Ulverston Victoria High School Summer Term Review 2023

Mr Hardwick Writes

Celebrating the achievements of our children during the summer term

New Teachers

Meet this years new teachers...

Also in this edition:

-School trips

- -Summer Music Concert
- -UVHS Dance Show
- -Geography Trips
- -Sponsored Walk

MR HARDWICK WRITES...

It always seems a little strange to be writing this as the special culture and feel that makes it so special. it were, retrospectively; this newsletter celebrates

the achievements of our children during the summer term. Last term was somewhat hectic, with foreign trips, enrichment week, concerts, shows and sporting events. The weather, having teased us in late spring into thinking we might get a good summer, treated us to quite a lot of rain during the summer term, meaning that our activities needed many alterations. However, one event, which we did not change, the sponsored walk took place in pouring rain. The resilience of our children (remember we are constantly being told that today's children lack this attribute) was commendable as they cheerfully walked and raised money for a mental health charity, "Every Life Matters" which is dear to the school.

As I write this, at the start of the new term, there is a real sense of energy and optimism in the air this year, this was of course helped by the gratification that the GCSE and A Level outcomes were exceptional this year, with students gaining what they need to move on to the next stages of their lives. A testament to the hard work of our exceptional students and staff, but also the support and drive of their parents. Remember, these children had two years of their education interrupted by the pandemic, yet they produced some of the best results we have ever had. There are many new faces amongst the staff at UVHS as we continue to attract high quality professionals and the number of Sixth Formers has significantly topped 300. The school is constantly evolving, growing, but retaining

With the world in turmoil, conflict, poverty and environmental worries, it feels like this school and this town are still a tiny corner of the world, where things are how they should be. Our children aspire to achieve wonderful things, not just for themselves, but for the good of others; UVHS is a place

where people in need are supported and there is genuine joy doing these things. This is a great place to live and to work.









JOHN MUIR DISCOVERY AWARD

We are delighted to celebrate our Year 7 students' accomplishments in completing the John Muir Discovery Award at the end of the summer term. This adventure empowered them with valuable life skills, instilled a love for nature, and raised their awareness of environmental issues. We extend heartfelt thanks to the dedicated staff at Ford Park Community Gardens for their invaluable assistance in delivering sessions on path maintenance, seed planting, and creating bug hotels during the week. Their passion and enthusiasm really inspired our students making this a real highlight of the week.

Throughout this journey, our students actively engaged with the environment both locally and in the Lake District National Park, developing essential outdoor skills and fostering a sense of responsibility towards our planet. They explored nature, learned map reading, survival techniques, and the importance of conservation. This program not only broadened their horizons but also inspired them to become responsible, eco-conscious citizens.

As we commend our Year 7 students on their remarkable achievements, we look forward to witnessing the positive impact they will undoubtedly make in their future endeavours. Once again, a special thanks to the staff at Ford Park Community Gardens for their invaluable contributions to this enriching experience.









Sponsored Walk 2023

On Tuesday 18th July 2022 over 900 students and staff took part in our annual UVHS sponsored walk. The Students enjoyed a nine-mile scenic stroll in typical Cumbrian weather which unfortunately meant that we could not enjoy the magnificent views from Birkrigg overlooking the Furness peninsula and across Morecambe Bay. However, we didn't let the weather dampen out spirits. The students beamed with positivity throughout the day supported by a fantastic team of staff. They once again demonstrated their grit, resilience and determination to complete the walk in truly awful conditions.

The generosity shown by the students, their families, friands and the UVHS community as a whole was once again fantastic. Eva (Y7) raised the highest amount overall and our Golden Boot winning form (7.1) raised a total of £513.42. Together we raised an overall total of £5,397! Half of the monies raised has been donated to Every Life Matters. Every Life Matters is a Cumbrian suicide prevention and suicide bereavement support charity. They deliver a wide range of training and education focused on challenging the stigma and myths around suicide, helping everyone understand the role they can play in suicide prevention and giving lifesaving skills and confidence. They have trained over 12,000 people in Cumbria in the last 3 years. Every Life Matters now run a Suicide Safer Schools programme, which our school has been participating in; delivering training to pupils, schools staff and parents. Over 2,000 pupils have now been trained in the pilot year of the programme across Cumbria.





Y8 AMBLESIDE TRIP

he Geography department took our Year 8 students to Ambleside for their enrichment trip at the end of last term. We learned about the impact of tourism in Ambleside town, focusing on the impact of traffic on the town. We then took a walk from Ambleside to Rydal water, stopping along the way to learn about the way that Glaciers have shaped the landscape of the Lake District National Park, how rivers have affected the national park, and the reasons for our damp climate in the North West of England. Some of our speedy walkers and groups were even able to explore Rydal caves and discuss their formation.

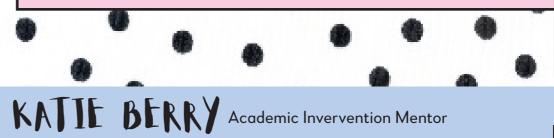
ur Year 8 students were also able to develop their fieldwork Skills that they will use later in Year 9 and at GCSE Level. All of our students were fantastic, and we look forward to taking the next cohort of Geographers to Ambleside next year.

YEAR 12 CONISTON AND MORECAMBE FIELDWORK

The Geography department took our A Level Geography students to Coniston and Morecambe to carry out their data collection as part of their independent investigations. The independent investigation makes up 20% of students final A Level grade. Students choose their own topics to investigate, and this year we have had a range of interesting projects including those looking at regeneration, globalisation, the impact of tourism, glacial features, and the impact of renewable energy projects. This year students will be analysing their data and using it as part of their final investigations.



I am delighted to have joined UVHS and it has been a joy meeting pupils and staff. I feel very welcome and appreciate being part of the friendly community. As a keen designer I enjoy bringing my skills, knowledge and expertise from the design industry to the classroom. I am looking forward to inspiring and supporting pupils to become thoughtful, inventive and creative individuals.



Hello, I am Miss Berry. I am delighted to be joining UVHS as an Academic Intervention Mentor this September. I am from Dalton and currently live there with my parents and younger sister. I attended the University of Lancashire in 2019 and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Education Studies. I have been working at Dalton St Marys primary school for five years and I am excited for a new start at UVHS.

In my spare time I enjoy exercising, this could be going to the gym, going on runs or walks, I also enjoy meeting my friends and going on walks up the lakes.

I am looking forward to meeting everyone.



CHRIS BUCKLEY Assistant Headteacher: Student Welfare (DSL)

I'm Mr Buckley and I'm really pleased to meet you. I'll be joining Ulverston Victoria High School in September as the Assistant Headteacher for Student Support and DSL. My classroom subject is Mathematics and I look forward to seeing some of you in my maths classes. If you see me around, please feel free to come say "hello", I'm always happy to hear about your day, what is going well and if you have any worries. I'm here to help.





Staff hembers











ROB DAVIES Academic Intervention Mentor

I am excited to be working for Ulverston Victoria High School. I was initially trained as a Primary School teacher and for the last three years I have been working at One School Global at their Lancaster Campus.

I have experience working with students with SEN and for the past two years I worked as the SENCo and Learning Support Coordinator. Ulverston High School is an exciting next step in the Academic Intervention Mentor. career as

Away from the classroom I enjoy playing cricket and golf. Although now too old to still play football I follow Wrexham football club. I also enjoy the stand-up comedy of Stewart Lee and Daniel Kitson amongst others.

ABIGAIL DOUGLAS Teacher of English

Hello UVHS! I'm very pleased to introduce myself. My name is Miss Douglas and I'll be teaching English. I'm looking forward to meeting all of you and I'm eager to get started. My passion for literature, the early modern period in particular, started at a young age, but it took me a while to do anything productive with it. I worked in hotel management for a number of years before I went on to achieve a BA in English Literature from the University of Lancaster. In my spare time I enjoy going to festivals, playing Minecraft and having days out with my family.



Hello, my name is Mr Ford and I am looking forward to be returning to the UVHS Science department this September. I was raised in the West Midlands and went to university in Wales. After some small jobs I moved to London where I worked on the conservation of rare and endangered plants for 12 years in the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. After that I returned to Wales and joined the Fire and Rescue Service before training as a teacher. I originally joined UVHS in 2005 where I was honoured to become a Pastoral Leader and lead conservation/charity trips for 6th form students to Peru, Madagascar, Mexico, Indonesia, Honduras and Kenya. I left for another school in 2019 but couldn't stay away for any longer! I love to travel and am a keen fell and mountain walker (with the occasional water sport thrown in). I am really looking forward to re-joining the UVHS team and seeing you all .

My name is Mr. Graham and I am really excited to join the Modern Foreign Languages Department and become part of the friendly community at UVHS. After growing up on the east coast in Lincolnshire, I studied German and History at university in London and for the past 15 years I have worked at a comprehensive in West Yorkshire as Subject Lead MFL. I am passionate about language learning and the unique experiences it can offer and I am eager to contribute fully to these opportunities at UVHS, both within school and abroad

GEMMA EASTHAM Development Coordinator for Chemistry

After spending the last incredible decade in the vibrant city of Cambridge, I am thrilled to embark on this new chapter in the Lake District. With a rewarding 2 year experience leading the Science Department at my previous school, I am eager to share my passion for Science and Chemistry with the students of UVHS. Beyond the classroom I find peace and inspiration in the great outdoors. Exploring the wonders of nature through hiking is one of my favourite pastimes, I am also a regular rower and cox and have recently discovered the joys of paddleboarding. Furthermore I enjoy the freedom and exhilaration that comes with riding my bike and challenging myself with occasional climbing too. I am truly excited to join the UVHS community and I look forward to bringing my enthusiasm for Chemistry and my adventurous spirit to inspire and empower my students.



OIS GUEST Teacher of English

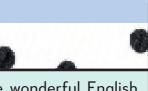
MATTHEW FORD Teacher of Science

Hi everyone! I am Mrs Guest and I am joining the wonderful English department at UVHS. My teaching career has taken me to different towns, counties and even different countries and now I am excited to be returning to the school where my teacher training first began. It has been a little while now but I am so happy to be back in the school that helped me realise my love for teaching. In my free time, I enjoying hiking, reading, running around after my one year old son and, very occasionally, sleeping.

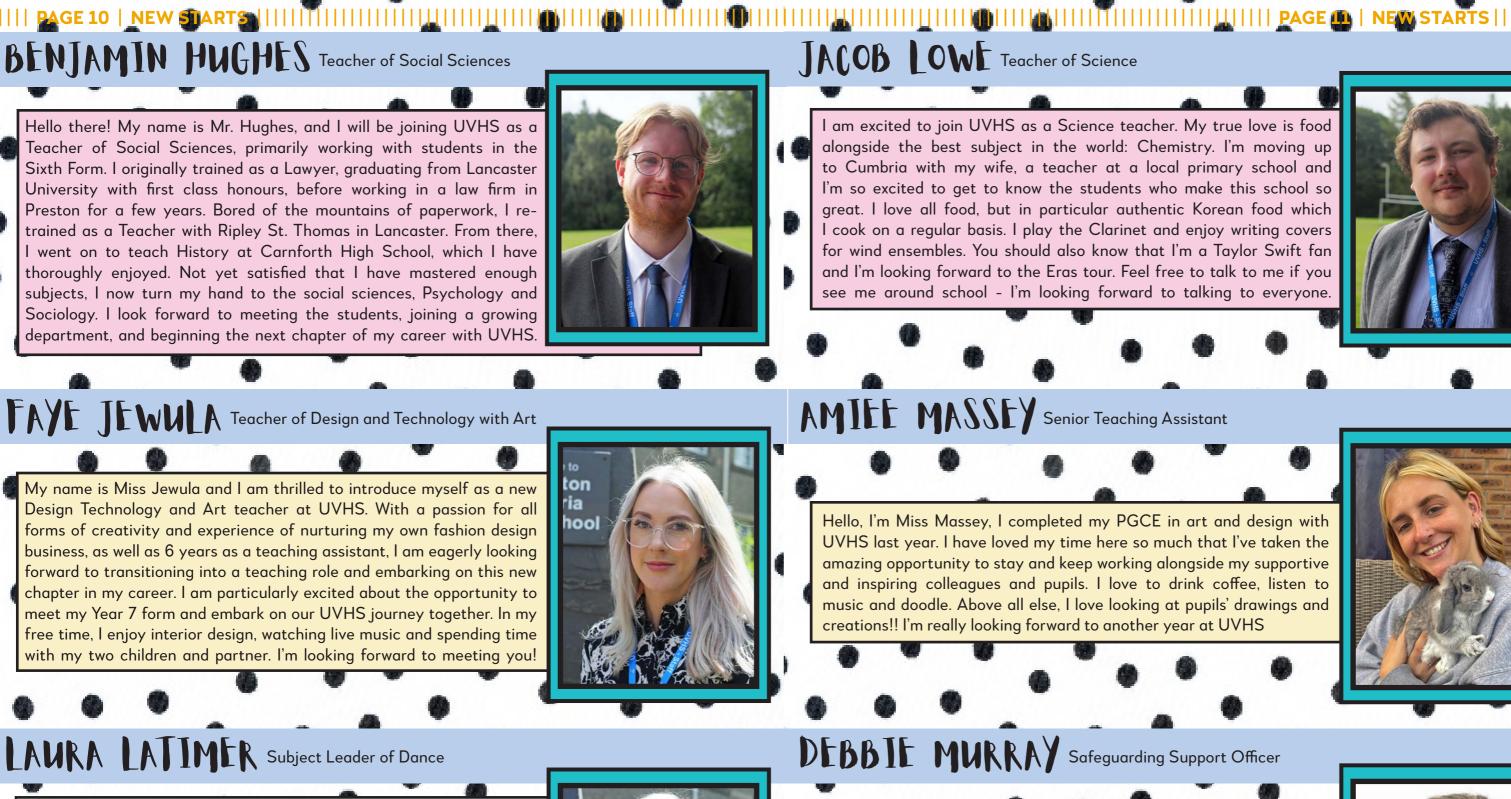


DARREN GRAHAM Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages









Hello! My name is Mrs Latimer and I am thrilled to be joining UVHS as Head of Dance in September. Born and raised in West Yorkshire, my passion for dance began at a young age and I soon combined it with a love of teaching, joining Stage Coach Performing Arts School as a Dance Coach in 2004, whilst also studying at the prestigious Northern School of Contemporary Dance. After completing my PGCE at Liverpool Hope University in 2008, I began my teaching career in Greater Manchester, before relocating to Suffolk with my husband 2013.

Having spent an enjoyable and successful 10 years teaching in East Anglia, I'm excited to return to the North West and can't wait to share my passion, enthusiasm and knowledge of dance with the pupils at UVHS and embark on a new adventure with my young

family in Cumbria. In addition to dance, I have a passion for sport, especially running and look forward to becoming reacquainted with the fells again.



I am Mrs Murray and I am the safeguarding officer at UVHS. Before joining UVHS I worked for a year in Victim Support supporting survivors of sexual assaults. Prior to this I worked for Cumbria Constabulary for over 25 years retiring in October 2021. I had a long and varied career; where I worked in CID, community, and response before I became a Sergeant in 2011 working in Response in Barrow and Kendal and 5 years as a Custody Sergeant. My last role was a community Sergeant in Ulverston. In my spare time I like to paint, and in the future I hope to return to singing and acting which I used to enjoy before joining the police.







ROBERT SALAWA-ADAM Teacher of Mathematics

Hello, my name is Mr. Salawa-Adam and I am thrilled to be joining the Mathematics team at UVHS. After a degree in Mathematics at Imperial College London, a brief stint in consulting and a PGCE in Canterbury, I have recently been teaching in Birmingham. I am a firm believer that by developing the skills of mathematical reasoning and problem solving in students, they can be empowered to navigate the complexities of the modern world and face fresh challenges with confidence and competence. Outside of work, I enjoy running, hillwalking, swimming and bouldering. am looking forward to getting involved with all aspects of school life and meeting you all in September.



SOPHIE TIPPINS Teacher of Mathematics Hello! I'm Miss Tippins and I have just completed my three year degree at Edge Hill University and am more than excited and proud to join the mathematics department at UVHS.

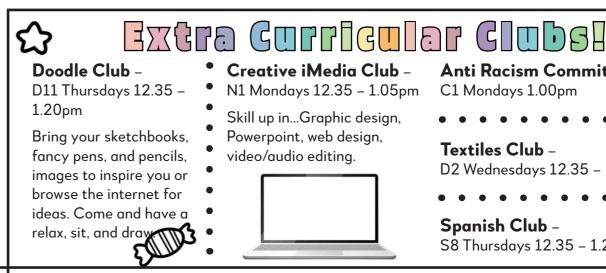
After attending Ulverston myself for both school and sixth form where I studied Maths, Physics and Music at A-level, I experienced first hand everything that the school has to offer; from subject support to the vast extra-curricular activities. One of my main interests is music and I attend a variety of live performances as well as playing the piano and saxophone when given the opportunity. Hove skiing and was the President of my university's Snow sports society where I arranged trips to the alps welcoming students of all abilities. I hope you all enjoyed the summer break and I am looking forward to the start of a new school year and meeting you all.

MEGAN TURNER Senior Teaching Assistant

Hello, I would like to introduce myself, my name is Miss Turner and I am delighted to be joining UVHS. I am originally from Somerset and went to university In Plymouth where I studied Sports development and coaching. I then moved to Barrow in Furness in 2020 where I undertook a role as a Teaching Assistant at Furness Academy helping KS3 studies in a range of different subjects and areas.

Outside of work I like spending time exploring the lakes, the rest of the UK or abroad with my partner and daughter. More likely at a weekend l will be found on the side of a football pitch either supporting my partners team or my daughter in their love for the game, or at a dancing rehearsa supporting my daughter with her love of dancing.

I am looking forward to being a part of the team, the community and more importantly meeting you all.



Creative iMedia Club -N1 Mondays 12.35 – 1.05pm Skill up in...Graphic design, Powerpoint, web design,

video/audio editing.



ISABEL STEELE Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages

Hello all! My name is Miss Steele and I am over the moon to be starting as a Modern Languages Teacher at the wonderful UVHS. Languages have been my passion since my own school days, and I have lived in France, Spain, Guadeloupe, and Peru over the past 8 years for cultural and linguistic immersion. I went to Durham and Bath Universities for my BA and MA, then moved to the beautiful Lake District. Having completed my PGCE at UVHS, I know how lucky I am to be part of this fantastic school! I am excited to teach you all French and Spanish and continue athletics club too. When I am not teaching languages, I am out in the fells, going surfing, reading books, or running with my vizsla Xander.



SIMON TINNING Teacher of Social Sciences

In over ten years of teaching, I have had the privilege of working in a variety of both international and local secondary schools. These experiences of teaching students from diverse backgrounds have provided me with a well-rounded perspective on the field of education and has allowed me to develop a good understanding of the individual needs of different learners. I am looking forward to bringing my experience to UVHS and helping students develop the skills and knowledge they will need to achieve their goals beyond the classroom.













Anti Racism Committee Meeting -C1 Mondays 1.00pm

Textiles Club -D2 Wednesdays 12.35 - 1.20pm

Spanish Club -S8 Thursdays 12.35 - 1.20pm

n July, Year 10 students enjoyed a sweltering four days under the Spanish sun in Barcelona, together with Miss Beardsley, Mr Bates, Ms Desbottes and Mr Mach.

Y10 Trip to

With a jam-packed itinerary, students soaked up the Spanish and Catalan culture and famous sights, including the World Heritage Site of La Sagrada Familia Cathedral, the Arc de Triomf and the Nou Camp football stadium.

Students were able to practise their spoken Spanish as they went shopping in the famous Boquería market on Las Ramblas and Maremagnum shopping centre at the port. Another highlight of the trip was the CosmoCaixa science museum, where students experienced the wildlife in the indoor rainforest and learnt about the science of animation at the Pixar exhibition.

Year 10 thoroughly enjoyed their experience of Spanish cuisine, weather and culture and are now working hard in their final year of GCSE Spanish.

Vive La France 2023

fter a three year break due to Covid we were able to visit France again. 45 Astudents spent the week practising their French speaking skills with the help of 'animateurs' from Le Chateau de la Baudonnière in the heart of the Normandy countryside.

At the Chateau students took part in a variety of activities including climbing, fencing, archery, aeroball and bread- making. Pupils made some imaginative bread shapes and then were able to eat their creations at the evening meal. All the activities were conducted in French which helped to extend students' vocabulary and confidence. We had an evening visit to Mont St Michel where students could practise their buying skills and appreciate the UNESCO protected site. Students had the opportunity to find out more about the Second World War at the 360 cinema which gave a moving account of the sacrifices made by our ancestors during the liberation of France in 1944. We also visited the D-Day Landing beaches at Arromanches and the American War Cemetry at Colleville- sur-mer.

Other highlights of the visit included a visit to an organic goat farm where some were lucky enough to hold and milk the goats. Everyone enjoyed practising their speaking skills with the traders at the market in St Hilaire and they were able to buy some interesting combinations for their picnic lunch. Pupils also participated in the final talent show and a special mention must go to Sam, Cindy and William for their outstanding individual performances.

This was another fantastic educational experience for our Year 8 students. It was great to see the way they responded to new challenges and their thought and consideration for each other. We hope to offer a similar visit to Year 8 in the future.





Summer Concert







Following a superb Summer Concert on 10th July at The Coro, which saw the Junior Band, Swing Band, Choir and String Ensemble all share the stage with the Wind Band, 65 students embarked on our first concert tour since 2019.

Between Sat 15th and Thurs 20th July the Wind Band travelled to the Loire Valley in France (staying in the medieval fortress city of Angers for 3 nights) before moving on to Normandy (staying in the small town of Carentan). Over the course of the tour the students had ample opportunity to practice their French and we visited Angers, the historic chateau and town of Saumur, the city of Nantes and the town of Pontorson sampling a wide range of culinary delights from mussels and snails (although we think only Mr Butler was that adventurous) to steak haché and poulet Francese but not forgetting the good old burger 'n' chips as well – Mrs Heginbotham has insisted that I must also include the crêpes which were amazing everywhere we went!!

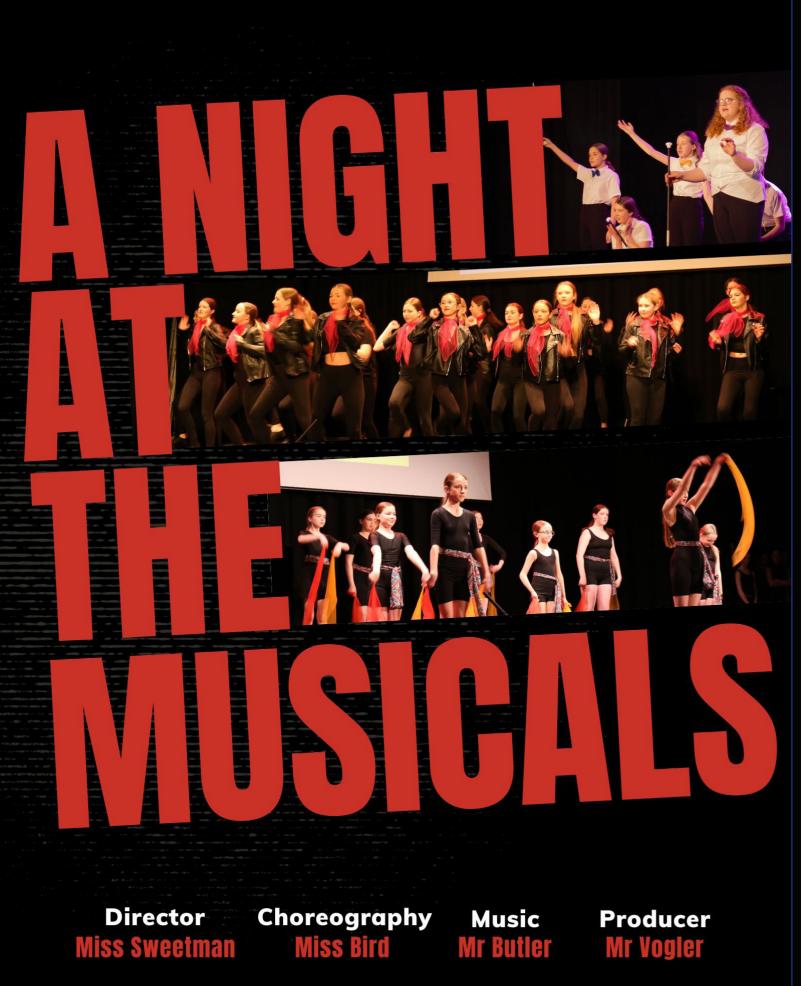
However, the main focus of the tour was, of course, staging three 2-hour concerts for the general public and the Band did UVHS proud! The first concert was in the grounds of the chateau of Montreuil-Bellay, performed to a packed (and extremely appreciative) audience despite the sweltering heat of the early evening. Our second concert was in the truly awesome Abbaye St Serge in Angers. The oldest part of the church was built in 1059 and it was extended over the next 5 centuries. As we entered the building there were audible stunned gasps from the students as we saw the amazing architecture of the interior and, once we began the sound-check, the acoustics were unbelievable – the concert was a totally unforgettable experience for everyone. After travelling to a new region and hotel our last concert was in the beautiful and historic Normandy town of Pontorson (with the most amazing crêperie!) where we played in an open-air concert arena to yet another very enthusiastic audience.

The promoters and audiences at each of the three venues were bowled over by both the programme choices and sheer quality of playing produced by the Band, and we were told that we stood shoulder to shoulder with the UK's top county orchestras and bands that have performed across the region in recent months. Special thanks must go to A Level French students, Zoe and Henry, who acted as comperes for all 3 concerts, guiding the audiences through the programme in impeccable French.

Here's to the next concert tour as well as another successful year of concerts from the Music Department!



A UVHS Performance



MAY 2023



UVHS prides itself on the inclusivity and quality of its Musical and Theatrical productions. The 2023 School Production which celebrated a wide range of both contemporary and classic singing and dancing numbers was no exception. 'A Night at the Musicals 2023' was directed by our new Drama teacher, Heather Sweetman – accompanied by the assistance of Miss Bird's choreography, Mr Butler's musicianship and Mr Vogler's assistance in producing. Miss Sweetman directed a storming medley of performances. Many of our students took part in this year's extravaganza, staged in Ulverston's Coronation Hall over two sell out nights.

One of the lesser known 'behind-the-scenes' facts of a production like this, is the ownership the students had of their individual performances. Senior students in the sixth form and Key Stage 4 took on directing and management roles in the creation of the group performances. We like to celebrate and encourage this sense of self-reliance in the Performing Arts as it not only gives the students an incredible sense of ownership over their work, but helps foster and develop fundamental life skills in collaboration, leadership and decision making. The Performing Arts Teaching Team are thoroughly proud of the students and their insatiable desire to strive for brilliance in producing incredible Music, Dance and Drama through the school. We are all very proud of you.



BUMMER 2023

There have been many Work-Related Learning initiatives during the summer term, and I am delighted to report that our students are always willing to accept the challenges offered to them and have benefitted greatly. 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. - Mrs J Adams July 2023

BAE Insights Programme

Following an application process to be part of the BAE Craft Engineering Insight Experience, open to ALL students, it was great to see that those selected to participate, thoroughly enjoyed the five-session course based both virtually in school and at BAE's training facility. Following the success of the students in the first cohort in the spring, a further five motivated UVHS students embarked on their Insight Programme in the summer term. Both programmes had fantastic results! Full BAE Apprenticeships, to commence in September 2023, have been offered to six dedicated and hard-working Year 11 UVHS students! Well done and good luck to you all in your future roles!



Young Enterprise

A highly dedicated and motivated team from Young Enterprise came into school to deliver a very successful 'Learn to Earn' Programme to both Year 7 and 8 cohorts. As well as getting students to create future goals, the course helped students develop employability skills as they considered career choices, the cost of living and effective budgeting. With interactive sessions and time for reflection, the programme encouraged discussion on dream jobs, Cumbria Labour Market information and what success means to them. An ideal showcase of how Gatsby Benchmark 2 is explored at KS3.

NHS Insights

Challenge accepted! Written by Ellie

In the May half term, we were selected to attend an



NHS Careers insights Programme where we were fortunate enough to take part in lots of activities to see what it is like to work in different sectors of the NHS. For example, we went in the Radiology,

Maternity, and Catering departments to name just a few. We got to do so many interesting, fun things, from visiting an MRI scanner to birthing a baby (a simulation, not a real one!) It was an absolutely amazing experience, and we would definitely recommend to anyone who is interested in working for the NHS in the future!

Thanks again Mrs Adams for organising this for us! Ellie, Eve, and Florence



||||||||||||||||||||||||||||| PAGE 21| WORK-RELATED LEARNING & CHESTER ZOO |||||||

My Money Matters

My Money Matters 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 is to be delivered to Year 9 in the summer term through virtual, interactive sessions and to Year 10 in Enrichment Week. Our students will receive a digital certificate and Record of Achievement on completion. Endorsed by Martin Lewis and The Bank of Ireland, this is a fabulous opportunity for all!

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

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

Explore ways to make the most of their money

Gain a deep insight into borrowing and debt

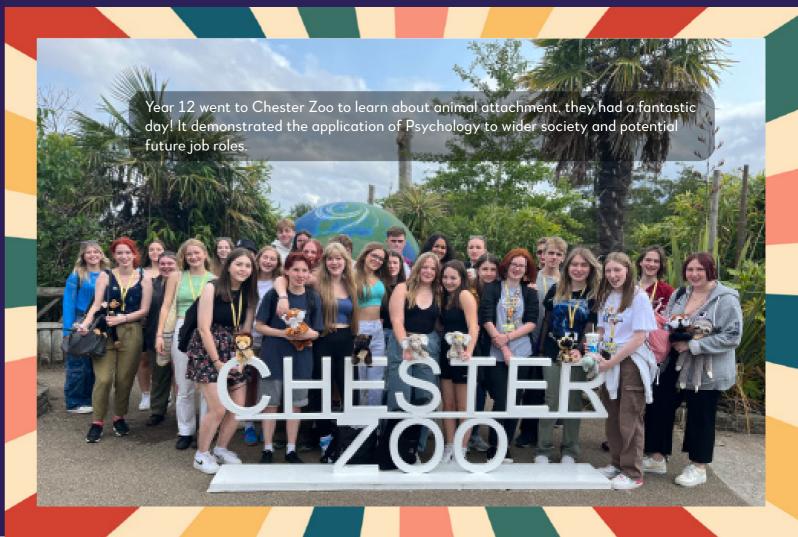
Look ahead to life after school and explore the different options available to them

Enter the world of financial risk and reward

Learn about the common scams people fall victim to and learn how to protect themselves against them

InnovateHer

InnovateHer's mission is 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 of welcoming Kimberly-Clark to work closely with ALL students 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 in the summer and autumn terms.













n Wednesday 5th July over 120 students took to the stage of The Coro to perform an absolutely spectacular UVHS Dance Show. A sell-out audience witnessed an amazing display of talent from yr7 all the way up to yr13 which Dance Shall include large group, small ensemble and solo performances which were. quite honestly, staggering. It was hard to believe that the performers were from UVHS and not a specialist performing arts' school, and the audience left having enjoyed a truly awe-inspiring and uplifting show.

The evening also acted as a 'farewell' to the Head of PE & Dance, Miss Bird, who had (as usual) directed and produced the show. There an emotional presentation at was the end of the show from both

the students and the school and Mr Hardwick praised the work that Miss Bird had done establishing Dance as both a high-performing examination subject and well oversubscribed extra-curricular activity since her arrival at

Thanks must also go to the PE Dept for their work supporting Miss Bird for the event as well as Mrs Cooper, Miss Sweetman, Mr Vogler and Mr Butler.

UVHS.







algorithm. Whale Class were fantastic and we were really impressed with how accurate and specific they could be at writing sets of instructions. I look forward to coming back

next academic year. - Mrs Beswick