

# The Eagle



Culcheth High School

Issue 72 – September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

A very warm welcome to the start of the 2017-18 academic year and I hope that everybody has had a safe and enjoyable summer holiday. I would particularly like to welcome our Year 7 students, parents and carers to the Culcheth High School community and look forward to working with you all. Students and staff have returned from the summer break in great spirits following some excellent exam results in the summer. Congratulations to the Year 11 class of 2017!

As we start the new academic year, my message to students and staff is that we expect the highest standards in everything that we do to enable us to 'be the best that we can be.' Staff and students have been asked to reflect upon and embody our school values of 'respect, honesty and excellence' in everything that we do at Culcheth High School.

This year brings many challenges in terms of continuing curriculum and assessment changes throughout the school and wider education system. We will keep you fully informed of these changes throughout the year.

As a school, we pride ourselves on clear and prompt communication and we always attempt to inform parents/carers of school developments and events the best we can. If at any point, parents/carers are unclear, unsure or would like more information, can I encourage you to visit the school website, contact the school directly via our email address, or phone us during the day rather than relying on social media comments and threads, which invariably do not give the full picture or the correct information.

At the end of the last term, we held the annual Patric Wilson Memorial Day. After all of the events and generosity of everybody involved, the school and local community have raised £5000 which will be shared between Cancer Research UK, The Teenage Cancer Trust and Race for Life. Thank you everybody for raising funds for such worthwhile causes.

May I thank all students, staff, governors and parents/carers for all their hard work and support in helping our students gain their excellent exam results in the summer and wish everyone good luck for the academic year, ahead.

*Mr C P Hunt, Headteacher*



## GCSE Success 2017

On behalf of the staff and governors of Culcheth High School, I would like to congratulate our Year 11 students on their amazing GCSE exam results. 74% of students achieved 5 A\*- C including English and Mathematics. This year, 26% of all GCSE grades were A\*-A/7-9. 76% of students achieved a 'Standard Pass (Grade 4-9)' in English and Mathematics and 56% of students achieved a 'Strong Pass (Grade 5-9)' in English and Mathematics.

In the climate of falling national GCSE pass rates and given the higher level of rigour with the new GCSEs, assessment and examinations, it makes this year's results even more pleasing.

There have been some excellent individual performances, which reflect the hard work of the students in their GCSE studies; I would like to take this opportunity to thank the students for their efforts and wish them all the very best in their next steps.

We are delighted and very proud of our students' achievements and I would like to thank all the staff for their dedication and hard work, which has supported this level of achievement, especially the English and Mathematics departments who have guided students through the new demanding GCSEs with great success. Finally, a big thank you to all the parents and carers who have supported the students and school to help our young people achieve this level of success in their GCSE examinations.



### Key School Dates

21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> September  
**Year 7 CATs**

19<sup>th</sup> September 2017  
**MFL Information Eve**

27<sup>th</sup> September 2017  
**Pupil Premium  
Parent's Info Evening**

28<sup>th</sup> September 2017  
**Year 8 Parental  
Evening**

5<sup>th</sup> October 2017  
**School Open Evening**

6<sup>th</sup> October 2017  
**INSET Day – School  
Closed for Students**

9<sup>th</sup> October 2017  
**English GCSE  
Information Evening**

### Publication Dates

13<sup>th</sup> October 2017

17<sup>th</sup> November 2017

15<sup>th</sup> December 2017

26<sup>th</sup> January 2018

9<sup>th</sup> March 2018

27<sup>th</sup> April 2018

8<sup>th</sup> June 2018

13<sup>th</sup> July 2018

## GCSE Success 2017....Continued

Nearly every subject is significantly higher than the national averages. These results are provisional and will be shared fully once validated after re-marks have been submitted and may be subject to some changes.

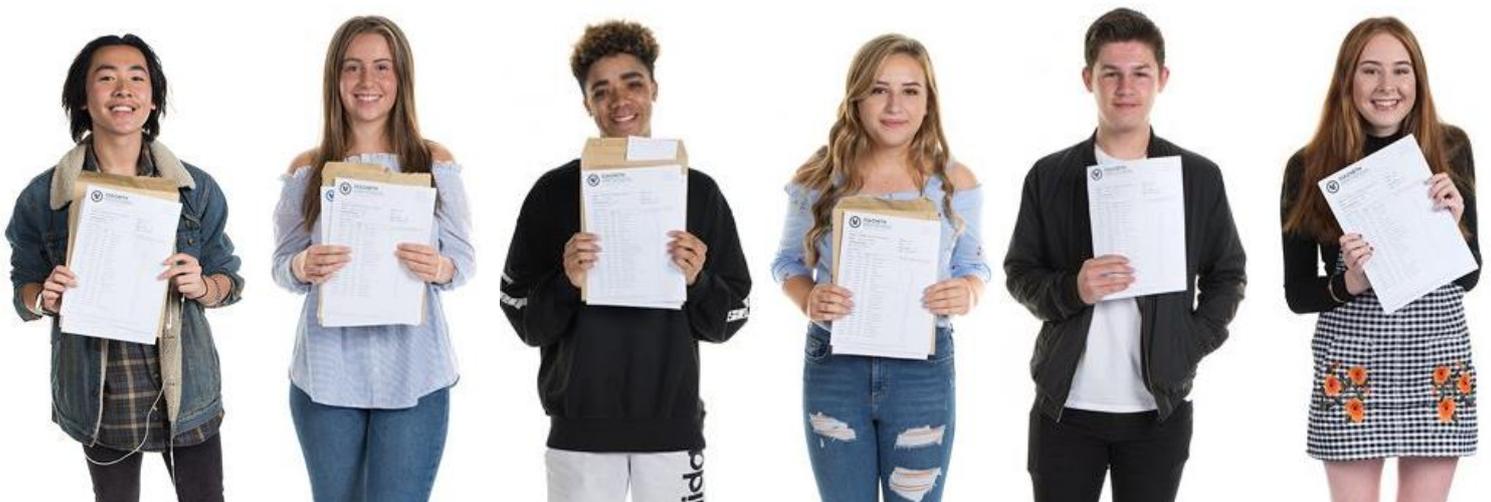
9-1 GCSE Qualification Name	%			No of Entries
	9-7	9-5	9-4	
English Language	16	63	83	202
English Literature	31	76	86	202
Mathematics	18	60	80	202

Legacy Grades	A*-A	A*-C	A*-G	Entries
Art Design	39	94	100	66
Business Studies	19	74	99	65
Catering	28	83	100	18
Drama	63	95	100	19
DT Product Design	11	64	100	44
French	24	77	100	79
Further Mathematics	60	100	100	10

Qualification Name	A*-A	A*-C	A*-G	Entries
Geography	36	76	98	92
History	22	72	99	106
IT	31	80	100	39
Media	26	81	100	77
Music	10	50	100	10
PE	47	87	100	45
RE	59	92	99	65
Sci Biology	50	100	100	30
Sci Chemistry	57	97	100	30
Sci Physics	60	100	100	30
Science Additional	12	65	99	170
Science Core	17	74	100	171
Spanish	20	63	100	56

### Individual Student Performances

We would especially like to congratulate a number of our students for their individual academic success and some outstanding personal progress. They are: Carrie Divers, Davey Ashworth, Nicole Kubiena, Joseph Shaw, Olivia Hilton, Natasha Winstanley, Gabby Long, Ella Bleasdale, Alex Myers-Bennett, Nadia Cunningham, Emily Bedford, Zoe Fairfax, Ezra Mackay, Laura Slattery, Riya Kotecha, James Raftery-Morton, Abby Jones, Alicia Leavitt, Alex Rain, Jodie Sampson and Sam Watson.



## Parking Around School

A note for parents who drive students to school and use the school car park, Withington Avenue and Culcheth Hall Drive. If you drop your child off or collect them from school, please use the drop-off bay in the school car park or, if using Withington Avenue or Culcheth Hall Drive:

- please drive slowly – children are crossing to and from the ginnel
- please park considerately so that driveways are not blocked and grass verges are not damaged.

## School Gates

A reminder to all parents/carers that the school gates open at 8am. Students arriving on site before 8am will be unable to enter the school site.

## New Roles at Culcheth High School

As we start the new year, there have been a number of new internal appointments and promotions. I'm sure you will wish the following staff good luck in their new roles at Culcheth High School.

Mr Maunder	Pupil Premium Progress Leader
Mr Cushing	Year 11 Progress Leader
Mrs Morgan	Head of History
Mr Nolan	Media Studies Subject Leader
Mrs Pilling	KS4 English Coordinator
Mrs Brearley (AHT)	SENCO

## School Uniform 2017-18 - CHANGES

Please be advised that from September 2017 all school socks will need to be black. Girls will need to wear their socks below the knee. A full updated version of the school uniform guidelines is on the school website.

The rest of the school uniform for 2017-18 has not changed in essence, however there are a number of points that parents/carers need to be aware of:

1. The 'School Shoe Guidance' that remains applicable for September 2017 is available on the school website, along with the 2017-18 uniform statement.
2. Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 students must wear school 'clip-on' ties from September 2017.
3. Year 10 and Year 11 students can still wear their regular ties, however replacement ties are now 'clip-on' ties only, as stock of regular ties has now run out.

## New Staff at Culcheth High School

The start of a new school year also brings new members of staff to the school. We welcome five new members of staff to the Culcheth High School community. I am sure you will join us in wishing them all the best for the years ahead at the school.

Name	Role	Department
Mrs Garner	Teacher	English
Miss Flaherty	Teacher	PE
Miss Murtagh	Teacher	Science
Mrs Cooper	Student Services	Administration Team
Miss Culpeck	Reception	Administration Team

## Useful Dates for Parents 2017-18

Please find below a calendar of key events for parents; we hope this is useful in giving you early notice of some important dates for your child's progress. Further information is always available on the school website.

21 <sup>st</sup> - 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Year 7 CATs	1 <sup>st</sup> March 2018	Year 8 Options Evening
19 <sup>th</sup> September 2017	MFL Information Evening (Y9/10)	8 <sup>th</sup> March 2018	Annual Careers Fair
27 <sup>th</sup> September 2017	Pupil Premium Parents' Info Evening	9 <sup>th</sup> March 2018	Year 11 Reports sent home
28 <sup>th</sup> September 2017	Year 8 Parental Evening	15 <sup>th</sup> March 2018	Year 9 Parents' Evening (A Side)
5 <sup>th</sup> October 2017	School Open Evening	22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2018	Year 9 Parents' Evening (B Side)
9 <sup>th</sup> October 2017	English GCSE Info Evening (Y9/10/11)	23 <sup>rd</sup> -29 <sup>th</sup> March 2018	Year 11 Pre-Public Exams
19 <sup>th</sup> October 2017	Year 7 Parents' Information Evening	30 <sup>th</sup> April – 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 9 Pre-Public Exams
2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2017	Learning Strategies Evening	3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2018	Year 7 Parents' Evening (A Side)
9 <sup>th</sup> November 2017	Moonwatch Evening	10 <sup>th</sup> May 2018	Year 7 Parents' Evening (B Side)
16 <sup>th</sup> November 2017	Year 11 Parents' Evening (A Side)	14 <sup>th</sup> May 2018	Commencement of Public Exams
23 <sup>th</sup> November 2017	Year 11 Parents' Evening (B Side)	25 <sup>th</sup> May 2018	Year 9 Pre-Public Exam Results Day
29 <sup>th</sup> Nov – 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec 2017	School Drama Production	15 <sup>th</sup> June 2018	Year 7-10 Reports sent home
8 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	Year 10 English Literature PPE	18 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2018	Year 10 Pre-Public Exams
11 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	Year 11 Pre-Public Exams	22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2018	End of Public Exams
19 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	Christmas Carol Service	4 <sup>th</sup> July 2018	Induction Evening for Year 6 Parents
11 <sup>th</sup> January 2018	Year 8 Parents' Evening (A Side)	5 <sup>th</sup> July 2018	Induction Day for Year 6 Students
18 <sup>th</sup> January 2018	Year 8 Parents' Evening (B Side)	5 <sup>th</sup> July 2018	Year 11 Prom (Provisional)
19 <sup>th</sup> January 2018	Year 11 Pre-Public Exam Results Day	10 <sup>th</sup> July 2018	Sports Day
1 <sup>st</sup> February 2018	Year 10 Parents' Evening (A Side)	11 <sup>th</sup> July 2018	Celebration Evening
8 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	Year 10 Parents' Evening (B Side)	13 <sup>th</sup> July 2018	Year 10 Pre-Public Exam Results Day





# FOCUS ON SPORT



## Extra-Curricular Sports

The following extra-curricular activities will be running from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September and include a mixture of clubs that link directly into selection for school teams; others simply offer recreational opportunities to be involved in that sport. This should mean that there's something suitable for every student's ability.....so pick one and get involved!! Clubs start at 1.30pm so students must bring a packed lunch or order a 'grab and go'.

	Lunchtime	After School
Monday	Years 8, 9 and 11 Football All years Badminton & Table Tennis Trampolining	School Meetings
Tuesday	Years 7 and 10 Football All years Badminton & Table Tennis	All Years Netball All Years Rugby Training & Fixtures
Wednesday	GCSE Trampolining	All Years Inter-school Football and Netball Fixtures
Thursday	All Years Basketball Club	Cup Football and Rugby Fixtures All Years Fitness Training
Friday	Volleyball Club	

## School Sports Day

This year saw a slight change to our Sports Day format, with all students in school being offered the opportunity to compete in an event, and therefore contribute to the success of their house team. Whilst this did mean that there were fewer double champions this year, it did mean that it became a much more inclusive event, in which team effort and commitment had as much of an influence as traditional excellence!

The day got off to a great start, with Sean Jones breaking the Year 9 boys' shot putt record, with a distance of 11m 45cm, bettering the previous mark by a huge 45cm. In fact, our Year 9s set the most new records this year, with Harry Wood setting a new best of 43.59 secs in the 300m and Olivia Anderson taking 7 secs of her sister's 1500m record, to set a new best of 5mins 41secs.

Year 8 were the next year group to compete, and they too posted some new records. Jacob Bourdet set a new best of 44.5sec in the boys' 300m and Charlotte Bate increased the girls' discus record by 5cm to an impressive 14m90cm.

Next up were the Year 7s, who also had two new records holders by the end of their competition. Melissa Ince smashed the girls' 800m record, which had stood since 2006, by a massive five seconds to set a new record of 2min44secs. And Thomas Standish lowered the boys 100m record by 0.14secs to a new mark of 13.35secs.

The final Year group to compete was Year 10. Continuing this year's successes in the 300m, Adam Livesey set a new best time of 42.8 secs, meaning that all four year groups could boast at least one new record holder!

With up to 110 performers having now competed in each event over the last 13 years, it really is a great achievement for the above students to have taken further time off, or added distance to, our previous best performances. When you also take into account the fact that our grass track is significantly slower to run on than the modern rubberised tracks that we have used in recent years, these really are fantastic performances from our new record holders!

As the final 4x100m relay race brought the meeting to a close, the final results were being collated and a fantastic day's competition had led to Wimbledon house retaining their title as Culcheth high School Sports Day Champions with 3099 points. Headingly were runners up with 2828; Ascot came in with 2729 points, followed by Twickenham with 2689 points. Well done to all.



# Culcheth High School's Annual Celebration Evening

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2017 saw the school hold its annual awards event: Celebration Evening! Before entering the School Hall for the main event, parents, carers, staff and students nibbled on canapés, cakes and sipped cold drinks (kindly supplied by Mrs Lisa Vernon, our wonderful Catering Academy manager) surrounded by splendid artwork (expertly curated by Ms Cookson and Miss Bailey) and wonderfully entertained by a range of talented performing arts students. We were treated to acoustic guitar music and ballroom dancing from Ryan Deakin and Shona and Shannon Stocks respectively; we also enjoyed the talents of pianists Gabrielle Styles and Andrew Melrose with Chloe Catherall singing beautifully.

The assembled crowd settled down in the hall to 'Sisters' performed by Lily Hope, Hannah Hughes and Elizabeth Lewis. Mr Hunt, Headteacher, thanked them, and all guests present, in anticipation of an exceptional evening. Punctuating the many fabulous awards on the evening (sorry, there are simply too many to name here!) were several memorable performances: a KS3 dance ensemble, martial arts displays, a gymnastics troupe, classical ballet and a dizzying range of musical talent both vocally and instrumentally. Special thanks to The Culcheth High School Musical Theatre Group who blew us away with their 'Cell Block Tango' from *Chicago* to wrap up the evening ('*he had it coming*'... don't mess with these girls!).

As usual, the 'comper without compare' (and not in a good way, *believe me*) was Assistant Headteacher Mr P.H. Groves. The 'jokes', if this is what they were, were groan-worthy on an epic scale (Evidence? ... *last night I had an awful dream, well, it was more like a nightmare really, that I was drowning in an ocean of fizzy orangeade; when I awoke I was relieved to discover it was only a FANTA-SEA.*' - cue much groaning and several tumbleweeds). It should be noted that he is not qualified for the role (as comper, not Assistant Headteacher, just to clarify he DOES have Qualified Teacher Status... just) and remains unpaid for the event.

Over 100 students received prizes celebrating their academic, pastoral, personal and sporting achievements over the last 12 months. Our students, as always, did us proud; their colourful buttonholes a small token of our appreciation as a staff for these lovely young people. Many a proud parent, grandparent, carer, teacher, mentor and friend swelled with pride as our students collected their richly-deserved awards.

It should also be noted that this year's awards, once again, were designed and manufactured in-house by Mr Heaton using the school's state-of-the-art laser cutter and translucent blue perspex. They took hours to make but it was certainly worth it: a special memento to keep forever.

Many thanks to absolutely everyone who attended, and particular thanks to our Progress Leaders (Mrs Brearley, Mrs Tanner, Miss Appleby, Miss Butler and Mr Owen), Mr Welsford (Head of PE), Rotary Club representatives Mr Wilson and Mr Curry, Headteacher Mr Hunt and Chair of Governors Mr Patel for presenting the awards.

Special congratulations to Daniel Hunter and Caroline Divers on their Headteacher and Governor Awards respectively - our two highest accolades. Two thoroughly splendid young people who we wish all the very best for the future; they will do great things and we are very proud of them.

Many thanks also must go to Mrs Petre-Hoyle, Mr Morris, Mrs Quicler and Miss Longden for the long hours spent preparing the acts for Celebration Evening 2017. Finally, as ever, our thanks must go to Mrs Sullivan - simply the driving force behind the event. Toodle pip until next year!

*Mr Peter Harold Groves*

*Assistant Headteacher (available for all you compering needs... he's always available, and there's a reason for that!)*



# PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

## Warrington Youth Health Service Team Mobile Unit – Supporting Year 7 Transition

Many thanks once again to Warrington Borough Council's fabulous Youth Health Service team for providing invaluable support to our new starters in Year 7. The mobile bus, staffed by Youth workers, gave our students the opportunity to discuss and increase their awareness of self-esteem and the external influences on it, encouraged understanding of the emotions that may affect self-esteem and examined healthy relationships and the qualities of good friendships in an informal and unpressured setting. The activities were well attended and we hope that this has helped to alleviate any stresses associated with transition to secondary school.

The tips below can help you support your child to settle in faster;

- ✓ There will undoubtedly be more homework and assessment requirements now, so you can help your young person by having a quiet place to study (away from distractions such as the TV or mobile phones) and encouraging them to get into a routine of completing homework (so that it doesn't become an issue!) **HINT:** Tell your child to speak up if they need help – the earlier they do this the better!
- ✓ Try to arrange for an adult to be at home when your child leaves for school and arrives home for the first few weeks and ensure your child eats well, gets plenty of physical activity and lots of sleep. The change to secondary school is likely to make your child very tired at first! **HINT:** Inclusion is a great way to help your child transition to secondary school – check the newsletter for new sports teams and clubs and get them to join in!
- ✓ Talk to your child about how they are settling in – what they are most enjoying or finding difficult and really listen to what they are saying. Be prepared for early ups and downs because any adjustments take time – but if things don't settle after the first six weeks then contact your child's form tutor with any concerns. **HINT:** Remind your child that it's okay to feel nervous about starting something new.



## World Suicide Prevention Day

Every year, more than 800,000 people die by suicide and up to 25 times as many make a suicide attempt. Behind these statistics are the individual stories of those who, for many different reasons, have questioned the value of their own lives.

Each one of these individuals is part of a community. Some may be well linked in to this community, and have a network of family, friends and work colleagues or schoolmates. Others may be less well connected, and some may be quite isolated. Regardless of the circumstances, communities have an important role to play in supporting those who are vulnerable.

This sentiment is reflected in the theme of the 2017 World Suicide Prevention Day: 'Take a minute, change a life.' As members of communities, it is our responsibility to look out for those who may be struggling, check in with them, and encourage them to tell their story in their own way and at their own pace. Offering a gentle word of support and listening in a non-judgmental way can make all the difference.

As part of our Future in Mind initiative, students are encouraged to talk about their feelings and reach out for the support available to them, both in school and via PAPYRUS (prevention of young suicide). More support and information about how you can get help is available via <https://www.papyrus-uk.org> and on [www.happyoksad.com](http://www.happyoksad.com) and via the Care, Support and Guidance area on the CHS website. <http://culchethhigh.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/A-Parents-Guide-to-Depression.pdf>

**WORLD  
SUICIDE  
PREVENTION  
DAY** ● ● ●

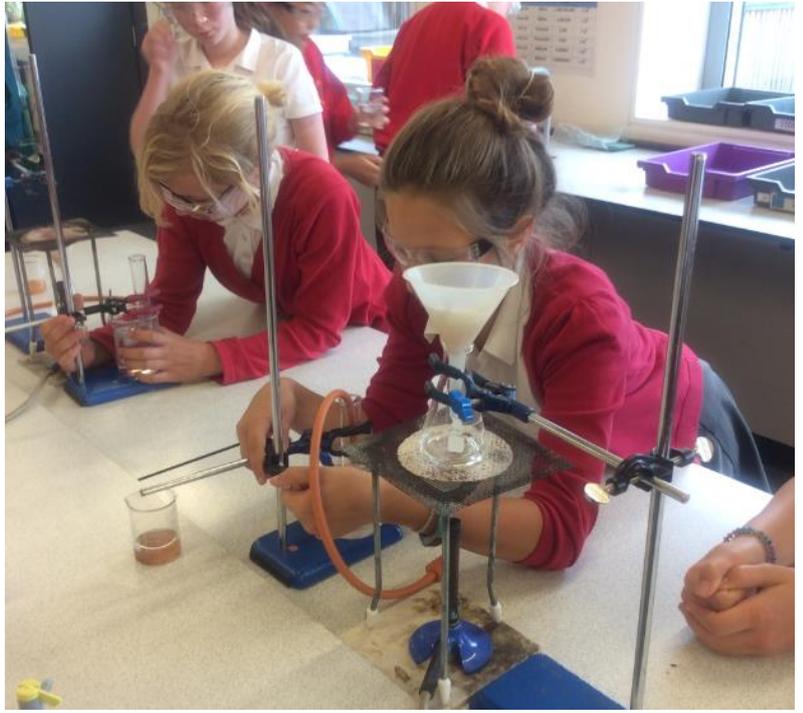
10th September

## Newchurch to Culcheth Transition Project

July saw the culmination of the Newchurch to Culcheth Transition Project. After months of planning, the project saw students from Newchurch and Culcheth engage in a range of activities across both schools. The aims of the transition project were to raise attainment at KS2, improve students' preparedness for secondary education and to maintain levels of achievement as students move into KS3 study.

The workshops that took place in English, maths and science introduced Newchurch students to concepts and approaches that they will encounter in secondary school and gave Culcheth High School students the opportunity to develop their coaching and mentoring skills. Spread across a number of days, the activities included the following: developing advanced analytical skills and longer written answers in English; working with maps, Digimaps and clinometers to improve understanding of networks, nodes and trigonometry in maths; and using advanced scientific apparatus to solve problems and test hypotheses in science.

The hard work of the teachers and the students really paid off and the project was a great success. The Newchurch students impressed everyone with the way they picked up some very complex concepts that will really help them 'hit the ground running' as they start at Culcheth. Amongst lots of positive feedback, one quote really encapsulates the success of this project: "It was great fun, and very engaging ... and I can't wait for high school now."



### Focus on Year 7

A warm welcome to our new Year 7 students. Although they have only been with us for a couple of weeks, they seem to be settling in well. I have no doubt that it won't be long until it feels like they have always been here.

I know that joining secondary school for the first time can be nerve-racking for both students and parents. Rest assured that we will be working with them over the coming weeks in both assemblies and form time to help them to settle in.

We will be sharing information about what Year 7 are up to in each edition of the school newsletter, so keep your eyes peeled!

*Miss K Butler, Progress Leader Year 7*

## Pupil Premium Parents' Information Evening

On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September, Culcheth High School will be holding our annual Pupil Premium Parents' Information Evening with regards to our planning and interventions for our Pupil Premium cohort for the forthcoming academic year.

As such, we would like to invite all parents/carers of Pupil Premium students in to school for a short presentation with regards to how school and home can more effectively work together to maximise your child's success. The event will last approximately 45 minutes and will start at 6pm. After the event, there will be the chance to ask questions about Pupil Premium practice at Culcheth High School.

*Mr Maunder, Pupil Premium Progress Leader*

# GCSE History Visit to Thackray Medical Museum

At the end of the summer term, our GCSE history students visited Thackray Medical Museum in Leeds as part of their GCSE Medicine in Britain, c1250–present and the British sector of the Western Front 1914–18: injuries, treatment and the trenches. The purpose of the visit was to reaffirm subject content and for students to engage in a range of interactive activities relating to the development of medicine over time.

One particular activity that students thoroughly enjoyed engaging in was the injury sustained by 11-year-old Hannah Dyson in the factory where she worked. Through the activity, students discovered that Hannah had her leg amputated, but unfortunately died from infection after the operation, due to poor operating sanitation. This generated lots of discussion amongst students as they could empathise with Hannah being even younger than them and yet forced to work at such a young age, due to the growth of the Industrial Revolution.

Another key area of interest for students was the development of prosthetics that was encouraged as a result of the devastating impact of WWI on British soldiers on the Western Front. From the wooden stump to the titanium prosthetic leg amongst the most significant progress, it demonstrated how far technology has developed as the need for prosthetics grew after 41,000 British soldiers had lost limbs during key WWI battles.

The visit was a great success with students highlighting how it helped to reaffirm their subject knowledge but in a way that isn't always possible in the classroom.



## #MyPledge

The #MYPLEDGE project involves students giving their time to valuable causes within the community with the aim of developing volunteers' key skills whilst giving them valuable experience to add to their CV's for future college/apprenticeship applications.

Year 11 students began the project in January and will continue to log their hours throughout this academic year. We have students volunteering in a great range of activities such as the Warrington Food Bank, Brownies, Scouts, Girl Guides, football referees, primary school sports, charity shops, Warrington Wolves in the community, and many many more.



## Culcheth High School Open Evening



# Open Evening

## Thursday 5th October 2017



Arrival and Registration 6.00pm

Headteacher Presentation 6.30pm & 7.00pm

76% of students achieved a standard pass in  
English & Mathematics

56% of students achieved a strong pass in  
English and Mathematics

Warrington Road,  
Culcheth, WA3 5HH  
Phone: 01925 767587  
[www.culchethhigh.co.uk](http://www.culchethhigh.co.uk)

➤ RESPECT  
➤ HONESTY  
➤ EXCELLENCE

## Wellbeing Room – Plea for Help

As part of our commitment to young people's mental health and wellbeing, we are developing a new space in school to work creatively with students. This is a plea for donations of toys/action figures. Could all donations please be handed in to Mrs Saffery or Miss Creighton at S119. Many thanks.



## C-2-S Village Festival

In July, the Culcheth-2-Soweto team ended the summer term and bumper season of fundraising with a bang. We hosted a Summer Festival headlined by the UK's no1 Coldplay tribute band, Viva La Coldplay.

It is fair to say by the end of the night the band had the entire audience up jumping and dancing. We were blessed by good weather for the majority of the night, which was fortunate as one of our main attractions was a BBQ! The event, hosted at Culcheth Sports Club in the village, was packed out with 200 tickets sold to members of the school and community coming along to join in the festivities. The team had been busy from 3pm setting up and turning the function room in to an African themed area complete with balloons, raffle prizes, games area and BBQ pitch.

The evening began with live entertainment from a singer with an acoustic guitar (in the form of Miss Longden's brother!) who performed songs from Ed Sheeran to Elvis to George Michael, as the crowds took their seats. The C2S apprentices sold raffle tickets for our star prizes of a flat screen TV, retro record player and restaurant vouchers as the night got underway in anticipation of our headline act. Mr Cushing, kindly assisted by Mr Lakin, played the role of chef by flipping and serving burgers, which went down brilliantly on the night, all helping to boost our profits.

By 9pm the band were ready to play and what a fantastic job they did! It was a wonderful night and a huge success which we would love to repeat next year as so much fun was had by all for this great cause; even the staff got up dancing! We raised £2000 from this event in preparation for our visit to Soweto in October.

A huge thank you to Lisa and Catering Academy for sponsoring the food and to our governor, Mrs Titchard, for securing the band for us.



## Attendance Update

In the last newsletter, we were hopeful that we would manage to maintain our whole school attendance of 96%. Whilst we are sad that we did not achieve this (our percentage dropped to 95.8%), we are thrilled at the high numbers of students who received a praise email for attendance above 96% and particularly those students with 100% for either the whole school year or one of the full terms.

We will celebrate attendance of 96-100% for both the school year 2016-17 and the summer term with Biscuits at Break with the Senior Leadership Team during week commencing 25<sup>th</sup> September. And we will continue to celebrate both individual excellent attendance and tutor group attendance. The tables below show the variety of winners in our POP (Promoting our Attendance) chart and we give special acknowledgement of tutor group 8H, who managed to improve their percentage by 1.4% in Half Term 6 when they were 7H. Let's hope that all of our students and tutor groups can better or maintain their attendance this school year. We also hope that those students who received an email advising them that they had finished the school year 2016-17 below 96% are able to improve this year. There are, as always at the start of each school year, some tips below to help students to achieve a high attendance percentage. I finish with a reminder of contact details for attendance:

Mrs Peters, Attendance Officer: 01925 768577 (absence line), [kpe@culchethhigh.org.uk](mailto:kpe@culchethhigh.org.uk)

Mrs Bradley, Pastoral Student Support Officer, KS3: 01925 768582, [pbr@culchethhigh.org.uk](mailto:pbr@culchethhigh.org.uk)

Mrs Saffery, Pastoral Student Support Officer, KS4: 01925 768598, [sbm@culchethhigh.org.uk](mailto:sbm@culchethhigh.org.uk)

<u>Top of the Pops, Summer, Half Term 6</u>	<u>Highest Climber, Summer, Half Term 6</u>
7M, MRS WINSTANLEY	7H, MISS LEES
8H, MRS SHAW	8Y, MRS ANDREWS
9H, MRS MORTIMORE/MISS HESFORD	9A, MISS TYERS
10T, MR BARRY	10H, MR TASKER

<u>Top of the Pops, School year 2016-17</u>	<u>Highest Climber, School year 2016-17</u>
7I, MR NOLAN	7Y, MRS BIMPSON
8H, MRS SHAW	8M, MR BOLTON
9H, MRS MORTIMORE/MISS HESFORD	9N, MISS HARRISON
10T, MR BARRY	10M, MRS CHRIMES

### Top Tips for Achieving 97% or Higher Attendance:

- Arrive at school in the morning and at every lesson throughout the day on time – learning starts from the beginning of every lesson, registration and assembly.
- Have a healthy and balanced lifestyle: include recommended amounts of fruit, vegetables and water in daily intake, include recommended amount of physical activity, include recommended amount of sleep (plan homework tasks so that there are no unnecessary late nights) and dress appropriately for the weather (coats and umbrellas are often missed so that students start their day cold and wet with their focus not fully on learning).
- Ensure medical appointments are made outside of school hours (and if this is not possible, contact the school's Pastoral Student Support Team to discuss options which will result in the least amount of time missed: Key Stage 3, Mrs Bradley 01925 768582; Mrs Saffery 01925 768598).
- Ensure all holidays are taken in the school holidays (13 weeks in total).
- In the event of any unavoidable absence, please follow reporting procedures as detailed in student planners, remembering that there are 2 attendance marks for every day so students can come in to school later in the day if they feel better. Also, ensure that on return, students see class teachers so that they can catch up on any work missed.



## Biology Field Visit

At the end of term last year, 59 Year 10 students visited Anglesey to complete some of the ecology aspects of the new Biology GCSE curriculum.

On the first day of the visit, we visited Aberffraw on the South Western coast of Anglesey. This beach allowed the students to complete a random sampling activity looking at the distribution of marram grass across the dune system. Bad weather and the threat of a thunderstorm did mean that we completed this activity very quickly.

On the second day, the weather was much kinder to us. We visited a small cove called Porth Eilian on the North Eastern coast of Anglesey to complete a second sampling activity. This time the students completed a systematic sample of the shore to record the effect of height (position on the shore) against the distribution of the different species. The students also managed to collect some measurements of two dog whelk populations from different shores, which they analysed back at the lab in the evening to discuss possible explanations due to evolution by natural selection.

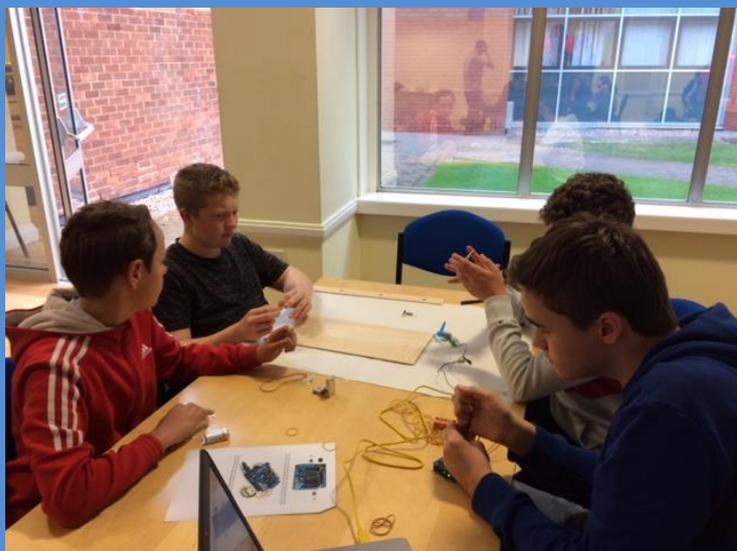
On the last day of the visit, the students visited the School of Ocean Science at Menai Bridge. This campus is part of Bangor University and the students were treated to a tour of the facilities, a practical activity identifying plankton and a lecture from the Head of School about extreme environments. We returned to school late on the Friday afternoon very tired but extremely satisfied with the hard work and effort put in by all of the students.



## STEM Residential

At the end of the summer term, nine Year 9 students participated in a STEM residential hosted by the University of Chester. They engaged in a variety of activities from Maths lectures, Chemistry and Physics experiments as well as designing and programming their very own airship using balloons.

The event included an overnight stay at the halls of residence on the Padgate Campus and was designed to give the students an insight into life as a student. The event was a tremendous success and thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. There will be the opportunity for Year 9 students this year to attend in the summer term.



# CULCHETH HIGH SCHOOL

## HOLIDAY DATES - 2018-2019

Terms	Date of Opening	Date of Closing
Autumn first half-term	Wednesday 5 September 2018	Friday 19 October 2018
Autumn second half- term	Monday 29 October 2018	Friday 21 December 2018
Spring first half-term	Monday 7 January 2019	Friday 15 February 2019
Spring second half-term	Monday 25 February 2019	Friday 5 April 2019
Summer first half-term	Tuesday 23 April 2019	Friday 24 May 2019
Summer second half-term	Monday 3 June 2019	Friday 19 July 2019

### INSET DAYS (Provisional)

Monday 3 September 2018  
 Tuesday 4 September 2018  
 Friday 5 October 2018

Two other INSET Days will be 'twilight' sessions.

### SCHOOL CLOSED

Easter Weekend: Falls within the Easter holidays

May Day Holiday: Monday 6 May 2019