



Staatsgrenze International Border



Ulverston Victoria High School

Autumn Term Review 2024

P2 Mr Hardwick writes -
This term has brought me a
first, closing the school for
wind!

ALSO:

P3 Science Extra
P4 School trip to
Salzburg

P6 School trip to
Aberystwyth
P14&15 Future Chef



MR HARDWICK WRITES

This term has brought me a first, closing the school for wind! One of those decisions that causes great angst, as there is no right answer, however invariably we err on the side of caution. Given the number of fallen trees and flying tiles in the area, I think it was the right decision, certainly all the students I spoke to agreed with me, but they may have been biased!



As someone who, apart from a couple of years after university, has spent all their life in education, either as a teacher or student; I think in school years, not chronological years. Therefore, to me New Year sits as a marker in the progress of the year, not the start, and as we move into Spring Term, it starts to feel like we are moving downhill and the year speeds up. This feeling is emphasised by the fact that it is now, occasionally, light enough to see the bottom of the school field at mid-day! The next term will fly by, particularly for Year 11 and 13. They have just completed their mock exams and the time they have, to study to achieve those important grades, can be measured in weeks. There will of course be an enormous amount of support to prepare them for their final exams, but this is the point where they need to really buckle down, the time will fly.



But of course, this is the time that the extra things that make school memorable start to kick in, sporting events happen more frequently as the light returns, rehearsals for the show and foreign trips are on the horizon. To take advantage of these opportunities, not to mention the day-to-day lessons, it is vital that students make every effort to attend school every day. Statistically a student who has 96% attendance, or higher, will achieve a whole grade more than one whose attendance is less.

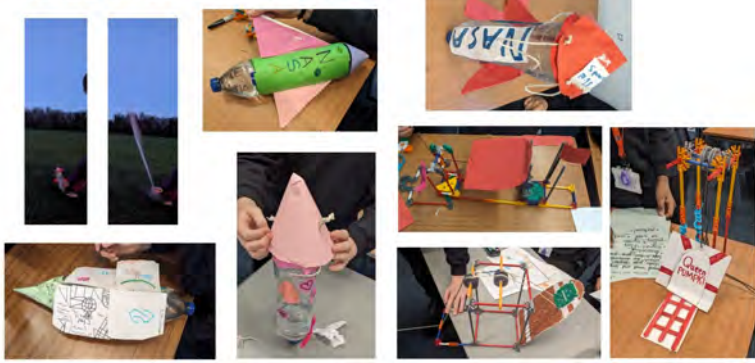
The world may be unsettled, but Ulverston is still a little corner of calm in the storm. We are proud of being a community school at UVHS, reflecting the values of our community whilst striving for excellence. Our students have great aspirations and go out into the world to make it just a little better. We are always interested to find out what they have achieved, and we love to invite them back to speak at prizegiving, continuing to be proud to remain part of the UVHS family.



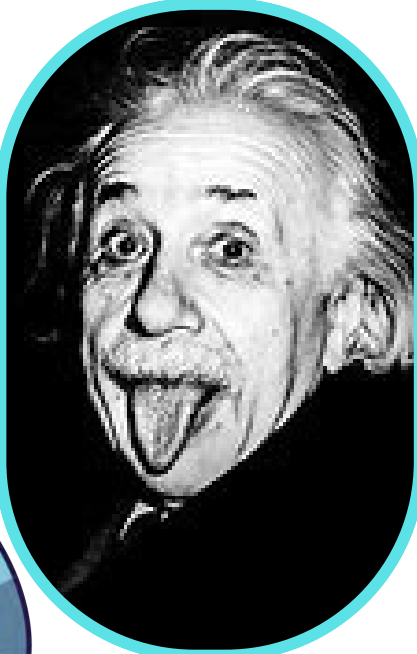
SCIENCE EXTRA

Members of year 7 have had a great time at STEAM club this term. A team from BAE systems came in to school to deliver the afterschool club for five weeks. Our students received an insight into engineering through taking part in exciting projects, such as making a water rocket and a draw bridge. They had to work in teams to analyse the project brief, share design ideas, consider a budget, and construct and test their models. They were also challenged to deliver a sales pitch presentation for their products. The students really enjoyed themselves and developed many skills such as teamwork, time management and creativity. We'd like to thank the team at BAE for providing this opportunity for our students.

Year 7 STEAM Club



Ninety-five of our year 9 students took part in 'Engineering rollercoasters' workshops, towards the end of October. These workshops were provided by the Engineering Development Trust (EDT). Our students learned about the importance of STEM based skills, careers in STEM based industry and took part in many fun and challenging hands-on activities. Their ultimate challenge was to use specialised kits to construct and test a model roller coaster. Students really enjoyed the workshops and developed many skills.



As a follow on from this, we have sixteen students enrolled on the EDT Industrial Cadets Bronze Award scheme. These students are working hard in their teams and have already impressed us with their enthusiasm, creativity and ambition! We look forward to seeing how their projects develop.

Y11 School Visit to Salzburg,

December '24



Salzburg

From December 4 to December 8, our Year 11 German students embarked on an unforgettable trip to Salzburg, Austria. It was a wonderful trip, and I am immensely proud of the way the students represented our school, showcasing maturity, enthusiasm, and impeccable conduct throughout the visit.

Day 1: The trip began in the early hours, with a 2:15 AM meeting at school. After a brief stop for breakfast, we boarded the plane and arrived in Munich by early-morning. We then headed to the Hauptbahnhof, where students grabbed lunch to take with them on the last leg of the journey to Salzburg. Upon arriving and settling into the A&O Hostel, we took a picturesque walk through Mirabellplatz, over the lock bridge, and into the Old Town and its Christmas markets. We boarded the funicular train up the hill to take part in a guided tour of the magnificent Hohensalzburg Fortress. Dinner at the traditional Stieglkeller restaurant offered a hearty Austrian meal, then we walked back through the Christmas lights and sounds and smells of the markets, which set the tone for the rest of our trip.

Day 2: We started the day early by heading to our partner school - Seekirchen Gymnasium - where students and staff were offered a warm welcome by the Headteacher, before they were introduced to their buddies and attended lessons. They embraced the opportunity to experience a different educational environment, engaging respectfully and enthusiastically in classroom activities. We had lunch at the school and then enjoyed a walk down to the lake. In the afternoon, we visited the Christmas Museum and then had free time at the Christmas markets, culminating in our first Krampuslauf. Staff from the school as well as several buddies joined us for an excellent dinner at Sternbräu, where we were visited by Nikolaus and Krampus again. This was a truly special experience.



Day 3:

Y11 School Visit to Salzburg, December '24

We returned to Seekirchen Gymnasium, where students (and staff!) took part in a second full day of lessons. It was lovely to see how much they enjoyed this and integrated so quickly into what is a very different school environment. Our students loved that pupils are allowed to wear their own clothes (and slippers!) the sofas in classrooms, and the relaxed yet respectful atmosphere.



After lunch, we embarked on a guided tour of Salzburg with Trudy the singing tour guide, exploring landmarks from The Sound of Music and learning about the city's rich history. More time at the Christmas markets allowed students to immerse themselves in local traditions, enjoy festive treats, pick up souvenirs, and have further interactions with Krampus! A relaxed evening meal at the hotel concluded another successful day.

Day 4:

Our final day began with a journey down to the Alps and a fascinating visit to the Hallein Salt Mines, where students experienced an interactive tour that included underground slides and a boat ride. We had lunch in Hallein, visiting the house, church and organ of Franz Gruber, the composer of Silent Night. In the afternoon we returned to Salzburg to visit the Haus der Natur museum, a 7 floor museum which contained hands on experiments, interactive musical exhibits, living insects and a fine collection of taxidermy. Our last evening meal at the Italian restaurant of Osteria provided the perfect opportunity to reflect on the experiences of the trip before we travelled home the next day.



Throughout the visit, the students' behaviour was exemplary. Their respect for the culture, enthusiasm for learning, and willingness to embrace every opportunity made me incredibly proud. Highlights included their willingness to integrate with their buddies in and outside of school lessons, their curiosity during cultural tours, and their utter joy and excitement during the Krampuslauf events. The students were a credit to themselves, their families, and our school community.

Aberystwyth University Trip

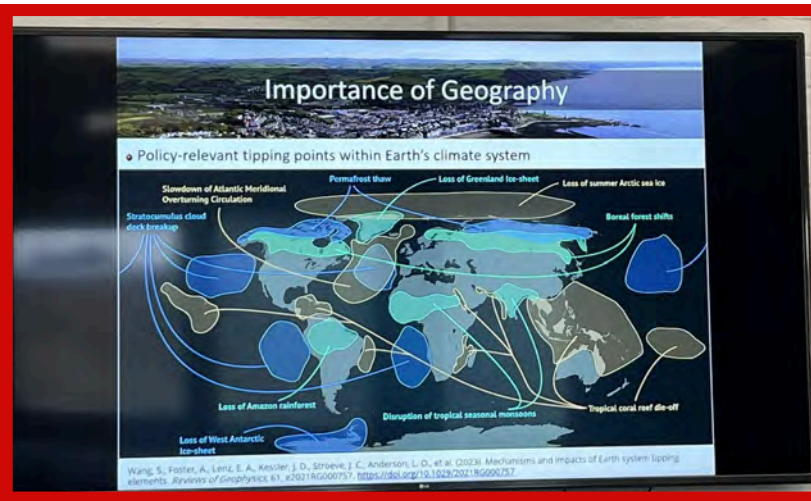
In November, we took ten of our Year 9 students on a trip to Aberystwyth University. The trip was a fantastic opportunity for students to experience student life, including taking part in seminars and lectures, and even staying in university halls of residence.



Day 1: After a long drive down from Cumbria, our first stop was at Bwlch Nant yr Arian where we stopped for lunch, explored the visitor centre, and were able to watch the Red Kite feeding in action, it was fascinating to learn what a success the red kite feeding has been in increasing the number of these birds in the UK. Our second stop took us to Rhiedol dam and hydroelectric power plant, where we were given a guided tour, and learnt how the power plant works 365 days a year to provide power for 30,000 homes, we also spent some time exploring the fish farm adjacent to the power plant. Finally, we arrived at Aberystwyth sea front just in time to experience a fantastic sunset.



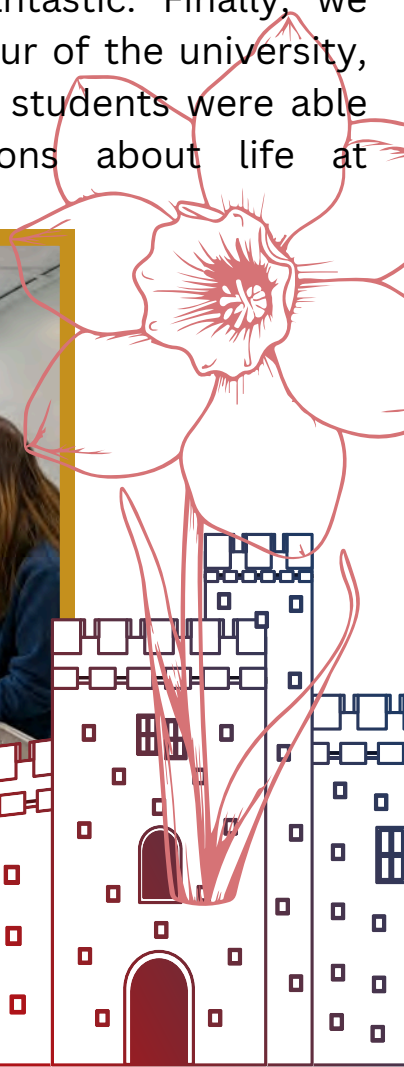
Day 2: The Geography department at Aberystwyth University put on a brilliant day for us. Firstly, we were given a tour of the Geography department by Dr Hywell Griffiths, including the model stream table which enabled us to carry out some modelling to explore some of the causes and impacts of river flooding. We then took a trip down to the coast to carry out a field trip, exploring coastal and river management techniques.



Day 3: Our final day took us to the Centre for Alternative Technology. We were given a tour of the site, which showcases examples of renewable energy and sustainable living. We then took part in a workshop to design a model wind turbine. Students had to work together in teams to design the best shape for their turbine blades, before testing them out in the wind tunnel. There was some excellent healthy competition, and all groups continually improved their designs. Finally, we discussed the importance of renewable energy as part of our solution to mitigating the impacts of climate change. After an early lunch, we made the return journey to Cumbria after a fantastic few days in Wales.



Students were able to practise some surveying methods and evaluate the success of the schemes on the beach. On return to the university Prof Mark Whitehead delivered a session for us on cities and sustainability. The effort and enthusiasm of all the students in the session was fantastic. Finally, we were given a tour of the university, and our Year 9 students were able to ask questions about life at university.





Bronze Duke of Edinburgh

Students have been working hard to complete sections for their Bronze DofE award. This includes carrying out a volunteering, physical and skills section, independently for at least three months. The range of activities that Year 11 have been involved in has been fantastic, and some are near to completing their award and receiving their certificates.



Bronze Duke of Edinburgh



In September, students completed their expedition section with the school. This involved going on a 2 day expedition in the Lake District. Their route started in Troutbeck, and took them to Great Langdale, where they worked as a team to put together their expedition menu, we even enjoyed some birthday cake as two of our students were celebrating their 16th birthday! On the second day, students were able to demonstrate their navigation and teamwork skills again by continuing their route towards Coniston. All students were successful in passing their expedition sections, and we wish them the best of luck with the rest of their award. Thank you also to the staff that offered their time to supervise the students during the expedition.



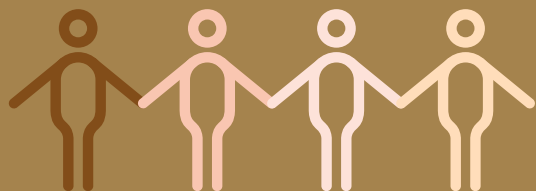


Anti-racism Learning Day 2024

In November we were visited by five local schools for our very first Anti-racism Learning Day. The day aimed to develop and improve our anti-racism knowledge, and the 46 students that attended were able to collaborate on a number of activities that helped provoke important anti-racism discussions.



The workshops were run by 'The Anne Frank Trust', and the students were given time at the end of the day to design valuable whole-school strategies to return back to their schools with. It was a wonderful day, and UVHS ID look forward to the planning of future learning days!





CAREERS FAIR



On Tuesday 12th November we once again hosted our Year 11 Mock Interview Day and Careers Fair.

With the continued support of employers and our local education providers, the whole of Year 11 was engaged in individual Mock Interviews.

Students had worked hard to prepare for their ten-minute interviews with our employers and given an invaluable five-minute personal de-brief thereafter to help them further develop their essential interview skills.

CAREERS

FAIR

Our guests were the recruiters /employers that the students will be meeting in the future, so it was imperative that they made the best impression, and they did not disappoint. Students' hard work in preparing their CVs, cover letters and interview questions leading up to the event, paid off. We should not underestimate the impact the students' performance would have and I am delighted to say that they all performed exceptionally well, many attaining Headteacher WOW certificates for their efforts. The feedback received from the employers and providers was extremely positive with feedback that the interviews were by far the most successful they had seen from Year 11. Although always a worrying activity for the students, they all saw this as a fabulous opportunity. I am hugely proud of the performances of all our students.



The annual Year 11 Careers Fair was the same evening and students, parents and carers had the chance to find out about future career options with an opportunity to meet employers and college tutors. Throughout the evening, all were able to get in-depth information about specific courses, apprenticeships, careers, and other post-16 next steps.

Both events were, as always, an enormous success and employers and providers continue to commend the students at UVHS and all agree, they would welcome applications from them in the future!



I would like to extend a huge thank you to all who supported us with these important careers' events.

UVHS CORONATION HALL



**THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 19**

Certificate of Excellence

PRIZE GIVING

UVHS has once again entered the national FutureChef competition, and so far we look well set to continue our usual success. Following our incredible practice session after school, our initial school heat of the competition was judged by Mr Hall and guest chef Judge Cameron, a former student who has just completed his training at 3 Michelin Star L'Enclume, were blown away by the quality of tonight's offerings! Katie in Year 8, made a cottage pie, which Mr Hall said was the best he'd ever tasted ! Bryony in Year 8, demonstrated her baking talents with outstanding homemade bread. Amethyst in Year 9, used ultra-modern reverse searing, to perfectly cook her steak. Joe in Year 10, reminded us of a classic, with his perfectly cooked scallop with apple, black pudding and celeriac. But special congratulations go to Heather in Year 10, and Lenny in Year 11, who are the two winners. Lenny's Scallop with piccalilli sauce, belly pork and pickled cauliflower, was utterly immense ! The dish of the day though was Heather's sea bass with capers, basil and dill oil, with vegetables. Chef Cameron was left speechless as he enjoyed every mouthful ! Huge congratulations to everyone who took part, and to our winners who went on to represent UVHS in the local finals in Blackpool. 🎉

Future chef



Heather's sea bass with capers, basil, dill oil, & vegetables



The local finals in Blackpool saw several schools compete to earn the honour of representing their area in the regional finals later in the New Year. Lenny looked to continue his success from last year, with his Asian inspired chicken dish, however, the local final winner this year was our very own Heather ! Her stunning dish of sea bass with risotto, served with hollandaise, split with basil oil, stunned the judges. Heather will now be mentored by Mr Hall and Michelin Chef Mark McCabe from Henrock, as she prepares for the next round of the competition, which if successful, will see her represent the North in the FutureChef final in London.

Everyone at UVHS would like to wish Heather the best of luck, and also once again give special thanks to Cameron and wish him the best of luck as he prepares to embark on his journey at Roganic Hong Kong.







RUGBY YEAR 7 LEAGUE

UVHS Year 7 & 8 Rugby league teams have put in some very solid performances since September. The UVHS Year 8 team has seen a mix of Year 8 & 7 boys come together to give every school in the area a run for their money. Whilst our Yr 7 team has simply gone from strength to strength after initially struggling to have enough for a team. The Year 8 team won all their games at their festival in September, before being too strong for Millom 32-6 in Rd 1, of the Yr 8 Barrow Schools Comp. Unfortunately, we came up against a very strong Furness Academy team in their semi-final game and despite all giving their best efforts, we went down 28-6.

Our Year 7 team were too strong for all who stood in their way at their festival in October and were conceded their Rd 1 Barrow Schools game by Millom. A very strong St Bernards team were our opponents in our semi-final game, where we came from behind in the final minutes to win 14-12, to book our place in the final against Dowdales. Craven Park was the setting and the UVHS Yr 7 team produced a wonderful performance, beating Dowdales 14-12 to win the Barrow Schools Yr 7 Competition. The 14-12 scoreline really did flatter the Dowdales team, as some handling errors kept the Dowdales team in the game. Our Yr 7 team now move on to play the Cumbria Schools play-off game against St Benedicts, Whitehaven in the new year.

BOOK BUZZ

Creating a buzz about books.



Christmas came early for students in years 7 and 8 with the delivery of their Book Buzz selections. 368 brand new books from a choice of 16, plus a set for the library, arrived in 7 large boxes and were expertly delivered, sorted and distributed by the ever helpful site team with the able assistance of Mrs Shufflebottom and some year 10 “elves.”



This year's top choice was *Murder at Snowfall*, with *Quiet Storm* the second most popular choice. We look forward to seeing some reviews on the library website soon. We were once again supported in taking part by a generous donation from CGP, for which we are extremely grateful.





Did you spot the UVHS Christmas Baubles on the Christmas tree at Market Cross, Ulverston ?

Our House Captain, pupils and the Design and Technology department, worked together to contribute approximately 35 Christmas tree decorations to Ulverston's Christmas tree; along with other local schools. Computer Aided Design skills were used with Computer Aided Manufacturing, to design and manufacture the baubles in lightweight and recyclable acrylic.

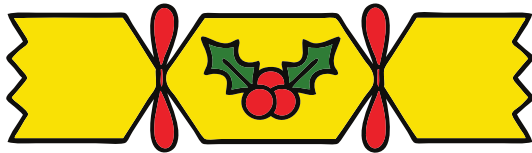


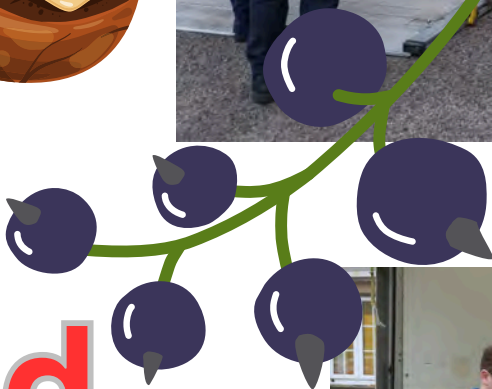
“O Christmas Tree”



Food Bank

Xmas 2024





Food Bank Xmas 2024



Xmas Fair

