

Ulverston Victoria High School

Summer Term Review 2024

Mr Hardwick Writes

Welcome Year 7 to the
"best days of their lives"

Y8 Trip to Seville

We explored Seville starting with the impressive Catedral de Sevilla and the tomb of Christopher Columbus.

Also in this edition

Psychology visit to Chester Zoo
Cumbria County Athletics Championships
Sponsored Walk
Anne Frank Trust

When I stand in front of each new Year 7, to welcome them to the “best days of their lives”; I talk about what it means to be part of our school community, how academic achievement is important, but not the only thing that is valuable. I then proceed to discuss becoming involved in the life of the school and how taking advantage of the many opportunities offered at UVHS will enrich their time with us. I show a vast list of the extra-curricular clubs and activities available this term. This brings me neatly to my point, that over the last year the school has returned to normal in terms of the experiences we can offer to our students outside of the classroom.



The last few weeks of the summer term were a great success with the Spring Concert and the Dance Show taking place within the same week. There were also four foreign trips and three residentials in the UK. Hundreds of our students, across year groups, took part in these trips and events. When added to the other enrichment activities, sporting events, musical instrument lessons, this school is back to being the dynamic, exciting place it was before the pandemic. There are a similar number of events planned for next year, with a skiing trip added and Mr Butler’s arm has been twisted to do a new larger music tour to Italy this year, instead of his planned year off.

I always emphasise that schools, at their best, enrich the lives of everyone who work or go to them, and this is a glorious time to attend UVHS. I am proud to be the Headteacher here and shamelessly bask in the reflected glory of our students’ achievements. The GCSE and A level outcomes showed massive achievement at all levels, with a huge number of students achieving the grades to move onto the next phase of their lives. This year we have the largest number of Sixth Form students ever getting their first choice destinations, including five to Oxbridge. However, I was particularly pleased with those whose health was adversely affected by the pandemic, who showed great resilience to achieve the grades they needed to progress. This is a credit to the students, staff and their parents.

There is optimism in the air as teachers look to build on the successes and enrichment of the last few years.

The school is a positive place, we have a high quality staff team, exceptional gifted students and a supportive community, the future looks good.



Head Boys & Girls



Let's meet our new teachers



Dr K Gregory
Teacher of Science



Mr Phil Rawlinson
Teacher of Social Sciences



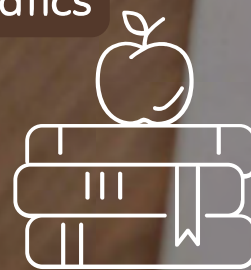
Mr Oliver Hill
Teacher of History



Mrs Siobhan King
Teacher of Science



Mr David Turner
Teacher of Mathematics



A few words...

P5

Dr K Gregory

I am really looking forward to joining the Science department at UVHS in September and getting to know lots of you throughout the UVHS community. I have 15 years' experience of teaching Science, both at Appleby Grammar School and Ripley St Thomas Church of England Academy in Lancaster. Prior to this I did a BSc (Hons) in Biology and Chemistry, and a PhD in Biological Sciences (Genetics and Skin Cancer) at Lancaster University.

I am a Guide leader with Grange Guides, having being involved in Girlguiding UK since I was 7 years old, when I started as a Brownie. I have been on and organised many International trips and projects with Girlguiding during my time in the organisation including to South Africa, Armenia, Mexico and India.

I enjoy spending time with my husband, daughter and crazy dog 'Newton' on the fells, away in our campervan and in/on the lakes. In any spare time I have I love doing sport including swimming, cycling, running and skiing, as well as coaching for Ulverston Triathlon Club. I am looking forward to meeting you all and getting involved in all aspects of school life.

Mr Phil Rawlinson

I'm originally from Ulverston and in fact was once a student at UVHS and am incredibly excited at the prospect at being back, I have worked in schools all over Cumbria, having studied at the University of Liverpool.

When I'm not at work I love spending time with my family, skiing and out trying to improve my golf.

Mr David Turner

I'm from Belfast, Northern Ireland but moved to England to study at University. I have been a mathematics teacher for 13 years now and have been fortunate enough to live and work both in the UK and overseas. I have taught the UK curriculum across all Key Stages in the UK, China and Kenya and still enjoy the buzz of the classroom. My wife and I have decided to relocate to the area with our young family to share our passion for the outdoors and I am very much looking forward to contributing to the success of the school community.

Mr Oliver Hill

I am very excited to start at Ulverston Victoria High School this September. Working with young people means that every single day is different, and I am so lucky to have a job that brings so much variety. I like to try and get to know every young person, everyone is unique, and I enjoy finding out what makes every person who they are. I mean it when I say that a simple 'Hi Mr. Hill!' in the hallway is always the best way to improve my mood. So take notes for if I ever look down. Teaching history is so much fun because we can always make links between things that have happened in the past and what is happening right now. If I had to pick my favourite era of history, it would have to be the Romans without a doubt. I also really enjoy learning about every day, normal people in history, just like you and me. When I am not teaching or thinking about history, I enjoy reading, watching TV and playing video games. I am currently reading the Hobbit and enjoying watching the latest series of Doctor Who.

Mrs Siobhan King

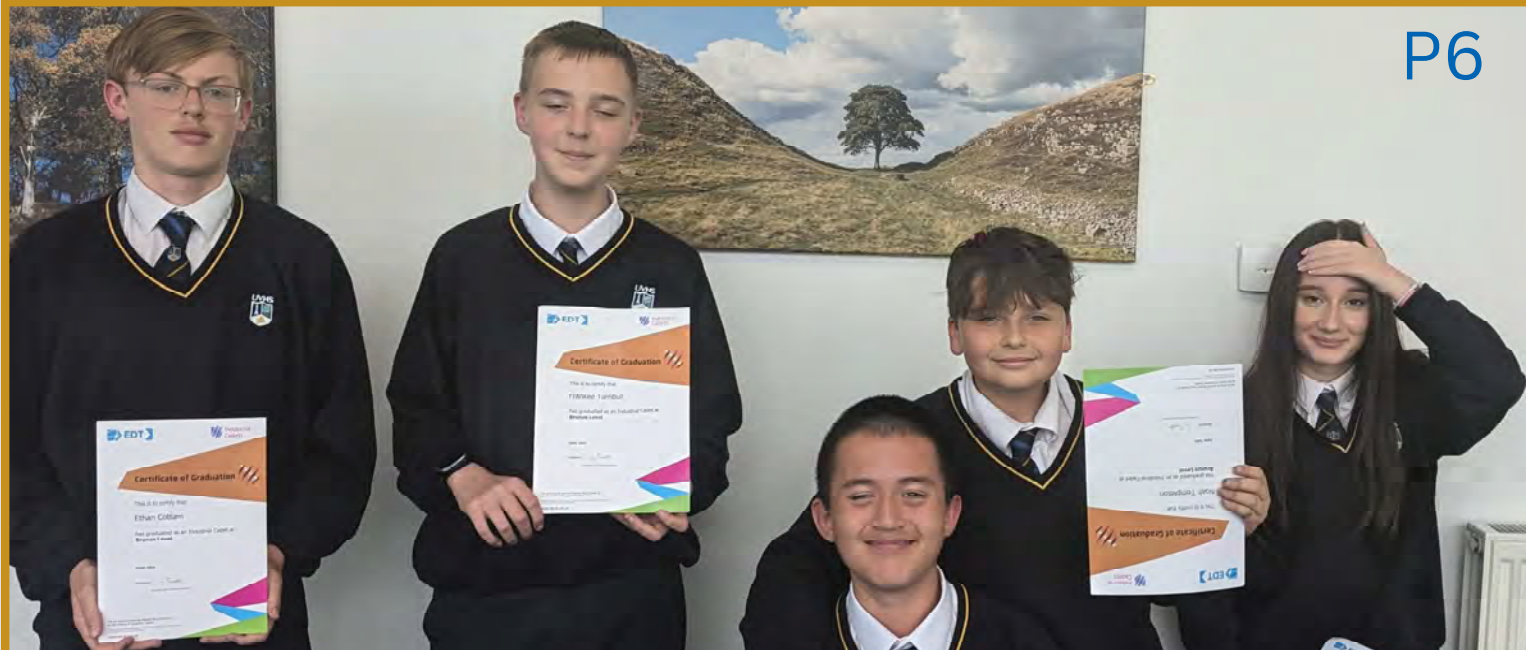
I have moved to UVHS from a secondary school in Boston Lincolnshire. Prior to working there, I was a lecturer at Boston college. I have a total of 12 years teaching experience, mostly teaching science and specialising in Chemistry, however, I have also taught GCSE Mathematics. As someone with hearing loss, meaning I wear hearing aids, and being recently diagnosed with dyslexia, I believe, that everyone should be given the chance to thrive and aim for their dreams. This is something which I will Champion whilst working here at UVHS.

I was born and raised in Barrow before moving to Lincolnshire for work over 10 years ago. Now we as a family are relocating back to Barrow, to be close to our local relatives.

Outside of school I am a Mum to two wonderful children, a wife to an amazing husband and a Brownie Leader. Having been involved with Girl Guiding since I was 5yrs old and hopefully will be continuing this locally.

Thank-you for taking the time to read a little bit about me and I look forward to meeting you all in the near future.





Engineering Development Trust (EDT)

We were chosen to represent UVHS in the EDT Industrial Cadets Bronze Award Project. We were given a challenge and had to complete the project by undertaking research and coming up with a solution. As part of the project, we produced a written report, various models and posters and we had to present our work to a group of assessors.

We were split into two groups and each group was assigned a mentor from an engineering company, one group had Louise from BAE Systems and the other group had Emma from Oxley.

One project was called, 'My School is an Island'. We had to design an island that could sustain 1400 people. We decided to concentrate on energy generation and supply, sanitation and food supply. We carried out a lot of research and found the best ways to produce energy and food on our island as well as devising a method to desalinate and purify sea water. We produced diagrams, posters, used software to make 3D designs and made a model of one of our dormitories. We really enjoyed working with Emma to produce a 3D printed model of our solar still and tidal barrage.

The other project was called 'A Future Proof Building'. This group decided to research and design a climate proof building that could withstand the ever- changing weather in the UK. They focused on flood defences, renewable energy sources to supply the building and reusing stored flood water to irrigate a garden wall and potentially be used during droughts or to extinguish wildfires.

Once our written reports were submitted, we had to present our project to a group of assessors from industry. Finally, we went to the celebration event at Lancaster University. Here, we took part in some STEM activities and quizzes before the awards ceremony. We were delighted as Team 1 from UVHS won project of the year!





The annual Year 12 Biology field trip took place in July. Students visited the National Trust Nature Reserve at Sandscale Hawes. After a tour of the natterjack toad breeding ponds, students investigated the coastal habitats and dune systems. We structured our investigations around succession and colonisation of different plant species. We set up transects 150m from the shore going inland. Students observed how the plant communities changed over this time. The biodiversity was fantastic at this Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and students appreciated this biodiversity and the interaction of abiotic factors at the site. For once the weather was on our side!



Y12



6th Form Psychology Trip - Chester Zoo



Animal attachment in a real life setting. Each student attended an attachment lecture which looked specifically at the attachment of the orangutans and the chimpanzees.

It was an interactive lecture and students were asked about some of the theories they have done on the course so far. The students had a great time and it was a lovely day out.



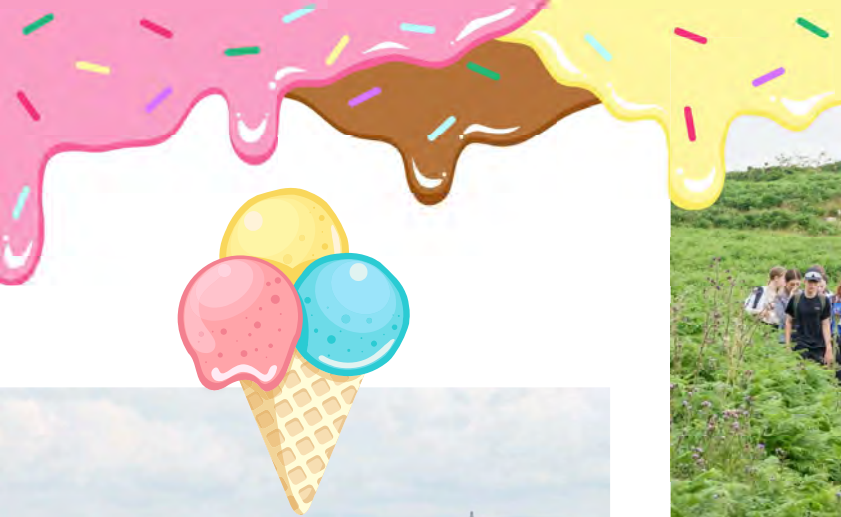
Sponsored Walk

On Tuesday 16th July 2022 over 900 students and staff took part in the annual UVHS Charity Walk. As always, our students enjoyed a nine-mile scenic stroll, taking in the magnificent views from Birkrigg, overlooking the Furness peninsula and across Morecambe Bay, as they walked along the coastal path on Bardsea Beach. This year the weather was kind to us. In previous years we have faced extreme weather, ranging from heatwaves to torrential rainfall. It still provided students with a challenge that they relished. Over 1000 ice creams were consumed along the way!

The generosity shown by the students, their families, friends and the UVHS community as a whole, is once again truly remarkable. Juliette M (7.5) raised the highest individual total and our Golden Boot winning form (7.6) raised a total of £563. Together we raised an overall total of **£6,116.94**!

Of the monies raised £3,058.50 has been donated to Cumbria Wildlife Trust, which is a wildlife conservation charity. They care passionately about wildlife and wild places – they are here to put wildlife back into our land and seascapes, to make Cumbria a wilder county with more space for nature. They restore and connect wild places, work with nature to tackle the climate emergency and support people to take local action for wildlife. They are a dedicated team of skilled and professional staff, working closely with volunteers, partners and thousands of supporters, who work together to create a wilder future for Cumbria. The Cumbria Wildlife Trust formed in 1962 and supported by thousands of members. It cares for 41 nature reserves & campaigns for the protection of endangered habitats and species. It works with adults and children to discover the importance of the natural world. It is part of a UK-wide grassroots movement made up of 46 individual Wildlife Trusts, who all believe that we need nature and nature needs us. With more than 800,000 members and 2,300 nature reserves, The Wildlife Trust is the largest UK voluntary organisation, dedicated to conserving the full range of the UK's habitats and species.





THE ANNE FRANK TRUST UK VISITS SCHOOL



Educating against prejudice

In May the Anti-Racism Committee welcomed the Anne Frank Trust into school for two training days where 30 students learned about prejudice, discrimination and inequality, all through the lens of Anne Frank's life. The program was called "Voices for Equality" and aims to empower young people aged 9 to 15 to challenge all forms of prejudice.

The days were an enormous success, with all students representing the school wonderfully whilst all getting involved and contributing to enthralling classroom discussions. The final task was an opportunity for the students to create their own teaching materials to deliver to whomever they decided; students planned presentations for staff, students, parents and primary school students. From this, the students can apply to be an ambassador for the Anne Frank Trust, which awards them the opportunity to visit the attic where Anne Frank's family hid, and we are delighted to see that several have (and have been accepted).

Vic Medics

Vic Medics were delighted to welcome back Christopher Davies, an ex-pupil now in his fifth year of studying Medicine at Birmingham University. Chris shared valuable insights with our Year 12 students about the journey of a medical student, including preparing for interviews and tackling the UCAT admissions test. He provided his top tips for success and recounted some fascinating cases from his experiences in emergency medicine. He has also helped our Year 13 students with interview preparation and insights this year. We are grateful for his time and contributions, which have greatly benefited our aspiring medics.



SENIOR STUDENTS 2024-25!



After a rigorous selection process consisting of an application and interview, UVHS is proud to introduce our new Senior Students for 2024-25. It is the largest team we have ever had, with more than 70 of our year 11s having been successful in their applications. With Isobel and Tom at the helm, they have already proven themselves to be an invaluable support to the school, helping out at the Year 6 transition evening, Y12 Parents' Evening, and helping to get the Year 7 *Welcome Wallets* ready for the new academic year. They truly embody our *Victoria Value* of "support". Miss Smith is delighted at the way in which the team has come together, and is excited to see the contributions that they will continue to make.



Geography Fieldtrip

The penultimate week of term saw the return of our A Level Geography fieldtrips. This year we visited the Lake District town of Coniston (as well as a trip up the Coppermines Valley) on a very wet day for July! As well as collecting independent data for the Non-Examined Assessment, our Year 12 pupils also completed footpath erosion and clone town surveys in order to get to grips with how to successfully select data collection sites and how to apply sampling strategies.



The seaside town of Morecambe was our second destination with the aim of investigating the success of regeneration projects in the area. Pupils studied the environmental quality of several sites around the town as well as collecting data to see whether the town centre had been affected by the process of globalisation.

After a quick stop off at the proposed site for the Eden Project North it was time to head back to school where pupils will begin analysing the findings from their fieldtrips in order to draw conclusions for their Independent Investigations.





Day One: Tuesday, June 25

The trip began with an incredibly early morning departure from Ulverston for Manchester airport to Seville. After transferring to our comfortable accommodation right in the heart of the city, we enjoyed lunch and then the group embarked on a scenic boat trip along the Guadalquivir River in the boiling heat. The day concluded with a visit to the stunning Metropol Parasol before our evening meal at El Charlatan.

Day Two: Wednesday, June 26

After breakfast, we explored Seville starting with the impressive Catedral de Sevilla and the tomb of Christopher Columbus. Lunch was in the historic Barrio de la Cruz. The afternoon included a visit to the Real Alcázar and an unforgettable, engaging Flamenco session at the Museo del Flamenco, ending with a spectacular show afterwards.



Day Three: Thursday, June 27

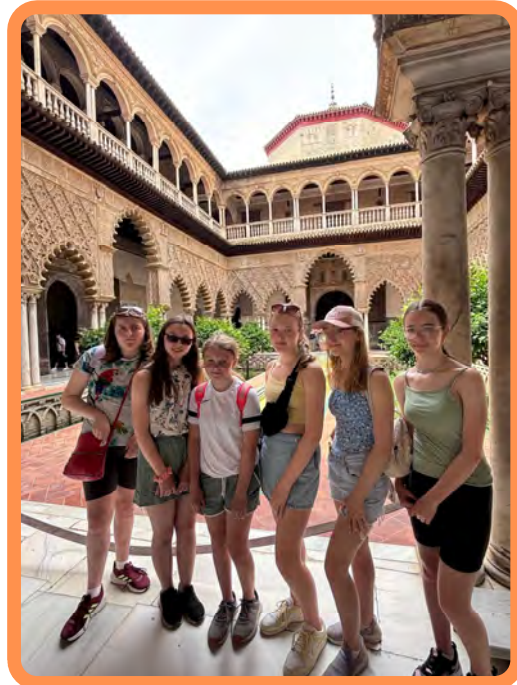
We began the day with a visit to the very impressive Maestranza Bull Ring and museum then the students explored the iconic Plaza de España and Parque de María Luisa, before returning for another evening meal at El Charlatan and a much needed early night!



Year 8 Trip to Seville, June 2024 P16

Day Four: Friday, June 28

An early breakfast preceded a long but beautiful coach trip to Granada, passing through the breathtaking scenery of Andalucia and the Sierra Nevada mountains as well as the extensive olive groves. Our highlight of the day was the visit to the incredible Alhambra Palace and fortress complex. It is one of the most famous monuments of Islamic architecture and one of the best-preserved palaces of the historic Islamic world. Time was then spent souvenir shopping and then for our last dinner together.



Day Five: Saturday, June 29

A more relaxed morning was enjoyed visiting the beautiful Hacienda Merrha olive farm and an insightful olive oil-tasting experience en route to the airport.

We all arrived back to school safely, albeit exhausted from a wonderful Andalucian experience and a trip that all the students will look back on fondly. This trip, for some their first visit on foreign soil, was a wonderful mix of cultural exploration and memorable experiences in the beautiful city of Seville!

The students, as always, were an absolute credit to the school and our wonderful tour guide, Alex, expressed that ours was among the nicest school parties he had ever supported.

Huge thanks to Miss Beardsley for her excellent organisation and to Mrs Adams, Mr Barton, Mr Ford, and Miss Matthews for their fantastic support.



Work-related Learning

There have been a variety of Work-Related Learning initiatives during the spring and summer terms, and, as usual, our students always step up to the challenges offered to them. Further details of our Employability opportunities and how we achieve the Gatsby Benchmarks are available on the school website but below is a taste of what has been happening recently.

BAE INSIGHTS PROGRAMME

It was once again encouraging to see our students enrol on the **BAE Craft Engineering Insight Programme**. This is open to ALL students, and those successful in their applications, participated in the five-session course based both virtually in school and at BAE's SASK training facility. Five motivated UVHS students embarked on their Insight Programme in the summer term. The Insights Programmes that are offered to us from BAE bi-annually are a fantastic support to students for success in the future with BAE Apprenticeship applications.



Year 12+ Spotlight Experience
Project Management and Engineering

YEAR 12 WORK EXPERIENCE 15-19TH JULY 2024

Year 12 students celebrated the end of another very successful Year engaging in their Work Experience Week. The students had placements across a diverse labour market and returned invigorated, having gained many essential employability skills needed for their future steps.

We benefitted from the support of over 100 businesses and organisations, each offering a thorough programme of activities and tasks. Students were challenged in all disciplines, and many had to work outside of their comfort zones, but all left with a sense of achievement, having improved their communication, problem solving, organisation, financial capability, resilience, teamwork and most of all self-confidence.

Our students always display a high degree of maturity and an excellent working ethos which mirrors our Victoria Values.

As part of the Year 12 Work Experience Week (15th-19th July), 25 students completed their week in industry taking part in the new BAE Spotlight Programme. Students engaged in either Engineering or Project Management and were encouraged to develop essential key skills. The work experience took place on-site in Barrow-in-Furness, in BAE's state-of-the-art Submarines Academy for Skills and Knowledge.

The programme consisted of five days on site. This included:

- An introduction to the business
- An introduction and insight into Engineering or Project Management functions
- A chance to discuss career paths with existing staff and apprentices
- Employability workshops and practical activities
- A university visit overview.



SIEMENS ENERGY SUMMER INTERSHIPS

Following the success of the 2023 Internship Programme, 10 Year 12 students took part in the prestigious scheme, supported by The Ogden Trust and received the CREST Gold Award accredited by The British Science Association. A fantastic achievement from our Sixth Form students.

Why apply for a summer internship at Siemens Energy?

- Enhanced work experience opportunity
- Discover what working life is like within a local engineering company
- Excellent evidence for UCAS or higher/degree apprentice applications
- Helps YOU make an informed decision about YOUR future

My Money Matters (Young Enterprise) provides young people with the opportunity to explore their own attitudes to money and gain a few key financial skills to help them in the real world. Led by experienced facilitators from Young Enterprise in partnership with BAE and co-financed by the Sir John Fisher Foundation and Cumbria Community Foundation, the fully financed programme offered virtual interactive sessions to Year 10 in Enrichment Week. Our students received a digital certificate and Record of Achievement on completion. Endorsed by Martin Lewis and The Bank of Ireland, this was a fabulous opportunity for all!

Over the six units of **My Money Matters**, students:

Learned about the different options for saving and reflect on their own saving habits

Explored ways to make the most of their money

Gained a deep insight into borrowing and debt

Looked ahead to life after school and explore the different options available to them

Entered the world of financial risk and reward

Learned about the common scams people fall victim to and learned how to protect themselves against them.



We were fortunate to have **MADE Training** join us to deliver key workshops to Year 10. The sessions, over the two days of Enrichment Week, were themed around work and future possibilities.



The workshops were **Goals and Aspirations** and **Fast Track to Success**. The **Goals and Aspirations** workshop really encouraged students to think about their future, what they would like to achieve and goals they can put in place to help them achieve their long-term aspirations. The **Fast Track to Success** workshop focussed on the post-16 education options, looking at different routes to achieve qualifications and careers.



BAE AMBASSADORS STRETCH PROGRAMME

BAE Systems attended UVHS to host some fun and interactive activities for **Year 10 students** in **Enrichment Week**. Activities included planning a journey to meet suppliers which had to be cost effective and efficient for the business and building a facility which aligned with the specification and requirements.

These activities both only promoted BAE Systems' values but further encouraged collaboration and communication while working as part of a team. These insights will help them with essential career-making decisions when they leave school.



We continue to offer **Innovate Her's** Programme to get *Girls ready for the Tech Industry, and the Industry ready for Girls*. This is achieved via their learning platform, created in close collaboration with their partners. InnovateHer get the industry ready for girls, by aiding their partners with their EDI goals and strategies.

We have had the privilege, once again, of welcoming **Kimberly-Clark** to work closely with **ALL students** (boys and girls) in **Years 8 & 9** to promote a future working in the Tech Industry and look forward to the ongoing support they are providing us with their Role Model Workshops later in the autumn.

We continue to draw on the support of the **NHS** and encourage participation in the wide and diverse activities offered to our students across all Key stages and look forward to working with them closely again this year and promoting the **Step into the NHS Programmes**.

NHS & Social Care Careers Event
Hosted by Furness College,
Sports Hall, Channelside Campus

CUMBRIA COUNTY ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

8 JUNE, 2024



Amongst the strongest performances were:

Charlie - 2nd in Junior Boys 200m
Grace - 1st in Junior Girls Javelin
Penelope - 1st in Junior Girls 1500m
Rio - 2nd in Intermediate Boys Long Jump
Lucy - 1st in Intermediate Girls 1500m
Scarlett - 1st in Intermediate Girls Discus
Millie - 2nd in Intermediate Girls High Jump
Marina - 1st in Intermediate Girls 3000m
Ellen - 2nd in Intermediate Girls 300m

All those who finished 1st or 2nd went to Gateshead to represent Cumbria, competing against Northumberland, Cleveland, Durham and Yorkshire.



A FANTASTIC ACHIEVEMENT.
ALSO, REPRESENTING THE COUNTY,
JESS, JOE, KIRA AND GEORGIA.



2024 CRICKET REPORT



It has been another mixed bag on the cricket front for UVHS in 2024, with more positives than negatives.

Our girls U15 indoor team, after being area and county indoor winners, played at the North of England Competition at Bolton Arena on April 29. This event hosted the eight various county champion schools and UVHS finished 5th overall! Our group consisted of UVHS, Repton School (Derbyshire), St Bede's School (Northumberland) & Kings School (Durham). We secured a win against St Bede's, a tie against Kings School & were a good 2nd against an excellent Repton Independent School. It was a fabulous experience for the girls and they performed superbly.

The Cumbria Schools Knockout competitions went ahead in a multitude of ways this year (indoors, on astroturf football pitches, on artificial cricket pitches & on turf when possible). The UVHS Year 7 team after receiving a bye in Round 1 of their competition, beat a good Millom school in their quarter final by 3 runs. However, we ultimately lost to QES Kirkby Lonsdale in the semi-final match (UVHS 81 runs for 7 wickets v QES 82 runs for 1 wicket). UVHS selected 8 girls in our team this year.



The UVHS U15 team could consider themselves slightly unlucky losing to Dallam school in Round 1 after having a tie (70 runs each) but lost the game due to having lost more wickets when batting. The game was again played indoors due to poor weather conditions.

Our U14 team is full of positivity, with a team very keen to play cricket. Round 1 saw UVHS travel to West Lakes Academy's indoor sports hall and win comfortably. We then travelled to play Millom school and in a low scoring game managed to bowl Millom out to win by 12 runs. Our semi-final was against an Independent Sporting superpower in Sedbergh school. Unfortunately, illness & a lunchtime injury on the day, left the UVHS side playing with 9. Batting first we scored 82 runs for 2 wickets off 16 overs, in a really solid batting display with Tom, 29 not out, & Sam 20 batting great against a really high quality bowling unit. Despite trying hard in the field, our bowling could not quite match Sedbergh's very powerful batting and they scored the winning runs with 2 overs to spare.

SPORTS DAY 2024



Sports Day ran over 2 days this year, with pupils completing field events and track heats on one day and then the track finals on the second day.

Over 50% of the pupils in years 7-10 were involved across the two days, to represent their House. We had yet another amazing set of results this year, with special mention to Noah in Year 7 who broke the 1500m record by 34 seconds, with a time of 4m52s!

The winners of the Victor / Victrix for each year group were:

Year 7 – Noah / Madisyn

Year 8 – Torvin / Ruby

Year 9 – Charlie / Grace

Year 10 – Ethan / Tara

