

Year 10 continue to do themselves proud as they showcase our core values of respect, responsibility and resilience on a daily basis.

School Production



If you were fortunate enough to see the whole school performance of *Little Shop of Horrors* you will be aware all the students excelled. There were several Year 10 students involved and it was an honour and a privilege to watch them perform with such talent and enthusiasm. From the singers to actors to backstage crew, our staff and students collaborated to put on a show worthy of the West End! A huge well done to the following for their contribution to the show: Zac Kirby, Merry Lambert-Sams, Angus MacDonald, AJ Chandler, Sofia Currie, Abigail Dawson, Imogen Graham, Isabella MacKay, Beth Rutherford, Will Taylor, Morven Yerbury and Lydia Connolly.



House Tutor Time

Tutors continue to work with students to maintain high standards. *Standards Cards* have been introduced to encourage students to be responsible for upholding these standards. It is great to see so much positive communication between parents and tutors as a follow up to the new standards cards.

Tutors continue to complete work around aspirations weekly, currently establishing the link between various subjects studied at WHS and the career opportunities this can lead to. Moving into the summer term, we will focus our attention on revision strategies to ensure our students are prepared for the Year 10 mocks.

House Councils

House council meetings take place regularly with the Heads of House. New members are welcome to join. If you are keen to make a difference within the school community, this is your chance to get involved. The Heads of House would like to thank students and parents for their contributions to Eden Valley Hospice as WHS donations are always hugely appreciated by them.

House Points

House points are awarded daily, and it is great to see so many students accumulating numerous points throughout the weeks. *Learner of the Lesson* is awarded to students who sustain focus and engagement throughout the lesson. Since the beginning of the Spring term, **Adam Hopper** has achieved the most Learner of the Lessons - well done! The following students have also achieved a number of Learner of the Lesson since the beginning of the Spring term: **Aidan Forster, Ruby Penkeyman, Max Forster, Livi Baxter and Liam Hetherington**. I'm sure the house points will serve you well in our end of term auction assembly.

As always, your school experience is what you make it: "Some people want it to happen; some wish it would happen, others make it happen." (Michael Jordan).

Make it happen Year 10!

Miss Mulholland, Director of Learning (Year 10)

vmulholland@williamhoward.cumbria.sch.uk

Headteacher Award

Once again, the prestigious award has been awarded to a Year 10 student. Shaun Petry is a student who consistently works hard in school, excelling academically. He is a respectful member of the school community and displays high levels of responsibility for his own learning. Shaun not only excels academically, but also in the sporting sense. He completes a gruelling training schedule each week for Carlisle United U15 Academy Team. Shaun is an excellent role model for all students and thoroughly deserves this award.



Student Interview Panel

It is common practice for students to form part of a panel for the interview process of teachers. Most recently, Sandy Roberts, Theo Bowe, Maddie Grierson, Shaun Petry, Henry Woodman, Imogen Graham, Amy Gray, Ben Williamson and Hope O'Connor formed part of the panel and it was reported all students were exceptional in their role.

The lead interviewer was particularly impressed by the nature of the discourse and the courage the students showed in sensitively challenging ideas and questioning practices and processes. In addition to the set questions, they independently raised issues they wanted to discuss relating to students' behaviour and the curriculum planning and the plans for resource provision, particularly for Sports. They did a truly wonderful job.

Raising Aspirations

At the beginning of February, we welcomed Molly Lockwood, a Schools Liaison and Outreach & Recruitment Officer from Queens College, Oxford University who conducted a raising aspirations afternoon through a presentation and a Q&A session

with some of our Year 10 students. Her presentation about life at university and the advice she provided will be helpful when pupils apply to universities in due course. She highlighted the pros and cons of going to university; choosing the right A Levels; course choices and careers advice; student finance; and the application process. Students engaged well with this, and the university gave positive feedback.

Reading Coaches

A group of twenty Year 10 students have stepped up to be Reading Coaches to Years 7 and 8 students. They have shown amazing skills in owning this activity and have also proved how well they can organise themselves. The coaches have given up break times for training, and this dedication and commitment shown by them will make a real difference in helping our younger students read more confidently and foster a love of reading.



LAMDA

LAMDA lessons have got off to a strong start, all students - Isabella Mackay, Beth Rutherford, Quentin Shaw, Will Taylor and Abigail Dawson - are showing great enthusiasm and commitment towards preparing for their forthcoming examinations in June.

We are fortunate at William Howard School to be able to offer the opportunity for our students to take LAMDA examinations in solo acting as part of our Drama peripatetic programme.

SPORTS

Netball



The Year 10 netball team played against RRMA at the beginning of February, winning 12-5. Miss Carruthers reported: A solid performance by the Year 10 netball team. Some brilliant set pieces coming together nicely. We are very much ready for our Holland Sports Tour at Easter - as the season goes on, we are going from strength to strength! Well done!



It was another nail-biting match for one of the Year 10 teams against Caldew School. Last time we played, Caldew took the win by one goal, fuelling our determination going into this match; this time it was our turn. It was goal for goal for a lot of the game. By the end of the first quarter, we were leading 5-3, second quarter we held on 11-9 but we were shooting against the wind making some of the easier, close-up shots difficult. At the end of the third quarter Caldew had pulled it back, they made some substitutions within their defence putting our attack under increasing pressure, it was 15 -15 and it was feeling very tense. WHS kept their cool, some lovely defensive interceptions overturned the opposition's C pass.

Final score: WHS-19 Caldew-18. Well deserved!!!

TEAM: Izzy Milligan, Hope O'Connor (C), Amy Gray, Izzy Matthews, Beth Johnston, Carmen Fell and Maddy Reed (Nominated players' player by the opposition).

Carlisle United U15s

Year 10 boys including Thomas Bolger, Ben Morton, Shaun Petry and Will Rafferty, form part of Carlisle United's U15s team. An excellent performance on Monday, 26th February resulted in a 3-1 win against Crewe at Brunton Park. The team will now progress to the next round of the Floodlit Cup. A huge well done!



SUBJECT NEWS

Assessments

A number of option subjects are currently completing controlled assessments which count towards their final grades, and the majority of students are responding to this with the maturity, grit and determination we would expect to see at this point in Year 10.

In Animal Care, students have completed their filmed assessment on handling a small companion animal, this will form part of their summative grade. BTEC Sports assessments have been performed and students seem to be responding well.

In Health & Social Care and Childcare, both groups are working on the first PSA (Pearson Set Assignment) which is 33% of their overall grade. Most students are focussed and engaged showing a real willingness to be the best they can be. Some excellent Task 1s have been produced so far for both subjects. After Easter we start teaching Component 2 in preparation for the second and final coursework which is completed when we return in the Autumn Term of Year 11.

English

The English Department are going to see *An Inspector Calls* in October in Darlington. All Year 10 students study this play and will sit an exam on it for their GCSEs. It would be very beneficial for students to see a live production of the play. Tickets are now available on ParentPay at a cost of £30.

Art and Photography

Our Year 10 Photography students have been experimenting with all sorts of styles and techniques. Here is a very small selection of their work; varied, as you see – and we're very pleased with the results.

Well done Year 10!



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Many of our students are constantly seeking new opportunities and developing their passions. It is inspiring to hear of their wonderful achievements. I challenge you to try something new and step out of your comfort zone – if it doesn't challenge you, it won't change you! Seize every opportunity to learn something new, build on skills and foster habits of commitment and discipline. It is wonderful hearing from students and parents about the success of our students outside of school, please do continue to keep us updated so we can recognise this in school.

Please send updates of your child's achievements to either me (vmulholland@williamhoward.cumbria.sch.uk) or Mr Dawson (mdawson@williamhoward.cumbria.sch.uk)

Jamie Oakes

I have recently started Muaythai kickboxing as I wanted to practice a new skill and learn self defence. Since joining, I have developed the ability to work independently to perfect skills but also work as a pair when sparring. Sparring involves using the skills learnt in the sessions to work together in motion to perfect the skills as well as support others in making progress. This has taught me to become more resilient when trying to perfect skills which links to my education as I realise we may have to work on the same skill a number of times before we can perfect it. I would encourage anyone with an interest in sports like boxing to find a club and get involved as I have learnt new skills and made new friends.

Izzy Milligan



I started running from a young age as I particularly enjoyed cross country during primary school. I joined Border Harriers in 2022 which requires me to train twice a week. This then leads to athletics competitions which have allowed me to travel to Manchester and the surrounding areas. Most recently I travelled to Portugal with Border Harriers to take part in warm weather training. This helps runners gain power and develop stamina. Being part of Border Harriers has allowed me to make new friends who have similar interests. It is also good for your mental health and wellbeing. I believe keeping active, especially during stressful periods, is important to maintain balance. I am looking forward to the athletic season in May as I continue to strive for PBs in 800m and 300m.

Look out for more inspiring stories in our next newsletter!