

NEWSLETTER

MAY HALF TERM 2025



Dear Parents, Carers, and Pupils,

As we approach the end of the first half of the summer term, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the many achievements, opportunities, and important moments that have shaped the last few weeks here at school. This half term has been a vibrant one, full of learning both in and beyond the classroom. From academic enrichment to personal development, our pupils continue to make us proud with their enthusiasm, engagement, and success.

Celebrating Enrichment and Achievement

The past few weeks have been packed with exciting opportunities and accomplishments:

- Water Safety Assemblies delivered with key messages as we head toward summer.
- Girls participated in the inspiring Girls Active event at West View to empower girls to confidently stay active
- Girls in Tech Mentoring programme continued going from strength to strength in preparation for final presentations
- Year 10 students gained valuable insight into University life during their visit to UCLan.
- Sports Leaders have been outstanding, supporting local primary school events.
- A number of students earned their Handball Leader Qualification, showing great dedication, initiative and teamwork.
- Our Year 8 Football Team were crowned Preston Cup Champions! A huge congratulations to them as back-to-back winners
- The English department led a creative and enriching visit to see a live production of Shakespeare's - The Tempest.
- A group of students visited London as part of the AI project, giving them a memorable cultural and educational experience.

Year 11 – GCSE Exams Underway

We are incredibly proud of our Year 11 pupils, who began their GCSE exams and are approaching the halfway point. Their determination, maturity, resilience and calm focus has been commendable. They have impressed staff and invigilators by the way they are approaching this important period. We wish them the very best of luck as they continue through the exam season. They have our full support every step of the way.

Looking Ahead: Summer 2 Highlights

As we look to the second half of the summer term, I'd like to remind you of two key upcoming events:

- **SMART Week – Commencing 7th July:** A dedicated week of cross-curricular, skills-based learning and personal development. Students will take part in a wide range of engaging activities designed to inspire, challenge, and connect their learning to real-life contexts.
- **Year 10 Work Experience:** We are excited for our Year 10 students who will embark on Work Experience placements during the summer term. This is a valuable opportunity for them to gain insights into the world of work, develop employability skills, and explore possible career paths. Thank you to all the parents and local businesses who are supporting our students.

As we head into the half-term break, I want to thank you all – pupils, parents, carers, and staff – for your continued support and commitment. Our Fulwood community thrives because of the collective effort and shared values that underpin everything we do. I wish you all a restful, safe, and enjoyable half-term holiday.

Warm regards,

Mr A Galbraith
Principal

PE THIS TERM

Preston Cup 2025 - Champions



Our **Year 8 Football team** were victorious once more, following a tough final game against Ashton at Preston North End's, Deepdale Stadium. The boys fought to the last second **winning 4-3**. This follows on from the team winning the same tournament in Year 7, a phenomenal achievement to be back-to-back winners!

Well done 'Champions' and thank you to Mr Mason and everyone who supported the boys.



Handball Leaders Award

Well done to our 25 newly qualified Handball coaches. To qualify the pupils spent the day taking part in a number of Handball activities including game play, passing, dribbling and shooting before preparing a 5 - 10 minute session to deliver to their peers.

All pupils rose to the **challenge** and were delighted to receive their certificates at the end of the day

Amazing!



PE THIS TERM

Sports Leaders - YR10



🎉 **A huge congratulations to our Year 10 Sports Leaders!** 🎉

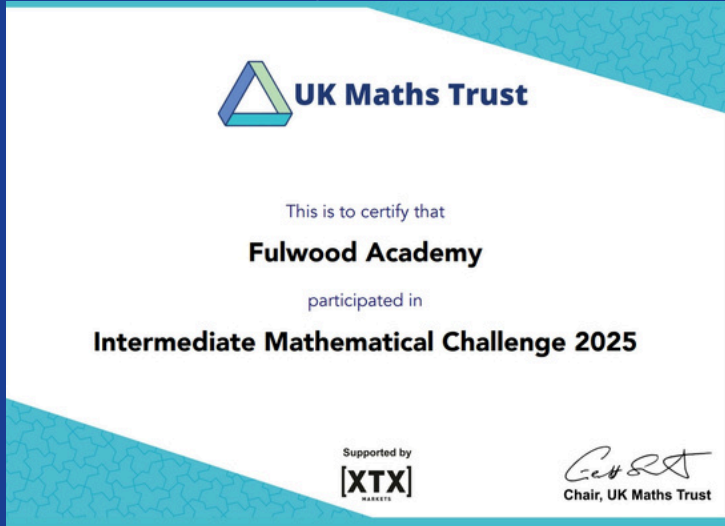
After completing their training, 12 pupils in Year 10 have now been awarded their Boccia Certificates 🏆👏
 Boccia (pronounced 'Bot-cha') is a Paralympic sport introduced in 1984. Boccia is a precision ball sport, similar to bocce, and related to bowls and pétanque. A fantastic achievement that will help them lead and support inclusive sports in our school and beyond!

Well done to all involved! 👏👏

Summer Term 2 - After School Clubs

PE - Extra-Curricular Timetable				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Fixtures
All Years Tennis Club 3.05pm-4.05pm	All Years Rounders Club 3.05pm-4.05pm	All Years Softball Club 3.05pm-4.05pm		Boys Cricket Athletics Meets
All Years Cricket Club 3.05pm-4.05pm		All Years Athletics Club 3.05pm-4.05pm		Girls Athletics Meets





Year 8 - UK Maths Trust Challenge.

We are extremely proud to announce that out of the 40 pupils who entered the UK Maths Trust challenge, 20 received a bronze award, 3 received silver and 2 gained the top spot with gold!

UKMT is a 60 minute challenge which encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought and fluency to make students think. The problems on the Maths Challenge are designed to make students think, most are accessible yet still challenge those with more mathematical experience.

Only 8% of all entrants overall receive Gold Award.

Girls In Tech - Project

Our Girls In Tech programme has been extremely busy this half term. The girls are working hard to design their Apps ready for presenting at the end of June.

On Friday 9th May we welcomed the mentors for Talk Talk to the academy and the group sent a valuable morning exploring ways to improve and advance their app designs.

In June we will have our final visit to the Hut Group to meet industry specialists ahead of the final presentations.



Media Literacy Ambassadors


A group of Year 9 and 10 pupils were selected to attend UCLAN, as part of the Guardian Foundation Project, to train to become **Media Literacy Ambassadors**.

The pupils spent the full day training to spot fake news online and also spot the difference between mis and disinformation. Following this training, pupils will be looking to share this knowledge with younger year groups.

Our Media Literacy Ambassadors represented the school exceptionally well and looking forward to honing their presentation and delivery skills.

Water Safety

Thank you to Lancashire Fire & Rescue who have delivered assemblies on the importance of Water Safety

 Pupils gained vital knowledge to help keep them safe around water — especially as summer approaches.



AI Champions Impress Industry Leaders at News UK

On a truly memorable day in London, our Year 9 AI Champions travelled to the headquarters of News UK to present their AI projects to a panel of senior industry figures – including CEO Rebekah Brooks, Chief Technology Officer Tom Jackson, and our academy sponsor, Sir Charles Dunstone.

This event marked the culmination of months of hard work and creative thinking. Each team developed a unique AI solution to support pupils in school and confidently shared their ideas in a professional setting.

The winning team presented an impressive chatbot designed to help Year 7 pupils with their Maths home learning. Their presentation was clear, thoughtful, and technically impressive – and they were absolutely thrilled to receive brand new laptops as their prize.

Three pupils were also recognised with special mentions for their outstanding individual contributions. Each of these pupils was also awarded a laptop in recognition of their dedication and creativity.

The runner-up team created a brilliant chatbot aimed at supporting Year 6 pupils with the transition to secondary school. Their fantastic efforts were rewarded with Amazon gift cards and tickets to top Blackpool attractions.

All pupils represented the Academy with maturity, enthusiasm and a clear passion for innovation. Their confidence and teamwork were praised by the panel, and it was a proud moment for staff and pupils alike.

A huge thank you to News UK for their ongoing support of our AI Champions programme, and to Rebekah Brooks, Tom Jackson, and Sir Charles Dunstone for giving up their time to inspire and encourage the next generation of AI innovators.



YEAR 11 & ASSESSMENTS

HALF TERM INTERVENTIONS

May Half Term Revision Session

Please ensure that you bring a packed lunch - drinks and snacks will be provided

For every day you attend you will receive a **£1** off your prom ticket


Date	Day	Morning Session 10.00am to 12.00pm	Afternoon Session 12.30pm to 2.30pm	Online Subject & Time	Subject & Time
24 th May	Saturday				
25 th May	Sunday				
26 th May	Monday				
27 th May	Tuesday	History - Mr Plant	Maths - Mrs Webster		
28 th May	Wednesday	English - Mrs Anderson & Miss Cotton	English - Mrs Anderson & Miss Cotton		
29 th May	Thursday	Geography - Miss Morrison	Geography - Miss Morrison		
30 th May	Friday	Science - All groups	Science - (Biology - Triple Only)		
31 st May	Saturday	English - Mr Mclinden			
1 st June	Sunday				Maths 7.30pm - Mr Harwood

We are incredibly proud of the way in which Year 11 have conducted themselves during the start of the GCSE exams. They are approaching the halfway point now and they have displayed maturity, calmness and great resilience.

As the exams continue after half term please ensure that the pupils are well prepared and taking advantage of the interventions available, especially these in the half-term break.

If you or your child needs any support during this time then please contact the Academy.

Home Learning Plans Updated for AP3!

All Home Learning Plans on the Fulwood Academy website have now been updated to support your child's learning in preparation for AP3. 

AP3 Dates

- YR 7 - 9th June - 20th June
- YR 8 - 9th June - 20th June
- YR 9 - 12th May - 19th May
- YR 10 - 12th May - 23rd May

To access these:

- 1 Click the Education tab on our website.
- 2 Select the Curriculum tab.
- 3 Choose a subject from the list of all the fantastic subjects we teach at Fulwood Academy.
- 4 Find the updated Home Learning Plans under Term 3. These resources are designed to help pupils stay on track and succeed in their studies.

Check them out today! 

A huge congratulations to the 650 pupils who have improved their attendance this half term! Well done

Attendance Goals for Next Term

Our target for next term is to achieve a **whole-school** attendance rate of 95%. Let's work together to make this happen! Remember, everyday counts!

At the end of next term, we will host our Attendance Celebration Assembly, where we will recognise students, Tutor groups, and Year groups with outstanding attendance. Prizes include certificates, gift vouchers, and more!

Remember that pupils need 100% attendance to go on the Rewards Experience at the end of the Year.

Attendance	Days Absent	Attendance	Days Absent	Attendance	Days Absent	Attendance	Days Absent	Attendance	Days Absent
100%	0	90%	19	80%	38	70%	57	60%	76
99%	2	89%	21	79%	40	69%	59	59%	78
98%	4	88%	23	78%	42	68%	61	58%	80
97%	6	87%	25	77%	44	67%	63	57%	82
96%	8	86%	27	76%	46	66%	65	56%	84
95%	10	85%	28	75%	48	65%	66	55%	85
94%	11	84%	30	74%	49	64%	68	54%	87
93%	13	83%	32	73%	51	63%	70	53%	89
92%	15	82%	34	72%	53	62%	72	52%	91
91%	17	81%	36	71%	55	61%	74	51%	93

Uniform, Equipment & Homework Expectations

A reminder that pupils must adhere to the school uniform policy at all times. All pupils must bring a bag to school every day. Pupils may wear only one pair of stud earrings and a watch. False eyelashes, false nails and blemish patches are not permitted. Additionally, several pupils are without ties—these are available from the equipment shop for £6.50 and should be replaced as soon as possible.

For Key Stage 3 pupils, homework deadlines each week are as follows:

Maths – **Deadline 8am Monday morning**

English – **Deadline 8am Tuesday morning**

Science – **Deadline 8am Wednesday morning**

Pupils have one week to complete each homework task. Failure to complete homework on time will result in a one-hour after-school detention. Please encourage your child to manage their time effectively and complete their assignments punctually.

Up Coming Dates

Monday 2nd June - Return to School

Wednesday 4th June - Blackpool Zoo Trip - selected YR10

Wednesday 10th June - Girls in Tech - HUT Group Visit & Digital Advantage Project Presentation

Wednesday 18th June - City Sports

Thursday 19th June - Runshaw College Taster Day - YR10

Friday 20th June - Sir Charles Dunstone Primary Football Tournament

Tuesday 24th June - Cleveleys Trip

Friday 27th June - Inset Day

Monday 30th June - Girls in Tech Presentation Day

Tuesday 1st July - Preston College Taster Day - YR10

Wednesday 2nd July - Art Trip to Beacon Fell

Wednesday 2nd July - Newman College Taster Day

Thursday 3rd July - Transition Day for new Year 7's

Mon 7th - Fri 11th July - SMART week and YR10 work experience week

Friday 18th July - Finish for summer at 12.30pm



Safeguarding

Last half term, our pupils took part in a safeguarding survey, where they shared their honest views on how safe they feel in school, how confident they are to speak up if something is wrong and how well we address serious issues such as bullying, racism, homophobia, and sexual harassment.

In addition all year groups from Year 7 through to Year 11 have participated in safeguarding training focused on bullying, reinforcing our commitment to creating a respectful and inclusive environment.

We were pleased to see that the results were overwhelmingly positive, and nice that pupils could highlight a few key areas where improvement can be made. These include launching a safeguarding coffee morning, introducing regular drop-in sessions with the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), and forming a new online safety group.

We are delighted to share that our first Safeguarding and Attendance Coffee Morning was a great success. A big thank you to the parents who attended and joined us for informal conversations about the challenges young people face in today's world.

Our next coffee morning will be held on **Tuesday 3rd June at 10.00am** and we warmly invite you to come along.

All year groups from Year 7 through to Year 11 have participated in safeguarding training focused on bullying, reinforcing our commitment to creating a respectful and inclusive environment.

Finally, a Holiday Communications Form will be sent to parents and carers the weekend we return to school. This is a simple but important way for you to share anything we may need to know about your child's return to school, such as wellbeing concerns, changes at home, or anything affecting their readiness for learning. Please do take a few minutes to complete it – it helps us ensure every child is welcomed and supported.

If you would like more information or have any concerns, please don't hesitate to contact our DSL, Ms Walker.

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 **8525**



Trustee Update

Dunstone Education Trust on AI Project with News UK: A Day of Inspiration and Learning

Dunstone Education Trust was proud to oversee another year of the AI Project, the culmination of which was a visit to News UK's iconic building, in London.

As always, the hospitality extended by the News UK staff was nothing short of exceptional. Their unwavering support, knowledge, and expertise was invaluable, they ensured that the young minds of Fulwood pupils gleaned the utmost from this experience. From imparting tips on confident presentation techniques to maximising presentational skills, the staff left a lasting impression on the pupils.

The feedback from the News UK staff regarding the pupils work, presentation skills and the way in which the pupils represented the Academy was overwhelmingly positive;

"I just wanted to say a huge thank you to everyone at Fulwood Academy for another year of this fantastic programme.

Rebekah, Tom and our tech team were genuinely blown away by the quality of the projects the groups came up with and their presentations were delivered impeccably. We saw so much bravery and creativity on display today. And on top of that they were all so well behaved. A huge credit to Fulwood Academy."

Mr M Hudon, Head of Creative Diversity, News UK

Reflecting on the day's events, it's evident that it was not just a mere excursion but a transformative experience for all involved. Sir Charles, the Sponsor of Dunstone Education Trust, also expressed immense pride in the exemplary conduct of both pupils and input from staff.

Joan Dean

Chair, Dunstone Education Trust

