes of erosion, transportation and deposition, examining how these shape coastal and river environments over time. They have also considered the risks of flooding and coastal erosion, evaluating different management strategies used to protect people and places.

 **Year 11** have been studying the Challenge of Natural Hazards, exploring how earthquakes, volcanoes, tropical storms and climate change affect communities around the world. Students have investigated the causes of these hazards and examined how different countries predict, prepare for and respond to them. Through case studies, they have gained a deeper understanding of the challenges posed by an increasingly dynamic planet.

 Geography continues to help students make sense of an increasingly interconnected world, and our pupils have shown great curiosity, insight and enthusiasm as they explore the people, places and environments that shape our planet. 



GEOGRAPHY



FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Food Technology Update 🍴

Our Food Technology students have been busy developing their culinary skills this week.

Year 8 students have been learning how to make their own 'fakeaway' egg fried rice, helping them to create Chinese-inspired meals from scratch while developing confidence with key preparation and cooking techniques.

Year 9 students prepared a delicious Sweet and Sour Chicken, practising essential knife skills, food preparation techniques, and understanding how to balance flavours to create a popular classic dish.

Meanwhile, **Year 10 students** showcased their baking talents by making Apple Turnovers. Students worked on pastry-making techniques and presentation skills, producing golden, flaky pastries filled with sweet apple filling.

It was fantastic to see students building confidence in the kitchen while creating such tasty dishes. Well done to everyone involved! 🍴👏



OPEN EVENING

We had a fantastic Open Evening this week and it was wonderful to welcome so many families from our local community who are considering joining us in September.

We were delighted with the fantastic turnout and would like to say a huge thank you to all our staff and students who stayed late to make the evening such a success.

Over 85 students volunteered their time to showcase their school, share their experiences and answer questions from visiting parents and families. It was lovely to see so many of our students proudly representing the school and helping prospective families get a real feel for life here.

Thank you to everyone who came along and helped make it such a fabulous event, we look forward to welcoming our new students in September 2027.



www.westcraven.co.uk



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



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

BIKE TO SCHOOL WEEK – 12TH–16TH OCTOBER!

  **BIKE TO SCHOOL WEEK – 12th–16th October!**  

Our West Craven High School Eco Team is launching our Bike to School Week, encouraging students to bike, walk or scoot to school wherever possible!

There are lots of benefits to leaving the car at home:

-  Stay fit and healthy
-  Help reduce our impact on the environment
-  Reduce traffic around school
-  Save money on travel
-  Build confidence and independence
-  Support positive mood and wellbeing
-  Arrive at school feeling awake, refreshed and ready to learn!

This project has been led and promoted by our fantastic Eco Team, and we're also excited to have recently secured funding to develop and improve our bike shed outside school. We'll be getting started on this project shortly!
How can families support?

If you can, please encourage your child to come to school without using the car during 12th–16th October.

If you live too far away to walk, cycle or scoot the whole journey, why not park or drop off part-way and let your child complete the rest of the journey on foot, by bike or scooter?
We're also looking for donations of bike helmets and bike locks to help our students cycle safely and make the most of this project. If you have any suitable items you no longer need, please drop them off at school reception.

Let's see how many journeys we can make without the car and get West Craven moving!

Thank you for supporting our Eco Team and helping us make a positive difference to our school and environment.



West Craven High School
Bike to School Week
12th - 16th October 2026

Bike to School

We are encouraging our students to bike, walk or scoot to school to stay fit and healthy and help our environment.

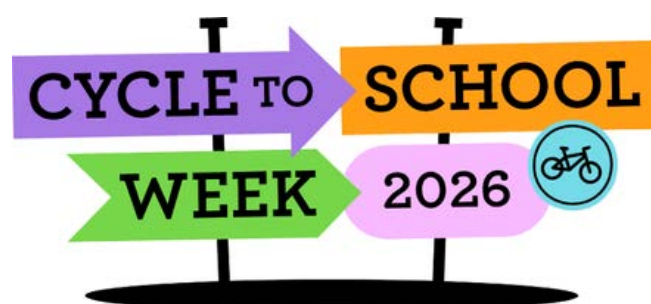
Why Bike to School

-  Boost your mood and wellbeing
-  Help the environment by reducing car journeys
-  Reduce traffic around school
-  Save money on travel
-  Build confidence and independence
-  Arrive feeling awake and ready to learn

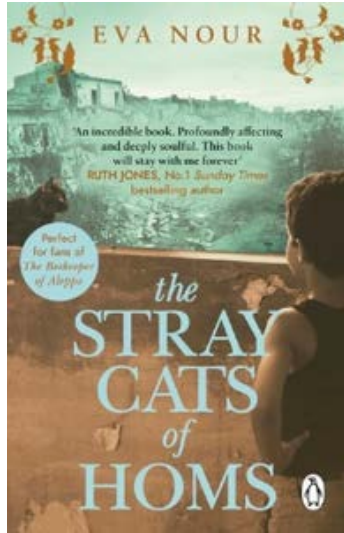
Can you help?

 **Can You Help Support Our Bike Project?**
We are looking for donations of bike helmets and bike locks to help support our students and encourage more young people to cycle to school safely. If you have any items you would be happy to donate, please drop them off at our school office.

Every donation, big or small, will make a real difference.
Thank you for your support!



WE ARE A READING ACADEMY

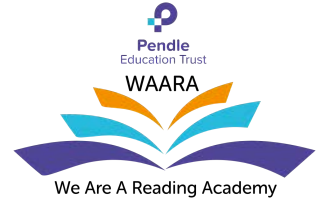


The librarian loves

The Stray Cats of Homs by Eva Nour. It is the story of the conflagration of Homs. It is a deeply moving and thought-provoking book.

Word of the Week

Exasperate is a verb meaning to cause irritation or annoyance.



Every October, we celebrate Black History Month to honour the incredible achievements, vibrant culture, and lasting contributions of Black individuals. To mark this important month, our library features a special display designed to inspire our pupils. It is an opportunity for them to explore and learn about the remarkable Black figures who have shaped our shared history.



National Poetry Day is marked on the 1st of October. There is a display of poetry books in the library, which you can enjoy sitting on the sofa in the sunshine.



COLLEGE OPEN EVENTS

arc.

Accrington
& Rossendale
College

DISCOVER YOUR EXTRAORDINARY

CONNECT TO ARC

Thinking about life after school?

Whether you're interested in T Levels, V Levels, Technical Courses or Apprenticeships, our Open Events are your chance to explore your options, discover new possibilities and find the path that's right for you.

OPEN EVENT DATES

2026

School Leaver Open Events

Tuesday 1 October – 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Tuesday 17 November – 5:30pm – 7:30pm

2027

School Leaver Open Events

Thursday 14 January – 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Apprenticeship Open Event

Thursday 11 February – 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Year 7-11 Event

Tuesday 15 June – 5:30pm – 7:30pm

New Student Day

Friday 25 June – 9:30am – 2:30pm TBC



**SCAN TO
BOOK NOW**

ncc.

Nelson & Colne
College

DISCOVER YOUR EXTRAORDINARY

CONNECT TO NCC

Thinking about life after school?

Whether you're interested in A Levels, T Levels, V Levels, Technical Courses or Apprenticeships, our Open Events are your chance to explore your options, discover new possibilities and find the path that's right for you.

OPEN EVENT DATES

2026

A Level Open Event

Saturday 26 September – 10:00am – 2:00pm

School Leaver Open Events

Thursday 8 October – 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Tuesday 10 November – 5:30pm – 7:30pm

2027

School Leaver Open Events

Tuesday 19 January – 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Apprenticeship Open Event

Tuesday 2 February – 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Year 7-11 Event

Thursday 10 June – 5:30pm – 7:30pm

New Student Day

Thursday 24 June – 9:30am – 2:30pm TBC



**SCAN TO
BOOK NOW**



www.westcraven.co.uk



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



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

EXTRA CURRICULAR – AUTUMN TERM 1

We are pleased to share details of our Autumn Term 1 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 Mrs Swinscoe & Mr Gilmour	Computing All Years Room G11			
					



EXTRA CURRICULAR – AUTUMN TERM 1

West Craven High School (Autumn Term 1)

After School Clubs



MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
Design Technology Room G7 				Art Room M10 
Year 10&11 Football Mr Wilson 3G Pitch 	YR 7 Football 3G Pitch Mr Foulds 		Year 8&9 Football Mr Cameron 3G Pitch 	
French Club Room G3 KS3 &4 	Amy's Dance Club Gym 		STEM Club Room G9 	
Library Homework club	Library Homework club	Library Homework club	Library Homework club	
Badminton Sports Hall Mr Wilson 	Band club Main Hall Mrs Swinscoe & Mr Gilmour 		SEN Homework Club Room G6 	
Year 7,8 & 9 Netball 3G Pitch A Bateman 			Crochet for beginners Room G6 	



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS – AUTUMN TERM 1



LEARN TO DANCE AT WEST CRAVEN HIGH SCHOOL

EVERY TUESDAY 3:30PM - 4:30PM- VENUE: GYM

SIGN UP TODAY

FREE



email: office@westcraven.co.uk

Places are limited, open to all year groups



www.westcraven.co.uk



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

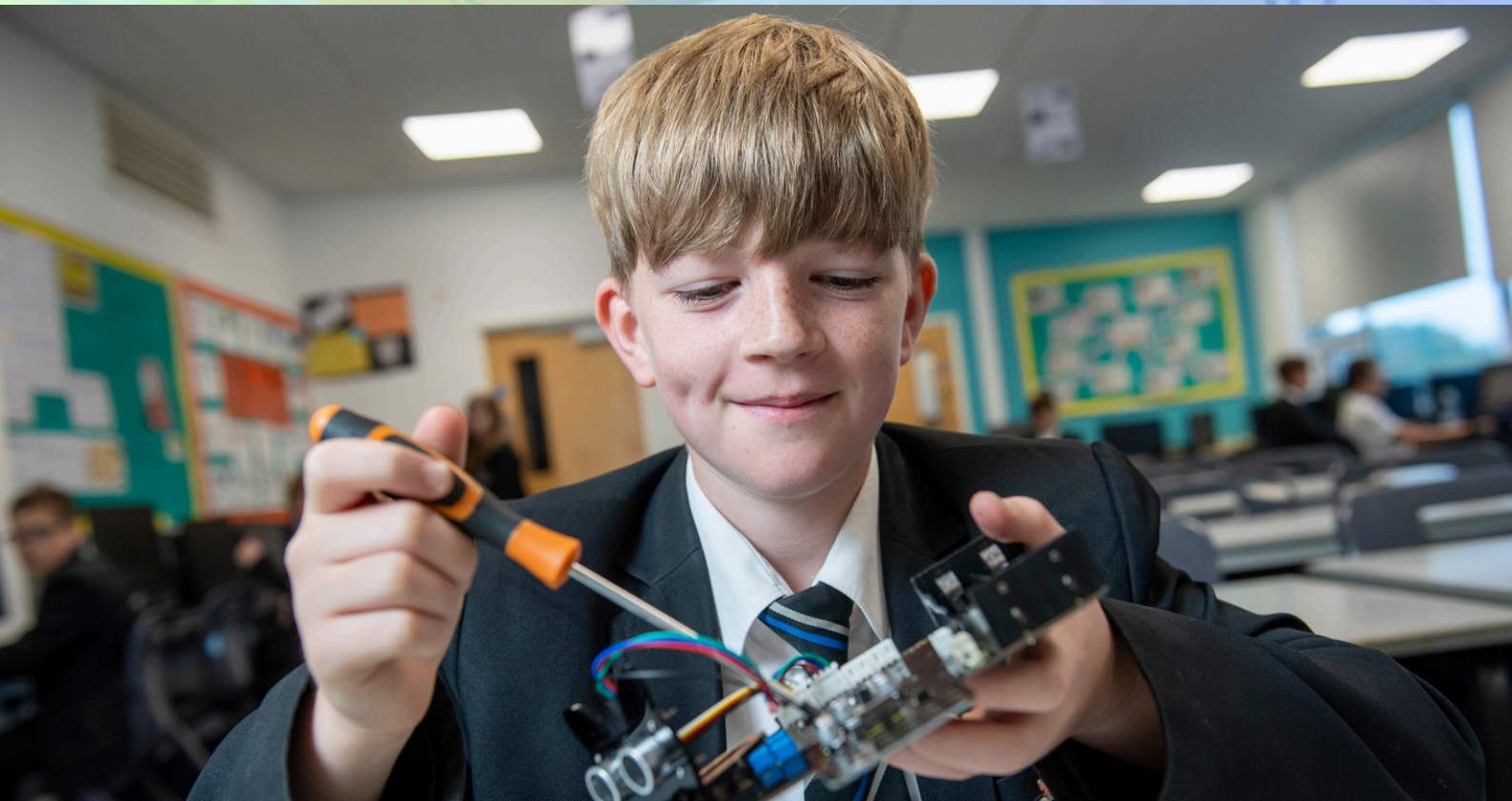
College Open Events 26/27

Summary

College Name	What do they offer?	When?
Nelson and Colne College	Vocational A-Levels T-Level Apprenticeship	<i>Saturday 26th September 2026 – 10.00am-2.00pm</i> <i>Thursday 8th October 2026 – 5.30pm-7.30pm</i> <i>Tuesday 10th November 2026 – 5.30pm-7.30pm</i> <i>Tuesday 19th January 2027 – 5.30pm-7.30pm</i> <i>Thursday 10th June 2027 - 5.30pm-7.30pm</i>
Accrington and Rossendale College	Vocational A-Levels T-Level Apprenticeship	<i>Thursday 1st October 2026 – 5.30pm-7.30pm</i> <i>Tuesday 17th November 2026 – 5.30pm-7.30pm</i> <i>Thursday 14th January 2027 – 5.30pm-7.30pm</i>
Burnley College	Vocational A-Levels T-Level Apprenticeship	<i>Thursday 24th September 2026 – 5.30pm-8.00pm</i> <i>Wednesday 21st October 2026 – 5.30pm-8.00pm</i> <i>Thursday 17th November 2026 – 5.30pm-8.00pm</i> <i>Tuesday 9th February 2027 – 5.30pm-8.00pm</i> <i>Wednesday 24th March 2027 – 5.30pm-8.00pm</i>
Craven College	Vocational T-Level Apprenticeship	<i>Monday 5th October 2026 – 5.30pm-7.30pm</i> <i>Wednesday 18th November 2026 - 5.30pm-7.30pm</i> <u><i>Aviation Academy Dates</i></u> <i>Wednesday 7th October 2026 – 6.00pm-7.30pm</i> <i>Thursday 8th October 2026 – 6.00pm-7.30pm</i> <i>Wednesday 14th October 2026 – 6.00pm-7.30pm</i> <i>Wednesday 18th November 2026 - 5.30pm-7.30pm</i> <i>Wednesday 25th November 2026 – 6.00pm-7.30pm</i> <i>Thursday 26th November 2026 – 6.00pm-7.30pm</i>
Myerscough College	Vocational T-Levels Apprenticeship	<i>Saturday 3rd October 2026 – 10.00am-1.00pm</i> <i>Saturday 21st November 2026 – 10.00am-1.00pm</i> <i>Saturday 6th February 2027 – 10.00am-1.00pm</i> <i>Saturday 17th April 2027 – 10.00am-1.00pm</i>
Training 2000	Apprenticeship	<i>Wednesday 27th January 2027 – 4.30pm-7.30pm</i> <i>Thursday 28th January 2027 – 4.30pm-7.30pm</i>

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

5th October – Y11 NCC College support sessions
Wednesday 7th October – Y11 Geography Fieldwork
Monday 12th October – Altru Drama Stem
Monday 19th October – NCC Lunchtime drop in
Friday 23rd October – End of half term
Monday 9th November – School Reopens
Thursday 26 November Star Awards Night at Colne Muni
Thursday 10 December – Year 11 parent evening
Wednesday 16 December – Christmas Concert
Tuesday 22 December – end of term – students 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



www.westcraven.co.uk



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



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

WE'RE GOING ON A BEAR HUNT!

Please bring your special bear!

Join us for a fun-filled family adventure inspired by the much-loved story *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*.

WE CAN'T
GO OVER IT

WE CAN'T
GO UNDER IT

OH NO!

WE'VE GOT TO
GO THROUGH IT!



- Explore the outdoors
- Bring your favourite teddy bear
- Fun activities and play
- All the family is welcome



TUESDAY
20TH OCTOBER

1:00PM – 3:00PM

at

BRIERFIELD
FAMILY HUB



WEDNESDAY
21ST OCTOBER

1:00PM – 3:00PM

at

VICTORIA PARK,
NELSON



FRIDAY
23RD OCTOBER

10:30AM – 12:30PM

at

ALKINCOATS PARK,
COLNE



Family Hub

Stronger families, brighter futures

"We're going on a bear hunt, we're
going to catch a big one!"

Come along for stories, outdoor adventures,
and family fun. Don't forget to bring
your special bear!

ALL THE
FAMILY IS
WELCOME!



East Lancashire Young People's Mental Health

**Concerned about your Mental Health?
Are you under 18 or concerned about
someone under 18?**

**Advice sessions are available on-line via
'Attend Anywhere'**

Delivered by CYPMH East
tinyurl.com/ELCAS-LSCFT



**Enter the word "CYPMH East" as the first name and "drop in" as the
second name followed by your date of birth.**

You will then enter our virtual waiting area where we will collect you.

Wednesday 7th October 2026

1pm – 3pm

Wednesday 14th October 2026

3pm – 5pm

Wednesday 21st October 2026

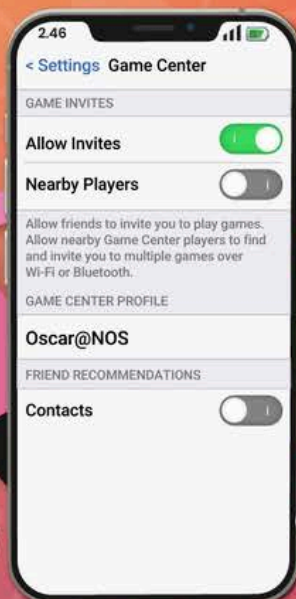
5pm – 7pm

Wednesday 28th October 2026

1pm – 3pm

How to Set up PARENTAL CONTROLS for APPS iPhone

Apple devices come with built-in apps already available: Mail, FaceTime and Safari, for example. However, you can choose which apps and features appear on your child's device and which ones don't. You can also manipulate the features in Game Centre to enhance your child's safety and privacy when playing games, as well as blocking iTunes or App Store purchases if you wish.



How to Restrict Built-in Apps/Features

- 1 Open Settings
- 2 Tap Screen Time
- 3 Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
- 4 Tap Allowed Apps (you may need to toggle this to 'on' at the top)
- 5 Enable or disable the apps you wish to appear (or disappear) on your child's device

How to Restrict Game Centre

- 1 Open Settings
- 2 Tap Screen Time
- 3 Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
- 4 Tap Content Restrictions (you may need to switch the toggle at the top to the 'on' position)
- 5 Scroll down to Game Centre
- 6 Choose between Allow, Don't Allow, or Allow with Friends Only in the settings for each feature

How to Restrict iTunes & App Store Purchases

- 1 Open Settings
- 2 Tap Screen Time
- 3 Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
- 4 Tap iTunes & App Store Purchases
- 5 Select Allow or Don't Allow for each feature (you can also lock these settings with a password)