



Ulverston Victoria High School

NEWS SPLASH - MAY 2008

Recent success at the Intermediate Maths Challenge

Mr Fay writes

As you know, Ofsted monitored the progress made in the school on 15th and 16th April 2008.

They judged the safeguarding carried out by the school to be satisfactory. However, the team felt that the school had made inadequate progress in Achievement and Standards; Quality of Provision and Leadership and Management.

Ofsted did, however, recognise that things are beginning to change and comment was made on the positive features of the school, improved attendance and they felt that "Pupils, staff, governors and LA all see signs of a recent change for the better in the school; morale is higher and there is a sense of optimism for the future. The acting headteacher is seen as approachable and a visible presence around the school. Although much remains to be done, the foundations are being laid on which to build improvement. Staff and governors say communication has improved. Staff feel supported, empowered and more valued. Teamwork at senior leadership level is strengthening."

It is an honest report and accurately points the way towards improvement. I am confident that when Ofsted next visit in the Autumn term they will see significant further progress. We have the challenge of catching up for lost time and we are doing our best to accelerate our progress.

I feel we are moving in the right direction. The school has started to move forward.

Parental Advisory Group

Our first meeting took place on 17th April and was attended by 35 parents! We discussed the issue of the effective management of lunchtimes (we are looking at our present policy) and we looked at what makes an outstanding teacher at UVHS. Our next session will take place in June.

Attendance Issues

Attendance is improving, but our school average is still not appropriate for Ulverston Victoria. Please think very carefully before applying for a holiday during term time for your child. It disrupts his or her learning and that of other students as the teacher has to give time to your child to help him or her catch up!

Maths News

At the end of last term our Gifted and Talented Year 8 and 9 pupils were busy pitting their wits against each other and against other schools.

At the **UKMT Maths Team Challenge regional final** held at Barrow Sixth Form College we again had great success, with all 3 teams acquitting themselves well. Angharad and Amelia from Year 9 with Max and Adam from Year 8 were particularly successful, coming second overall after a busy day of relays, cross-numbers, head to head challenges with impossible sequences and group tasks. They each won a T-shirt and a puzzle.

Then all the Year 8 and 9 pupils who had been training for the regional final had their own **in-house competition**.



The winning team consisted of Emma and Kim from Year 9 with Max and Elliot from Year 8.

Also last month we received the results from the **Intermediate Maths Challenge**, a nationally run competition with over 200,000 entries.

There were loads of Bronze and Silver certificates but special congratulations to Joe, Martin, John and Hamish (Year 10) and Amelia and Katie (Year 9) who all received a Gold certificate. In addition, Joe, Martin, Amelia and Katie all scored so highly that they have won through the follow-up round, a European competition with 26 countries participating. We wish them luck in that!



Language Activities

This is a busy term for MFL with 38 Year 8 students going to Bollendorf in Germany and 21 Year 10 students joining an intensive language visit to Normandy, both in July. Meanwhile Years 11, 12 and 13 students are preparing madly for their speaking exams.

Year 10 German students have recently received their second letter from their German pen-friends and look forward to meeting them in September. Years 12 and 13 have been helped by their immersion visit to Normandy in March and Year 12 look confident on this photo taken on the eve of their French speaking exam.

Monitoring and Improving Standards

Thanks to all students who, with the support of their parents are really looking smart in their school uniforms!

ICT News

Years 7 and 8 have been studying Animation using webcams to produce stop frame animations or the Serif Draw package for more sophisticated animations. They have produced a Public Information video to be used for Year 6 children. The project really motivated the students, they all really enjoyed it.



Year 9 have nearly all completed Unit 1 of the OCR Nationals (GCSE) and are busy emailing and searching the Internet.

Year 10 are studying the Business and Communication Systems GCSE and have had a practical assessment of their ICT skills and sat a

theory paper.

Year 11 are starting their ICT exams. Grade club was well attended and resulted in three students receiving iPods for all their hard work. Well done to James Crofts, Edward Elliott and Michael Sherwen.

In Year 12 those studying the European Computer Driving Licence currently have a very high pass rate of 98%.

Year 13 produced wonderful Flash projects suitable for primary school children on Henry VIII, Fashion through the Ages, Reading With Dillan, Maths and ICT.

Operation Phoenix Takes Flight from UVHS

April 23rd saw the culmination of 12 weeks hard work in which the 12 students of UVHS' Year 10 ASDAN Youth Award group excelled at their pass out parade for the Ulverston Young Fire Fighters Course.

In front of their families and invited guests nervous hearts fluttered as each student was put through their paces reviewing everything they had been through over this course. Learning and displaying skills such as team work, buddy-buddy system and communication skills the students were a credit to UVHS. Fantastic events like this don't just happen and



the staff of UVHS would like to thank each and every student for making this a great success, and especially to the Retained Fire Fighters at Ulverston for all their time and effort. As you can see by the video on the school web site this proved to be very fruitful. Well done to all

concerned and next years course has a lot to live up to. Special thanks also to three Year 11 students who helped over the twelve weeks: Jade, Sarah and Josh.

Thank You.

Sanctions

Most parents and students won't be aware of it but the school has an isolation room and a "yellow card" procedure for students who are badly behaved and who disrupt the learning of others. If your child is placed in isolation or given a yellow card or another punishment (and I hope he or she isn't) then I will write to you outlining what has happened and the serious nature of his or her behaviour. He or she may be asked to take part in restorative justice by giving some thing back to the UVHS community by, for instance, litter clearing under supervision.

News from the Sixth Form

73 students from Year 13, seen below, have applied to and received offers from University through UCAS this year. The Northern Universities continue to be popular with our students with Lancaster and Manchester the most common choices closely followed by Leeds, Newcastle and Edinburgh. Oxford and Cambridge have also been popular this year with 4 of our students receiving offers.

Students will now be working hard to achieve the grade requirements for their first choice University.



We were delighted to see that both Rebecca and Alex received offers for Medicine and Veterinary Medicine as

these two subject areas are heavily over-subscribed and many students do not even get to the interview stage.

Year 12 are currently having a series of tutorials to help them with the process of application to University, College or employment. They visited Lancaster University and The University of Cumbria for a campus tour and a series of talks and in July we will be taking them to the Higher Education Convention in Kendal where more than 100 institutions will be represented.

Joanna Lawrence has been short-listed from hundreds of students from all over the country for the Prime-ministers Global Fellowship award. The award aims to nurture outstanding talent and enterprise through international exposure to different countries and their way of life. If successful she will be spending 6 weeks on a tailor -made programme in China and will then be invited to 10 Downing Street to tell the Prime-minister all about her experiences!

Congratulations also go to Lewis Bailey in year 12 who successfully auditioned for the prestigious National Youth Theatre. He will be working with them over the summer holidays.

Interesting Facts about Ofsted

- ❖ Our Ofsted team is led by Pat Kime (Her Majesty's Inspector) and she will probably lead the team during future visits.
- ❖ The monitoring visit involved 5 inspectors and they did not meet together as a team until they arrived at the school.
- ❖ The team observed 29 lessons on the first day of the visit and none on the second. (3 lessons were judged to be inadequate and 26 satisfactory or better).
- ❖ The rest of the time was spent interviewing staff, pupils and the Chair of Governors. Data was also interrogated.
- ❖ The team will return during the Autumn term but we don't know when!
- ❖ Apart from Pat Kime the rest of the team will probably be made up of different inspectors.

UVHS Website

For up to date news and information about UVHS please visit us at www.ulverstonvictoria.cumbria.sch.uk

New Appointments and Staff Changes

Next year we will be joined by Mr Matthew Hardwick, from Dowdales School, who will be Assistant Headteacher responsible for Teaching and Learning.

Mrs Angela Hutchinson, who is presently Area Assessment Officer for SEN with the LA, will become SENCO and she is already giving an overview to the department this term.

Mr Andrew Mitchell will be relinquishing his position of Pastoral Leader for Year 10 to become Head of Geography, replacing Mr Trevor Boyt.

Mr Matthew Ford will take over as Pastoral Leader for Year 10 after half term.

There will also be new appointments in English and Mathematics as other member of staff leave and new colleagues join UVHS.

Watch this space!

Year 13 Music Students

The Music department is immensely proud to announce that Ruth (Yr. 13), pictured below, has been offered a place to study violin at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music, one of the top music colleges in Europe. Ruth gained a Grade 8 Distinction on the violin three year ago and followed it up with a Grade 8 Distinction on alto sax last year. She is an immensely gifted musician who should go far.

Several other musicians have also worked very hard to be offered a place to study music at university: Emma (piano & cello), George (drumkit), Rebecca (flute), and Bethany (piano), although Bethany has also been offered an audition by the Band Service of Her Majesty's Royal Marines - we'll find out in July if she has been successful.

Congratulations and Good Luck to all of these students who have helped put UVHS on the map in terms of Music Education.



Good bye to all that!

This time of the year is busy for all our students, what with exam preparation and final coursework deadlines; never-the-less Year 13 Ulverston Victoria High School natural philosophers found time to have their final 'cakes and coffee' science meeting and discuss their past, present and futures. They have



also set you a challenge; the machine in the photograph below appears to be powered by Ice (see school website: ICE the energy source of the future...), but how does it work? The most sterling joint adult and child explanation will be published on the school website in September.

If you wish to take part in this competition send your explanation c/o Mr Goodall, Head of Sciences at UVHS by July 5th. (Preferably by E-Mail at mgo@ulverstonvictoria.cumbria.sch.uk).

The meeting was as usual full of interesting ideas, but there was more than the usual discussions about what the future may hold. Hear are a few of our students comments:

"Chemistry rocks," Natalie, who will study for Chemistry at Manchester.

"The best seven years of my life," said Amy who is looking forward to starting Biomedical Sciences with French at Manchester University.

"I have really enjoyed studying Chemistry in the sixth form," Lisa Howe will take a degree at Leeds in Chemistry with French.

"I have enjoyed chemistry in my time at UVHS and the teachers have been great," Jacob who will study Biological Sciences at Lancaster University.

WRL News Splash

All year 10 students are looking forward to their work experience placements which take place immediately after half term. Forms 10.1 to 10.4 will be out 2nd - 6th June and forms 10.5 to 10.7 will be out 9th - 13th June.

All ASDAN Youth Award students complete 2 weeks of work experience as it forms part of their course.

Year 10 ASDAN have improved areas around the school as part of a community project. Year 11 ASDAN have successfully completed an enterprise project and have made £22.00. We are debating how to spend the money.

All students studying vocational qualifications have completed their courses; many of the students are to be praised for the excellent standard of their coursework.

The CACHE childcare students have completed their coursework and I would like to praise their efforts on this course. The year 11 have just completed a successful twilight project linking with Furness college as part of the IFP initiative. They have constructed an axle stand which has been tested to withstand 6 tonnes.

The BTEC Health & Social Care group have visited Marsh House and Elmhurst to find out about the role of the care assistant working with the elderly. This was for an excellent vocational link and will form part of their coursework.

Well done!

Good News from Maths

This has been a very busy half term for both Maths teachers and students in terms of preparing for exams. A considerable number of year 9 students came into school on two days over the Easter holidays to attend booster classes in preparation for their SATs. A large number of year 11 students have signed up to attend GCSE revision sessions after school on Thursdays and on the two Sundays immediately before their modular exams. This is a clear sign of their motivation and ambition and they are to be congratulated on the commitment they have shown to their studies.

We were delighted with the recent results from our year 10 and 11 modular exams. In year 11 twenty two students exceeded their FFT predicted grade by two or more grades with eleven students achieving 100% in the module. Well done to all students and a big thank you to all parents for their support and to the Maths staff, who have worked so hard to ensure that the children achieve their full potential.

News from BPE

Belief, Philosophy and Ethics (BPE for short) is what we call R.E. here at Ulverston. We follow the Cumbria Agreed Syllabus for this subject as do all schools in the area. We look at people's beliefs and values and we do it in a way that aims to make students really think!!! We raise lots of questions about important areas of life and look at the beliefs of others from different places in the UK and the whole world. All students begin studying for GCSE in year 9 and most students will take the full course at the end of year 11. A distinctive feature of our lessons is the Community of Enquiry way of working. This gives a voice to everyone's opinion and helps everyone think and learn about their own and others views in an open and tolerant way. If you would like to know more about BPE at UVHS please contact us at school.

Music Exam Results

The last round of music practical exams held by the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music was in March. As usual, students from UVHS did phenomenally well, with everyone passing (over 30 students were entered). However, the following stood out for gaining distinctions (over 130 out of 150 marks) in grades above their year-group benchmark:

William	Yr. 7	Grade 3 Saxophone
Harry	Yr. 7	Grade 3 Saxophone
Patrick	Yr. 7	Grade 4 Trumpet
Beth	Yr. 7	Grade 4 Flute
Amelia	Yr. 9	Grade 5 Saxophone
Joe	Yr. 10	Grade 6 Trumpet
Alex	Yr. 13	Grade 8 Saxophone

Most others achieved Merits (over 120 marks), including George (Yr. 8/Grade 5 saxophone) and Henry (Yr. 7/Grade 3 sax). However, special mention must be made of Hannah Yr. 10, who achieved a Distinction in Grade 8 flute to join the Grade 8 Distinction she received in violin last year - a truly remarkable achievement for a 14 year old and one that has resulted in her being awarded a place at the highly prestigious Royal Northern College of Music Saturday School in Manchester, placing her amongst the finest young musicians in the UK.

Well done Hannah! Congratulations and Good Luck to all those who achieved success in their music exams.

The History Department

Pupils in the History Department have been working really hard on new topics this term: Year 7 pupils have begun their study of Tudor England and have so far been looking at the monarchs & the changes they made to English society. Year 8 pupils have been keenly learning about the Slave Trade, particularly looking at conditions on board the slave ships during the Middle Passage & on what happened to the slaves once they reached America. Pupils in year 9 have been concentrating on some of the key events of World War Two, including studying life on the Home Front at that time.

Our Year 11, 12 & 13 pupils have been working really hard preparing & revising for the up-coming exams. These will be hard but we know our students, across these key stages, will do all they can to do the very best that they are individually capable of & that is all we ask of them.



Our Year 10 GCSE pupils have now finished their study of the History of Medicine, which was rounded off with a great trip to the excellent Thackray Medical Museum in Leeds. Highlights included the smells of a 19th century slaughter

yard & the sight of all the boys trying on the huge maternity suits! These pupils are now preparing for their first piece of History GCSE coursework, which is a local site study of Swarthmoor Hall. They have all visited the Hall and done the preparatory work for this assignment - in beautiful sunny

Year 11 Leavers Ball

On Monday 12th May Year 11 celebrated their five years at the school with a special assembly at the Coronation Hall and a magnificent formal evening ball at the Low Wood Hotel in Windermere. The assembly included a slide show drawn from all five years, and was extremely well attended with many parents able to come and share the celebration.

The ball itself was a great occasion and certain to live long in the memory of both students and staff. Everyone looked a



million dollars (some of the outfits probably did cost that much!), and the dinner and dancing were equally impressive. Mr Emms presented humorous prizes in various categories to 'winners' voted for by the students themselves, and many took

advantage of the portrait photographer on hand to record the event. The whole evening was a superb testimony to the maturity, generosity and community spirit that the students of Year 11 have

developed since arriving at the school all those years ago.

Good luck in the upcoming exams Year 11, and in the future!

Royal Marines Concert

On Saturday 12th April, UVHS Wind Band joined the Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines on stage at the Coronation Hall and wowed a packed-out audience with the brilliance of their combined skills. Indeed, the 100-or-so people who had to go on the waiting list for tickets after they sold out in three weeks flat missed a real treat. The Music Department has received countless letters of thanks and congratulations from members of the public, singling out Ruth in particular, for her superb rendition of *Schindler's List* on the violin, accompanied by the band.

The Marines played a variety of music which displayed their sheer skill, musicianship and professionalism before inviting 28 of our senior players to join them on stage for a spectacular finale of extremely challenging music. The Director of Music, Captain Richard Harvey, could not believe the quality of the UVHS Bands (having heard the Swing Band the night before in a joint Dance Night with the Marines Dance Band at the Cooft), and told the audience how lucky they were to have such students in their community - praise indeed from one of the best in the business!

The Art Department

Doesn't time fly.....?

Here we are again, it's May and it is the beginning of the Art Department's annual occupation of the School Hall.

It hardly seems a moment ago that we were appreciating the GCSE work of our Year 11 students last year. This year the exhibition features some 250 pieces of work with attendant sketchbooks, which includes painting, sculpture, computer imagery, together with movies and animations.



As ever, the students have put on an impressive display and at this early stage we are optimistic that they will receive their just rewards in August. You will all be invited to the open evening to celebrate their achievements so look out for the date, it will be soon!

Soon it will be the turn of the AS and A level students to display their endeavours. Once again you will be cordially invited to what we believe will be another excellent exhibition.

Rotary Club Young Writer of the Year 2008

Ninety four of our Year 7 students entered the annual Rotary Club Young Writer of the Year competition. The judges were very impressed by many of the entries, but the top three prizes were awarded as follows:

1st prize: Elden
2nd prize: Errin
3rd prize: Lauren



The judges were particularly impressed by Elden's entry which they said "displays an amazing, mature style, vocabulary and expression for such a young person". Both Errin and Lauren's entries were described as "well written" and with "clever plots". The three prize winners will be presented with their prizes and certificates in a forthcoming assembly and their stories will be entered into the Rotary District competition.

Well done to the winners and thank you to all those who entered.

PE News

Cross-Country Relay - the girls' team won the cross-country relay for the 2nd consecutive year.

County football selections - Callum, Liam and Matthew were all selected for the U-15 county football team that defeated Dumfries & Galloway 3-1.

Keswick to Barrow - Jemma was the first female under 17 to finish in the K2B. She completed the 40 miles in under 7 hours, knocking more than an hour off her previous best.

Hockey 2007/2008

U-16 girls - Barrow & District League cup winners

Year 9 girls - Barrow & District League cup runners-up

Year 8 girls - Barrow & District League winners

Forthcoming events:

Athletics

South Lakes Athletic trials - Tuesday 20th May 2008

County championships - Saturday 7th June 2008

Cricket

U-15 cricket v Park View in the county 20/20 cup - Tuesday 20th May 2008

Sports Day

Monday 14th July (Reserve date Tuesday 15th July)



Our PTFA needs you!

Parents, teachers, friends of Ulverston Victoria High School, we need you to come and support your PTFA. We are currently a small, enthusiastic group who help with our school community events and raise money to finance school projects and students representing our talented school in national and international events.

Join our committee, be on our list of helpers, send us your ideas and suggestions or support us with prizes or baking donations when the crumpled PTFA letters appear from your son/daughter's bag.

We have some wonderful fundraisers in our school, supporting the Mexican link project, the music department, the orienteers and the whole school via our PTFA. Spare an hour or two and become involved; we can all make a difference to our school.

Contact Elena Derry Hibbert or Janet Helm at UVHS for information.



Mexican Link News

We are delighted to be welcoming teachers and students from our linking school in Mexico City back to UVHS in July.

This is the fourth visit we have received from friends from Mexico City over the past 7 years. Maintaining a school linking project takes commitment and time from those involved but it brings a sense of internationalism to the life of the school. Since beginning the linking, students at UVHS have had the opportunity to learn about Mexico in Science, BPE, History and Maths and an extra curricular GCSE Spanish Class has run for the past 3 years. We have most recently been able to develop a performing Arts Project with Sandside school working with musician Alan Fitzgerald. It has helped us to build links with some local primary schools and there are still many more ways that this linking can grow in school and the wider community. If you would like to be involved contact Ms. Hicks or Ms Hannam in school.



WORLD SCHOOLS ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Edinburgh, Scotland 21 – 27 April 2008

Following their excellent results at the British Schools Champs in November Ulverston Victoria HS were asked to take three school teams to the above championships (junior girls and boys aged 14 & 15, and senior girls aged 16 & 17). The fourth team (senior boys) came from Nottingham. Several selection races were run and in March the 5 team members were finally decided on.

The pupils had been training since the teams were selected, but they also had to raise £7,000 to cover the cost of the trip. They took part in several fundraising events, which included bag packing at Marks and Spencer's, a Coronation Hall coffee morning, and an orienteering event at Haverigg, Millom. However, they also received generous donations from groups including Ulverston Town Council, South Lakeland District Council, The Curry Club, and the Town Lands Trust.

Whilst Scotland may not have been the 'glamorous' destination of previous events it did give the teams several advantages. They could understand the language (just), the weather was to be expected (it rained), food was familiar, and the terrain very like the Lake District. The two races took place in very different areas. The first forest was complex with thick brashings on the floor. The visibility varied and on the whole the forest was very physical. The second area was much more runnable and was similar to Great Tower.

The competition is decided over 2 races, a classic (long) race followed 2 days later by a middle distance race. In each race the time of the first three runners in each team is totalled together to give a final overall time. This can often make the second race very tense and so it proved this year. The senior girls all ran really well finishing in the top 29 (85 competitors). The star of the team was Kate who, having gained confidence in the training session, ran an excellent race to finish 5th. At the end of the first race the team were in 3rd position and were very nervous approaching the deciding race. Two years ago, in the same position, they lost their nerve and finished 5th overall. This year, they concentrated well and maintained their good form, finishing second on the day. Once again Kate had a great run and came 4th, 12 sec behind the bronze medal. It all depended on the Portuguese who had been in 2nd place, 3 minutes ahead. Fortunately for our girls, one of their runners made several mistakes and they finished the day 7 minutes down on Ulverston. This meant that our team came away with the silver medal, beaten only by the Swedish school.

The junior boys had high hopes and started steadily. Jack Wright had a good run finishing in 9th position. Unfortunately Max O'Hara picked up the wrong map and mis-punched. They finished the first race in 5th position. They did better in the second race (3rd on the day) with Jack having a storming run into 4th place and Max just behind in 10th. However, they were not able to catch up enough time and stayed in 5th place overall.

The junior girls had several younger runners and were not very confident. They took the classic race steadily and made only a few mistakes. All the girls were bunched together in the 30's and 40's. This placed them in 12th position on the day. They now realised that being steady was not going to produce the results they wanted and all started the second race determined to prove they were capable of doing better. The terrain was more suited to them and they all made a marked improvement with Kelly moving up to 20th. This time they were 7th on the day which moved them up to 10th overall.

Some of the highlights of the week included the cultural evening and the friendship relay. This enabled pupils to mix with the runners from other countries where they had to communicate (not easy with the Chinese) and decide who would go to each control.

All the pupils returned full of enthusiasm and looking forward to next year's competition in Spain. They are very grateful to all their sponsors who made the trip possible.

RESULTS

Senior Girls

	2nd / 18
Kate	5 th & 4 th
Rebecca	15 th & 13 th
Jessica	16 th & 19 th
Jemma	22 nd & 64 th
Jenny	29 th & 12 th
	85 runners

Junior Girls

	10th / 15
Julia	37 th & 28 th
Daisy	39 th & 25 th
Jessica	43 rd & 33 rd
Kelly	47 th & 20 th
Amelia	49 th & 31 st
	69 runners

Junior Boys

	5th / 15
Jack	9 th & 4 th
Nathan	15 th & 18 th
Martin	24 th & 33 rd
Jack	27 th & 23 rd
Max	mp & 10 th
	66 runners



Mr Hardwick : From September will be Assistant Headteacher responsible for Teaching and Learning

Having achieved a History degree from the University of Nottingham in the early 1990s I was at a bit of a loss as to how to earn a living using my degree; so almost by default I ended up training to be a teacher on the South coast a couple of years later. There was nobody more surprised than me to discover that I loved it. History will always be a real focus of my life, both in my professional life and my outside interests. I am very fortunate that my chosen career has allowed me to exploit this to the full.

My first job was to be a couple of years in Cumbria at Dowdales in Dalton, running a small History Department. Since then I gained responsibilities, first for the rest of Humanities, then Work Related Learning, Enterprise and the rest of the 14 to 19 initiatives. Finally I developed the Dowdales reporting system and the use of the data it produced for the school mentoring system. Thirteen years later I have finally decided to move onto new challenges! Though geographically I could have hardly moved a shorter distance, this is a very different job. I really think taking responsibility for developing teaching and learning in an 11 to 18 school is one of dream jobs in teaching. It allows me to move to a senior management role, whilst retaining the parts of the job which we all love; the outcomes from which are tangible and immediate.

Teaching and learning is all about improving the experience for, and life chances of, young people. I am committed to raising standards, both in the basics, such as uniform and appearance; through to excellence in the classroom and in the community.

I really like living in this area, Kirkby to be precise. I have found everyone welcoming, putting up with attempts at playing cricket for local clubs and repairing my succession of unreliable cars. I have been told this area is a little off the pace of the rest of the country, a snapshot of how England used to be; I prefer to think that it is how the country should be, with the family values and work ethic to be proud of. It is our role as teachers to acknowledge, celebrate and contribute to its maintenance. This is a great place to live, this community is my home; and with a bit of luck I should have my immigration papers in a few years.

When asked to describe me, my current Year 10 class were as guileless and blunt as only children can be, their comment was simple: "He thinks he's funny, but he's not". So you have been warned.



ASDAN Youth Award : Years 10 and 11

As part of the ASDAN Youth award environmental unit both years combined to improve an area of school. After selecting an area to improve the students designed and developed a logo. The final design was the UVHS letters done using box hedging so that in the future they will grow together and form the letters so they will stand proud and welcome all to the school.

The year 11 students had the task of preparing the ground by digging out the letters and turning over and adding compost to the soil in readiness for the plants.

The year 10 students carried out the planting using the box hedging, yellow Marigolds and blue Ageratum.

Once again, a big thank you to all the students involved for their enthusiasm, motivation and hard work. The school would like to thank Crooklands garden centre at Dalton for all their support and help in providing the plants and advice.

