

ULVERSTON VICTORIA HIGH SCHOOL

Spring
Term Review
2019



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MR HARDWICK WRITES...

There are moments in a teaching career when you are awestruck by something the children under your care achieve, whether individually or as a group. One such occurrence was the concert performed by the UVHS band and the Band of the Royal Marines recently at the Coronation Hall, it was quite simply magical. One hundred of our children holding their own with professional musicians to create an evening of warmth and achievement.

Although I was only appointed as the substantive Headteacher at UVHS from January; this Easter holiday marks my one year anniversary running the school. I have relished this fascinating and challenging role. Every day is different and we do our best to ensure that the high level of achievement, abundant opportunities and exemplary care for our students continues to be the best available. This is against a background of mounting pressure on our schools, with ever increasing accountability, but the constant eroding of school finances as costs rise and income remains the same. In this climate we are seeing a rise in the amount of anxiety and mental health issues in our schools, which is mirrored by a decline in support services from outside school.

Consequently we concern ourselves very intently with the wellbeing of our students, doing our best to minimise the pressure our

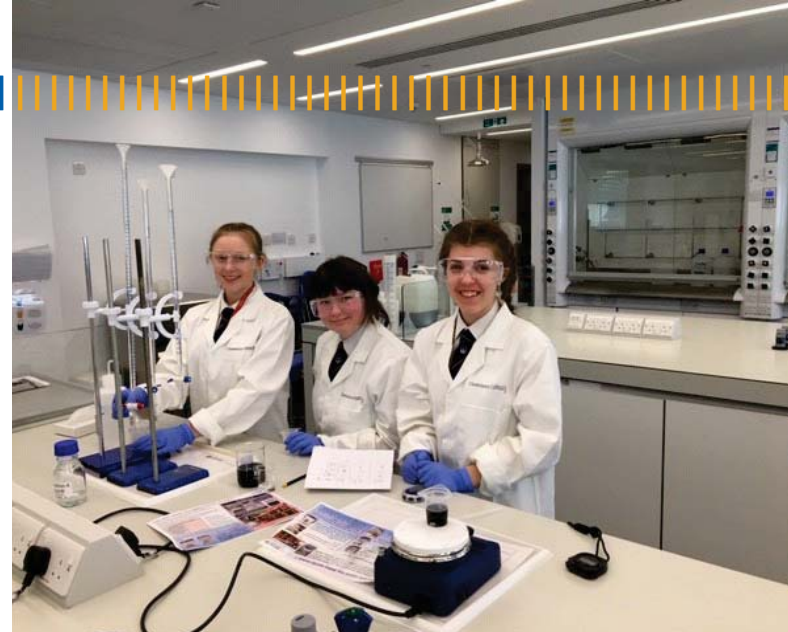
students are under and supporting them whenever necessary. Not only are the new courses at GCSE and A Level more challenging and more focussed on the final exams than ever before, but students are also under growing pressure to conform to what society has defined as the norm, both through the cult of celebrity and the ever pervasive influence of social media. It is our role as a school to minimise the impact of these pressures and allow students to concentrate on their learning and on just being children.



It is for these reasons, as well as for safeguarding, that the use of mobile phones has never been allowed in school. Our high standards of uniform are also important in the removal of pressures on students created by peers and society to look a certain way and thus be judged by these criteria. True there are other benefits to be gained from uniform, such as a shared ethos and outside perception of the school as a whole by the local community and local employers; but it is the social and economic levelling that it engenders which is so important.

As I look back on the last term I see happy students contributing to the life of the school and achieving well in and outside of lessons. We have high expectations for the outcomes this summer in both GCSE and A Level exams. However the greatest understanding of education is really about what comes outside the classroom. Not only have the school band played with the Royal Marines this term and the sheer quality and professionalism of this is a real credit to the students and the music department; when combined with the resurgence of dance and drama for "Hairspray" the warmth of the contribution made by hundreds of our children is breath taking. This is the best job in the world, particularly when it involves working with such talented students and staff.

YEAR 9 STEM CHALLENGE TRIP



Twelve Year 9 students attended the STEM challenge day at Lancaster University. They split up into teams to represent Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths and competed against other schools from around Cumbria and Lancashire. The challenges included; designing a chemical reaction with a specific completion time, completing a Maths treasure hunt, building a wind turbine and prototyping a smart musical instrument using computing technology. The students worked exceptionally hard, applying the skills and knowledge they had learnt in their subjects

at school. It was a great experience to use the facilities and resources at the university and to get a taster of the campus environment. Congratulations to the Technology team for achieving 1st place in their challenge!

VIC MEDICS



We were really pleased to welcome Dr Peter Dyer, Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon to the Vic Medics group. Peter gave our students a fantastic insight into his career; covering trauma to the face and neck, oral cancer and dento-alveolar surgery. Peter was able to share images of his work over the years and this wasn't for the faint hearted! Many students from Year 10 and 13 attended and went away wanting to know more about this area of surgery. We would like to thank Peter for being such an inspiration to our students.

We are pleased to announce that Katie won the Year 8 'Step into the NHS' competition. Katie's winning entry included a very large poster detailing how surgery is one of the most important treatments that the NHS can offer and some of the most common areas to work in. Well done Katie for all of your hard work!



YEAR 12 VIC MEDICS



The Year 12 Vic Medics were tutored by Mr Gannon, our very own member of the Duddon and Furness Mountain Rescue Team. From Mr Gannon's specialist training, they learnt how to give intra-muscular injections in an emergency situation and the types of medication that can be given during a rescue attempt. They compared the difficulty of first aid and treatments in the field as opposed to a hospital.



MAGISTRATES MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION

Fourteen UVHS pupils from Year 8 and 9 travelled to Carlisle on Friday the 15th March

to participate in the Cumbrian heat of the national Magistrates Mock Trial Competition. The competition involved pupils aged 12 – 14 conducting a mock criminal trial in a real court room. The pupils fulfil all of the roles necessary to run the trial from lawyers, to witnesses to legal advisors and the magistrates themselves.

The team put in a huge amount of work beforehand to prepare, working with members of the sixth

form law society and a visiting magistrate to perfect their legal skills and techniques. The trip was possible because of the fundraising efforts of the sixth form law society as well as a generous contribution from local Ulverston law firm Poole Townsend.

Competing over two rounds against other local schools the team performed excellently, scoring well in all areas. Unfortunately the team didn't make it through to the next round but were nevertheless highly commended. Two UVHS pupils, Angel and Toby, were noted in particular for their strong performances as the defendant and prosecution lawyer, with Angel being awarded the prize of outstanding performance in the team. The pupils enjoyed the experience and learned a great deal about law and the legal system in the process.

SCHOOL PARLIAMENT UPDATE

The UVHS School Parliament is a representative body of UVHS students, with a member from each form in years 8-11. The School Parliament meets once every half term. As a group we report to the school's Senior Leadership Team about issues, ideas and suggestions from the student body. As part of the Parliament we have created two sub-committees which meet more regularly in order to carry out some of our ideas. These are the Eco-committee and the Charity Committee and they have each written a few words to show you what they have been doing.

CHARITY COMMITTEE

The Charity Committee is a group of young volunteers from all year groups who are interested in helping out various national and local charities, organised by the School Parliament. We currently have 13 members, ranging from year 8 to year 11.

Every year we choose two new charities that we, as a school, would like to support. This year we have chosen Ulverston Mind as our local charity, and Cancer Research for our national charity. To help support these charities we are holding multiple fundraisers which included the Christmas Fayre held last term. During the spring term we worked with Mr Hall in organising a "do something funny for money" joke competition in aid of Red Nose Day. The joke competition was held for our students during lunch time on Friday 15th March and was good fun!

We really enjoyed helping out these charities, and look forward to supporting more in the near future.



ECO-COMMITTEE

The Eco-Committee is a group of students who are helping the school to achieve Eco School status (for more information please visit their website eco-schools.org.uk). We do this because we believe our future is important. We are a sub-committee of the UVHS School Parliament, but any student is welcome to join. We meet every other Wednesday in S1.

Although we have only been around for six months, we have already been involved in projects such as distributing a reusable water bottle to all students and putting recycling bins in every classroom. We are looking to increase our membership and would like more students from the lower school to get involved and join our committee. The earth's future is our future and we need to work to save it now!



RED NOSE DAY 2019

UVHS demonstrated its charitable spirit once again recently as we helped raise funds for Comic Relief's Red Nose Day. On Friday 15th March we held a non-uniform day, sold the infamous Red Noses, and held a 'Do Something Funny' competition where students from all year groups could come along and tell the funniest jokes and stories they know. This panel was judged by Mr Guerrero, Ms Shaw, Miss Beadsley and Mr Bates.

The money raised from Red Nose Day goes towards helping all sorts of people, both around the world, and right here in the UK. UVHS is very

proud to say that we have done our little bit for the charity, and raised an absolutely incredible:

£1,838.09

Thank you to Mr Hall and the Charity Committee of the school parliament for organizing the day, as well as the finance office, school reception, and all of the judges who helped run our joke competition. Red Nose Day will return in 2021, next March will be Sport Relief.



DO SOMETHING FUNNY JOKE COMPETITION

What do you call a Mexican guy who lost his car?
(Carlos! (Sol Y7))

My friend tried being smart and said onions are the only food that makes you cry, so I threw a coconut at his face! (Noah Y8)

An old woman at the bank asked me to check her balance, so I pushed her over! (Anon Y9)

Why did the bubblegum cross the road? Because it was stuck to the chickens foot. (Anon Y8) - WINNER

Knock knock. Who's there? Britney. Britney who? Knock knock. Who's there? Oops I did it again. (Harry Y11)

Did you hear about the Italian chef who died? He pasta-way! (Flora Y13)





UVHS PERFORMS WITH THE MARINES

At the beginning of March the UVHS Music Department was honoured to once again host the Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines at the Coronation Hall for two spectacular joint events – a formal massed bands concert and a joint dance band function.

On the afternoon of Friday 1st March, 35 senior students undertook a grueling 2 hour rehearsal with the Marines Band where they had to sight-read the music for the following days massed band performance. That evening, UVHS Swing Band hosted the Royal Marines Dance Band in front of a cabaret audience of 250 people.

The next day, following a lunchtime careers presentation from the Band Service, the massed band rehearsed their programme once more, giving the UVHS musicians a chance to look at the music again before performing it.

At 7.30pm the lights went down and a packed-out audience (the concert sold out before January) took their seats expecting the usual spectacular event from both UVHS Wind Band and the Royal Marines Band – they were not to be disappointed.

The first band on stage was the 92-strong UVHS band, joined by 4 former students who are currently serving in the Marines (Sergeant Andy Spain, Corporal Ruth Wardle and Musicians Rob Norrie and Jodie Giles) who performed an amazing 40-minute set - the highlight being the Percussion Ensemble who were very surprised to be joined by the Marines Corps of Drums for

a 'drum-off' half-way through their routine which then went into the opening title music from The Avengers.

After the interval the Marines Band took to the stage under the Baton of their Director of Music,

Captain Steve Green, to perform a dazzling set of musical prowess, including the performance of several compositions by former UVHS student Andy Spain who is about to complete the Bandmasters' Course in Portsmouth. The finale was the massed band, with the 35 senior UVHS musicians coming onto the stage to perform the Symphonic Suite from 'Hairspray' (which UVHS staged at The Coro on 22nd/23rd March), music from the film 'How To Train Your Dragon', 'the Can-Can' and then the traditional close to all Marines' concerts with Sunset, Rule Britannia and all the naval marches.

Everyone at the concert will agree that it was an absolutely amazing concert from both bands – one that will stick in the memory for a long time. Captain Green told them that he had never experienced before a school that could produce the sheer quality of music and number of musicians that UVHS did, and that both the town and county should be very proud of what the students continue to achieve in the music world.



PRIMARY DANCE PLATFORM

On Tuesday 12th, Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th of February the UVHS dance team performed in the Primary Dance Platform. Over the three nights 80 pupils performed on our stage in a range of different dance pieces. We showcased 4 different dances each night which ranged from: jazz, lindy Hop, contemporary, lyrical and commercial dance. As always the dancers performed beautifully and they should be extremely proud of themselves.

On the night the dance team got to perform a snippet of a piece they are performing in the Brewery Dance Platform in Kendal on the 19th March.



BREWERY DANCE PLATFORM

We took the dance team down to perform at the Kendal Brewery Arts centre. The pupils were FANTASTIC and had spent many hours creating a 5 minute piece for the show. Pupils had spent every Tuesday night this year practicing for the platform. Well done to all involved.



hairspray

After a successful production of 'Me And My Girl' in 2017, followed by 'A Night At The Musicals' in 2018, we decided to embark on a less traditional annual school show. Thus the plans for staging the musical 'Hairspray' began.

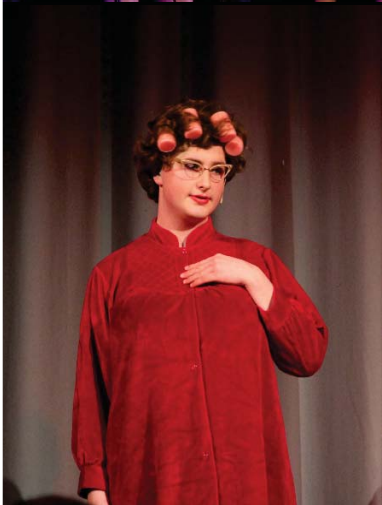
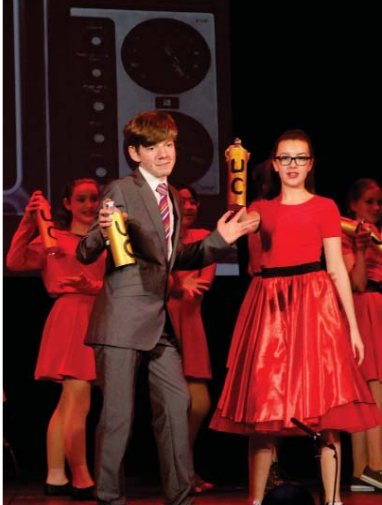
Both students and staff alike enjoyed the challenges that Hairspray presented. For example, how to re-contextualise the content while staying true to the story. Also how to tackle the high degree of choreography and synergy between spoken lines, songs and live music. Moreover, there was the annual autumn production and Christmas pantomime to consider. As well as the end of term concert, musical performances alongside the Royal Marines Band and day to day events.

The three sell-out performances at The Coro were absolutely outstanding and reflect the deep pool of talent we have in all the year groups here at UVHS. The cast were supported by fellow students who ran all aspects of lighting, sound and stage management. There was of course the superb student band that has now become the expected norm. Showing this really was a whole-school production.

During the last few days of rehearsals when final modifications were being made, I couldn't help but reflect upon the journey that the students and staff had been on since we began the project in the autumn term. The commitment shown by the students was tangible. Where lines had once been forgotten or a script relied upon, where feet weren't keeping time during a dance, all seemed to come together and there was flowing harmony. The students had ownership of what was now very much their production. It was a proud and poignant moment and reminded me of why I enjoy the role of Head of Drama at UVHS so much.

It would be impossible, or at the very least excruciatingly difficult to produce a school production that demands so many different facets single handedly. I feel ever indebted to the boss Mr Butler, for his support, musical direction and boundless energy. Also to Mrs Heginbotham for her skillful musical input. Beyond the Performing Arts department we have built a team of teachers from across a range of subject areas who give up their free time to help make things happen. Mrs Cooper and Mr Rice have been fantastic assistant directors, and Miss Bird was her usual brilliant self as choreographer. Miss Walmsley and Miss Thompson also helped with scenery, props and the running of an efficient back-stage area and dressing rooms. It couldn't have happened without them.

I think the cast's experience can be summed up in the words of this year's lead Jess Charlesworth who said "I feel that the school productions are always of an amazingly high standard. It's felt so inclusive, too – working with the younger students and seeing them experience being involved in the commitment of the show. It's broadened my idea of the Performing Arts and given me and some of the other older students a chance to take on roles of direction and choreography as well as acting". Indeed I feel it's been a great show because as ever, the fantastic students of UVHS have stepped up to the mark and made it happen.



THE UK INTERMEDIATE INDIVIDUAL MATHS CHALLENGE

The challenge took place on 7th February 2019 in school and was open to any student in year 11 or below.

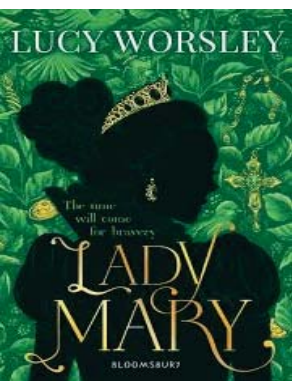
Of our 22 students who entered, medal winners were Frances, Rebecca, Eleanor, Alex, James, Robin, Charli, Eleanor, Dorje, Bradley, Lucy, Lily and Dan with the rest all highly commended.

Special congratulations to James (best in school), Robin and Lily who all got special mentions and through to the Olympiad round (this puts them into the best 1000 under 17 year olds in the UK). Pretty good going since they are year 10 and Lily is only year 8! Wow.

We then entered 3 teams into the Regional Final for years 8 & 9 at Barrow Sixth Form College and won! We have been invited to London for the final event in June, this is an invitation to the best 80 schools nationwide for Mathematics, well done all! A special thank you to Kane & Chingjung for helping me to train the teams.



YOUNG QUILLS COMPETITION



Since January the History department has had the privilege of being involved with the Historical Association's Young Quills competition. This involved us being sent 12 different historical fiction books in two age categories, 11-13 and 14+. Pupils were able to read books and write their honest opinions about them and these reviews will be used by the Historical

Association to judge the historical fiction books for the year. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed this experience and are hoping to be chosen next year. Books that were particularly popular were Sky Chasers by Emma Carroll and Lady Mary by Lucy Worsley. All books are now available in the school Library.

11-13 BOOKS

- Rose Rivers - Jacqueline Wilson
- The Skylarks War - Hilary McKay
- The Raven's children - Yulia Yacovleva
- Sky Chasers - Emma Carroll
- Lady Mary - Lucy Worsley
- The Goose Road - Rowena House
- Black Snow Falling - L J MacWhirter
- My Brigadista Year - Katherine Paterson

14+ BOOKS

- Hope is our only wing - Rutendo Tavenger Wei
- The Electrical Venus - Hilary Mayhew
- Firebird - Elizabeth Wein
- Orphan, Monster, Spy - Elizabeth Wein

THE ROTARY YOUNG CHEF COMPETITION COUNTY HEATS

Every year UVHS is delighted to enter into the Rotary Young Chef Competition, and the county heat was held on the 7th February 2019 at the Lakes School, Troutbeck.

Maisie has worked tirelessly since before Christmas to perfect her menu for the competition to produce a healthy three course meal for two people for less than £20 - a real challenge for any chef!

The standard of the competition across the schools from Cumbria and Lancashire was very high. Everyone's food was judged at the highest level by renowned chefs Richard Booth; executive chef at the prestigious Lakeside Hotel, and Steven Doherty who was Head Chef for Michel Roux in Mayfair, and the fifth chef to enter into the highly acclaimed Master of Culinary Arts and who mentors students at English Lakes Culinary Academy.

Maisie's vegetarian scotch egg was quoted by one of the judges to be the starter of the night and they were delighted with her modern understanding of specialist dietary need dishes.

As always - many thanks to our local Rotarian Ken Day for organising the competition - an excellent night was had by all. Well done Maisie!



COMPUTING SUCCESSES

Through our link with Lancaster University, a group of 4 students visited the Computer Science department to take part in their Girls in Computing day. They engaged with activities using BBC micro:bits, creating digital art and constructing robots. Throughout the day, they encountered numerous new technologies they hadn't seen before and created some wonderful pieces of work. The students thoroughly enjoyed the sessions and have quite a collection of creative computational items to show for their hard work.

It has been a busy term for the Computing department with the culmination of last term's Bebras competition. Talented student Lily in year 8 was invited to the Department of Computer Science at the University of Oxford in February as a finalist in a UK-wide competition – The UK Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge.

Reaching the final of the Intermediate age group is an impressive achievement, as 101,342 students entered the first round for the age group (12–14). Lily was among the top 60 highest achieving students invited to the final round in her age group, and was presented with her finalist's certificate at a prize-giving ceremony at Hertford College.

This year's Bebras competition has continued with over 30 students who placed within the top 10% nationally participating in the TCS OCC competition. Well done to all students involved.

THE LEGAL APPRENTICE COMPETITION

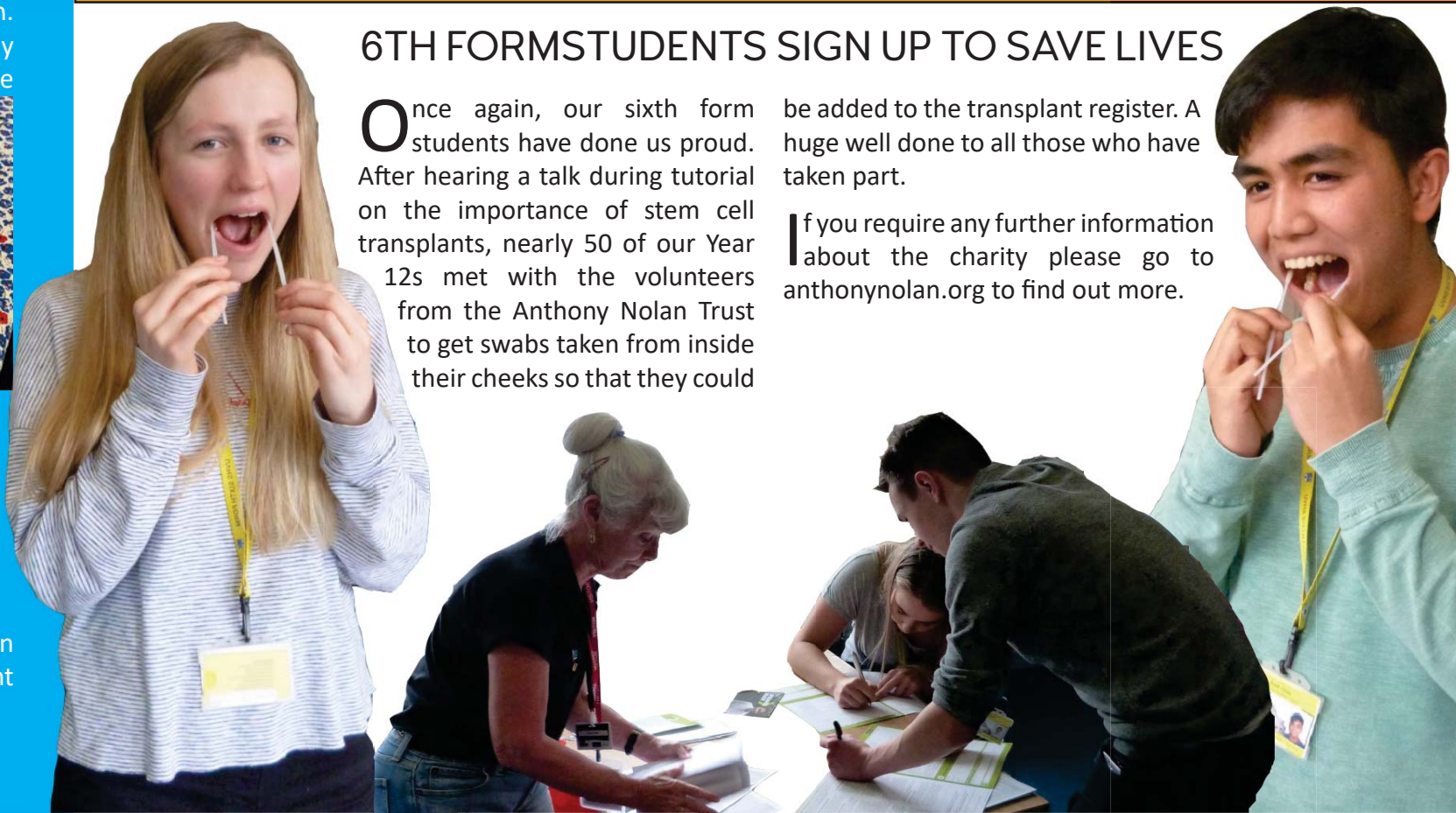
Our Year 12 Law students are very excited to be taking part in the The Legal Apprentice, a Kingsley Napley's legal competition, in partnership with The Times. We have seven teams, at the ready, who will complete a series of tasks, designed to encourage them to tap into their "inner solicitor" – using skills and logic to provide legal advice for virtual clients. The competition aims to provide students with first-hand experience of what it is like to be a solicitor. We wish them the very best of luck!

6TH FORMSTUDENTS SIGN UP TO SAVE LIVES

Once again, our sixth form students have done us proud. After hearing a talk during tutorial on the importance of stem cell transplants, nearly 50 of our Year 12s met with the volunteers from the Anthony Nolan Trust to get swabs taken from inside their cheeks so that they could

be added to the transplant register. A huge well done to all those who have taken part.

If you require any further information about the charity please go to anthonymolan.org to find out more.



EDWARD II AT THE GLOBE THEATRE - TILLY 12.7

The day started at platform four in Lancaster, with everyone managing to meet at the correct time. The two and a half hours journey went surprisingly quickly as there were free films available and some people even managed to nap!

When we got to London most people were ready for their meal. To get to Bankside, we had to take the tube to St Paul's and then walk across the Millennium Bridge (very high yet very beautiful) from where we could see the Globe Theatre (and Pizza Express) for the first time. We had an hour to eat before we saw the play, but our meals were eaten quickly (obviously out of excitement) and off we went to the theatre.

Inside the Sam Wannamaker Theatre was extremely beautiful. The ceiling was painted with clouds and angels and the stage was

decorated with tiles of all colours to replicate the inside of Westminster Abbey. The whole theatre was covered in candles to light the stage, as it would've been done when it was first built and there was even a balcony decorated with yellow and gold for the band and actors to use during the performance. Everyone got into their places and the play began.

Each actor was perfectly fitting to their character and each word was spoken as if it was their own. There was such passion and enthusiasm in every movement of the actors and the way the band played was truly mesmerising. Before we knew it, the play was over and with sore legs from standing we applauded and got ready for the long trip back to Lancaster. There was, of course, time for a brief visit to the gift shop where items of all shapes and sizes were bought as souvenirs.

After leaving the Globe we had about an hour and a half before we needed to get the train home. Some of the group went with Miss

Smith back to Euston train station to relax after all the standing whilst Mr Martin took the rest to 221B Baker Street for a quick look in the museum. At 6:20pm we got aboard to go home, some with their dinner and others with snacks. After a long day of walking then standing then walking again we were all ready to get home but I think everyone will agree it was an excellent trip out.



LIBRARY NEWS

Exciting news! We now have 5 Reading Ambassadors in the UVHS Sixth form!

Izzy, Max, Laura, Robin and Lewis have all volunteered to run reading groups with younger students using books donated by Booktrust.

The titles have a refugee theme and offer a perfect opportunity for all readers who would like to explore a range of ideas and current issues, especially challenging or sensitive topics.



Exam Information

The A Level, GCSE, Year 10 Mock and Year 12 Mock exam time tables are available on the school website.

Please keep your eye on the school website exams area for updates about results days and queries about exam results.

If you are going to be away on your results day, please contact the exams office BEFORE the end of the summer term so that alternative arrangements can be made at exams@uvhs.uk



www.uvhs.uk/exams

On Wednesday March 20, the UVHS U13 Girls Indoor Cricket Team attended Queen Elizabeth School to play in the U13 Girls Indoor County Competition, after winning the Barrow Schools Competition in early February. Unfortunately, for a County Competition only 2 other schools arrived to take part, with Appleby School and Furness Academy who were runners up to us in the Barrow Competition being our opponents.

Our first game saw us up against Furness Academy and the UVHS girls really played well. Batting first we scored 95 runs for 2 wickets from our 8 overs, then bowled and fielded excellently to restrict Furness Academy to 79 runs for 2 wickets. We then moved on to play Appleby in our second game. Bowling first in this game, we kept Appleby to 43 runs for 3 wickets which was again an excellent team effort. We then batted sensibly despite losing wickets in the last 2 overs of our innings to score 72 runs for the loss of 6 wickets, giving us two wins from two games and the U13 Girls Indoor Cricket County title. This now gives us the opportunity of playing in the regional North of England Championships in the summer term. Well done girls.

OOOR CRICKET



U13 GIRLS FOOTBALL

Congratulations to the U13 Girls football team who got to the semi-finals in the county cup. Well done girls!

Sports Ambassadors

Eight UVHS students qualify for the Youth Sport Trust Leadership Academy!

The Youth Sport Trust has set up a leadership academy targeting year 10 girls. Pupils had to complete an application form highlighting their strengths as a leader and how they could make a difference. Eight of our year 10 sports ambassadors applied and all eight got in which is fantastic as many applications were received!



TABLE CRICKET COMPETITION



On a blustery morning, 8 students from the Sports Ability club travelled to Penrith Leisure Centre and took part in The Cumbria Lord Taveners County Table Cricket Competition.

The students were quickly engaged in a competitive tournament with the players using their

tactics and skills winning 1 of their 2 matches. Well done to all players for a fantastic day and team performance. Success was achieved by Daniel (team Captain), Callum, Conner, Jayden, Aaron, Kacey, Riley and Evelin.

RACE FOR LIFE

During the month of January all our UVHS students have taken part in a healthy lifestyle term. The aim of this term was to highlight to pupils not only the things you need to do to live a healthy lifestyle, but to participate in a range of different fitness based classes. Hopefully pupils will find an activity they can continue with outside of school. Alongside this ran a 'fittest form' challenge where pupils had to track their active lifestyles, such as eating 5 a day, 30 minutes of continuous exercise and getting 8 hours sleep.

Our UVHS pupils have been fantastic and what a term it has been! Over the 6 week term pupils have taken part in different methods of exercise each PE lesson, ranging from: Body attack, yoga, circuit training, bleep test, HIIT training and many more!

This training however, has not gone to waste as all pupils from year 7 -11 completed a 5K Race For Life! The event was hosted at UVHS in the final weeks of term. Pupils worked hard to get sponsored in order to raise money for Cancer Research. All pupils ran the 5K Race For Life which was an amazing achievement and something they should be extremely proud of!

All together we raised a MASSIVE **£8,353** which is outstanding and shows how brilliant our UVHS pupils really are!

On behalf of the PE department thank you to pupils and staff for getting involved and well done for raising so much money for such an amazing cause! WELL DONE.

YEAR 7 NETBALL

Year 7 Netball got off to a good start this year with an excellent turn out for training. The girls were able to improve their skills and knowledge of the game. Year 7 then had the chance to have their first match as we took 3 teams to have friendly matches against Dowdales with all playing excellently!

The year 7 netball team then entered their first Netball League competition for UVHS. They have had a great start to the year. The girls have drawn all of their games so far, with their latest match managing to draw 5-5 after being 3-0 down at half time. They have great determination and are improving with each game. They are going to be a team to watch out for! Good luck for the rest of your matches.

