

ULVERSTON VICTORIA HIGH SCHOOL

Autumn Term Review 2019

Mr Hardwick Writes

A great time for UVHS...

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Restart a Heart Day

See what happened when
UVHS teamed up with
NW Ambulance Service,
Resuscitation Council UK &
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MR HARDWICK WRITES...



There is something about working in a school during the run up to Christmas that gives teachers some of the nostalgic warmth that the season had when we were children. Part of this is the excitement that the children bring with them into school each day, and some of it is the huge raft of extra-curricular activities which fill the first term in a busy secondary school. This of course culminates in the fantastic Christmas concert and prize giving. It is almost possible to taste the positive atmosphere in these events as we celebrate the achievements and talents of our young people. It is often said that working with the young keeps you young, and this is true, although by the end of the Autumn Term most of us were definitely feeling our age. Yet it's interesting, writing this at the start of the Spring Term, that it is the joy of the job that I remember from last term.

This is a great time for UVHS, it is a popular choice for parents to send their children, the opportunities



for all our students are myriad and the outcomes for students were the best ever last summer. We have been promised an end to austerity, which will hopefully mean that we will be able to develop the learning environment to be worthy of our students and teachers. In a climate of academy chains and CEOs running schools, we remain a community school, supported by the people of Ulverston and the surrounding areas and meeting the needs of the children; but also the needs of the local employers. It is these strong links, combined with the dedication of the staff and the engagement and support of our parents which breeds success.

Every year we endeavour to develop teaching and learning a little further, to add support inside school to fill the gaps left by disappearing external services; and offer more opportunities and life chances to all our children. As we move towards the "...broad sunlit uplands" of the new decade, UVHS continues to move forward. Yet it retains the traditions; spirit and richness; and breadth of experience that it always had, as our children move on to make their own difference in the world.

Happy New Year.

Farewell Karen!

One of the school's longest serving members of staff has retired after almost 30 years of dedicated service to UVHS. Karen Wren, our catering manager, has decided to leave in order to enjoy retirement with her husband Chris. Karen is a former student of the school and returned to work in the school canteen, eventually leading the team in the kitchen providing both staff and students delicious and nutritious meals. No one will forget the fantastic Christmas lunches or the mouth-watering array of pies served on π day. But Karen was so much more than a catering manager. She embodied the traditions and ethos of the school and will be sorely missed



by all who worked with her. She loved this school and nothing was ever too much trouble, be it late nights helping out at open evenings or providing refreshments at the last minute when a member of staff had forgotten to order them. She took immense pride in her work and always had a kind word for everyone. Many are the times when staff members enjoyed a chat with her and her wisdom and good humour always left you feeling that all was right with the world. The whole school community thanks her for her dedication to UVHS and wishes her a very happy retirement. The place won't be the same without her.

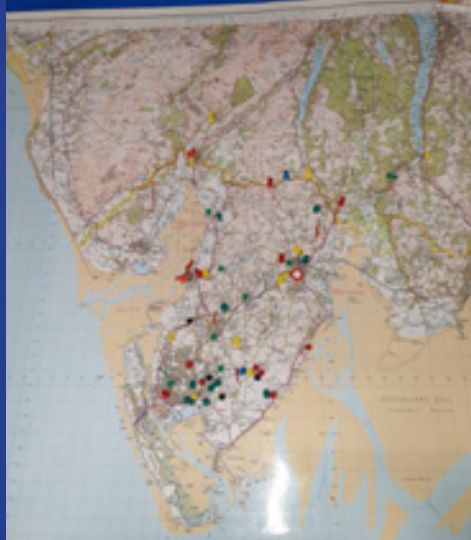
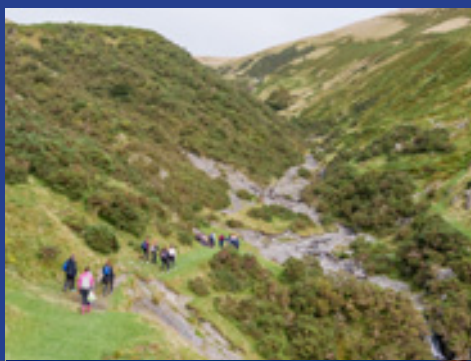
Gold Duke of Edinburgh Expedition

In November we took 31 Year 12's and 1 Year 13 student on a Lakes Gold DofE expedition. They walked 29 km over two days around Eskdale and practiced their navigation and camp craft skills.

They awoke on Sunday morning to very cold temperatures, however they were organised enough to cope with the conditions.

At 11.00am, Mr Gannon saw two groups do their two minutes silence surrounded by stunning views, the sound of birds and water in a stream.

They all did really well and we should all be proud of them.



Geography News

The GCSE Geography fieldwork took place in the third week of term. Year 11 pupils visited both Lancaster and Sedbergh to collect data that was analysed on return to school in order for pupils to draw conclusions and evaluate their investigations.

In Lancaster pupils investigated how the city's characteristics change from the suburbs to the city centre by collecting data on the amount of traffic, environmental quality and land use function.

In Sedbergh our pupils investigated how Settlebeck Gill changes from source to mouth. Cross sections were completed and sediment was measured at three sites along the river, then pupils had the opportunity to sketch how the river features change at different locations.





Year 9 go to Normandy Battlefields

Lochnagar Crater

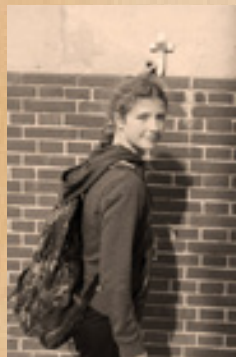
By Oliver

'The crater was made by two detonations of 34000 pounds and 29000 pounds of explosives under the German trench line. It was on July 1st 1916 just before the British went "over the top." The explosion was apparently heard in London and is still the loudest ever sound made by humans.'

Vimy Ridge War Memorial

By Nathan

'Visiting Vimy Ridge War Memorial was one of the most emotionally moving and touching experiences I have had in my life. To know that thousands of brave Canadian soldiers laid down their lives exactly where I was standing is truly inspiring.'



Thiepval Memorial

By Heidi

'We visited many memorials but the one that meant the most to me was Thiepval Memorial. The reason why it meant the most was because one of my relatives' names is engraved on the memorial. Private Samuel Oliver is my Great Great Great Uncle whose body has not yet been found. I hope they discover his body in the time that I am alive; I would love to see his grave if he is ever found.'

Devonshire Trench

By Evie

'What an amazing and moving experience. As soon as we walked around the corner, we were all a bit stunned. All of the gravestones of the men in the Devonshire Regiment all lined up in rows.'



Ypres Salient

By Esme



remembered.

After that, we all visited Essex Farm where John McCrea wrote "In Flanders Fields" and a 15-year-old boy called Valentine (who lied to sign up) was buried.

From there we went to Artillery Wood and listened to a poem written by the Welsh poet Hedd Wyn. After this, we went to CWGC's largest cemetery, Tyne Cot. Upon arrival we were all shocked by the huge number of graves - around 12,000 - that were there.

I think what surprised us the most was the number of graves that were of unidentified soldiers. It broke my heart seeing "known unto God" written so often.

Next we looked around Langemark Cemetery. The atmosphere here feels very different to those we'd already visited. It was so saddening to see that eight soldiers shared only one headstone in many places.

In the afternoon we all visited Passchendaele Museum and I think we all enjoyed learning from the experience available - replicas of trench systems and dugouts gave us a real feel for how it would have been.'

Menin Gate



By Jess & David

'I was lucky enough to be drawn out of a hat to lay the wreath at the Menin Gate Memorial Ceremony on behalf of our school. Walking up to the stand where we laid our wreath, I felt everyone staring. They still stared as we stepped back, gently bowed our heads to the wreath and turned to walk to our original spot.'

I was very proud that I did it and it made us think of the sacrifices the soldiers made for us.' - Jess

'The silence was immense. I felt like every set of eyes were on me as I walked up the stairs. But then I realised how important this moment was and did my very best to keep as calm as possible.'

I will likely never forget that moment, because I have never felt so proud and yet so nervous at the same time. I didn't know quite how to feel afterwards. All I knew was this; these brave men deserve our respect.' - David



Delville Wood Monument

By Daniel

'I found Delville Wood Monument very interesting. It was good to learn about some of the positives that came out of the trench campaigns that cost 1000s of lives.' I also found the fact that the one Hornbeam tree left in the area was still preserved after the war, and that the shell craters are still visible after 103 years.'



Ploegsteert Memorial

By Isabel

'We looked through the memorial register to find my relative John William Frear and the former Ulverston Victoria Grammar School student, J.P. Burrow. When I found my relative, I felt close to him and privileged to be the first member of my family to go and see his name on a memorial. I also laid a poppy cross to commemorate him and to make sure he will always be remembered.'

Normandy Battlefields continued on P5...

Year 9 - Students Create Anthology!

Battlefields Poem

By Ethan

How dare you make these young men fight?
They sat in the trenches all day and night
You sent all of them across the border,
All of which were made by order.

Their mums will never see them again,
As they mourn about the fallen men.
For all of those who suffered death,
It's horrible to think of their final breath.

Lots of losses for not much gain.
We will never see them again.
Some of the men were under age,
But we still sent them to find their fate.

In the trenches they were covered head to toe,
In the winter were covered in the snow.
The men who fought were all cheated,
I dare to say how they were treated.

My Thoughts

By Grace

When we saw the names of the people who weren't found in the battlefields on the walls at the cemetery it made me feel sorry for the families of the people who weren't found because that must have been hard for them.

My Haikus about WW1

By Greg

Battle of the Somme
Many dead on just day one
Will it ever stop?

Coming straight for me
A big gas cloud of horror
Looming over me

Many friends are dead
I will never forget them
I still remember

Boom, boom go the bombs
Never a day without them
"Over by Christmas"

Trenches filled with lice,
Trench foot devouring my feet
My turn at the front

"Walk slow and shout loud"
Bodies littering the ground
Across muddy fields

Innocence died there
Poppies grew in Flanders Fields
They watched The Great War

To read the rest of the Anthology Collection, please visit the website:

www.uvhs.uk/uvhs-remembrance-anthology-2019

A Letter Home

By Daniel

Dear Mum

This will be the last letter before the big push happens. We have been firing artillery for the past 5 days so the Germans will have had many losses, so it should be an easy battle for us. The boys are excited for the big push but inside I think they are nervous, just like me. Don't worry about me, I will be fine. I am missing your amazing sausage casserole. The weather has been especially bad this month the trenches are the muddiest they have been. I will write in a week's time.

Love from your son,
Daniel

A Letter Home

By Max

Dear Mother,

It is terrible here I don't understand why you and father sent me off to this brutal horrible place. My best friend died right in front of my eyes but if you and father had never sent me off here I wouldn't have to witness such a terror. I will come home alive and well and show you that I am a man and I don't need a white feather. I am not going to let another one of my friends die I promise you. Tell father that I will be back at the end of the war. I will be the one to end the war.

Your loving son,
Max

UVHS Remembrance Service

By Ms Lomas



Pictured: William George Spry

A Remembrance Service was held at Ulverston Grammar School on Friday November 11th 1939, just over two months after World War Two started. At this service the rector of Ulverston said 'if peoples of all nations looked upon each other as brothers & sisters, a lasting peace might be assured'. The war continued for six more long years after his speech. This year, 2019, is the 75th anniversary of the Allied landings of Normandy in Operation Overlord, which took place on June 6th 1944.

For this reason our annual Remembrance Day at UVHS this year focused on World War Two and this anniversary.

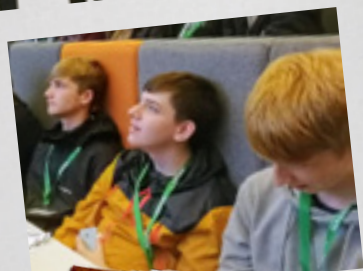
Tom (Year 9) had researched and presented a very interesting

talk on the origins of the Kohima Epitaph. This was followed by pieces on two individuals who died in or soon after the D Day landings. Harry (Year 9) talked about his great uncle Kenneth James Turner, who had fought for the American army after emigrating there from Cumbria and Ms Lomas spoke about William George Spry, an ex-pupil from Ulverston Grammar School. Both men lost their lives in June 1944 and their names are commemorated on war memorials in Northern France, in the American war cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer and Bayeux Memorial, in Calvados. Maisie (Year 7) gave a beautiful recital of the poem 'In Flanders Field' by John McCrae and the two minutes silence was led by Harrison (Year 13).



Pictured: Kenneth James Turner

Y10 UniTracks trip to University of Warwick



Seven Year 10 students from UVHS travelled to the University of Warwick to participate in the UniTracks Launch Event. UniTracks is a collaborative project between the University of Warwick and its partner schools aimed at equipping academically able students with the knowledge and experience to apply to the most competitive universities and courses after their school education.

The group participated in academic taster sessions, toured the campus, heard from current Warwick students engaged in running social enterprises and found out about the forthcoming spring challenges they will be undertaking after Christmas.

The Year 10 students will be undertaking a project showcasing their hometown on Instagram.

Cambridge – Fitzwilliam College visit

In November UVHS Oxbridge group hosted Katherine Drew of Fitzwilliam College Cambridge, our partner college at the university.

Katherine spoke to students about life as a Cambridge University student and provided insights and information about the application process and ways to go about building a strong foundation for applying.

The session included a lively Q&A afterwards with UVHS students asking insightful questions (who knew

that some colleges hold 'cuddle a puppy' sessions during exam season to combat stress?) and Katherine helped to demystify all things Cambridge.



Sixth Form Mock Trial Competition

Fourteen students from UVHS Sixth Form travelled to Preston Combined Courts to participate in the long-running national Bar Mock Trial competition finishing the day as regional finalists.

The Bar Mock Trial Competition immerses students in all aspects of a criminal trial, as they take on the roles of barristers, witnesses, clerks, ushers and jury members. Students appear in real crown courts in front of real judges as they trial fictional cases against teams from other schools.

Across three rounds UVHS students competed against Clitheroe Royal Grammar School, Runshaw College and Lancaster Girls Grammar School scoring highly in each trial.

An "absolutely brilliant" performance in round three, as the presiding judge

described it, saw the UVHS team go through to clash with Runshaw College once again in the final – prosecuting a defendant accused of inflicting Actual Bodily Harm in a drunken brawl.

This round was closely fought with Runshaw College emerging as the ultimate victors by a mere two points!

A number of individual UVHS students were singled out for praise by the judges for their mature and convincing performance.



6th Form Xmas Sing Off



As a newbie to the UVHS team I felt privileged to be asked to join my esteemed colleagues on the Christmas Sixth Form sing off judging panel. This was the event of the Season and as team after team brought their interesting and sometimes diverse performances, we watched, listened and gave our judgements. Some brought the cute factor, others choreography and dance moves to challenge even the best on Strictly. As tensions rose and the scores were added up the winners were announced with an unprecedented score of four 10's never to be beaten. What a fantastic way to make our way into the festive season. I can't wait for next year's extravaganza, if only to answer some burning questions such as: will the snowman make a reappearance and if so how will he stay cool until next year? Will the teams be wearing masks? Or will the judges have swivel chairs? All will be revealed in December 2020. - Mrs Egg



LIBRARY NEWS

New Student Librarians

The Library is pleased to announce our new Student Librarians are all trained and working in the School Library.

Mrs Downing our school Librarian and Miss Smith conducted the interviews and were very impressed by the candidates, eventually choosing Megan, Ella, Martin, Ella, Katie, Shainya, Benjamin, Ianto, Sarah, Polly and Skye.

The Student Librarians will be involved in the day to day running of the Library, selecting new titles and writing book reviews.

Well done to all of them!





Restart a Heart Campaign

In October UVHS was proud to be part of the Restart a Heart Campaign. This campaign saw UVHS teaming up with the North West Ambulance Service, Resuscitation Council UK, the British Heart Foundation and our local fire service and first responders.

Together they taught our Year 7, 8 and 9 students how to recognise and respond to someone experiencing a suspected cardiac arrest. Furthermore, they were taught how to provide help in this situation by learning about CPR and using a defibrillator.

Mrs Howarth, our school nurse, said: "Currently in the UK very few people who suffer a cardiac arrest will go on to make a recovery – a worrying figure given the fact cardiac arrest can happen to anyone, at any time, in any place. By teaching our students the early signs of arrest, and also how to deal with it, may well mean that not only more lives are saved in the future but also that quality of life after treatment can be improved. The fact that we are able to get this lesson to so many youngsters is a testament both to the school, and its desire to equip our students with life-saving skills. It's also a testament to all of the members of the emergency services who came to help."



On Saturday 9th of November, the Coronation Hall (in Ulverston town centre) was alive with the sounds of science. This exciting S.T.E.M. themed gathering takes place annually to encourage the local community to enjoy science, technology, engineering and maths. Full of stimulating stalls to boost your knowledge to the brim, whilst having a fun time doing some difficult puzzles and challenges to win prizes galore.

This year there was a wide variety of activities, bringing absolute joy to the audience as they raced against time or used their wits and cunning to overcome these mind-bending tricks or challenges. Some of these challenges included: programming Lego robots and other code-based activities; accuracy testing when dropping toy cars;



amazing VR headsets and gear with interactive programs; and difficult challenges like guess how many nuts or screws are in the jar. It really was an unmissable experience.

UVHS had two great stalls including a science-based activity where they mixed different substances in an incredible experiment. As well as a Lego programming stall designed to test your coding abilities in a fun-filled maze board with precise turns and difficult straight sections. Siemens helped prepare the game by producing the map, as part of our ongoing partnership. They are also sponsoring the First Lego League team we have running for multiple years at our engineering club in school. -Darwin Y8

Italian club with Miss Gardiner

Welcome to Italian club! Miss Gardiner set up Italian club for KS3 just after October half term. It takes place every Wednesday in S13 from 12.50-1.25. Students come and learn phrases in Italian ranging from the basics of numbers and colours to learning about Italian Christmas and Easter traditions, ordering food in Italy and Italian history/culture.

This being said, students learned about 'Natale in Italia' (Christmas in Italy) how different the traditions are, for example celebrating Christmas day on the 24th December instead of the 25th. To celebrate the end of the term and tying in with the theme of Christmas food in Italy, on Wednesday 18th December 2019

Miss Gardiner and Italian club students held a "pranzo italiano" (Italian lunch) at lunch time. This consisted of traditional Italian food such as prosciutto, salami, biscotti, panettone and of course... pizza! Students volunteered to bring their own Italian food along with some food provided by Miss Gardiner. During the delicious lunch, students were practising their speaking skills by being asked questions in Italian studied over the course of lessons so far and students responded in Italian.



If you would like to learn Italian, come along to Italian club held every Wednesday from 12.50-1.25 in S13 with Miss Gardiner. If you have any questions please come to the MFL office at break/lunch times and ask!



ULVERSTON VICTORIA HIGH SCHOOL - EXAM INFORMATION

Important Dates:

January

9th: **Y11 Exam Prep for Parents**
27th-31st: **Year 11 Practice Exams**

March

12th: **Year 11 Revision Day**
23rd: **Year 10 Exam Prep for Parents**

April

14th-16th: **GCSE Art Exams**
21st-23rd: **A Level Art Exams**

May

1st-7th: **Y10 Practice Exams**
11th: **GCSE Exams start**
20th: **A Level Exams start**

June

24th: **Exam Contingency Day**

August

13th: **A Level Results Day**
20th: **GCSE Results Day**

Here are some usefull links to help guide you through the examination period:

Year 11 GCSE Preparation: www.uvhs.uk/y11-gcse-prep-2020

Exam Regulations - www.uvhs.uk/exams/exam-regulations

Revision Information - www.uvhs.uk/revision

Revision Techniques - www.uvhs.uk/everyday-reviewing

Exams Mini Site - www.uvhs.uk/exams



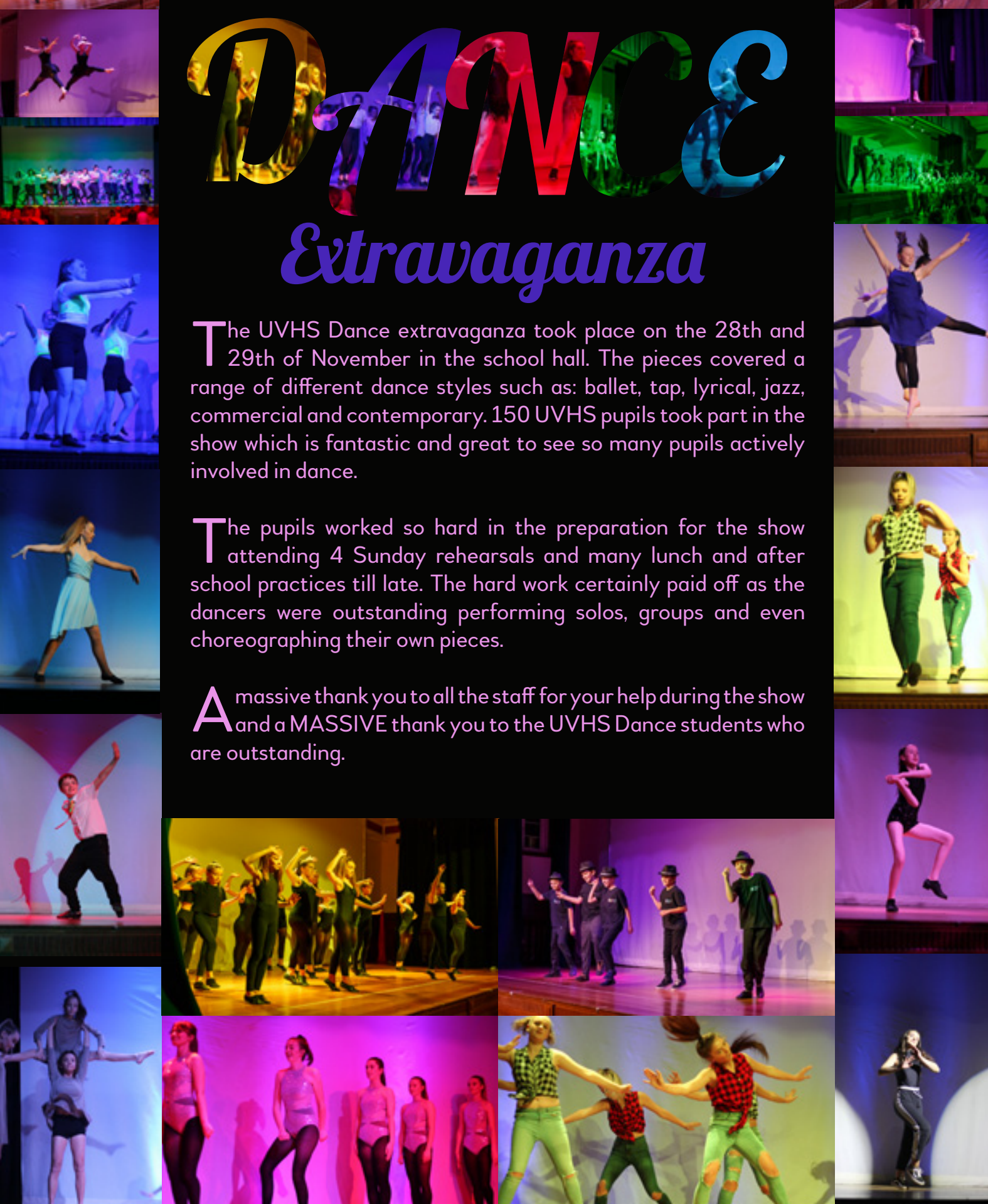
DANCE

Extravaganza

The UVHS Dance extravaganza took place on the 28th and 29th of November in the school hall. The pieces covered a range of different dance styles such as: ballet, tap, lyrical, jazz, commercial and contemporary. 150 UVHS pupils took part in the show which is fantastic and great to see so many pupils actively involved in dance.

The pupils worked so hard in the preparation for the show attending 4 Sunday rehearsals and many lunch and after school practices till late. The hard work certainly paid off as the dancers were outstanding performing solos, groups and even choreographing their own pieces.

A massive thank you to all the staff for your help during the show and a MASSIVE thank you to the UVHS Dance students who are outstanding.



James Cousins' 'Within Her Eyes' Dance Workshop

On Friday 6th December we were lucky enough to have James Cousins deliver a workshop at UVHS. It was AMAZING to have the choreographer of the GCSE dance set work at our school and we felt so lucky to have this opportunity. The pupils took part in a lift workshop, learnt a phrase of movement from the piece and a theory session on the key components of 'Within Her Eyes'.



The Autumn Production

The 2019 Autumn term saw the third of what has become known as 'The Autumn Production'. This event gives the students an opportunity to take part in a piece of received theatre which sits comfortably alongside the annual primary pantomime and school show which has a more musical theatre slant. Our play this term was a dark and brooding tale from Giles Cooper theatrical pen in the form of 'Unman, Wittering and Zigo'.

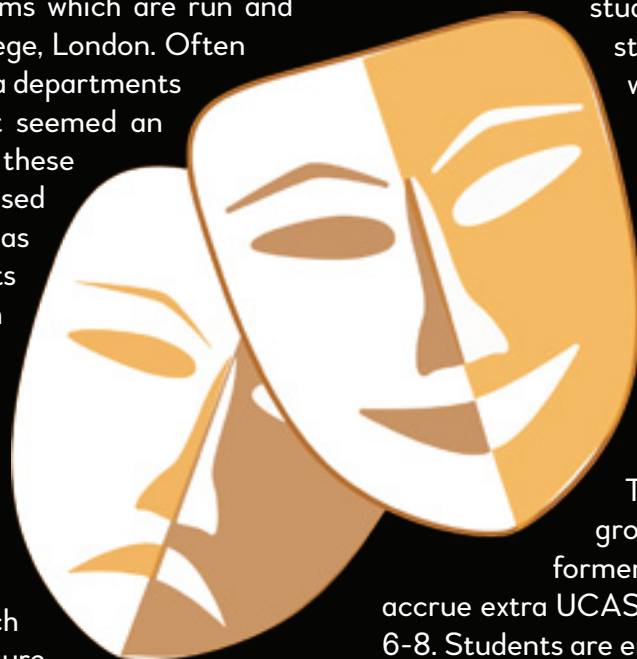
The plot...Mr Pelham is dead. An accident...allegedly. Fell from the cliff top in the mist. His unfortunate replacement is John Ebony, who has left the world of advertising for what he hopes will be a brilliant new career in teaching. But from the very first lesson it's clear that the whip-smart teenagers of Class Lower 5B are the ones calling the shots...

Written in 1958 as a radio play, its writer, playwright Giles Cooper, sets out a narrative of subversive disorder. With a little re-working by the UVHS Drama students, it has found itself set in an all-girls private school in an unidentified coastal location. Many of the decisions made in our adaptation of the original arose from practicalities with casting. However, it was what the play meant to the students – who have been the main driving force behind the production – that shaped the overall performance. With our new theatre lighting rig, we were able to stage the play in the round within the school hall – a superb location for such a play. The cast adopted an ensemble style of acting, meaning that even when they were 'off-stage', the audience could see them, allowing the students to move through the audience from six different points which only helped add to the intimidating menace of the performance. As always, the students have been a delight to work with and time spent in rehearsals, listening to their ideas and helping them take shape reminds me why I enjoy the work I do with them so much. – Mr Vogler



Trinity College London Drama Exams

The 2019 Autumn term saw the launch of Drama specific performance exams which are run and administrated by Trinity College, London. Often seen as the preserve of Drama departments in the independent sector, it seemed an obvious step to take in offering these excellent performance based exams to students at UVHS as part of the Performing Arts enrichment programme. When I arrived at UVHS a couple of years ago, I was keen to offer students who pursued Drama to have the same grounding in their theatre training as the students did in Music. This academic year has seen the successful launch of Drama examinations. I am sure many of you will be familiar with the instrumental exams conducted by the Associated Board and Trinity College London. These have been a mainstay of Music tuition at UVHS for some time



now and the formal training they offer supports the students in their GCSE and A Level studies in Music under Mr Butler's watchful eye.

Two 'waves' of students have undertaken the exams this term with grades ranging from grade 3 through to the demands of Grade 8. All students have passed the exams with either a merit or a distinction which is testimony to their hard work and enthusiasm. The programme is open to all year groups from 7 - 13 and for sixth formers, allows them an opportunity to accrue extra UCAS points if they undertake grades 6-8. Students are entered for a particular grade and work with their fellow students towards their exam date. The next set of exams will take place in early May 2020. Students wishing to take part should see Mr Vogler.

Primary School Pantomime - The show must go on!

The Drama enrichment programme concluded on a high this term with the delivery of its annual pantomime which is traditionally delivered to our feeder primary schools in the wonderful Coronation Hall Theatre.

The cast this year comprised of Key stage 4 and sixth form Drama students who embarked on formulating yet another hilarious folk-tale/fairytale 'mash-up'!

This year's pantomime was a re-working of my first panto with UVHS from three years ago - The Three Little Pigs (with Little Red as arch villain). The students were keen to resurrect this show and give it a new lease of life. What a splendid job they did, too. Given the swathes of influenza, norovirus and sick bugs, coughs and colds, the panto nearly didn't take place this year. A number of our intrepid thespians were struck down with seasonal germs and by Wednesday before the show, Mr Butler and I were considering cancelling, given that we needed to contact



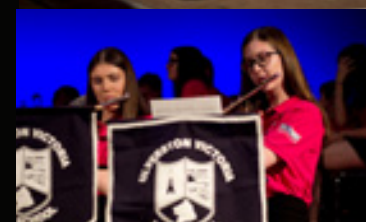
an awful lot of schools. However, the plucky UVHS students rose to the challenge of re-writing and re-working the panto to allow for any missing cast members and refused to allow us to cancel the show. The result? Buttons emerging through the curtain to address the audience and introduce the three little pigs, only to be corrected by 'the mighty voice of the coro' (Mr Butler's cameo - he loves it), to be told the play now needed to be 'Two little pigs and the one with norovirus'... and so the show went on. The students were marvellous, the wolf and little red were found out, forgiven and invited to Trotter hall by the pigs for a good old seasonal knees up, and a feast - vegetarian, of course!



UVHS Sees In The Festive Season In Style

On Wednesday 18th December a sell-out Coronation Hall audience welcomed the festive season in style at the annual UVHS Christmas Festival. Led by the internationally renowned UVHS Wind Band (with an astonishing 94 musicians on stage), the capacity crowd were treated to a wide selection of festive music (from a fiendishly difficult jazz arrangement of 'Rudolph' and The Pogues' 'Fairytale of New York' to the more traditional 'Sleigh Ride' and 'Christmas Festival') as well as having the opportunity to belt out the obligatory carols, of which there were 8!

To support the Wind Band, Head of Performing Arts, and Assistant Headteacher, Richard Butler MBE showcased several of the outstanding smaller ensembles that the school is able to run - from the Junior Band (which has 47 players just from years 7-9) to the Senior Flute Choir, as well as the Sax Ensemble, Clarinet Choir, Brass Ensemble and the sensational Corps of Drums, who delighted the crowd with a display influenced by their



work with the Royal Marines. However, the most memorable performances came from the whole-school Choir and Chamber Choir who both gave amazing performances that will undoubtedly stay in the memory of the audience over the next 12 months ... until the next UVHS Christmas Festival.

In between all of the music were a selection of seasonal readings delivered by drama students from every year group - some serious and others humorous - the highlight being an outstanding and hilarious Joyce Grenfell monologue performed by year 12 student Grace.



Royal Marines Band Service

We are very fortunate to be once again hosting the Royal Marines Band Service for a couple of days in March. There will be two concerts - the first, a dance band evening on Friday 13th at The Coronation Hall for which tickets will be available through Mr Butler.

The second, on Saturday 14th, will be a massed band concert given by our Wind Band and the Marines - this is a real music spectacular and gives a lot of our more senior musicians the chance to play alongside some top professionals performing a very difficult programme, as well as our whole band the opportunity to try out some new repertoire before the tour to Belgium.





London Calling - to the far away town

Ungodly, was the time the train was due to leave Ulverston and most of the 20 sixth form students could suggest other words to describe the hour. As part of their A level art studies, students need to show that they have seen major artworks and London, whilst not on the doorstep, contains many galleries of international repute. The hard part was choosing which to visit and which exhibitions to see.

First on the list was the exhibition at Tate Modern by Olafur Eliasson, who in 2003 produced his farsighted 'sun' installation, and this was his return visit, with a display of interactive pieces exploring weather, climate change and our relationship with it. Tate Modern also contains a comprehensive collection of 20 Century Art, both familiar, controversial and obscure.



The students found it hard to believe that it was only 1.25 miles to Trafalgar square from the Tate, but after a pause at a donut stall we made it, although they seemed unconvinced of the benefits of fresh air rather than the tube.

The National Portrait Gallery and the National Gallery are huge institutions and one could spend days in them and still not see the displayed collections, so students had to decide what they would prefer to see; Bottecelli, Carravaggio or Monet? The NPG annually holds the Taylor Wessing photographic prize, and was also displaying many contemporary portraits commissioned as part of their Portrait painting prize. It is hard to understate the 'buzz' around many of the galleries and it is an experience that will last long in the memory...we will be back.

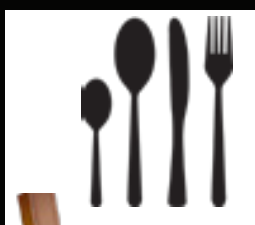
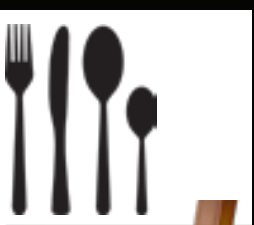
Future Chef Competition

On Monday 2nd December, UVHS students Braedon and Freya (both in Year 10), travelled to Kendal College to compete in the Local Finals of the national competition, Future Chef.

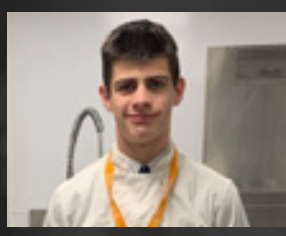
Having won the school heat a few weeks previously, both students were tasked with creating a main course and desert, spending less than £7 on ingredients.

The judges were three local chefs who had the difficult task of choosing a winner between the 8 students taking part (8 students from 4 schools). Freya's salmon dish was ranked as one of the dishes of the day, whereas Braedon received high praise for the technicality of his pigeon dish. Unfortunately neither students won the competition, but they should both be extremely proud of their efforts.

UVHS will enter the Future Chef competition once again next year. As we approach the start of a New Year, look out for news of the return of Restaurant UVHS



Braedon's dishes were:



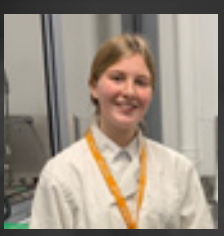
Roasted pigeon with blueberry jus, beetroot puree and kale



Apple tarte tatin and calvados cream



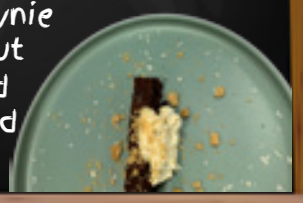
Freya's dishes were:



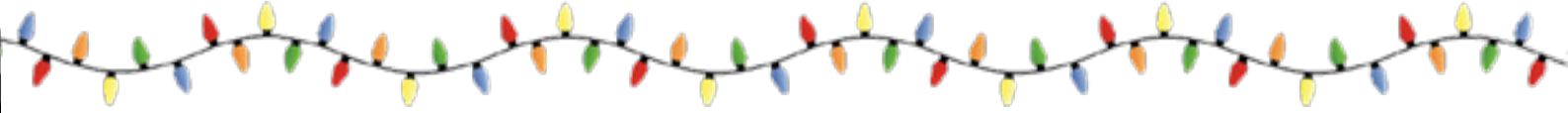
Ginger and soy glazed salmon with sesame rice



5 spiced brownie with coconut cream and gingerbread crumb



The BIG UVHS Festive Food Bank Collection 2019



Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Foodbank collection in December. We set a new school record and sent an absolutely incredible 60 bags and boxes of supplies this year. It was a real community effort with Stollers, Kimberly Clark and Abbey Road Baptist Church involved at all stages of our donation. Big thanks to the Y10s, 11s and Sixth Formers who helped carry it all out to the lorry in their free time too!



UVHS Christmas Fair 2019

We would like to say a huge thank you for everyone's hard work at the Christmas Fair in December and thank you if you came along to support.

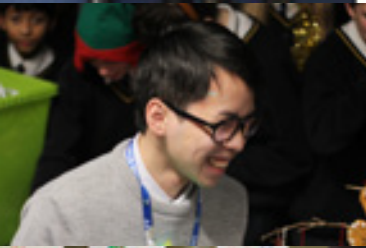
In total we raised **£1,558.14!** The money will be divided between St. Mary's Hospice and school funds.

The top 5 stalls raising the most money were:

1. Main raffle Mr Reader and Miss Blaney - £192
2. Art/DT stalls (combined) - £191.06
3. 7.1 Mrs Bower's drinks, gifts and bottle tombola - £158
4. 9.6 & 9.7 Ms Wilkinson & Miss Whitehouse's drinks and gingerbread - £128.25
5. 9.4 Mrs Fairclough recycled decorations - £106.55

Lots of other stalls contributed huge amounts to our total and the students had a wonderful time!

Thanks again for all of your support.



Vic Medics

We are really excited to welcome an enthusiastic and proficient group of Year 12 Vic Medics this year. We have had up to 35 Year 12 students join us for sessions including our dissection sessions on the kidney, eye ball and a full rat.

We have welcomed Professor Mason and his wife Dr Mason. Professor Robert Mason, who retired as the Lead Specialist Oesophagogastric surgeon specialising in resection for cancer and complex benign disease at Guy's and St Thomas' Foundation Trust Hospitals, and Dr Mason, a anaesthetist who graduated from Guys when females were only 10% of the intake.

Furness General Hospital have visited the group, informing our students how to apply for work experience. Craig Anderson, a clinical tutor and reporting radiographer at UHMB, showed students how different images are taken and how to recognize different facial fractures.

Nicola Phillips from the University of Lancaster ran a session on problem-based learning, helping students to see the style of learning they may be involved in at University medical courses.



Primary Science at UVHS

Once again, the Science department have been running Science sessions for year 5 students from local primary schools. During the sessions, students take part in exciting experiments to develop their investigation skills. Topics covered include dissolving, density, properties of materials, chemical reactions, separation techniques, friction and many more. Each session focuses on identifying variables, making predictions and observations and drawing conclusions. The children then go back to their schools and prepare a display about their investigation and any extension work for a chance to win the UVHS Year 5 Science Wizards trophy at our annual Primary Science Fair.



National Tree Planting Day

At the end of last term we were delighted to be able to participate in national tree planting day with our year 7 students as well as a small group of year 10s. As a school we have planted 70 sapling across the school site. These have been set out in 7 different locations and each have been planted by a year 7 form group. The forms have taken initial data on the height of their sapling and the idea is that as they will grow together throughout their time at UVHS. The students will monitor the growth of their trees across the five years. The new trees have been donated by the school by the Woodland Trust along with Greener Ulverston and will significantly improve the biodiversity of the school site as well as have a broader environmental impact. The students have discussed in assembly as well as in their science lessons how trees can benefit us now and in the future; talking about a range of scientific concepts like carbon sinks as well as how they can improve wellbeing.



MATHS

On the 7th November, over 40 of our finest sixth form Mathematicians took part in the National Senior Maths Challenge, run by the UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT). The students excelled themselves and we bettered our 2018 performance. We were delighted to be awarded 3 Gold certificates, along with 9 Silver and 18 Bronze. Special mention goes to Kane, who was the highest scorer in the school, as well as being in the top 10% nationally!

The UKMT use the results of the Maths Challenge to decide who should enter the follow-up "Senior Kangaroo" – an invitation only competition. 3 of our students were all invited to take part and achieved very commendable scores!

In addition to the individual Maths Challenge, we also entered the Senior Team Challenge, which involved

a trip to Lancaster University to compete against 21 teams from across the region. Our team came in the top third and were a credit to the school.

For the first time ever, we also entered the annual Ritangle competition, which involved several A Level students working for "Team UVHS" to solve a problem-a-day over the space of a month. Students were encouraged to use technology to aid their solutions and could work together or individually. The problems they tackled were very challenging and they enjoyed using mathematical skills beyond the scope of their A Level studies. They scored very well as

newcomers; watch this space for further improvements next year!





Key dates for January

Y9 Options Evening: 16th January 2020
Y9 Parents Evening: 23rd January 2020
Furness Skills Festival: 24th January 2020
Year 11 Practice Exams: 27th-31st January 2020
Dance Talent Show: 31st January 2020



Key dates for February

Y8 Parents Evening: 6th Feb 2020
Y11 Food Prep. and Nutrition NEA2 Assessment: 10th-14th February 2020
Youth Sports Trust: 27th to 31st February 2020

Key dates for March

Y10 Work Experience: 2nd-6th March 2020
Y5 Taster Day: 2nd-6th March 2020
World Book Day: 5th March 2020
Y13 Parents Evening: 5th March 2020
Royal Marines Band: 13th & 14th March 2020
Y7 Parents Evening: 19th March 2020
Y10 Maths Feast: 23rd March 2020
A Night at the Musicals: 26th & 27th March 2020
Last day of term: 27th March 2020



UVHS PERFORMING ARTS PRESENTS A NIGHT AT THE MUSICALS

On Thursday 27th and Friday 28th March, Broadway and the West End are both coming to UVHS Main Hall in the form of this year's whole-school production – A Night At The Musicals. The programme is an all-singing, all-dancing compilation of some of the best shows to have graced the stage in recent years, covering a multitude of styles and subjects from Green Day's American Idiot to Aladdin, High School Musical to Les Miserables, Mamma Mia to The Lion King, and Singin' In The Rain to Footloose to name but a few. Come and be entertained by some great musical theatre performed by the outstanding dancers, actors and musicians of UVHS.

Tickets are priced at £5 adult and £3 children/students and can be purchased on www.trybooking.co.uk/OYP



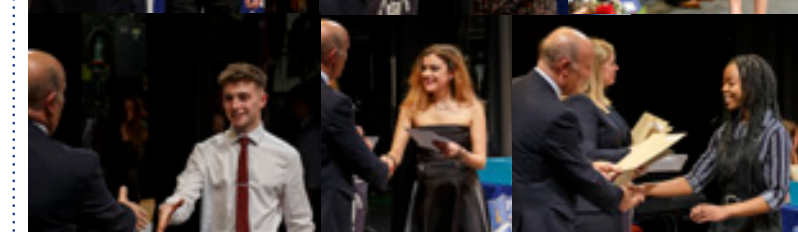
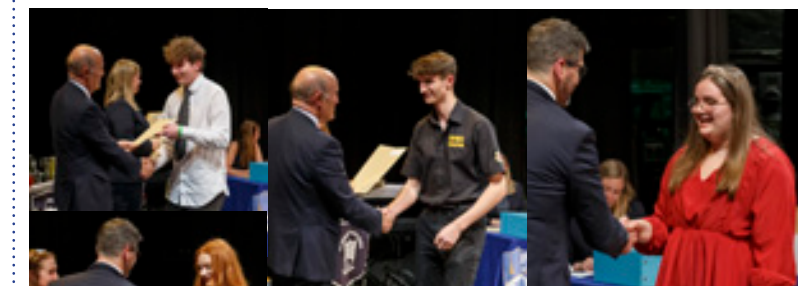
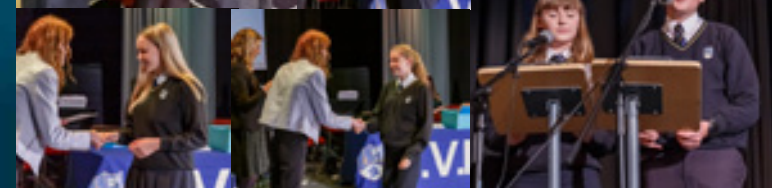
UVHS Prize Giving



Guest Speaker - Ellie Wilson



Guest Speaker - Professor Mason



Barrow School Champions

Our U16 Netball team were crowned "Barrow School Champions" in October. The Year 10's have won the title every year but this is the first time the Year 10 and 11's have been combined.

We only played half a game against Millom and won 13-0 (we played 7 minutes). We then beat Dowdales 15-8. We made the decision not to play St Bernards as we beat them 32-0 last time. We then played a friendly against Dowdales, where our attackers and defenders switched (we won that game too!).

This means we are through to the County Finals at Sedbergh.



X Cup

Miss Bird took the cross country team to Carlisle to compete in the XC cup.

The pupils were amazing and so well behaved.

Georgia won the Junior girls event with Holly coming 10th.

Eva came 4th in the inter girls event.

Oliver came 18th in the junior boys race.

The junior girls came 4th overall which is a fantastic effort!



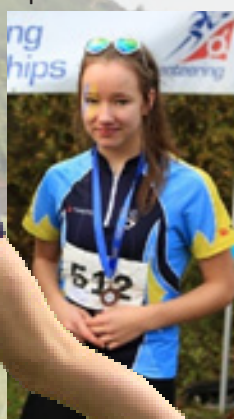
British Schools Championships

One morning in December we set off to sunny Slough to attend the British Schools Championships. Last year's success was always going to be a tough act to follow, but with a much smaller team this year it was going to be even harder. Then a number of the team were hit by the sickness bug so our challenge was made harder still.

We arrived at the park adjacent to where the competition was being held on Saturday afternoon in time for a quick training session/stretch of the legs. The coaches supplied a number of spot prizes of large bars of chocolate - always a good incentive for us finely tuned athletes!! It was also a chance to suss out the type of terrain we would be competing in on the Sunday. Then it was off to the outdoor centre where we were stopping for the night.

Sunday morning we were up bright and early raring to go, ready to do UVHS proud. We had a mixture of results... some good, some ok and some not so good, but as a team we always support and encourage each other, celebrate people's successes and commiserate and encourage those that didn't do as well as they had hoped.

We had 9 individual podium positions and the podium sunglasses made it onto the podium at least 7 times.



Yr 9 girls 2nd - Jess

Yr 10 girls 3rd - Rebecca

Yr 10 Boys 3rd - Dylan

Yr 11 girls 3rd - Gillian (Yr10 but ran a Yr higher)

Yr 12 Girls 3rd - Lucy

Yr 12 Boys 3rd - Harry

Yr 13 Girls 3rd - Harriet

We had a couple of team wins:

Yr 10 Girls

Rebecca, Emily and Laura

Yr 11 Girls

Lizzie, Gillian and Verity

Yr 9 Boys came 3rd

Nathan, Noah and Luke



As a school team we came 3rd overall, which was a good result considering our lack of team members. But we will come back better and stronger next year

Thanks to Isabel, Sandy, John and Iain for organising and accompanying the trip.

To keep up to date with the latest news, events and information, please visit the school website. www.uvhs.uk