



Mr Fay writes....

It is hard for me to believe that I am now in my eighth year as Headteacher at UVHS. What a brilliant experience I have had. The school is in exceptional condition thanks to the hard work of teachers, students, parents and governors. Such is our popularity across the Furness Peninsula, we are once again massively over-subscribed in Year 7 for 2016/17 and we have had a record number of applications for our 6th Form next year. The effect of the new buildings is being felt by all of our community and as I write this the sun is shining!



What more could a Headteacher ask for? Well, quite a lot actually.....

I am not a person to be easily satisfied and I believe that our brilliant school still has further potential and that last year's examination results, whilst representing a good stride, were still but a stepping stone on the journey of where this, once, sleeping giant should be travelling. If one thinks "job done" then the only route of travel is backwards! We must keep striving to improve the learning opportunities for all our students and, particularly, for those who are identified as being in some way disadvantaged. Although children, that the government clarify as being disadvantaged do rather better at UVHS than they do nationally in terms of examination success.

Our plans are always made harder at UVHS because we are chronically underfunded by our Local Authority and against national comparisons. However that lack of funding has not stopped us progressing in the past and it won't in the future.

The future will be different, however, without Mr Cahalin who leaves the school officially at the end of April and who will

no longer be our Assistant Headteacher. The school owes so much to Roger for his dedication to its cause through good times and bad. He has been an essential part of our improvement



journey and in the creation of the new build and I could not measure the extra hours that he has put into his role here since my time as Headteacher. No more 5 o'clock in the morning starts sniffing the air for snow Roger!

I will also be sad to say goodbye to Mrs Carol Gorton who has been a stalwart in the office for many years. Carol has taken on and learnt new roles over the years and she has been a very great help to me as Headteacher and a valued colleague to her work mates. Best wishes Carol.

Happy Easter everyone!
Mr D Fay, Headteacher.



SPRING 2016

UVHS is Proud to Introduce Vici!

There was excitement in the air at Ulverston Victoria High School on Tuesday 15th March during the Year 8 assembly.

Mr Taylor welcomed Sue Robinson the community fund raiser for Cumbria from 'Guide Dogs for the Blind' who gave a grateful speech to the students for their hard work last July in the Charity Walk.



Her message focused on thanks but emphasised that every hour another person in the UK goes blind and the money raised by our students will help to make sure that when someone loses their sight they don't lose their freedom as well.

However, there were gasps as the star of the show walked out on stage. Our very own, 6 month old, little guide dog 'Vici' was finally on show for all to see. We've posted pictures of her and had reports sent to us on her progress but this was the first time we actually got to see her.

Vici sat on stage with her trainer Lynne Hampson,



accompanied by her husband James and daughter Katie, while James spoke about her progress and Katie did her best to keep Vici calm.

Our Year 8 students watched and listened in awe and silence while Vici stared back with a similar startled surprise. There was time for a few questions and answers before time ran out.

It was a wonderful experience for everyone, a joy to see the actual fruits of their labour in such a beautiful way.





Farewell from Mr Cahalin

Mr Cahalin is retiring from UVHS at the end of April. He would like to say the following farewell to you all:

As many of you will know I shall be retiring at the end of April after 40 years of service to the school. I vividly remember arriving at the school wearing flared trousers and a bright green velvet jacket. I had a very big beard and shoulder length hair. I probably looked more like a rock star than a maths teacher. When I arrived the school bought its first electronic calculator having moved on from slide rules although they were very basic and we still had to use log tables. School computers were still a long way off and chalk (lots of chalk) and talk was the preferred way of teaching. I had intended to stay for a year or so and then



pursue my dream of travelling the world. Well, I'm still here! So why would I stay here for so long? That's easy. UVHS is a fantastic place to work and a great place to learn. The students here have been brilliant and I can count many former students as good friends. The staff, both teachers

and support staff are second to none. The quality of teaching in the school must stand comparison with the very best schools in the country. The school is delivering the best education it has ever done and I am extremely proud to have been a part of that journey, both as a teacher of maths and a member of the Senior Leadership Team. I have held many varied roles in the school and enjoyed them all immensely, but perhaps the most enjoyable and challenging has been to have project managed the new build and refurbishment. We now have facilities where are students can prosper in an environment where they can feel safe and comfortable. I will miss the staff here and of course I will miss the students, massively.

So what's next? Well, I hope to lower my golf handicap and improve my guitar technique. Maybe I'll dig out the flares and the velvet jacket and finally go on the road.

Maths Team Regional Winners!

A team of 4 pupils from UVHS will be competing against teams from across the United Kingdom for this year's UK Team Maths Challenge trophy. The team finished in first place at the regional final held in Barrow and won the opportunity to compete in the national final at the Royal Horticultural Halls in London in June. Over 1700 schools entered the competition and 88 have qualified for the final.

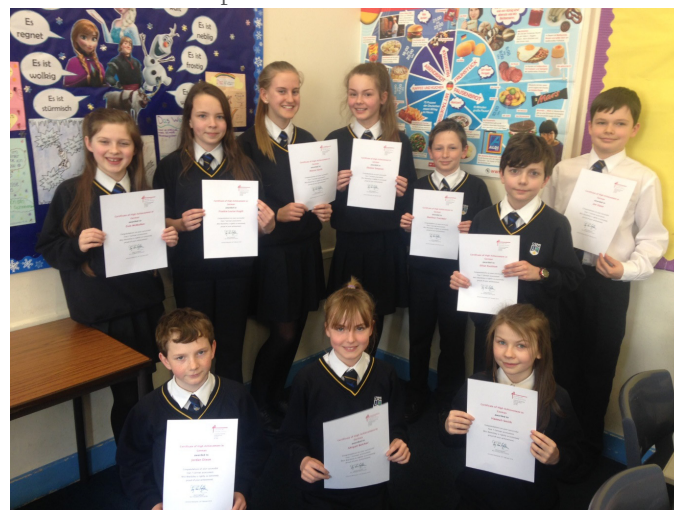


The National Final of the team challenge, run by the UK Mathematics Trust involves teams of 4 students from years 8 and 9. **Congratulations to Ellie Maddock (Yr8), Jack Spencer (Yr9), Hal Rastelli (Yr9), Freddy Burrow (Yr8) pictured with Mr Thurlwell above.**

Gut gemacht!

We are extremely pleased with the consistent hard work and enthusiasm of our new Year 7s in German this year. Students are working their socks off and making very rapid progress. Our Year 7s have recently completed their first writing assessment which involved them independently producing a written piece of work of a minimum of 90 words.

After collecting in the work to mark, Miss Beardsley was so impressed with the quality of students' writing that some examples were shared with a group of other German teachers from around the country. Dozens of teachers commented on how outstanding our students' German work is and asked us to share tips and advice with them. The President of the national Association for Language Learning was so impressed that he personally sent certificates to our best performing students. We are so very proud of these Year 7s. They are really shining as outstanding linguists. A very, very well done. Keep up the excellent work! Super Arbeit!



Students: Evie McMullen, Frankie-Louise Hugill, Maisie Quirk, Eleanor Simpson, Matthew Tresidder, Elliot Rushton, Joe Slater, Jordan Dixon, Abigail Belcher, Hannah Smith.

National Theatre New Views Comp

New Views is the national theatre's play writing programme and competition for 15-19 years olds and aims to teach students from across the UK key script writing skills from the best in the business. The competition requires students to write a half hour play, including challenging political issues that matter to them. The prize for the winner includes staged readings of their work in school, as well as the unique opportunity to see their play produced by the National Theatre with a professional cast.

Year 13 Creative Writing students who have been entered in the competition have taken part in workshops hosted by professional writers and learned about improving their approach to research, in addition to exploring key ethical ideas and questions. Furthermore, we have had the opportunity to see live screenings of plays from London, broadcast into cinemas around the world, including Hamlet and Les Liaisons Dangereuses. Watching these performances has helped inspire us with writing our own scripts by giving us an insight into staging along with how to develop ideas and themes in order to keep the audience entertained. The program also helps students develop transferable skills such as team work, communication and problem solving which will be useful for future employment. **Annabel Smith 13.7.**



Sixth Form Visit Historial London

In February 2016, Mrs Simpson, Ms Lomas and Mr Evason accompanied 36 Historians to London to visit numerous sites and locations of interest for their A Level History studies.

The London Dungeons was our first visit on arrival. As well as being a bit of fun the experience took us into the gory history of London's past. This included Sweeney Todd, Jack the Ripper, the Great Plague of 1665 and the Great Fire of London. We went on to visit the Greenwich Maritime Museum, to see an excellent exhibition on the Stuarts which was really beneficial for the new Year 12 A Level module allowing us to see artefacts relating to various significant events that occurred, such as the Great Fire of London, the beheading of Charles I, the Interregnum, Charles II's Coronation and the Glorious Revolution. Then, in the National Portrait Gallery, we were able to see the contemporary portraits of various prominent figures who feature in the Stuarts course.

Later, we visited Churchill's War Rooms, his underground bunker for the duration of World War Two, where we gained valuable



knowledge about not only Churchill's time as Prime Minister but also about his personal life. The visit to the Imperial War Museum exhibit brought the Cold War to life for our students. They were able to see a range of fascinating artefacts ranging

from the model of Margaret Thatcher from the Spitting Image satirical programme to a replica of an American nuclear bomb. Another important reason for visiting this museum was to see the The Holocaust exhibition which began with Hitler's rise to power in 1933, and documented the increasing persecution of the Jews thereafter. A large model version of Auschwitz demonstrated the nature of the concentration camps, which was the result of four years of perfecting the killing technology. This experience made the Holocaust more than just a story, and helped to form a clearer image of the true horrors of the event which will be useful for the students' Historical Enquiries on this topic. The final evening was rounded off with the excellent performance of Matilda in the West End, the students especially enjoyed the character of Miss Trunchbull who was played by an extremely tall man creating a fun comedic effect.

Our final activity was a much anticipated visit to the Houses of Parliament. We made our first stop at the House of Commons just before it closed

in preparation for the evening's debate over Europe. We were enlightened with details of the current day to day life in parliament and were excited to stand in such a famous and significant location. Later on the tour our Year 12s were excited to see Charles I's death warrant which features



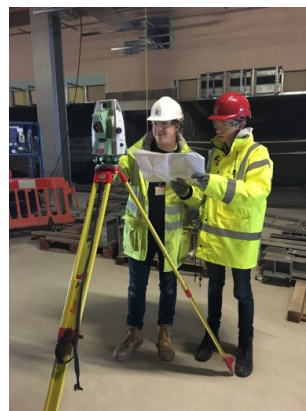
in their studies. Before we left we had a question and answer session with the aide to our local MP John Woodcock and we were able to witness Speaker, John Bercow, march through to the Lobby with much authority to open the Commons.

It was a fun, enlightening and educational trip and we were all thoroughly exhausted on the way home!

Year 10 Work Experience

CBE, LFC and a Night with the Stars

Two hundred and four, Year 10 students took part in our annual work experience week which took place this year on 7th – 11th March. Students were able to develop their employability skills and prepare themselves for the 'increasingly complex and changing world of work' by gaining valuable experience with a range of local and national employers.



For example, George Bradshaw worked with the national construction company, Carillion plc, where he worked on the redevelopment of the multi-million pound Liverpool FC, Anfield stadium. George said the experience was 'amazing and eye-opening' and had helped him decide what he wanted to do when he leaves school.

Sam Wharton experienced work at Brantwood, the home of John Ruskin. His duties included maintenance work and shop work. Sam was also involved in organising a fundraising event in aid of the Cumbria Flood Victims. The events VIP guest was the stand-up comedian and actor, Steve Coogan. Mr Coogan congratulated Sam on his commitment to the work he had carried during the week.

Luke Ashburner's work experience took place at Phoenix Business Centre in Barrow. Whilst there, Luke was able to interview Mr Rodger Chapman CBE who was involved in the attempted rescue of the Russian Kursk submarine disaster in August 2000. Luke was also able to develop his networking skills whilst working alongside companies such as Athena PTS Ltd, Centrica and Lamont Pridmore.

Many thanks to all the employers that kindly offered our students work experience.

On their return to school many students reported they were able to make more informed decisions about possible career paths.



STEM Challenge Victory!

On 16th March a group of 11 year nine pupils were invited to compete in the 2016 Lancaster University STEM challenge day against a strong field of schools from all over the north west of

England. Events included a chemistry challenge where 2 pupils were asked to make a chemical reaction happen in a time that equated the word record for the 800m. Three mathematicians were given the job of working out how far it was from the university to Heysham power station using only a protractor and the power of their brains (aided with a calculator) and a group of Physics students were challenged to make a rocket



which would soar to the greatest altitude possible. After a lot of hard work throughout the day the team amassed sufficient points to win the competition. A fantastic result for the students and a VERY big trophy. Well done all.



Year 10 Art Gallery

Here are five pictures of year 10 work in response to their 'Close Up' project.

Students have been studying a range of artists and their techniques including Michael Craig-Martin and Arikha.



Nicole Thompson



Brydie McDermot



Hayley Simpson



Hannah Shaw-Giles



Ben Thorburn

A Level Creative Writing

Creative Writing is much tougher than people often think: try to be creative on demand, and inspiration is not always forthcoming. Recently, Miss Smith discovered a poem called Skylarks which seems to sum up just how hard it can be to write:

For me the trouble about skylarks
Is that I can't get to like them.
Somebody else will have to write their poems
I can't. I've tried & I can't.

Inspired by this, the Sixth Form students wrote their own poems inspired by birds.

Capercaillie

I saw a capercaillie once, above
The ground, beneath the sky. It seemed
So full of grace, a regal brow set with
A regal crown. Plowing through the fields,
Servant to no-one, master of them all.
Lord of the noble breed of common grouse.
Alack, this moment is not without doom,
A moment's pause, a crack within the air,
And the noble house of grouse passed this earth.

I really love capercaillies. I know
not what they taste like. Chicken, probably.

by Ronan Johnson

Firelighting, marshmallows and personal leadership

A new Scout group has opened based at UVHS... 1st Ulverston Victoria Scout Troop, and already they're busy having fun in the outdoors learning some practical skills and developing their personal leadership. Scouting is growing right across the country with around half a million young people involved and Ulverston is no exception. So to satisfy local demand the new Troop was set-up and quickly filled with almost 30 students signing-up.



Although the Troop is new, it follows in an earlier tradition of Scouting being associated with the school. 1st Ulverston Scout Troop originally existed during the 80's & 90's when it used to meet at the old Lower School (room 7 by the tuck

shop!). The new Troop has re-instated the original uniform in UVHS colours (royal blue and sky blue neckers) and is even being supported by volunteers that were 1st Ulverston Scouts the first time around.

The Scouts like to spend as much time as possible outdoors and activities so far include rock climbing, archery, green woodworking, knots and pioneering, visiting emergency services and a couple of wet and windy night hikes. A favourite of course is building fires



and the obligatory toasting of marshmallows! The aim is to have fun, be adventurous and learn how to manage risk, not avoid it. The Scouts have developed their own code of conduct (based on Victoria Values) and are given responsibility to decide how the group is run and to coach younger Scouts.

All activities rely heavily on volunteers and a number of



adults are now involved and training as Leaders. But the Troop is always open to offers of help, even occasional help or behind the scenes with the administration of the group - so if you wish to get involved in any way please

contact Paul Dearden (Group Scout Leader) via phdearden@hotmail.co.uk.



EmployAbility

UVHS

Early in December, myself and two other students in year 10 were given the amazing privilege of going to BAE systems for a day of character and team building exercises and experiences to prepare for our introduction into the world of work. Jonathan Sowerby, Mollie Saunders and I had a great day at BAE, starting with a talk from a spokesperson from "my kinda future" – the company who organized the day for us all – about careers and the apprenticeship courses at BAE.

We were then put into teams with people from different schools and given the task to create a structure made of 12 balloons that would be able to hold at least 4 people, Mollie's team and mine going head to head to see whose could hold the full four. Of course, her team won. Next, we went for a guided tour around the huge docks where they build the submarines (although it felt more like an expedition with the size of the place!), which was incredibly inspiring to say the least. To see how the submarines are made and how the apprenticeship courses we'd learned about actually worked was invaluable to us as students interested in science, maths or communications and certainly opened my eyes to the world of engineering. The day was topped off by a challenge set for us in our teams, demonstrating two methods of working on a project – agile and scrum. Scrum is the method of doing a whole production line in one window, whereas agile is the method of doing the work in small windows with breaks in between to discuss and improve upon efficiency and quality and by the end of the challenge, we were reaching more than 100% efficiency in our production line. Following this, we had to do a short presentation on how we improved our working (apprentice-style) and describe how we thought we did to the rest of the group. I found that not only did this experience and day as a whole build on our knowledge of BAE and its opportunities, but also to the importance of other skills such as communication and public speaking. Prior to this; I was predominantly pursuing a career in the arts, but now I am questioning whether I will get an equally rewarding future in science and engineering. Thank you MyKindaFuture, BAE and Miss Herrington for organising this prodigious day for us all.

Written by Tabi Butler, Year 10.

SOUTH CUMBRIA SCITT

TRAINING OUTSTANDING TEACHERS

South Cumbria SCITT at UVHS

The South Cumbria SCITT is a school-based PGCE programme which will offer post-graduate teacher training courses in English, Mathematics, Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Geography, Art and Music in September 2016. Based in North Lancashire and South Cumbria, we are proud to continue our tradition of placing trainee teachers at UVHS.

Trainees recruited onto the South Cumbria SCITT have the opportunity to experience the full range of school and college settings available in the consortium, and to develop their pedagogy and practice with input from highly skilled and well-qualified teachers and teacher educators.

If you are interested in finding out more, please see www.scscitt.org or contact Alison@scscitt.org

Visit to Twickenham!

Twickenham visit for Jack Stephenson

Year 9 student Jack Stephenson was fortunate enough to be selected to represent UVHS at Twickenham Stadium on Saturday 27th February.



100 schools were involved in the experience, which for UVHS, started last year in September, at Vale of Lune Rugby Club. Four students were involved in a full day designing a new rugby shirt that would eventually be made up by Canterbury and the RFU into a full squad set of shirts.

Saturday at Twickenham was the unveiling of these new shirts, and a celebration of the continued development of Rugby



Union across the country, funded by the RFU and Canterbury.

During the day, Jack was given the opportunity to meet England and Bath player Dave Attwood, who

presented the shirts to each school representative.

Jack, alongside the other representatives, formed a guard of honour to welcome the England and Ireland squads on arrival.

They were also given voice coaching before making their way onto the pitch and singing the National Anthem, alongside

famous Opera singer Laura Wright, fortunately for Jack, not on his own!

Jack was an excellent ambassador for UVHS throughout the day, and wore his shirt with pride.

Hopefully this won't be the last time a UVHS student appears on the Twickenham pitch.





News from Technology

Rotary Masterchef Competition

Hayley Simpson and George Bradshaw were fantastic representatives for UVHS in February as our entrants for the Rotary



Masterchef competition held at Dowdales. Both students had to plan a three course meal to cook in two hours based on using local ingredients with a focus on healthy eating, and dedicated their own free time to practising after school in advance. The competition was fierce, and they were judged by two top chefs Michael Moore, who has restaurants in London and Oslo, and Richard Booth from the Lakeside Hotel on their prior planning, practical workings and final dishes. Hayley's menu comprised of: Chicken liver pate with homemade chutney and sourdough, red wine lamb shank and vegetables and a delicious lemon meringue pie. George cooked a fantastic fusion inspired menu comprising of: Fresh pea soup with pancetta, Asian salmon with crushed new potatoes and asparagus and a trio of desserts comprising of chocolate meringue cake, mango sorbet and individual key lime pies. I would just like to pass on my congratulations to both Hayley and George for their amazing effort, and if



you would like to see more information about the competition, there are more photos available on the North West Evening Mail web site. Finally, I would also like to thank Ken Day as our local Rotarian for supporting the school again throughout the competition! Well done! Ms Shaw – ADT Department

Year 10 Catering Visit To Lakeside

Across the 8th and 22nd February, we as a school were lucky enough to take over 40 Catering students to Lakeside Hotel to spend time with Executive Chef Richard Booth and Assistant Manager Elke Van Laarhoven in both the kitchen and in the front of house. This is an amazing experience to spend time in a 4* hotel, and the students were excellent representatives for UVHS. Our pupils saw how a professional kitchen runs, from delivery to serving up gourmet food on the pass before service, and spent time filleting fish, boning a saddle of lamb, working in the pastry kitchen preparing exquisite



desserts using fascinating techniques such as spherification, as well as setting different tables for service, and visiting the spa and a



range of suites and bedrooms to see how the hospitality industry works. Delicious dishes included: Chicken served with a crispy skin, salt baked beetroot, haricot

beans with garlic, celeriac, pancetta and swede, a thyme infused fondant potato and red wine jus. If that wasn't enough, dessert was just as good! Pistachio cake with white chocolate mousse, meringue with freeze dried rose powder, white chocolate soil, raspberry gel and pomegranate spheres – delicious! Below are just a handful of photographs which show just how brilliant each of the days were, and I would personally like to thank all the staff at Lakeside again, and urge you to look online at the West Moorland Gazette for more photos of UVHS students on the day! Thank you again! Ms Shaw, Mrs Morgan, Miss Murby and all supporting staff.

Fashion and Textiles News

Following the success of the A Level Textiles project with St Mary's Hospice we were approached to create more products to help the patients and their families. In their Textiles lessons, some of the Year 8 pupils were involved in making Jewellery purses to donate to the hospice, they requested them to store patients small personal items. By doing this the pupils were able to develop their hand embroidery skills while helping a worthy cause. The students really enjoyed the project and even went onto create more purses at home to donate.



Year 7 pupils have been helping the environment in their Textiles lessons. They have been creating Morsbags which are a fabric bag for life designed to further minimise the use of plastic bags that can harm marine and wildlife. Morsbag are a company which encourage schools and companies to make fabric bags and donate them locally in the community. The year 7 pupils worked on a production line and created 60 bags to donate. These will be donated within the community. The project is on going so there will be more to come! Follow our progress at: Morsbag.com/pods





Sports Round-Up

Year 10 Rugby

The Year 10 Rugby team had a fantastic performance to defeat Cumbria Champions St Benedict's 42-22 in the County Cup semi-final. They will now play against Dowdales in the County Cup and the Barrow Schools Cup finals after Easter. However, they were unlucky to be drawn against National Champion, Castleford, in the first round of the National Cup and were not strong enough to defeat them. Good luck to the boys in their forthcoming finals.



Year 11 Football

The Year 11 football team had a great run in the County Cup but narrowly missed out on reaching the final by losing 2-1 to Richard Rose Academy in the semi-final. The boys have developed fantastically over the past 5 years and I hope they all continue to play once leaving UVHS. I am sure they will have a massive impact on local league football.



Girls' Rugby

We had 32 girls from Years 9 and 10 play in the Under 15 Girls County Rugby Union Festival in Kendal. We entered three teams. One team playing contact rugby and two playing touch rugby. UVHS won the Touch competition and our U V H S c o n t a c t team were runners up. They were beaten by the overall winners by just one try. Well done to all those involved!



Netball

We have 6 teams playing in the Furness Schools Netball league. Our Year 7s have made huge improvements over the term. The Year 7 Wolves are unbeaten so far this year and the Year 7 Panthers have beaten both Furness Academy and Chetwynde. They Year 8 Wolves have played extremely well; winning 3 from 4 of their matches. A Wells and H Tunstall have formed a fantastic partnership in attack, with great support from A Harrison on the wing. The Year 8 Panthers have again played extremely well and just last week they beat St Bernards - with H Craig scoring 4 excellent goals. Our Year 9 team are unbeaten in the league this year, winning all 4 of their games comfortably.

The Year 9 girls have gone from strength to strength and I look forward to keeping you informed of their progress from the Netball Final. Lastly, the Under 16 team have made fantastic progress. Although they have had mixed results, winning, losing and drawing, they continue to train every week and their attitude and commitment is paying off as their game play on the court has really improved.

Golf (2016 Northern Links Trophy)

In early March Natasha Slater, David Boardman and Luke Quint played golf for UVHS at the 2016 Northern Links Trophy at a very damp Fleetwood GC. As Year 11 pupils Natasha and David were paired as a team for the team event, whilst all three pupils participated individually in the singles competition.



England girls representative Natasha won the girls gross competition for the second year in row with a level par 69 and with David's excellent score of 71 (9th place overall) gave UVHS a third place finish in the team event out of 23 teams competing against some of the biggest golfing schools in the country which was an excellent result overall. Year 9 student Luke tried hard but had an off day struggling with the conditions to post an 89.



UVHS 2016 Indoor (Inter) Cricket success

In early February our U13 boys and U15 girl's indoor cricket teams played in the Barrow Schools area indoor cricket competitions winning their respective competitions after playing some excellent cricket. Although the team was different to the last 2 years, our U13 boys have now won the U13 competition 3 years in a row with the U15 girls achieving back to back area titles. Theoretically, the UVHS teams had a clean sweep of all 4 comps as unfortunately



our U13 girls and U15 boys teams were the only teams entered into their respective competitions. Our U13 girls and boys, along with the U15 girl's teams will all move on to the Cumbria Indoor County finals in March to try and defend their county titles from last year.





Archaeology Antics!



Our Archaeology Club is in full flow this term. **Antonia Sharp** from Year 7 has written the following article about what the club has been doing.

Fun, creative and adventurous, Archaeology Club is bringing history alive at UVHS. With the recent activities such as: making fossilized "poo" to tell what people ate in the past, and Roman "amphoras" made from paper mashe! The future will be as fun as the past: with visitors and historical cooking, also an archaeological dig the discover the unknown...



It may not be based in our time but it is an amazing and educational club full of wonders and wonders to be found, many people are welcome from year 7-8, and we will be happy for you to join us.

Launch Date for Cashless Catering: Monday 4th July 2016

Cashless Catering will be launched at UVHS on Monday 4 July 2016. This exciting new initiative means that students will have an individual school meal account and parents will be able to either pay on-line or students can top up their accounts with cash by using one of the three cash top up machines which will be installed on site.

In the school canteen, students will simply pay for their meals using a biometric thumbprint or by inputting a unique pin code which will deduct the balance from their accounts. Experience suggests that the biometric option is the most popular and most secure. Parents need to give consent for a child's biometric registration. Information about Cashless Catering including a Biometric Consent Form and Frequently Asked Questions is currently being sent to parents (with the exception of Years 11 and 13) by post. Parents are requested to return the Biometric Consent Form as soon as possible.

Further guidance about Cashless Catering is available on our web site <http://www.uvhs.uk/parents-community/cashless-catering> but in brief for your information:

- A daily spending limit of £5 will be set.
- Free School Meal students will be given the free school meal daily allowance.
- Alerts can be set within ParentPay for low balances.
- Parents can login via ParentPay to monitor daily diet.
- Parents without internet access can still pay by cash using the cash top up machines.
- A Parents Information Evening is to be held at the school (date to be announced) when the new cashless system will be explained and any further questions answered.

ParentPay Activation

ParentPay is the system which works with Cashless Catering to allow parents to make on-line payments and to monitor diet. It will also be used as the school's default system for communicating via text and e-mail with parents from 1 April 2016 replacing our current system. It is strongly advised that you set up your ParentPay account as soon as possible. If you are the parent of a student in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 or 12 who has not yet received an activation letter, please contact the school immediately. Instructions for setting up your ParentPay account are available on the school web site <http://www.uvhs.uk/parents-community/parentpay> ParentPay will be expanded to incorporate on-line payments for school trips and other activities.

Years 11 and 13

Due to the timing of the launch of ParentPay and Cashless Catering, please note that ParentPay activation letters have not been issued to parents of students in Years 11 and 13. Please however make sure that the school does have your current contact details in the event of an emergency, especially during the forthcoming exam season. Information for current Year 11 students intending to return to Sixth Form in September 2016 will be given in due course.

Winning Artwork from Photoclub Competition

The theme for our recent Photoclub Competition was "Autumn". Please see our winning entries below:

1st Place - Iris Bannister

2nd Place - Megan Cooper

Joint 3rd Place (two photos) - Fenton Wilson

