

Dear Fulwood Families,

As the festive season approaches, I am delighted to reflect on the incredible achievements and memorable moments that have defined this term for our school community.

The spirit of generosity has been shining brightly at Fulwood. Our Festive Calendar of Kindness has inspired pupils to spread joy, compassion, and goodwill throughout the community, reflecting our core values "We Care, We Challenge, We Commit". We have delivered beautifully crafted baubles made by our talented pupils to local residents, care packages for the emergency services, and our choir has performed at a number of local events.

This term, we celebrated Anti-Bullying Week, reinforcing the importance of kindness, inclusion, and respect in our community, through assemblies, workshops, and classroom activities, pupils explored ways to stand against bullying and foster a supportive environment for everyone.

Year 11 pupils have been working diligently toward their GCSEs, taking full advantage of targeted learning opportunities both after school and during drop-down days. These sessions provide essential support as they prepare for exams. Intervention sessions resume after Christmas, every evening after school. Pupils can utilise the late bus, which departs at 4:00 pm. Additionally, pupils have benefitted from career guidance to help them explore their future pathways, with guest speakers and career planning workshops, we aim to equip our pupils with the skills and confidence to make informed choices about their futures.

Our Christmas Concert was a heartwarming showcase of the talent and creativity of our pupils, bringing the community together in festive cheer. We also hosted the Fulwood Family Festive Meal, a wonderful occasion that united pupils, staff, and families in a celebration of togetherness, and holiday spirit. A big thank you to everyone who helped make this event a success!

On the sports front, pupils have achieved remarkable success, across various sporting fixtures. The commitment, teamwork, and sportsmanship are a testament to the values we uphold at Fulwood. A huge thank you to our talented PE staff who go the extra mile to ensure pupils can access a variety of sporting clubs.

As we move into the spring term, we are sorry to say goodbye to Mr Zulfiqar, who is relocating with his family, we would like to thank him for everything he has done to support our pupils and wish him all the best for the future. On behalf of the entire Fulwood family, I wish you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas filled with joy, laughter, and cherished moments together. Thank you for your continued partnership in making our school community thrive.

Wishing you a restful holiday and an exciting start to the new year!

Mr A. Galbraith
Principal



FOCUS: HOMELEARNING

As part of our commitment to supporting pupils academic progress in **KS3**, we have partnered with Sparx Homework platform for Maths, English, and Science. This platform offers pupils a clear, structured approach to completing homework online.

Homework details:

- Maths: Homework is set on Mondays
- English: Homework is set on Tuesdays
- Science: Homework is set on Wednesdays

This will all be set on the SPARX platform.



Deadline: All homework must be submitted the following week by 8.00am - (for example- Maths by 08:00am on Monday, English by 08:00am on Tuesday, Science by 08:00am on Wednesday)

Time Allocation: Each subject's homework should take approximately 15-45 minutes to complete.

Access Requirements: Pupils will need a device and internet connection to complete their homework.

Support and Assistance If you require any support with completion of homework, please contact your child's subject teacher. If your child requires additional time or assistance with homework a Homework Club is available until 4:00pm in school, each weekday.

Compulsory Catch-up To support pupils who miss homework deadlines, we run a "Compulsory Catch-up" session every weekday for respective subjects, after school. Monday (Maths), Tuesday (English) and Wednesday (Science). This session is for pupils who have not completed their homework on time, allowing them catch up.

Parental Role Your support and involvement in ensuring your child completes their homework is essential in our learning partnership and key to keeping them on track. Please ensure homework is submitted by the deadlines.

Login Information Your child's login for Sparx Homework is the same as their school login. Should there be any issues with access, pupils should speak with their form tutor, who can assist with resetting their password.

Thank you for your continued support in helping your child succeed in their studies. If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

GCSE POD KS4

What is GCSE Pod?

An online platform with short, focused videos (Pods) that cover key topics for GCSE subjects. These are designed to help you revise effectively and achieve your potential.

Engage Regularly

- **Watch at least 15-20 Pods per week** across your subjects.
- Use Pods to consolidate class learning and for independent revision.



Homework and Revision

- Check Class Charts for assigned Pods related to your topics. Use your QLA when deciding what pods to watch.
- Use Pods to create revision cards, notes and mind maps to strengthen understanding.

Use GCSE Pod to Prepare for Exams

- Focus on Pods for topics you find challenging.
- Revisit Pods regularly for spaced revision.
- Complete quizzes and assessments linked to Pods.



PE THIS TERM

A Fantastic Term for Fulwood PE

It has been another exciting and successful term for Fulwood PE! We've seen remarkable progress across all year groups, with pupils engaging in a broad range of sporting activities as part of our diverse PE curriculum.

The enthusiasm and motivation our pupils continue to show in their learning is truly inspiring. We've received fantastic feedback from pupils about the enjoyment and sense of self-accomplishment they feel during their PE lessons. It's clear that they are not only developing their skills but also having fun!

Our extra-curricular activities have been a huge success, with high attendance and excellent achievements from our sports teams. You can find details about individual team accomplishments and the extra-curricular plan for the next term below.

As always, we welcome any discussions about PE and sport, so feel free to reach out if you have any questions. Wishing you all a wonderful holiday season!

Mrs. Bytyqi
Head of Physical Education

Under 12, Under 14 & Under 16 Badminton tournament.

Fulwood recently hosted a Preston Schools Badminton Tournament with schools competing against one another. Our teams showcased great skill and determination, we're very proud of our **year 11** leaders who helped to organise and umpire the event, and our amazing Under 12 team who emerged victorious!

Our teams performed admirably, achieving strong results across all age categories. The enthusiasm and commitment demonstrated by all participants contributed to the overall success of the tournament, and we couldn't be prouder of their efforts.

The Under 12 girls' football team has had an impressive half term! They work incredibly well together as a team, showing great determination, and sportsmanship. The girls won several matches, and should all be extremely proud of their performances.

The effort and commitment on the field has been outstanding, and it's been a joy to watch them grow as players and a team, we're incredibly proud of their achievements and look forward to seeing even more success in the future

The Year 7 and 8 netball teams have been competing in matches against other schools in the area this half term. Both teams have shown incredible effort and dedication, working hard during each match. It's been amazing to see how much they've improved week by week. Their commitment to developing their skills and working together as a team has been evident, and their progress has been impressive. We are very proud of their achievements and look forward to playing even more netball fixtures in the new year.



PE THIS TERM

The Year 7 boys football teams competed against other local schools at Corpus Christi High School, showing incredible talent and sportsmanship throughout the event.

The Both teams also played exceptionally well, impressing everyone with their determination and performance on the field, with one coming close to making the final, all making us proud.

The Year 8 football team has done brilliantly in the Preston Schools League, showing exceptional skill and determination throughout the competition.

Rugby

Rugby practice has been very well attended by all year groups and pupils have shown great enthusiasm and commitment. In addition to the regular sessions, a team competed at Preston Grasshoppers, showcasing their skills and determination on the field.

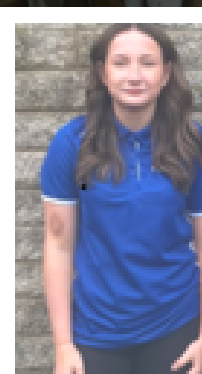
The team's performance in the competition was a testament to the hard work and dedication they have shown in practice. We look forward to more opportunities for our players to grow and succeed in future competitions!

Basketball

Myerscough College have been supporting us to deliver basketball sessions to boys and girls in Year 9. The pupils have thoroughly enjoyed the sessions, it's a great opportunity to develop their basketball skills.

We look forward to welcoming Myerscough College back after Christmas for more exciting sessions, as our pupils have shown great enthusiasm and progress during this time.

Finally, a huge well done to our pupils who have been selected to for the Preston schools football team and town teams!



PE - Extra-Curricular Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
All Years (32 spaces) Badminton Club 3.05pm-4.05pm MHO/KYB	Years 7-10 Girls Netball Practice	Year 7 and 8 Boys Basketball Practice 3.05pm-4.05pm CMA/MHO		
Year 9 and 10 Boys Football Practice 3.05pm-4.05pm CMA	Year 7 and 8 Girls Netball Fixtures	Year 7 and 8 Girls Netball Fixtures	Year 11 Intervention Health and Fitness Dance 3.05pm-4.05pm	



EVENTS

FESTIVE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

This December, our Fulwood family came together to celebrate the season of giving, kindness and community through a series of heartwarming events. Here's a summary of what made this festive season so special:

Fulwood Family Dinner – 4th December

We kicked off the festivities with our Fulwood Family Meal, beautifully prepared by our talented pupils and staff. Parents joined us for a delicious dinner, creating a wonderful atmosphere of togetherness, just ahead of our magical Carol Concert. It was a joy to see so many smiling faces sharing this special moment.

Winter Warmer – Week of 9th December

We opened our doors to local residents for a cozy Winter Warmer featuring coffee and mince pies. This event offered a chance for our community to come together, chat, and enjoy a warm treat prepared by our staff and pupils. Thank you to everyone who dropped in—we loved seeing the positive engagement on our social media platforms and the connections made with our local neighbours.

Care in the Community – Week of 15th December

The final week of our Festive Calendar was dedicated to giving back. Pupils and staff created Christmas cards, handmade baubles, and care packages for the Police, Preston Hospital, and Ambulance Services. Additionally, we reached out to local residents who had requested baubles through our social media platforms. Each evening after school, our Fulwood family worked tirelessly to ensure these thoughtful gifts were ready to spread holiday cheer.

Thank you to everyone who participated and supported these events. Your involvement made our Festive Calendar a true reflection of the kindness and generosity that defines our Fulwood community. Here's to carrying this spirit of togetherness into the new year!

Christmas Concert

✨Magical moments at our Celebration of Christmas Concert ✨

It was wonderful to see everyone come together for our celebration with our fantastic pupils at this year's Christmas Concert. There were a number of enchanting performances and heartwarming moments, it really was a night filled with joy and Christmas spirit. The choir's angelic voices filled the room, instrumentalists transported us to magical realms and the readings of poems touched every soul.

We are extremely proud of our pupils, their dedication and passion was evident. Well done & Thank you to everyone who made the festive evening a truly magical experience!

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2024

Anti-Bullying Week 2024 was a successful and exciting week demonstrating how our school is committed to fostering a safe and inclusive environment for all pupils.

This year, we hosted a marketing competition, encouraging creativity as pupils expressed their support against bullying and held the annual 'Odd Socks Day' with some hilarious results from both staff and pupils!

Our pupils anti-bullying ambassadors created and led assemblies across school, raising awareness and promoting kindness throughout the school community. We are excited to announce the recruitment of new anti-bullying ambassadors for the academic year, providing pupils with the opportunity to take an active role in combating bullying. Together, we can continue our culture of kindness and respect at our school.



TRIPS

Oxford Queens College

This was our second year offering **Yr10** pupils a firsthand look at what life at Oxford University entails, from the grandeur of its iconic architecture to the vibrant intellectual atmosphere that fills its halls. Pupils were given a tour of the college's grounds including the stunning library, chapel, and lecture theatres.

One highlight was the chance to engage with current Oxford University students. These conversations provided a unique glimpse into the realities of student life, with topics ranging from academic challenges to extra-curricular opportunities and balancing workloads with social activities.

The pupils engaged fully, asking insightful questions about the application process, what motivated the students to choose Oxford, and how they adjusted to the demands of university life. Hearing directly from students brought a sense of relatability and excitement about future possibilities.

The visit concluded with a deeper appreciation for what pursuing higher education at a top university can look like. Pupils left Queen's College not only with a better understanding of the academic rigor and opportunities available but also with a sense of inspiration to aim high and consider all possibilities for their future education. The trip was both informative and motivating, sparking discussions back at school about aspirations, study habits, and the importance of determination.



BAE SYSTEMS

BAE SYSTEMS APPRENTICESHIP DAY

As part of our continued work in Future Aspirations, a group of Yr11 pupils were selected to visit BAE Systems, Academy for Skills and Knowledge Unit.

The packed day included presentations about apprenticeships, a visit to the training hangars, Virtual Reality (VR) demonstrations, education market stalls for all of the different schemes available and an opportunity to speak to trainees currently on the apprenticeship scheme.

Our pupils were given a real insight in to the wide ranging opportunities available and found the day extremely useful. If you require any further information about the apprenticeships available then please speak to **Mrs Hughes**.

ASK Academy
for Skills &
Knowledge



WE CARE WE CHALLENGE WE COMMIT



AI Champions Club

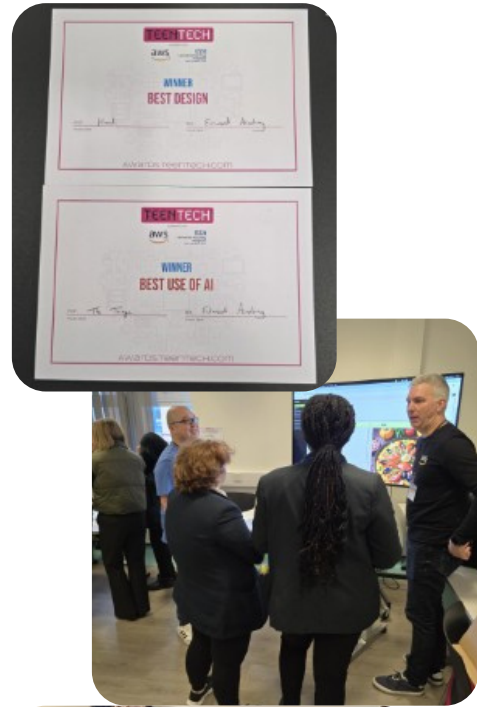
Year 9 AI Champions Shine at TeenTech NHS Innovation Day

On Monday 25th November, a group of the Yr 9 AI Champions had the unique opportunity to attend the **TeenTech NHS Innovation Day at Preston Hospital**.

The event, organised by TeenTech and hosted by the NHS with support from AWS (Amazon Web Services), was an inspiring platform for pupils to explore the intersection of healthcare and technology. The day started with a warm welcome session, setting the stage for a packed agenda filled with innovation, collaboration, and hands-on learning.

Pupils were divided into two groups to rotate through a series of engaging tech demonstrations led by expert teams from the hospital, AWS, and the TeenTech Innovators of Tomorrow workshop. These activities gave pupils an up-close look at cutting-edge technologies being applied in healthcare, from artificial intelligence to advanced medical equipment. The highlight of the day was the opportunity for pupils to develop and present their own innovative ideas to a panel of industry professionals. Impressively, the AI Champions were successful in their projects, devising solutions to help the NHS use AI to reduce appointment waiting times. Their creativity and technical insight earned them two awards: Best Design and Best Use of AI, a testament to their talent and hard work.

The excitement doesn't end here! TeenTech will be hosting another event in June at Edge Hill University, and our Yr 9 pupils are already signed up to participate. With such opportunities on the horizon, the AI Champions are continuing to build their knowledge and skills, cementing their passion for technology and innovation. Events like these not only inspire young minds but also pave the way for the future leaders of the tech and healthcare industries



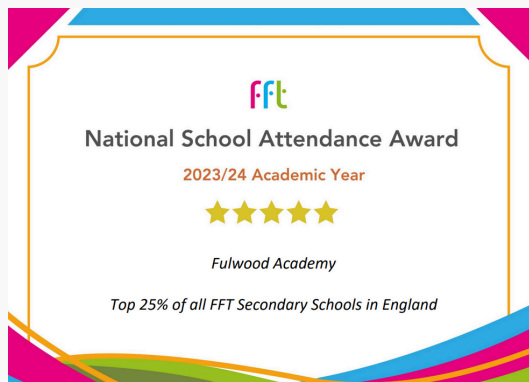
Year 9 AI Champions Inspired by Public Speaking Masterclass with Mark Hudson

Year 9 AI Champions had the privilege of attending a streamed session on Wednesday 20th November on public speaking led by Mark Hudson, **Head of Creative Diversity at NEWS UK**.

Mark captivated his audience by sharing personal stories from his illustrious career, including his early days as a reporter where he interviewed global icons such as Beyoncé and high-profile politicians. He emphasized the importance of developing the skills to speak confidently and adapt to diverse audiences, drawing from his own experiences of presenting in dynamic and challenging settings. His passion for storytelling and connection left a lasting impression on the pupils.

During the session, the pupils eagerly noted down Mark's valuable tips for mastering public speaking, which ranged from structuring speeches effectively to using humour as a tool to ease nerves and build rapport. Inspired by his insights, the Year 9 AI Champions are now preparing to put these skills into practice as they gear up to present their projects in April next year. The event was not just a lesson in communication but a call to embrace confidence, creativity, and adaptability—qualities that will undoubtedly serve them well in their journey as future AI leaders.



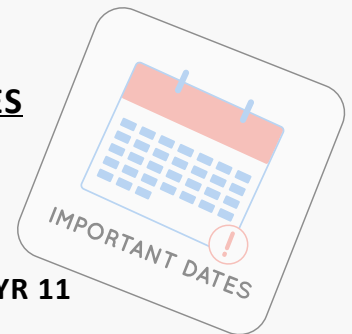


Attendance

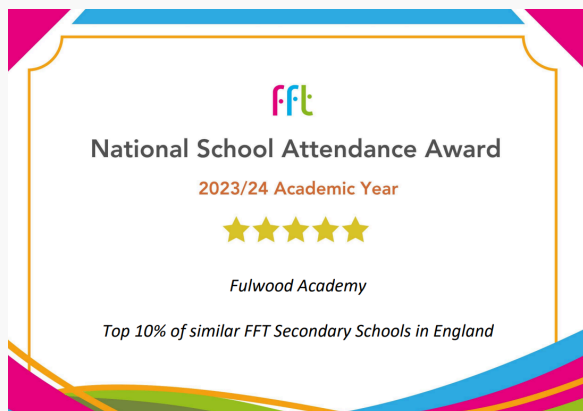
We place a strong emphasis on the importance of regular attendance to ensure every child can succeed. Consistent and punctual attendance plays a crucial role in fostering a positive learning environment and enabling your child to reach their full potential.

We expect attendance to be maintained at 95% or above. Please note that any unauthorised absences may lead to attendance monitoring and, where necessary, the implementation of formal procedures in line with school and local authority guidelines.

IMPORTANT DATES



- **Mon 6th Jan - School reopens**
- **Mon 6th Jan - SMART Week**
- **Weds 8th Jan - SMART DAY**
- **Fri 10th Jan - Geography Field Trip YR 11**
- **Sun 12th Jan - London AI Trip**
- **Weds 15th Jan - Runshaw College Admissions Interviews**
- **Thurs 23rd Jan - YR 9 Parents Evening**
- **Tues 28th Jan - Preston College Admissions Interviews**
- **Mon 3rd Feb - PE Trip to Burnley College**
- **Thurs 13th Feb - Paris Trip**
- **Friday 14th Feb - Finish for Half Term**



Safeguarding

At Fulwood we are dedicated to ensuring that all pupils feel safe, cared for and happy. Safeguarding the pupils is at the centre of everything we do each day.

Through regular training we ensure staff have the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to keep our pupils safe. Our Designated Safeguarding Lead (Child Protection Officer) within Fulwood Academy provides support to staff members to carry out their safeguarding responsibilities and liaises closely with other services such as children's social care, health care services and the police.

Our staff are trained to be vigilant for all kinds of safeguarding concerns, including bullying, online safety, emotional or other abuse or extremist behaviour. All staff follow our clear policies and procedures when any potential safeguarding concerns are identified.

USEFUL NUMBERS

Preston Safeguarding Hub: **0300 123 6720** or out of hours **0300 123 6722** (5pm - 8am)

Food banks: Salvation Army - **01772 555425**, Luv Preston - **01772 298107** Noor Food Bank - **07921 887383** or **07764 432643**

Kooth is an anonymous site which helps children and young people to feel safe and confident in exploring their concerns and seeking professional support. Log on to [Kooth.com](https://www.kooth.com)

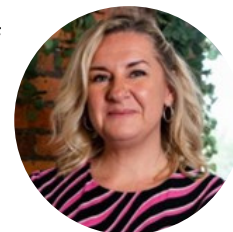
Childline - Get help and advice about a wide range of issues, call us on **0800 1111**, talk to a counsellor online

Shout offers confidential crisis support 24/7. Text SHOUT to **85258**



Trustee Update

The Trust remains committed to providing effective leadership and ensuring the best possible outcomes for our schools and communities. In our last newsletter, I introduced Abdul Yousef, one of our new trustees. I am now delighted to share that two additional trustees have joined the Board, each bringing valuable expertise that is already proving to be a tremendous asset.



Clare Harrison, Chief Operating Officer at a large company, is contributing her expertise to enhance and streamline the Trust's operational planning. Her insights are helping to shape a more efficient and effective framework for our schools.



Claire Ross, Head of Employee Experience at PXC, brings extensive experience in stakeholder engagement. One of the Board's key duties is maintaining strategic oversight of relationships with parents, schools, and local communities. Claire's background ensures that decision-making is informed by meaningful and inclusive engagement with all stakeholders.

I had the pleasure of spending a day in school on 10th December, which included two inspiring meetings with pupils. One highlight was judging the Trust's Christmas card competition.



The task was exceptionally challenging, given the outstanding talent displayed by our young artists at Fulwood. The entries were of an incredibly high standard, and it was a difficult decision to choose a winner. All finalists were recognized with Five Guys vouchers generously donated by Sir Charles.



A group of pupils selected by the school joined me for lunch at the Italian Orchard. These pupils were chosen for various reasons, including exceptional progress, embodying the Trust's values, and achieving outstanding attendance and punctuality. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the meal, choosing different dishes including spaghetti bolognese, lasagne, chicken cacciatore, and pizzas being among the favourites. The pupils were also rewarded with Five Guys vouchers, so a double treat for them!



The feedback about Fulwood was overwhelmingly positive. Pupils expressed gratitude for their teachers, highlighting their dedication and kindness. One pupil, who attended despite having a dislocated shoulder, particularly praised his math's teacher for consistently checking in to ensure his comfort and offering help when needed. This was truly heartwarming feedback.

Thank You and Acknowledgments

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to the pupils and staff at Fulwood for their hard work and resilience during what has been a challenging term. The Trust is actively collaborating with the school to improve outcomes, and I know from our meetings and the feedback received that everyone is striving hard to meet the ambitious targets set. Your dedication and efforts are greatly appreciated.

To our parents, thank you for stepping up, engaging more with the school, and providing invaluable support to your children. Your involvement plays a vital role in enhancing their educational outcomes.
Season's Greetings

As we approach the festive season, I want to wish you all a wonderful and enjoyable Christmas and a Happy New Year. Let's continue to work together to achieve even greater success in the coming year!

Joan Dean
Chair, Dunstone Education Trust

