

The Eagle



Culcheth High School

Issue 126 – March 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

As we hurtle towards the end of the spring term, Culcheth High School has been as busy as ever, cramming so much in to every week, including the half-term break. A huge thank you to the staff who gave up time to take students to New York and ran some Year 11 revision sessions, in school. You can see and read more about the New York visit in this newsletter. You can also read about the action-packed term that the school community has had since Christmas.

Year 11 students are in final preparation stages for their GCSE exams, with a full Easter revision school scheduled, to complement the daily revision and intervention sessions that have been taking place. We have been really impressed with the commitment and attitude of the Year 11 students. Thank you to all of the staff who delivering all of the extra sessions to support our Year 11 students. GCSE exams start on Thursday 8th May, two and a half weeks after the Easter holiday.

To support parents, we included a factsheet in the Year 11 reports, that details a wide range of support materials for parents, carers and students. The resources can be found on the school website. They are fantastic tools, and I hope you find them very useful.

You may have noticed that work has started on our new 3G astroturf pitch. We cannot wait for our school and local community to have access to this amazing sports facility. Work should be completed soon after the Easter holidays.

As we move towards the end of the spring term, may I take the opportunity to stress the importance to students, parents and carers of the following areas to which there will be a continued focus throughout the summer term:

- The importance of punctuality to school and getting to school on time in the morning. School gates will close at 8.45am
- The importance of full attendance at school to ensure students do not miss out on any further learning
- The importance of full uniform in line with the school uniform policy – particularly the inappropriate use of excessive make up, false nails, eye lashes and jewellery by a very small minority of our student community
- The use of mobile phones is prohibited in school between 8.40am and 3.00pm. Mobile phones will be confiscated if used or seen within these times

A further reminder to parents, carers and students that energy drinks, high sugar content drinks and chewing gum are banned from Culcheth High School. The adverse effects of these products do not support a positive learning environment and waste chewing gum is having an impact on the physical environment, with site staff and cleaning staff having to remove the gum from many areas of school. Students will have these products confiscated if they bring them in to school.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a peaceful and restful Easter break and we will see everyone back in school on Tuesday 22nd April. #WeAreCHS

Mr C P Hunt, Headteacher

Culcheth Library – Outdoor Space

At the end of 2024, we wrote about our school being part of our local community here in Culcheth. Following the refurbishment of our local library, using contributions from funds raised and generous donations by the community, Culcheth High School provided outdoor furniture for visitors to sit, read, reflect and meet with each other.

Groundworks started in October 2024, allowing the installation of the new benches, which are now in place. To celebrate the outdoor furniture and groundworks being completed, on Monday 17th March 2025, our Musical Theatre students took part in the outdoor opening event, by singing some songs from Matilda the Musical. The students wowed the guests at the event as well as passers-by with their talent.

Thank you to the Friends of Culcheth Library, Warrington Brough Council and Livewire for inviting us to be part of the project, contributing in a small way to keeping our local library open.



Key School Dates

4th April 2025
Spring Term Ends

22nd April 2025
Summer Term Commences

1st May 2025
Year 8 Parents' Evening (A Side)

8th May 2025
Year 8 Parents' Evening (B Side)

8th May 2025
GCSE Public Exams Commence

Monday Week 2

22nd April 2025
6th May 2025
19th May 2025

Publication Dates

23rd May 2025
11th July 2025

New York City Visit

Our school visit to New York City during the February half-term was a memorable experience, filled with exploration and discovery.

Our first evening was spent in Times Square, allowing students to experience the vibrant atmosphere. Most students were desperate to have their first Raising Cane's experience and, sadly, it did not live up to the TikTok hype they were hoping for.

Saturday started early, with a visit to the Statue of Liberty. Security checks were efficient this time, and we enjoyed seeing the iconic landmark. We then embarked on a comprehensive guided tour, covering Wall Street, the 9/11 Memorial, Trinity Church, the Financial District, and the Brooklyn Bridge. The snowy and cold conditions presented a bit of a challenge, but everyone persevered. Dinner at the Hard Rock Cafe in Times Square provided a warm and enjoyable end to the day.

Sunday's rainy weather didn't deter us from exploring. We spent the morning shopping on 5th Avenue, visiting stores like Bloomingdale's, Nike Town, Tiffany's and Lego. A few visited Trump Tower to have photos with someone who looked a little like the President and to purchase the obligatory red MAGA hat. Lunch at Rockefeller Center coincided with the arrival of celebrities for the SNL 50th Anniversary event, though they remained largely unseen due to the rain. Another evening in Times Square included dinner at Bubba Gump's and a final stroll around the area.

Monday's clear, crisp day allowed for excellent sightseeing. We enjoyed a movie location tour in Central Park, followed by a visit to the Natural History Museum, where students explored the various exhibits. The afternoon was dedicated to further shopping on 5th Avenue, and a late afternoon visit to Macy's and the surrounding area, where Crumbl Cookies proved to be a popular stop with many having the famous pink boxes. The evening ended with a visit to the top of the Empire State Building to get one last look at the city in the dark.

Tuesday's extremely cold weather, with temperatures dropping to -4 degrees and a wind chill of -8, made for a brisk start. We had breakfast at Grand Central Station, taking advantage of the whispering gallery, before walking across the Brooklyn Bridge. A quick stop at the Flatiron Building was followed by our departure for the airport and the flight home.

The trip was a great success, thanks to the excellent behaviour of the students and the hard work of the staff: Mr Nolan, Mr Bolton, Mrs Chrimes and Mrs Taylor. We also extend our gratitude to the parents for their support in making this trip possible.



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 considerably so that driveways are not blocked and grass verges are not damaged
- Please do not use residents' driveways to turn

Please also be reminded not to use the primary school car park.

School Uniform 2024-25

School uniform for 2024-25 has not changed, however there are a number of points that parents/carers need to be aware of:

1. The 'School Shoe Guidance' that remains applicable for 2024-25 is available on the school website, along with the 2024-25 uniform statement.
2. Hairstyles must be suitable for school. (Extreme hairstyles including patterns, lines or indentations shaved or sculptured onto the hair are not acceptable. Other examples include 'Mohicans', 'Skinheads' and inappropriate use of natural coloured dye to create clashing and/or extreme hair colour patterns. Non-natural colours are not acceptable.)
3. Excessive make-up is unnecessary and inappropriate and must not be worn; this includes false eyelashes and fake tan

School Gates

A reminder to all parents/carers that the school gates open at 8.15am. Students arriving on site before 8.15am will be unable to enter the school site until this time.

Parent Code of Conduct

Unfortunately, Culcheth High School has had to adopt a 'Parent Code of Conduct' following an increase in incidents of inappropriate behaviour, from parents, towards members of staff in school. It is a simple code that outlines the school's expectations of parental conduct when communicating with school, examples of behaviour that will not be tolerated and the steps the school will take if inappropriate behaviour, from parents, takes place. The 'Parent Code of Conduct' can be found on the home page of the school website and also in the school policies section.

Student Possessions and Belongings

Students' possessions and belongings that they bring into school are their own responsibility and, as such, students must take care of them. We provide every student with a locker where they can store their belongings and possessions throughout the school day.

Given the expense of some of the items that students now bring into school, they do so at their own risk. The school can accept no responsibility or liability for loss, damage or theft of personal items. Often students bring expensive items into school that are not required for school; we discourage this, but we also encourage students to look after their personal possessions such as coats, phones, watches etc. ensuring that they don't misplace them or leave them unattended. It is not the responsibility of school staff to search for missing items, due to the impact this would have on missed learning time.

Youth Speaks Competition

One of my favourite events in the school year is the Youth Speaks competition, which is organised by the Rotary Club. The competition allows students to talk at length about a topic of their own choosing – a topic they are truly passionate about. Despite the students naturally being very nervous, the evening is a fantastic experience and an opportunity to build confidence and develop valuable public speaking skills. Not only do the students enjoy the evening – it's also a real treat for the adults in the room to sit back and learn something new from young people in the local area. This year, I was delighted to have three teams enter the competition – and what fantastic teams they were!

Firstly, we had intermediate team 1 – Evie Webster (Chairperson), Isla Hurst (Main Speaker) and Kyran Roberts (Vote of Thanks). The team spoke about global warming and really gave the audience something to think about. Our intermediate team 2 were Jessica Rix (Chairperson), Freya Booth (Main Speaker) and Thea Wylie (Vote of Thanks). These students talked about the importance of physical activity and shared their experience in gymnastics. Finally, our senior team – Hazel Pouncey (Chairperson), Darcey Gripton (Main Speaker) and Isabelle Corns (Vote of Thanks) – gave a passionate and inspiring speech about the representation of females in the media.

All teams were wonderful; they spoke with confidence, maturity and clarity. The judges clearly agreed as we came away with a second place for our intermediate team 2 and our senior team were crowned the winners for the second year running and brought the shield back to Culcheth. I'm very proud of you all!

Mrs Wilkinson, Teacher of English



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Warrington Services Delivers Important Lessons to Years 8 and 10

Public Health Warrington commissions Warrington Borough Council's Early Help and Targeted Youth Service to support young people's health and well-being. Their team, alongside specialist services, provides guidance to help young people understand risks and their potential impact on future outcomes.

During their recent visit to CHS, the Warrington Service delivered informative and interactive sessions to Years 8 and 10, focusing on managing risk and personal safety. These sessions supported the school's Personal Development curriculum, which equips students with the knowledge and skills to navigate life safely and successfully.

Year 8 Topics:

- **Gambling:** Recognising influences, making informed choices, understanding risks, and accessing support.
- **Gaming:** Identifying negative behaviours, staying safe, reducing screen time, and seeking help when needed.

Year 10 Topics:

- **Online Safety and Exploitation:** Understanding online risks, sharing images responsibly, legal awareness, and accessing support.

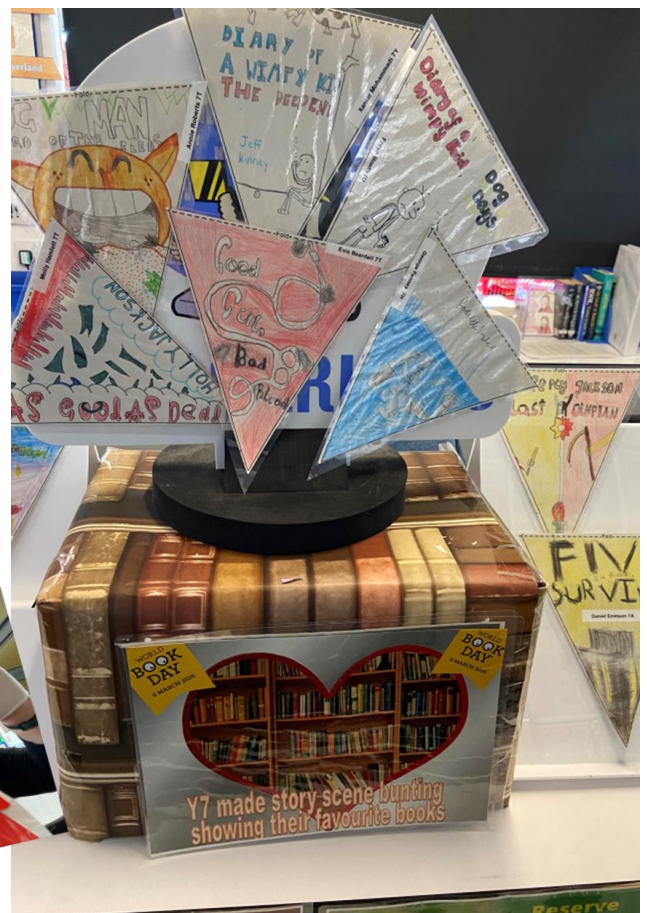
The visit was well-received, with students engaging in discussions and gaining valuable insights. We thank the Warrington Service for their commitment to educating and empowering our young people and look forward to future collaborations.



World Book Day – Thursday 6th March 2025

To celebrate this year's World Book Day, all Year 7 students received a £1 book token to exchange for a free book, or to put towards any book in participating bookshops. The ILC ran a whole-school competition "Who said it? The Bat or The Bard?" - students had to decide which of the quotes were from Shakespeare, and which were from Batman! Congratulations to Joshua Rozenbroek 7U, who received a £10 book token for his efforts.

Year 7 students made story scene bunting, celebrating their favourite books and stories. All the finalists were on display in the ILC, and choosing three winners was a very difficult decision! The deserving winners were: Lucy Riding in first place, winning a £20 book token; Michael Barnes in 2nd place winning a £10 book token; and in third place, winning some stationery was Daisy Edwards. Well done to all our Year 7 contestants.





FOCUS ON SPORT



Cheshire Sports Hall Athletics Championships

For those of you not familiar with this activity, it involves adaptations of traditional athletics track and field events, so that they can be performed in the more compact setting of a Sports Hall. Our Year 8 boys' team, pictured below, qualified by finishing 2nd in the Warrington Championship at Birchwood High School, back in early February.



The Cheshire Championships were held at Ellesmere Port Sports Village, on Monday 17th March. Individual event victories by Archie Hopkins in the shot putt and Harry Millar in the 6-lap endurance race, were backed up with lots of high placed finishes from JJ Moran, Declan MacKey, Hayden Henderson and Max Ewart in the long jump, triple jump and in a number of individual and relay running races. In the end, the boys fell just short of winning the entire event, but a second placed finish in a county championship is certainly something they can be very proud of.

Warrington Cup Football

Now that the nights are becoming longer, we've got enough daylight to resume our after-school fixtures programme, in the form of the Warrington Schools Cup. Unfortunately, it looks like our teams are struggling to convert their good form from the 9-a-side competitions earlier in the year, into successful performances in this 11-a-side competition, as we have been knocked out of both the Year 9 and Year 10 cups already!

The Year 9s were drawn against St Gregory's High School, who were a bit of an unknown force, as they weren't involved in the league football programme before Christmas. They turned out to be a really good side, and after a thoroughly enjoyable and closely fought contest, we entered the final minute of the game with a slender, yet well deserved, 1-0 lead. All we had to do to go through into the quarter finals was defend one last free kick, but a combination of a dangerous delivery, and some hesitant defending from ourselves, saw us concede a last-minute equaliser. Into extra time, it was clear to see that the boys were struggling to handle the disappointment of conceding such a late leveller, and as is often the case in football, St. Gregory's took advantage of this and scored the winner.

Our Year 10s were drawn against Kings Leadership Academy, a team they have regularly finished higher than in the league, so we had hoped that this would be the start of a good cup run for them and maybe even set up a final appearance to sign off on their school football careers on a high. Alas, this was not to be, and a somewhat underwhelming performance saw us lose 2-5 in a game where we just never got going.

Hopefully one or both of our Year 7 and Year 8 teams can put together a more successful cup run, with the 7s also drawn against St Gregory's, and the Year 8s facing Birchwood over the next couple of weeks.

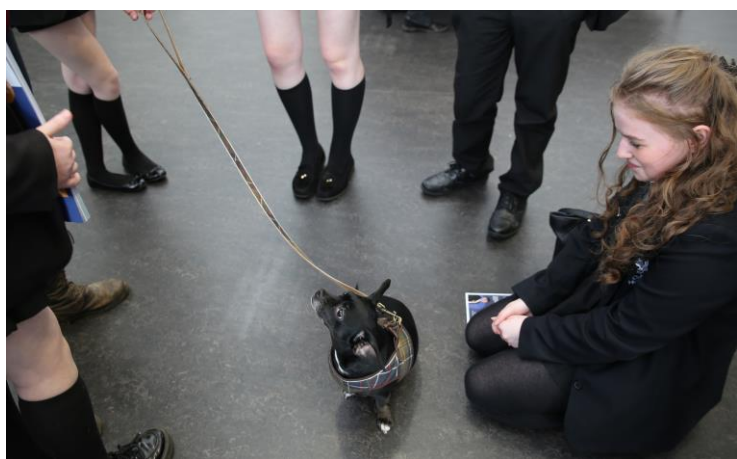
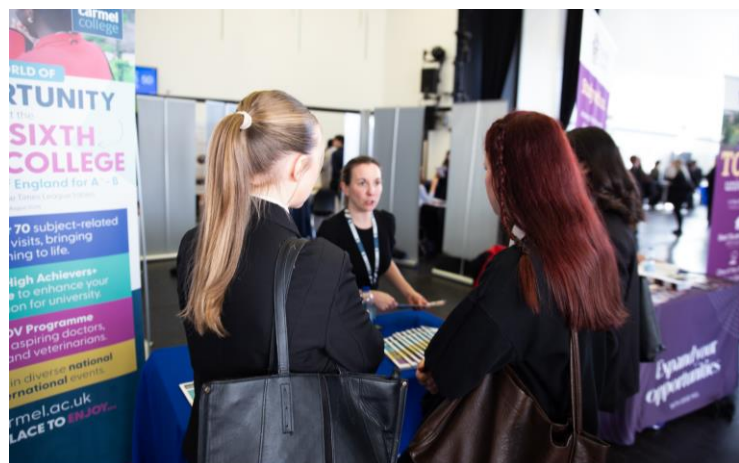
Careers Fair at Culcheth High School

Culcheth High School hosted a highly successful Careers Fair that provided students from Years 7 to 11 with the opportunity to engage with a wide range of colleges, universities, and companies, offering them valuable insights into potential career paths and further education options. A diverse range of colleges and universities participated in the fair, providing students with essential information about post-16 education and higher learning opportunities. Representatives from local institutions like Winstanley College, St John Rigby College, Wigan and Leigh College, Warrington Vale College, Priestley College, and others shared insights into their academic programs, student life, and the entry requirements for various courses.

In addition to educational institutions, the Careers Fair also welcomed a variety of companies that offered insights into careers in various sectors. The RAF, Army, and Navy were among the most popular booths, as students inquired about the diverse roles available within the armed forces. They discussed career paths in aviation, logistics, engineering, and combat, with a focus on the training, personal development, and travel opportunities these careers provide. The NHS highlighted the wide range of career opportunities within healthcare, from clinical roles like nursing and medicine to behind-the-scenes positions in administration and support. The Police, Waterside Apprenticeships, and Simian also attracted interest, with students discussing various routes into law enforcement, the maritime industry, and the construction sector. Representatives from Cavendish Nuclear, Sellafield, and ABB spoke to students about the growing demand for skilled professionals in the nuclear and technology sectors.

Many students asked about the necessary qualifications and career progression opportunities in these fields, with a particular focus on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) subjects and the increasing need for engineers and scientists in these high-demand industries. Warrington Youth Zone offered information about community-based careers, particularly in youth work and social services. Students expressed interest in making a positive impact in their communities, asking about the skills needed for roles in social care and education.

The fair was an overwhelming success, providing students with an excellent opportunity to engage with a wide variety of colleges, universities, and companies. The event helped students gain a clearer understanding of their post-school options and allowed them to ask informed questions about potential career paths, qualifications, and training programs. Thanks to the presence of all the visiting organisations, students left the fair with a wealth of knowledge, advice, and inspiration to guide them as they move forward in their education and career planning.



Art Update

In February, the Art Department hosted a Year 9 Fine Art and Design Textile masterclass. Delivery mirrored that of a GCSE lesson and allowed students to explore our subject and work for a period of time on a piece of work.

Initially, both groups worked together and produced line studies of natural forms focusing on shape, proportion and 3D. Fine Art students went on to explore surface texture with coffee, mark-making with graphite and graphite powder producing an A2 mixed media drawing, whilst experimenting with tine.

Textile Design students developed an applique which involved layering of fabric and exploring free machining, hand stitching and embellishment creating a design.

Year 9 students enjoyed the opportunity to work large scale and having the freedom to explore different processes and techniques. They worked exceptionally hard and produced detailed pieces of work. Well done to Year 9.



CHS in the Community – Year 8

Ruby has been a dedicated dancer at Gemstone Cheer and Dance for more than five years.

In November, Ruby and her teammates had the exciting opportunity to travel to Disneyland Paris to compete in the Future Cheer competition, "Bring It On," in the under-16s pom division. Ruby and her team received some fantastic feedback from the judges, who praised their striking facial expressions and dramatic pom routines. The team were thrilled to finish as division winners!

Ruby and her team are now diligently training for their next competition at the Winter Gardens. Again, they will be competing in the under-16s youth pom division, and in two youth cheer divisions.

We wish Ruby the best of luck ahead of her next competition.



GCSE Drama at CHS

Year 10 and 11 GCSE drama students have had a busy few months. They watched *Blood Brothers* at the Palace Theatre in Manchester in December. This is the set text used in their examination. The Willy Russell classic tale of two brothers separated at birth, only to become best friends. We cannot give away any spoilers but the performance is highly emotional, funny and such a crowd pleaser.







































Year 10 attended Winstanley College to watch *Our House* based on the music from the band Madness. This featured many ex-students, and we were very proud that they have continued to shine brightly.

Year 11 also had the opportunity to meet a professional ballet dancer George who hails from Culcheth. George is currently touring the world with Matthew Bourne's *Swan Lake* and has danced since the age of three. George answered questions from the Year 11 class about ballet technique, his career and his training. This was essential for their understanding of section C of their exam, analysing the performance *Billy Elliot*.



EMOJI SLANG

DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT MEANS

GENERAL	VIOLENCE
<p>  'Ghosted' - to be ignored</p> <p>   To be shocked</p> <p>  Idiot/stupid</p> <p>  'Capping' lying</p>	<p>  'Dead Meat'</p> <p>     Stab</p> <p>  Punch</p> <p>  Gun/Shoot</p>
SUICIDAL IDEATION	DRUGS
<p>   Self harm</p> <p>   Suicide</p> <p>   Suicide</p> <p>   Suicide</p>	<p>    Marijuana</p> <p>   Heroin, Cocaine, Crystal meth</p> <p>      Getting high</p> <p>    Buying drugs/County Lines</p>

SEXUAL

   Male genitalia

   Female genitalia

   Bottom

 Virginity

 'Spicy' risqué behaviour

   Sharing an explicit image

  Shy/Nervous

 Hour glass shape body

     Sexual desire

   Sexual activity



PLAYERS WANTED NOW



**CURRENT U12'S
COME AND JOIN
OUR FANTASTIC
CLUB**



**CONTACT
ALEC-07738617199
OR
STEVE-07808924378**

