

Ulverston Victoria High School Summer Term Review 2020



MR HARDWICK WRITES...



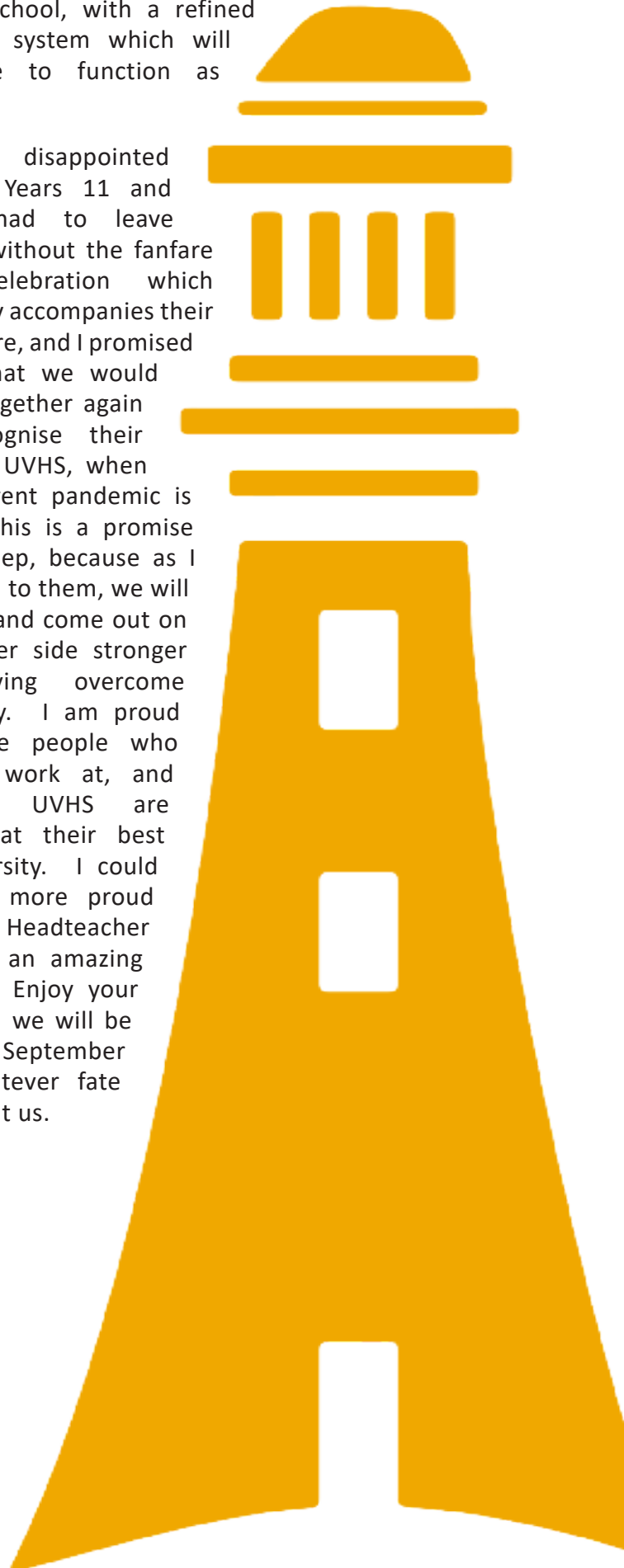
This is obviously a very different Newsletter. As we come to the end of the strangest term of my teaching career and plan for a very different start to next term, we felt that the time was right to look back on the last few months and try to share some things

that people from our school community have done and how they have coped with the pandemic. This has been a challenging few months for many of us, for some it has been a time of great sadness and for others a time of struggle. It has also been a time for achievement, for children and teachers to master new skills and ways of working, to work outside their comfort zone. The teaching and learning has not been perfect, or even close to that, but we have tried our best, we've tried to get it right and where we have failed we have gone away to try and improve. We have gone from mostly worksheets and some email contact, to live lessons for most groups and Years 10 and 12 in school for full lessons. Apparently, according to Year 10, a three hour history lesson is "too long", I don't understand this, I cannot think of any more joyful way to spend the time!

However, the joy of a school is its dynamism, its clubs and societies, one off events, competitions and activities. This is particularly true of UVHS, it is at the centre of the community. We are missing the shows, the sponsored walk and sports day. They will of course return in the fullness of time, however until then our task is to get back to the core business of equipping our students academically for the world they will live in. We have spent the past two weeks planning to reopen next year, it will be a very different school at the start, with year group “bubbles”, one way systems and a huge emphasis on hygiene. These things must be in place, but remember this is the same supportive,

caring school, with a refined pastoral system which will continue to function as normal.

I was disappointed that Years 11 and 13 had to leave school without the fanfare and celebration which normally accompanies the departure, and I promised them that we would come together again to recognise their time at UVHS, when the current pandemic is over. This is a promise I will keep, because as I also said to them, we will endure and come out on the other side stronger at having overcome adversity. I am proud that the people who go to, work at, and support UVHS are always at their best in adversity. I could not be more proud to be Headteacher of such an amazing school. Enjoy your summer, we will be ready in September for whatever fate throws at us.



National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs Take Time Project



Lockdown has seen the coming together of communities across the UK especially in rural areas. Rural isolation is a problem faced by many, even before the pandemic and the cancellation of all agricultural shows and local village events has had a significant impact on mental health.

Year 12 student Ruth is currently the chairman of the National Federation of Young Farmer's Clubs' (NFYFC) Youth Forum, a group of around twenty-five YFC members from across England and Wales who represent the voice of younger members within their organisation.

During lockdown, the forum have kept active on social media and held meetings via Zoom. Throughout this time, the Youth Forum have developed a mental health campaign called #YFCTakeTime. The project is aimed at producing a valuable resource tailored to support young people in rural communities and was first published during National Mental Health Awareness Week back in May.

Each day over the week, one of the seven key steps was promoted on the NFYFC social media channels, with a different forum member sharing the steps each day. These key points included take time to keep connected, take time to keep active and take time to try something new.

Since it was first published, the #YFCTakeTime project has blown up massively. The total reach on Facebook during the campaign period was well over 250,000. As well as being sponsored by national agriculture-related companies, the project was promoted by the Farmers Weekly, a national newspaper, who invited Ruth to speak alongside NFYFC Chairman of Council, Dewi Parry on their weekly podcast as well as publishing an article about the campaign in their paper. Organisations including the British Youth Council, the NHS Youth Forum and Rural Youth Europe also shared and backed the project.

Following the huge success of the campaign, on the 11th of June, Ruth got the opportunity to represent not only NFYFC but England in a Rural Youth Europe webinar. The event focused on discussing the good practice that rural youth organisations have been doing across Europe during the COVID-19 pandemic. As well as representatives from the four nations, Ruth spoke alongside members from countries including Latvia, Finland and Slovenia.



Lockdown Achievements



Eleanor & Natasha

Sisters working together through lockdown by creating canvas art work.



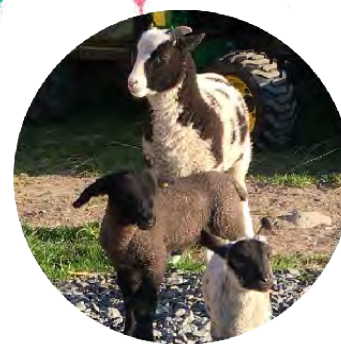
Carter

Carter has learned to make & cook Yorkshire Puddings & they are delicious.



Lewis

Lewis has been making a banoffee pie!



Katie

Katie has been busy lambing during lockdown.



Finn

Finn has become a keen Carp Fisherman. He has joined Furness Fishing Association and is a regular on Low Pond catching fish as heavy 14 pounds in weight.



Bethany

Bethany has been doing an at-home art project in painting her conservatory wall as a jungle.



Niya

Niya has been busy drawing, cooking (they ran a local Isolation Bake Off for kids), building dens, learning DIY and collecting for their local foodbank during lockdown.



Leon

Leon, who loves cooking in school, has been using lock down to further his cooking skills and to learn how to budget for food shopping. Moreover, he has also helped his dad build a weights bench out of wood.



Hugill Family

Ever since the lock down the Hugills started a family group cooking competition that gets voted on every Friday. Everything must be made from scratch.



Mia

Mia has been busy practising her baking skills for family & friends to brighten their day during lockdown. The rainbow cake was specifically made in recognition of all the key workers and NHS. She even made some dog friendly 'pup cakes' for her dog's birthday!



Nathan

Nathan took part in Lakesman in Lockdown. Lakesman is an Ironman triathlon that usually takes place in June. However due to coronavirus it couldn't take place. So instead participants were encouraged to race at home, minus the swim. Nathan completed his duathlon in a great time. Cycling 12 miles then onto a 3 mile run.



Annon

Our family have all been getting more interested in the different types of birds visiting our garden. We've been very lucky to have the woodpecker visiting us several times a day and it's been great seeing all the fledglings waiting to be fed.



Lucie-Kate

Lucie-kate has baked goodies during lockdown and handed them out to St George's Risedale care home clients and staff in memory of her friend Brigit's Grandfather who passed away during lockdown, to Age UK who put them in their weekly care packages and to Barrow Police station. In total there were 500 gift bags handed out.



Izzy

Izzy has been DJing on the radio! Every Saturday she has been broadcasting live on the air at Lake District Radio, playing music, taking requests, doing live phone ins and openly chatting about how the current situation affects her and friends. Lake District Radio broadcasts live and up to 15,000 listeners tune in each week from all over the world.



Alfie

Alfie and his Mum were asked to help in the Ulverston Isolation Group delivering free meals and Food Share parcels around Ulverston. Alfie had to be his mum's eyes, as she had lost her reading glasses at the beginning of lockdown! Alfie navigated, dealt with cash and told her what to deliver where. Alfie has also been helping his dad on their self-build and is learning very useful building skills.



Adam

Adam volunteered for the Ulverston Self Isolation group alongside Alfie during lockdown. Adam helped bag up family meals as well as helping out with fare shares food bags and deliverers. Both boys are a credit to their families and school.



Shannon

Shannon has volunteered with the Ulverston Self Isolation Group every week. She has helped the group deliver family meals and packs food share bags for the community of Ulverston.

Her family are really proud of Shannon for giving back to her community, she always does it in a friendly and helpful manner.



Riley

Riley's enjoyed making pizzas, chopping his own ingredients and putting his favourite toppings on. He has also helped paint the garden fence and jobs around the house including a play house in the garden for his sister. At his dad's he goes for walks and rides his bike.

NATIONAL ROTARY YOUNG WRITER COMPETITION 2019-2020

This year, students from across KS3 and KS4 were encouraged to produce a creative piece of writing entitled 'Connections'. This could be fiction or non-fiction, a story or a poem, up to 500 words.

There were a whopping 262 entries from UVHS alone for the local heat. I am pleased to announce that Anna (Year 11) came first in the senior category with her piece about social media. Bradley (Year 11) was the runner-up. Daniel (Year 7) won the intermediate category with his piece about his families connections to the Lake District. Rose (Year 8) was the runner-up. All four will receive a certificate and a book token. Everyone who entered will receive a certificate of participation.

Anna and Daniel will now go through to the Cumbria and Lancashire District final. We have our fingers crossed for further success in this round.

Anna said: 'I was really shocked to hear I'd won the competition as I didn't think it was my best piece.'

Daniel said: 'I was really happy to hear that I'd won and I feel really proud'

Congratulations to Anna, Daniel, Bradley, Rose and all the students who participated this year.
- Mrs Shufflebottom

Y12 Spanish - Pan's Labyrinth Art Competition

Over the last few months, Miss Beardsley's Year 12 Spanish class have been working hard analysing the popular Spanish film, Pan's Labyrinth, in preparation for their A level exam next year. They have been looking at, in depth, the historical context of the film; the Spanish Civil War, the Franco dictatorship and the role of women in society.

During lockdown, Miss Beardsley set the class an art competition on the film, and we received some outstanding entries. The prize for the winner was a £10 Amazon voucher.

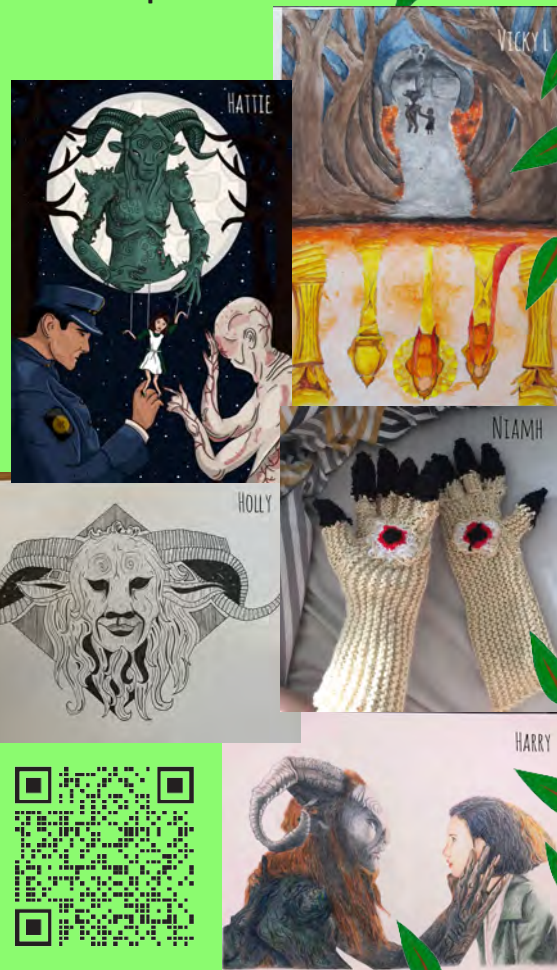
The quality of the students' work was so fantastic that Miss B couldn't decide on a winner, so she tweeted the film's Director, Guillermo del Toro (who also produced the Hobbit) for some help. To everyone's surprise, he tweeted back and helped in the decision making.

In the end, Miss B had to choose two winners as the standard of work was just too fantastic.

Miss B delivered the prizes and a customised balloon to the two winners, Harry and Niamh, who were thrilled to be declared the winners.

A great example of some fantastic work in the Languages department where, even during these challenging times, Spanish continues to thrive, after only being introduced to the curriculum at UVHS three years ago.

To see the larger versions of the student's amazing artwork, please visit the gallery section on our website or scan the QR code.



26 PE Challenge

As the London Marathon was cancelled this year, people across the globe attempted a 2.6 challenge instead.

The 2.6 Challenge could be any activity - from running 2.6 miles to holding the plank for 26 seconds, 26 burpees to 26 keepie uppies.

Students and teachers took to the challenge in their own ways and here we can see how everyone got involved!

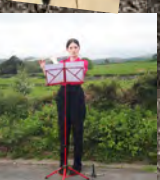


UVHS Musicians VE Day

Every Thursday evening since Lockdown began, UVHS musicians showed their appreciation of the NHS and carers not only by clapping from their doorsteps, along with the nation, but also by playing arrangements of various pieces of music (either as solos, duets or trios) to entertain their local communities.

Mr Butler published the parts every Tuesday evening, giving students 48 hours to learn the new piece - he also performed each arrangement with his two oldest children, Tabi and Oscar, each week.

As well as this, on Friday 8th May - VE Day - four musicians stood to attention at 11am and played The Last Post followed by Reveille to mark the national 2 minutes silence to honour all of those who had fallen in WWII.





Year 11 Leavers Day

On Thursday 19th March, following Boris Johnson's announcement, Year 11 left UVHS much earlier than anyone could have ever anticipated. As a Pastoral Leader you spend your entire time attending to your year group's needs, ensuring opportunities are available and challenges are met but this undoubtedly, was our biggest challenge to date. But no surprise to us, Year 11 spent the day thanking teachers

and sharing their school memories. There were a lot of tears, from both staff and pupils, but the warmth that was felt on that day will be a feeling that I am sure will never leave me. Watching the students smile, sign shirts and laugh about their memories really demonstrates what an incredible year group they are. To say I am proud of Year 11 is an absolute understatement. I wish them every success in their future endeavours. Year 11, please keep in touch! - Mrs Hayton

W O R K E X P E R I E N C E

The 2-6th March 2020 saw the whole of the Year 10 cohort actively engaged in our hugely successful Work Experience Programme.

With a host of over 180 employers from Cumbria to Oxford, North Wales to Wigan, 222 students were warmly welcomed for a week long programme of work in an extremely wide range of sectors and industries. In short, they could not have made us prouder!

In the many tours, visits and discussions with the employers throughout the week, the response to the productivity, diligence and reliability of our students was overwhelming.

Students were encouraged to explore a variety of working environments and to use these to deepen their awareness and understanding of the many career paths and opportunities available to them. For many,

invaluable employability links were forged and in some cases, new and exciting part-time employment opportunities were offered due to their commitment to the tasks undertaken by the students and their much-valued work.

The amount of praise and personal commendations are too numerate to record here but suffice to say, that we will be sharing the success, their experiences and the efforts of all of our amazing Year 10 students in a celebratory assembly on their return.

We are indebted to the many employers for their continued support, without which, the Work Experience Programme would simply not be able to take place.

As ever, we are so very proud to have exceptional students here at UVHS who are always incredible ambassadors of our school and the community we serve.



New STARTS



Mrs Briggs

Hello, my name is Miss Briggs and I am delighted to be joining the Science department in September. Since leaving school, I have completed a degree in Biochemistry, a PhD and spent a few years carrying out research in the Biology labs at University. During this time, I had the opportunity to work with school groups, which really opened my eyes to the creativity of young people and their enthusiasm for discovery. I decided to teach and I haven't looked back. I have been teaching now for 10 years, first at a large comprehensive school in York and more recently at Carnforth High School having relocated to the South Lakes. I enjoy getting involved in all aspects of school life. I used to run the Duke of Edinburgh scheme at my previous school and more recently I led a school trip for 6th form students to Switzerland to visit the Large Hadron Collider at CERN, an amazing experience. Outside of school, my hobbies include running, trekking through mountains and walking my cocker spaniel 'Emma'. I look forward to meeting you all, and I am very excited to become a part of the UVHS community.

Hello, I would like to take this opportunity to formally introduce myself, my name is Miss Stevenson and I am delighted to be joining UVHS in September. I have 10 years experience in an educational background. I firstly began my career as a supervisor in a nursery where my passion for helping others continued to blossom, I then went to work for Children's Services running many SEN groups and supporting the families in and around our community of Barrow-In-Furness. From this I began employment with Chetwynde School as a Learning Support Assistant supporting many of students from primary through to sitting GCSE examinations.

I am originally from Barrow-In-Furness, however I completed the majority of my studying in Kendal, this includes my studies of Counselling where I was fascinated to learn of the neurological pathways and biological sequence.

In my spare time I enjoy taking walks around the Lake District, travelling with my partner and daughter and spending time with our kitten Mantis.

I am really looking forward to meeting you all and being part of your strong community, where I could tell from my interview each and every person is valued.



Miss Stevenson

Hello! I am Miss Price and I am absolutely delighted to be joining UVHS as an English teacher this September. I am originally from Lancaster and studied English Literature at the University of Cumbria. I was an avid reader as a child, and this hobby quickly became my passion as I moved through education. After finding myself teaching English as a second language whilst travelling Europe, I realised that I not only had a skill for the role, but I had also fallen in love with the profession. On my return I completed my undergraduate studies and swiftly enrolled on a PGCE course.

In my free time I enjoy jogging along the local stretch of the promenade, walking in the Lake District with my dog Rocco and reading in the sunshine, whenever we are lucky enough to see it! I'm very impressed with what I have seen about UVHS and I am really looking forward to getting involved with all aspects of school life.



Miss Price



Mrs Winstanley

Hello, my name is Mrs Winstanley and I'm delighted to be joining UVHS to support the wonderful work Miss Bird has done to create such a thriving dance department. I have been teaching (PE and dance) in North Lancs/South Lakes since 1980, apart from a brief desertion to Cheshire in 1985! My energy has never dimmed and I can still leap and roll with the best of you! I have taught GCSE and A' level dance for many years as well as being part of the team of moderators for AQA. I am a firm believer in the power of dance to develop confidence and creativity in young people and I'm looking forward to getting involved in all the wonderful dance activities that take place at UVHS.



Miss Wilson

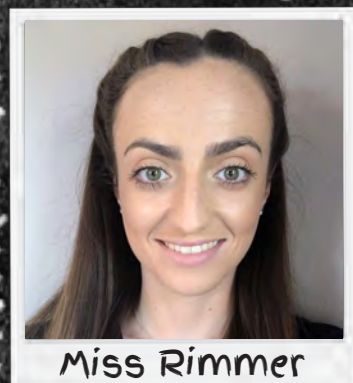
Hello, my name is Miss Wilson and I am delighted to be joining the Science Department at UVHS in September. Following the completion of my degree, in Chemistry from Lancaster University, I completed a PGCE in Secondary Chemistry at the University of Cumbria. Prior to this, I spent the year working in a small comprehensive school in a town just outside of Manchester where I covered a large range of subjects, including Maths, English and Dance. Outside of work I enjoy reading, baking, shopping, attending concerts and walking in the beautiful hills of the Lake District. I look forward to meeting you all, and I am very excited to become part of the UVHS team in September.

Hello, my name is Mr Sutherland and I am delighted to be joining UVHS to teach History. As you would expect, I love investigating the past, exploring and imagining the lives of others, then analysing why things happened. After a degree in History at Edinburgh and a few years in another career, I did teacher training in London. I taught History in Essex for many years and more recently in Kendal.

I have been really fortunate to go with students on many visits and exchanges near and far, not only to study the past, but also languages, culture, business, science, arts, religion and more. I believe in learning continuously about our world, to understand better and equip ourselves for the future, wherever we are. My guilty secret is that Geography was my favourite subject at school! In truth, all subjects are fascinating. In my spare time, I enjoy reading, cooking and running in the hills. I am really looking forward to working with everyone at UVHS.



Mr Sutherland



Miss Rimmer

Hello, my name is Miss Rimmer and I am delighted to start my journey as a PE and Dance teacher at UVHS in September.

I am from a seaside town called Southport and have always enjoyed visiting the Lake District with my family for its stunning views and friendly community atmosphere. I attended UCLan University in Preston where I studied my sports coaching degree. Following the completion of my degree, I continued to be a swimming teacher and then realised my ambition of becoming a PE teacher by gaining my PGDE at Liverpool John Moores University.

Sport has always been something that I've been extremely passionate about and I've been lucky to experience a wide variety of opportunities both inside and outside of school. I believe in allowing students to explore their talents in a range of sporting activities and encouraging a healthy active lifestyle, this is one of the things that I admire about UVHS as they offer a wide range of sports and extracurricular activities.

My hobbies include dance, swimming, cycling, running and trampolining. I'm looking forward to meeting everyone, working in the PE department and getting involved in everything the school has to offer.



New STARTS

Hello, my name is Mrs Raven and I am delighted to be returning to teach at UVHS in the Design and Technology department. I have many years teaching experience and many adventures including setting up the Design and Technology department at The British School of Chicago! I have taught all areas of the subject from Food and Nutrition to Electronics and am deeply passionate about how Design and Technology, problem solving, and creative skills can enhance the wellbeing and career prospects of our young people. Although I am a secondary trained Design and Technology specialist, I have had experience teaching all year groups from nursery to year 13. Some of the children may also remember my time at Croftlands Junior School where I taught year 5 and 6.

I am originally from Walney but have lived in Ulverston for the past eight years and am already a well known and active member of the community, having ran my own business in the town centre and through my voluntary work for many of Ulverston's vibrant festivals including The Candlelit walk, The Lantern Procession and Retro Rendezvous.

Outside of school I enjoy a range of creative hobbies including sewing and knitting as well as camping, walking, and enjoying my family. I am looking forward to meeting all the children and staff, some new and some familiar faces!



Mrs Raven

I am really excited about moving to the Lake District and starting my new adventure at Ulverston Victoria High School in September. Originally I am from Cheshire and although I will miss Manchester, I am looking forward to moving to the country with my husband, seven year old son and dog Sooty. I love teaching and am passionate about my subjects, which are Computer Science and Creative I-Media. I think they are a brilliant way of helping you to see the world differently. I have lots of hobbies. I am a huge Sci-Fi fan and love Star Wars. In fact my hamster once took up residence in the Millennium Falcon. I support Manchester United and when I was at school, I used to go to the Cliff to watch the players train and to get their autographs. My mum has been investigating our family history for the last 10 years and my fascinating fact is that I am the 32nd great-granddaughter of William the Conqueror.



Mrs Beswick

Hello, my name is Mrs Ralph and I am extremely excited to be joining the English department at UVHS this September.

I was raised in Dalton and I am a former Dowdalian. After completing A levels in English Literature, Law and Sociology, I spent some time abroad before starting university at Edge Hill.

In 2013 I graduated from Edge Hill where I completed a degree in Key Stage 2/3 Education, specialising in English. This degree means I am actually qualified as both a primary and secondary teacher!

Since graduating, I have lived and worked in Cheshire. This has been a fantastic experience but I am really looking forward to being back in the Lake District. When I am not in school, I love spending time with my husband, daughter and our 5 year old Cavalier, Obie. I am a massive Harry Potter, Marvel and Disney fan which I often incorporate into my classroom displays.

I am really looking forward to meeting you all and becoming a part of your school community.



Mrs Ralph



UVHS & Mountain Rescue



During a time of unprecedented disruption to our everyday lives, Miss Dixon, Development Co-Ordinator of KS3 Design Technology & STEM has devoted herself to helping protect key workers and volunteers in our community.

Miss Dixon has already spent almost every weekday since Easter in school making PPE along with a team of Art and DT staff producing over 2,600 face masks, ear savers and scrub bags. This has been part of a National effort from DT teachers to produce PPE, and collectively nearly 400,000 items have now been distributed throughout the UK from over 400 schools.

Not one to rest on her laurels, Miss also took it upon herself to help support her local Mountain Rescue Team branch, at Coniston, when approached by Dick Palmer with an unusual request. There are 10 Mountain Rescue Teams alone in Cumbria who use specialised stretchers to help walker, runners our mountain the Covid19 unusually higher our area, it became the need for PPE stretcher would step in ensuring public safety. Miss with staff from design ideas and from a range of facilities at High School where for 5 years. Given



bring down injured and climbers from and fells. With outbreak reaching localised levels in apparent that to be fitted to the be an important both MRT and worked closely the MRT to draft develop solutions materials using Ulverston Victoria she has worked the lack of live

volunteers through social distancing regulations, Miss used anthropometric data to produce adapted visors and shields for the stretcher. The design has been so warmly welcomed by the MRT volunteers it has already been taken across to Coniston MRT who historically have more call outs than other teams during the warm early summer weather.

Senior leaders at UVHS have praised Miss Dixon for her amazing dedication to and work on this project alongside the planning and delivery of remote teaching to all her classes after the school was shut during lockdown.

When asked, Miss Dixon said she was "So happy she could continue to help the volunteers stay safe now that more people are returning to the Lake District. I felt just like one of my A Level students again working through a design problem too!"