

MAY HALF-TERM NEWSLETTER *THE CHAMPIONS EDITION*



PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

As we bid farewell to another enriching half-term, I am delighted to share with you the latest highlights and achievements from our vibrant school community.

I am pleased to inform that the GCSE exams for Yr11 have started on a positive note! Our pupil's dedication to preparation and focus during this initial phase has been commendable. It's evident that they're committed to giving their best effort, and we're confident that this mindset will lead to success as they progress through the exam season.

Reflecting on Assessment Point 2 during the Spring term, we were pleased to share so many reports which demonstrated our pupils' dedication to their academic journey. Looking ahead to the next half term, we've already released online and to our pupils in Yr7-10, their revision plans and dates for the upcoming AP3 assessments after half term. These assessments provide another opportunity for your child to showcase their knowledge and skills, building upon the foundation they've established. We encourage you to continue supporting and motivating your child as they prepare for these assessments. Thank you for your ongoing partnership in your child's education.

Our extracurricular activities have continued to flourish this term, offering pupils opportunities to explore their passions and talents outside the classroom. From sports teams achieving victory to the success of our drama and music productions preparing for our Summer production of a School of Rock. A special mention to the remarkable achievement of our Year 7 football team, bringing immense pride to our school community by clinching victory in the Preston Schools Tournament winning the prestigious title of Preston Champions. Their teamwork, and sheer passion for the sport was evident for all to see in the final at Deepdale and throughout this journey. We applaud their resilience, sportsmanship, and unwavering determination, which have propelled them to this outstanding accomplishment. This achievement not only highlights their individual talent but also serves as a testament to the supportive environment fostered by our school and the exceptional coaching provided by our staff. Congratulations to all of the Year 7 football team on this well-deserved triumph!

As we strive to maintain punctuality and ensure smooth transitions into the school day, we kindly request that all pupils arrive at school promptly by 8:35 am. Please note that pupils who arrive after this time will receive a same-day late detention. We understand that unforeseen circumstances may arise, but consistent attendance and timeliness are crucial for maximising learning opportunities. We currently track Preston buses using their App and if a pupil is traveling on a public bus timetabled to arrive at school after 8:35 am, they will also be subject to a late detention, if a bus is late that was due to arrive at school before 8.35am, pupils will not receive a late detention. Thank you for your cooperation and support in reinforcing these expectations.

We'd like to inform you that there will be no changes to the school uniform for the upcoming academic year. However, starting from September, all pupils will be expected to have a designated school bag each day. This decision aims to promote organisation, responsibility and uniformity among our pupils. We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring that your child is equipped with a suitable school bag that meets their needs while adhering to the school's guidelines. Thank you for your ongoing support in upholding our school's standards and values.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our dedicated staff, supportive parents, and enthusiastic pupils for their ongoing commitment to excellence. It is through your collective efforts that Fulwood Academy continues to thrive as a centre of academic excellence and personal growth. Stay connected with us through our website and social media channels for updates on upcoming events, important announcements, and pupil achievements.

Mr A Galbraith - Principal



YEAR 7 PRESTON CUP CHAMPIONS!!!

Forget the race to the Premier League title, the real pinnacle of the football season took place on Tuesday 7th May at Deepdale and no, PNE were not involved!

Our Year 7 boys football team, unbeaten all season, continued their success with a closely fought game against Broughton High School. The whole team showed outstanding drive and determination right up until the final whistle and were rewarded with a 2-1 victory.

The boys, who have displayed our core values of **We Care, We Challenge, We Commit** in every match they have played, were deserved winners and we could not be prouder! Well done team.

We would like to thank all the parents and staff who came to support the boys, it was really great to have you all there and share this special moment with the boys! Thank you.



PE THIS TERM

This term we have been inundated with pupils attending our after school clubs, hosting almost hundreds of pupils across three evenings of activities. Pupils have enjoyed, football club, badminton & table tennis club and basketball club.

After the May break, we are looking forward to welcoming even more pupils to our extra curricular programme.

The focus this half term in lessons has been 'striking and fielding' events and athletics. Pupils have taken part in rounders, softball as well as track and field events. It has been wonderful to see so many of our pupils engaging and achieving in lessons. To develop pupils confidence and skills further we always encourage all pupils to attend as many extra-curricular activities as possible throughout the week.

Myerscough College Basketball

This term our pupils have enjoyed a series of Basketball lessons delivered by the coaches and lecturers at Myerscough College. The lessons aimed to support the development of the pupils hand-eye coordination, alongside improving their shooting skills and game play.

Health and Fitness - Sports Leaders Programme

This term, Year 10 have supported another Primary School event, the Swimming Gala, held at West View Leisure Centre. Our pupils supported the event by recording times along with supporting and encouraging the participants.

It has also been wonderful to see our Health and Fitness pupils working hard on our new topic of fitness testing in lessons. They have embraced this new topic and are working hard to development their knowledge and understanding.

Date for your Diary!

On Tuesday 18th June our **Under 13 girls football team** will play in the Lancashire Schools final's competition at Darwen FC (Kick off, 5pm.) They will be playing against Darwen Vale, Unity college and St Augustine's, where they will challenge to become Lancashire school champions in the under 13 category. We would welcome as many supporters as possible to the matches.

Admission is £3 for adults, £1 for school children
Programmes will be on sale for £1.00

Only cash will be accepted as payment on night, we hope to see you there!



SUBJECT FOCUS

MATHS Sparx Maths

As we near the end of another academic year, it's with great pride and excitement that we celebrate the remarkable achievements of our pupils in mathematics, particularly through the outstanding success of Sparx Maths.

This year, Sparx Maths has been instrumental in empowering our pupils to excel in mathematics, embodying the core ethos of our academy: **We Care, We Challenge, We Commit**. Through personalized learning pathways, adaptive feedback, and a commitment to excellence, Sparx Maths has transformed the way our pupil engage with mathematics, nurturing a culture of growth and achievement.

One of the most noteworthy accomplishments this year is the incredible progress of 261 pupils who have honed their times-tables skills. These pupils have demonstrated exceptional dedication and perseverance in mastering this fundamental aspect of mathematics. Their achievements not only reflect their individual commitment to learning but also exemplify the supportive and nurturing environment fostered here at Fulwood Academy.

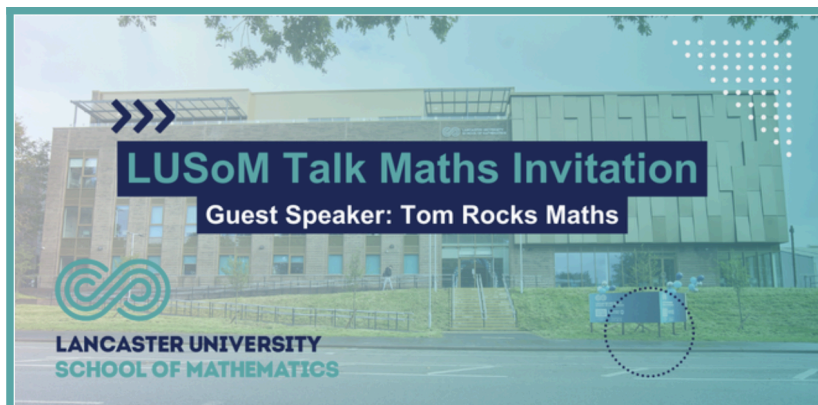
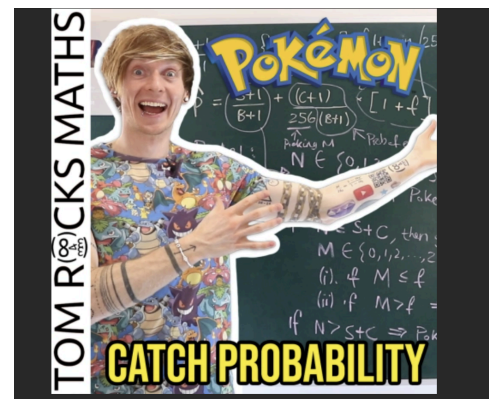
Furthermore, our pupils have answered over 1,150,000 questions on Sparx Maths this academic year! Each question answered represents learning, growth, and mastery, underlining the impact of Sparx Maths on our pupils mathematical proficiency.

In the Math's department, we believe in caring for every pupil, challenging them to reach their full potential, and are committed to their academic success. We enjoy teaching pupils to think critically and solve complex problems, and fostering a culture of continuous improvement and growth.

If you require any further information about Sparx Maths or the maths curriculum then please click [here](#) or speak to your child's maths teacher.

Mrs Holt, Director of Learning for maths was privileged to be able to take a selected group of Year 9 pupils to a talk at Lancaster University School of Mathematics where the famous Tom Rocks gave a talk about the Maths of Pokemon. Pupils were able to combine their love of Pokemon with their love of maths and science to disprove the validity of the Pokemon super powers!

The events was an excellent opportunity for our pupils to see the impressive facilities at the School of Mathematics and to speak to ex Fulwood pupils who have gone on to study maths at an advanced level.



Careers

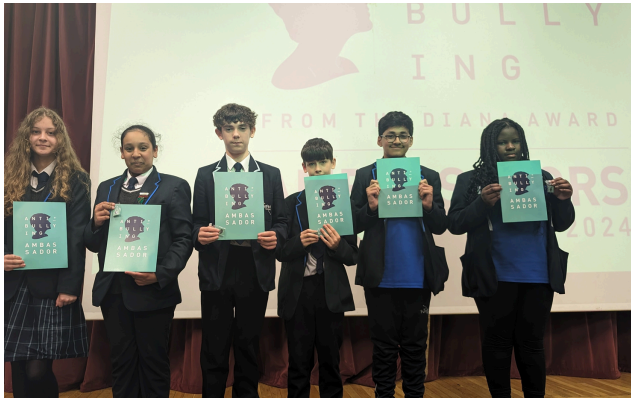
We were delighted to be able to walk our Year 9 pupils to a careers fair organised by Royal Preston Hospital. It was an action-packed event with over 27 different departments showcasing their exciting careers to our pupils. Areas on display included Ophthalmology, Radiography, Cardio-Respiratory, Pathology, The Nursing Team, Dietetics and SMRC. There was such much for the pupils to engage with, from seminars, basic life support sessions, choking vest exercises, simulation hands, ultrasound scanners, mobility suits, VR Headsets with 'in the body experience' and lots of other exciting interactive activities.

For the first time ever, Royal Preston Hospital were proud to present their in-house blended learning team. The team work on creating bespoke e-learning packages for staff training, using state of the art IT equipment to train their medical and non-clinical future workforce. The blended learning team are also responsible for multimedia in-house productions such as their own 24 hours insight series and many more internal and external resources. This was a great opportunity for pupils to see that not all roles in a hospital environment are clinical.

Looking forward, a number of year 9 pupils will also be given the opportunity to attend an online conference on the future of Artificial Intelligence. This conference will give pupils an introduction into AI and will have specialists in this field to answer questions on AI and career opportunities.

Year 10 pupils are looking forward to a very busy summer term with the opportunity to access taster days at local colleges Preston College, Cardinal Newman and Runshaw. They will have the opportunity to experience college life and take part in a variety of different sessions relevant to their future career interests.

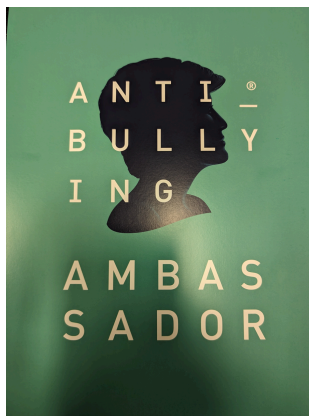
Year 10 are looking forward to the opportunity to work with local employers and experience the world of work when they attend a work experience placement that will commence on the 8th July.



Anti Bullying Training Event - Diana Award

We were proud to have recently host an inter-schools Anti Bullying Training event, organised by the Diana Award. The event saw the participation of primary and secondary schools from across the North West region.

During the training, pupils and staff were educated on how to become anti-bullying ambassadors for their respective schools. The aim was to equip them with the necessary skills and knowledge to tackle bullying effectively and create a safer environment for everyone.



Our own pupils performed admirably during the training, impressing everyone with their hard work and exemplary behaviour. They proved to be a credit to our school, showcasing their dedication towards combating bullying.

Events like these not only raise awareness about the serious issue of bullying but also empower our pupils to take positive action against it. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Diana Award for their support and for helping us foster a culture of kindness and respect in our school.



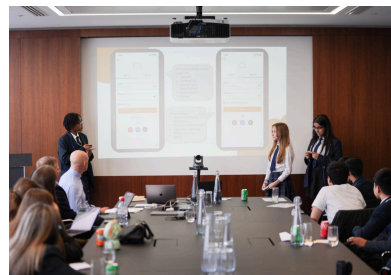
PROJECTS



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 10th May the girls visited Apadmi in Manchester. The group came together for a creative collaboration of minds, supported by a number of female mentors from the App design industry. The girls had a chance to discuss and plan their apps whilst seeking invaluable advice from the experts.

On Wednesday 15th May the girls headed back to Manchester to visit the Hut Group, a leading global digital innovator. Throughout the day the group were able to speak to industry leaders who were on hand to offer guidance and constructive feedback on their apps.



AI PROJECT

The final event in the AI project saw our Year 9 pupils visiting the amazing NewsUK Headquarters in London to present their final AI Apps to a panel of Judges, comprising leading industry figures. The 4 groups received final mentoring from NewsUK staff before delivering their designed AI apps to a packed room!

The judges were extremely impressed with the work that had taken place and the confidence and enthusiasm which the pupils displayed. After judges deliberations the winning team was announced.

Huge congratulations to the winning group for their 'Halo AI' app, designed to assist teachers in marking Religious Studies papers and provide immediate feedback on how marks were awarded.

A special thank you to all the team at NewsUK, Dunstone Trust and the teaching staff involved in making this first AI project such a success!





FFT National Attendance Award 2023/24

PASTORAL

ATTENDANCE

Important Update – Changes to Education-related Penalty Notices



Information for Parents - You may be aware that the Department for Education has recently announced national changes to penalty notices issued for unauthorised absence in term time. These changes will come into effect on **Monday 19th August 2024**.

The changes to be aware of are:

- Penalty notices issued for offences that take place after 19th August 2024 will be charged at a new rate of £160 per parent per child. This can be paid at £80 if paid within 21 days.
- Any second penalty notice issued to the same parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period will be issued at the rate of £160 to be paid within 28 days with no option for a discounted rate.
- The threshold at which a penalty notice must be considered is set at 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school week period. This may include absences as a result of arriving late after the register closes. The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school years.
- A maximum of 2 penalty notices may be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period, so at the 3rd (or subsequent) offence(s) another course of action will need to be considered (such as prosecution or one of the other attendance legal interventions).
- Only penalty notices issued for absences taking place after Monday 19th August 2024 will count towards the above threshold

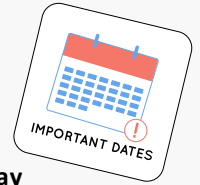
REWARDS

The end of this half term will see over 250 pupils enjoying an in-house cinema reward experience. The treat is exclusively for pupils who have demonstrated outstanding behaviour and achieved a remarkable record of 100% attendance throughout the term.

It is important to acknowledge the efforts made by these pupils. Their dedication to attending school every day and consistently displaying exemplary behaviour, as a shining example to their peers.

IMPORTANT DATES

- 3rd June - School Re-opens
- 14th June - Parent Forum
- 18th & 19th June - Science UCLAN Trip
- 20th June - YR 10 Runshaw College Trip
- 24th June - Girls in Tech App Presentation Day
- 28th June - School Inset Day
- 28th June - Year 11 Prom
- 1st July - Transition Day
- 2nd July - YR10 Preston College Trip
- 8th July - YR10 Work Experience Week
- 9th July - SMART Day - YR's 7 - 9
- 12th July - Girls in Tech Graduations
- 18th July - End of the School Year - Finish at 12.30pm



MAY HALF TERM INTERVENTIONS

IN SCHOOL

Tues 28th May: 10.00am - Health & Fitness
10.00am - IT Coursework
12.30pm - Maths

Wed 29th May: 10.00am - English Paper 2

Thu 30th May: 10.00am - Science Paper 2
10.00am - Chemistry

Fri 31st May: 10.00am - History - Medicine
12.30pm - History - Normans

ONLINE

Mon 27th May: 8.00pm - Spanish
Wed 29th May: 7.00pm - Maths
Sun 2nd June: 7.00pm - Maths

Extra- Curricular Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 7 Boys Striking & Fielding	Girls Rounders (all years)	Year 8 Football	Year 11 Health & Fitness Revision	Cricket Fixtures
Tennis (all years)	Years 9 & 10 Football	Year 10 Dance Intervention		
		Year 7 & 8 Athletics		

ASSESSMENT UPDATES

03/06/24 - GCSE Exams continue
03/06/24 - Year 10 Mock Exams continue
03/06/24 - Year 9 AP3
24/06/24 - Year 7 & 8 AP3



SAFEGUARDING

Personal hygiene issues can be an additional source of anxiety for young people who are already dealing with the emotional and physical changes of puberty, and it can really impact their confidence and social skills. It's a good idea to start having conversations and making sure your child establishes good personal hygiene habits early on.

Skin and spots

You can help your child to work out what skin type they have. For example, combination/normal, dry or oily. This will help you to identify the best products to use.

Make sure or advise that they:

- Thoroughly wash their face with cleanser in the morning and evening and tone after this
- Remove any make up before bed
- Hydrate and moisturise the skin
- Drink plenty of water and eat a healthy, balanced diet.

Body odour

During puberty, the sweat glands start to develop. Body odour occurs as a result of bacteria feeding on and breaking down the sweat on the body.

You can help young people to manage this by making sure or advising that they:

- Shower daily and wear clean clothing to avoid bacterial build up, particularly after periods of physical activity
- Use deodorant, roll on or spray. Some deodorants are also antiperspirants, which could cause people to sweat less.

If you are worried about body odour or sweating, then you can speak to your child's GP for advice.

Dental hygiene

Good dental hygiene is key to avoiding bad breath and other issues such as gum disease.

This includes:

- Brushing their teeth twice day
- Flossing
- Visiting the dentist regularly.

Smelly feet

Young people can be prone to smelly feet, even if they are not doing lots of sports. To avoid or manage this you can make sure or advise that they:

- Wash their feet properly when in the shower
- Completely dry their feet before putting on socks and shoes
- Visit their GP if they feel it is getting worse or not getting any better.

We have a supply of toiletries (e.g. shower gels, deodorants and sanitary products) available in school - your child should speak to their Head of Year or Ms Walker if they need anything.



USEFUL NUMBERS & INFORMATION

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

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

Last year, Fulwood was abuzz with excitement as Rebekah Brooks, CEO of News UK and a Member of the Dunstone Education Trust, visited to talk to the Girls in Tech group. The visit included an insightful discussion on the media landscape and Rebekah's career. Included in the discussion was the growing impact of artificial intelligence (AI).

The discussion ignited an interest that resulted in a fantastic collaboration between News UK and the Dunstone Education Trust. News UK generously agreed to fund an AI project and competition, setting the stage for an enriching journey for the pupils involved.

The culmination of this collaboration was a visit to News UK's iconic building, nestled on London Bridge overlooking the River Thames. As the pupils and teachers stepped foot into the building, gasps of awe filled the air, demonstrating their admiration for the breath-taking views.

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

Our pupils were very appreciative of the lovely food provided for lunch. Everyone was catered for, with the staff even sending out for additional pizzas!

One of the highlights of the visit was the opportunity for the pupils to interact with luminaries in the field, including Tony Gallagher, Editor of The Times Newspaper. Furthermore, the competition judges, comprising members of News UK's executive team, provided invaluable feedback, ensuring pupils benefited from some of the best minds in the business and used that advice to improve their projects.

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, expressed immense pride in the exemplary conduct of both pupils and input from staff.

As the day drew to a close, there was an air of anticipation for the future. With plans already in motion for next year's visit to News UK, the Dunstone Education Trust eagerly awaits another opportunity for inspiration, learning, and collaboration in the ever-evolving landscape of media and technology.

Joan Dean
Chair, Dunstone Education Trust



