

Insight

Autumn Term: Edition 3



Hello everyone and I hope you are all keeping well.

As our Christmas holidays approach, I just wanted to thank you once again for your on – going support this term – and indeed, this year. This has been an extremely challenging time for everyone, but we have all pulled together superbly well; an incredible team effort.

We all continue to be affected in so many different ways with the impact of Covid – 19 which has changed our lives significantly. But during all of this period, the constant for our school has been you as parents and carers. We never take for granted how lucky we are to have you. Without you, we would not be the school that we are today. You are our partners and I cannot thank you enough for everything that you do for this school and for your children.

We are busily fundraising at the moment for our three charities: Halton Haven Hospice, Widnes Foodbank and Give a Child a Chance. Any donations that you can make would be appreciated so much. This is the time when our minds are very much on those who need our help and support and this year, it is more important than ever. With the support of students, families and our staff team, I know that we can help to make a difference. As is the case every year, it is an honour and a privilege to do so.

With kindest regards,

Simon Corner
Principal

Mock Examinations Our mock exams are taking place at the moment for Y11 students up to Thurs 17th Dec. Please impress upon your children the following:

- They must provide their own equipment – including calculators.
- It is up to students to ensure that they check their timetables daily to ensure that they are where they should be, on the correct day and at the correct time.

School Attendance 1st September 4th December

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	All Years
97.24%	96.09%	94.67%	93.60%	91.62%	94.63%



Anti – Bullying Competition A regular feature of Anti – Bullying Week is Mrs Whitfield’s Poster Competition with our year 7s. Here she is looking as lovely as ever with Georgia, Ben and Ella – our 2020 winners. Well done to everyone.

Our 2020 Christmas Display Our 2020 Christmas Display has been officially unveiled. Mrs Holland has been running a competition over the past few weeks with our younger students to name the toy shop with the winner announced with the unveiling:

Winner: Kyle Clark Y7 ‘The Beary Good Toy Shop’
 2nd Place: Riley Bleasedale Y8 ‘Paddington’s Pawesome Toys’
 3rd Place: Evie Lunt Y7 ‘Choose to Amuse’

All brilliant names and big thanks to all of our youngsters who took part – fantastic. And of course - a big thank you to Mrs Holland and Mr Phillips for creating such a wonderful display for us this year.



Christmas Card Competition Our Christmas Card Competition has now been judged. We had lots of entries so big thanks to all students who took part – brilliant.

The winning design was created by Vincenzo Esposito in Year 10 with the winning verse written by Nathan Gill in Year 8.

The cards are now available for purchase through WisePay. £2.50 for 5 / £5.00 for 10 with all proceeds to our designated charities. The cards will be available to buy for staff, students, parents and carers.

A huge thank you to both Mr Tutty in Art & Design whose idea this was and to Miss Thomas in English who coordinated the competition for the Christmas verse.

Christmas Card Competition 2020



Merry Christmas

And Happy New Year

Winning Card Design By Vinny Esposito

As you rush down the stairs, you beam a happy grin
Christmas is a time to share with friends and with our kin

Presents have been left adorned around the Christmas tree
A time of warmth to cherish with our closest family

The Christmas spirit's here and fills the room with joy
As Father Christmas leaves that very special toy

A festive Christmas Dinner then fills us to the brim
As we listen in the background to a choral Christmas hymn

The Star of Bethlehem – a sign from years ago
Now sits upon the Christmas tree – a sign of faith we show

Winning Verse Written By Nathan Gill



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Runner - Up Card Design By Isabelle Harrison

A joyful White Christmas
With presents and peace
A family gathering
For a Christmas feast

The spirit is soaring
All the festive lights
Santa Claus in coming
Down your chimney tonight

Christmas joy is all around
Bringing love and harmony
An all-embracing sound
Around the Christmas tree

I hope the Christmas spirit
Never ever ends
And that the best of presents
Are having family and friends

Runner Up Verse Written By Tilly Macaulay



Runner - Up Card Design By Nathan Petch

Season's Greetings to you all!
I know that this year's virus has driven us up the wall
But we all pulled together through the thick and through the thin
So let's all take the time now to bring the new year in

I hope you have a good Christmas time
That your Christmas tree lights sparkle and shine
For this is the greatest time of year – of happiness and cheer
Not forgetting Santa and his trusty reindeer

Merry Christmas from me to you
Next year will be better and I hope you think that too!

Runner Up Verse Written By Annie Hesketh


Quizzitch & Quaffles

In the lead up to Christmas, science students in Years 7, 8 & 9 will be involved in a series of Quizzitch homework tasks that will address Quaffles (learning gaps). Kerboodle online quizzes will allow students to build up points with prizes awarded to 3 students from each year who amass the most Quizzitch points each week. Additional Cryptic Science Clues (Snitches) will also be sent out with students having to find the answers in Hogwarts House. Why weren't homework tasks this interesting when we were at school?

WDSD QUIZZITCH

1. Professor Briers needs to restock her potion cupboard- I can't remember my secret code! Which elements do I need?

2. Hmm..... some of the vials from my list have this symbol labelled on them...



1. AcIDs
2. U
3. BONFIRE
4. VIRuS

3. Typical Professor Briers can't remember the scientist she was supposed to be researching about...the vial with XII letters is trying to give me a clue.....

4

2

3

4

e

Write your answer on a piece of paper and pass to your Science professor. The correct answer could gain you 150 points.

Our Trainees Get Creative! Our 21 Secondary ATs (Associate Teachers) have spent time getting in touch with their creative side. Working in collaboration with Hummingbird Art Studio, each of our ATs spent a day creating a visual representation of their journey into teaching. The day was planned as part of our Enrichment and Wellbeing programme, which enables our ATs to participate in activities outside of their subject area. In terms of Wellbeing, the day was a calm and relaxing period away from the classroom and a welcome break from Zoom!



Our Christmas Trees are Going Up! School is starting to look very festive with some great trees on display. Here's some lovely examples:



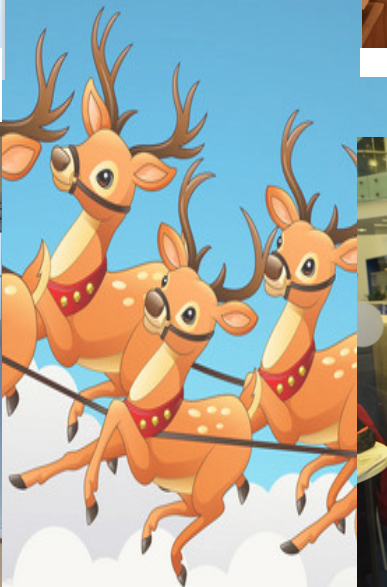
Computing, ICT & Business



Admin



Geography



Library

Staff in the Spotlight

Mrs Briers: Leader of Science Faculty



I was born in Newcastle but I grew up and was schooled in Ashton-in-Makerfield near Wigan- does that make me a Wiganer? St Edmund Arrowsmith High School was a fantastic school- I was so proud of my GCSE results, 5As and 5A*. I remember my dad couldn't believe it and my photo was taken for the local newspaper. This was the first year of awarding A*s. My 5 minutes of fame!

My whole family are thoroughbred Liverpoolian. My nan used to clean St Georges Hall. I would go with her on the train when I was young and help her empty the office bins. I still love to clean! It completely relaxes me

It's no surprise that I loved school. I loved learning and still do; but my best memories of high school revolve around my friends, gymnastics, netball and of course Science! I had some great science teachers who helped to develop my passion for Science. My own personal family circumstances meant that I had a vested interest from the start (my mum died of breast cancer when I was in primary school). So I went on to study Maths, Biology and Chemistry A-levels at Carmel College. Something you won't know about me is that my best friend (now a fabulous PE teacher) and I also became British Schools Gymnastic Champions for the second time whilst at Carmel (the first time was in High School).

I returned to Newcastle to undertake my undergraduate degree. I studied Molecular Biology (that's like the chemistry and behaviour of Biological molecules) and played netball for the University. Whilst playing netball for Uni, we went on tour to Barbados and Barcelona where I managed to acquire the nickname Kylie and meet the then England football team! Fun times.

I caught the research bug when I was offered a summer science placement in my tutor's laboratory after the first year of University. After another placement with the Northern Genetics service, I realised that I actually wanted to pursue research in the life sciences area so off I went to Edinburgh (a place I discovered whilst playing netball) to start my PhD.

I still love Edinburgh. If I didn't live here, I'd choose to live there! I love a Ceighlys, Burns night and cranachan (look them up!). As student rep, I have met and interviewed loads of interesting people including Sir John Sulston, Sir John Polkingthorne and Sir Paul Nurse (look them up). I got married in the year the Human Genome was completed in full (two days after to be exact) to someone who used to laugh at me in school maths lessons. Whose laughing now.....that's all I'm saying! I was awarded my doctorate two years later, finishing it at the ripe young age of 24.

I've always been an educator. My dad says that I was born a teacher! I 'played' at teacher when my brothers and I were little, I tutored A-level pupils whilst doing my undergrad and mentored undergraduates whilst doing my doctorate. Why teach in school? Because pupils have already chosen to do science when they reach college age and beyond. My vocation is about helping pupils discover a love and appreciation of science at an earlier age, so that they can make more informed choices about taking science further.

Yes, science can be difficult. But it can NEVER be boring!

Well, this is what I keep telling my three kids: at least one of them believes me.....I never said I was perfect

Christmas Fundraising We have a full programme of fundraising activities up to Christmas. A big part of this will be our campaign to support Widnes Foodbank, Halton Haven Hospice and Give a Child a Chance. It would be wonderful if you could help by donating any non – perishable items of food or any unwrapped gifts. Collection points will be positioned at year group entrances each morning from Monday 7th – Wednesday 16th December. All donations will be appreciated so much.



**Thank you
for all
of
your
Donations**

MISSION CHRISTMAS
Give a Child a Chance



Students and staff will be able to wear their Christmas Jumpers during the final three days of term in return for a £1 donation.



**Merry Christmas
and a Happy
New Year to all
of our readers**

Wade Deacon
High School

PERVET OPTS

'A Commitment to
Excellence'