

## Autumn term issue 3 Friday 9th October 2015

Dear parents and carers

It is hard to believe we have only two weeks left before the half term break! And so much to do before then!

Open Evening and Y6 Taster Day were both extremely successful events, with over 300 children joining us for the day, despite it being Eid, and around 500 visitors on tour in the evening. All the feedback was immensely positive and many of our prefects were mentioned for their outstanding work as tour guides. For anyone who missed it, my Headteacher's Welcome, ably assisted by Daniel Heath, Mia Howells and Chloe Quigley and by Y7s Owen Penlington and Isabel Copley is now available to view via the school website.

Y7 tutor groups continue to take the challenge of 'Climbing Higher' to the top of Pendle Hill, with Mr Sheldon's tutor group making the journey last Friday, and Mrs McCann's tutor group this week. The remaining tutor groups go out on Thursday 15th October, Tuesday 20th October and Friday 6th November and we hope they experience the excellent weather students have enjoyed so far.

The first Headteacher's Coffee Morning to celebrate students who have 'gone the extra mile' in recent weeks saw invitations given to a number of Y7 and Y8 students who have shown themselves to be excellent citizens inside or outside school: Ruby Willis and Kaylee Lowton-Heathcote in Y7 for taking a purse they had found to the Pastoral team, Ben Badham in Y7 ensuring a credit card he found was returned to its rightful owner, Jason Wilkinson in Y7 for his brilliant attitude in all lessons and for attending a wide range of clubs, Marc Todd in Y7 and Heathcliff Howard in Y8 for helping Mr Blore the site supervisor to set up chairs for assembly and breakfast club every morning at 8.00am, and Isobel Husband in Y7 and Ketsara Lumb in Y11 for their outstanding effort in Science.

Year Council elections have been held for Y7 through to Y10 and, after an anonymised election and voting process set up by Mr Dugdale and School Council, we now have full teams in place. Each Year Council is going to focus on a particular area of school improvement and feed into the work of the School Council. Thank you to all those who applied and congratulations to those who were elected to represent their peers.

Our Literacy Champions have been in action – undertaking a Y7 Reading Survey in tutor time, and a Y8 Performing Arts class prepared some fantastic poetry presentations, with puppets and costumes, with which to enthral pupils at St Bartholomew's this week.

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October is our Y7 Families Cheese and Wine and Information Evening: a chance for Y7 families to meet form tutors and discuss progress, enjoy some refreshments, meet senior prefects and find out more about curriculum changes.

Excitement is building for the USA trip which leaves on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, taking students to Washington and New York for a fantastic, and action-packed, cultural and historical trip. We wish them a successful visit and hope they are all packing some very comfortable shoes ready for their city walking tours!

Best wishes.



Mrs G Middlemas  
Headteacher

*climbing higher!*

## Calendar

**October  
2015**

**09.10.15**

Pendle Hill 'Climbing Higher' Challenge

**13.10.15**

Trip to Shrewsbury Private School—Y9-11

**15.10.15**

Pendle Hill 'Climbing Higher' Challenge

**20.10.15**

Pendle Hill 'Climbing Higher' Challenge

**21.10.15**

Y7 Settling in / Information Evening (cheese & wine)

**22.10.15**

Students set off for the USA Trip

**23.10.15**

School closes for half term after school (3.00pm)

**November  
2015**

**02.11.15**

School re-opens to students

**06.11.15**

Pendle Hill 'Climbing Higher' Challenge

## Cheerleading



At the start of our new school year we held our first ever cheerleading try-outs for Whitworth Bears and I'm pleased to say that we had an overwhelming response. Over the next few weeks our squad will be practicing their cheerleading skills. The areas which we will be focusing on will include: Tumbling - cartwheels, round offs, forward and backward walkovers. Execution of jumps - toe touches, pikes and tuck jumps.

Stunts - double and single leg stunts, double and single based stunts, pyramids and dismounts.

Arm motions - high and low V, touchdown, right and left bow and arrow, broken T and T, to name a few.

After October half term we will begin to put our routine together and hopefully be competition-ready by March. I will be holding some fundraising events which will help with the cost of uniforms and admission fees. If anyone is interested in sponsoring our squad then could you please get in touch with Mrs Pickering or Mr Cawley.

## Pendle Hill 'Climbing Higher Challenge' Update

Mr Sheldon's form enjoying the stunning view from Pendle Hill on their 'Climbing Higher' Challenge last Friday.



## School staff take part in charity bike ride for the British Heart Foundation

On Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September Mrs Lord from the school office along with 80 local people turned out for a charity bike ride from Blackpool to Whitworth. The aim was to raise money for the British Heart Foundation.

To date the ride has raised over 2K and money is still being donated. Well done to everyone involved.

## Learning Journal of the Week

Lauren Taylor—7C  
Zachary Webster—7C  
Katie Heath—7G  
Jessica Butterworth—8A

## Visiting Writer

Popular writer SF Said will be coming into school on Friday 23rd October to talk to our students. His novel, Varjak Paw is a brilliant book that won the Smarties Book Prize. SF Said's new book Phoenix, has been chosen to represent the UK on IBBY's 2016 Honour List. Students should collect a form from their English teacher if they want to attend the session.

## Smart watches

With Christmas not that far away, can we make it clear that SMART watches are not allowed in school.



## **Students of the Week**

### **History**

Oban Davies—Y11  
Brad Velivasakis—Y11  
Jack Myatt—Y9  
Chelsie Hughes—Y9  
Bradley Watts—Y9  
Matthew Robinson—Y8

### **Art**

Joseph Tod—Y8  
Paris Pitilla—Y8

### **English**

David Fallows—Y7  
Sonny Berrisford—Y8  
Sophie Greenwood—Y9  
Callum Hahn—Y9  
Taylor Thompson—Y10  
Mark Doma—Y11

### **ICT**

Craig Rout—Y8  
Matthew Robinson—Y8

### **DT—Food**

Alex Lord—Y10  
Elle Gregson-Howarth—Y10  
Hollie Dews—Y10

### **Science**

Jonathan Wadsworth—Y9  
Chloe Brown—Y10  
Abbie Hoyle—Y11

### **Chemistry**

Danielle Palmer—Y11

### **MFL**

Jake Barron—Y7  
Dominic Pratt—Y8  
Callum Atkinson—Y8  
Georgia Mellor—Y8  
Callum Hahn—Y8  
Charlotte Inger—Y9  
Sam Milton—Y9  
Hope Cunningham—Y9  
Charlie Hoyle—Y10  
Faye Stafford—Y10  
Oban Davies—Y11