



Lymm
High School

FOUNDED c.1592



The magic of
Harry Potter
Pg. 8

ILC celebrates
25 years of
witches, wizards and
muggles.

Inter-hall is back!
Pg. 16

From The Chase and
frisbee golf to
juggling, competition
between the halls is
fierce!

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE: SPRING 2022 · WWW.LYMMHIGH.ORG.UK



MARVELOUS MAGNETISM

BAE Systems Roadshow returns to Lymm High School.

Opening the eyes of our students to the career possibilities of studying science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subjects, the annual BAE Systems Schools Roadshow returned to Lymm High School last month.

The BAE Systems Schools Roadshow – supported by the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force – visits over 420 schools across the UK every year. The team delivered an engaging theatre roadshow with this year's theme centred around magnetism.

Our Year 7 students took part in a range of interactive sessions exploring how the integration of magnets, magnetism and electromagnetism are used in our everyday lives.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 2

SCHOOL NEWS

The presenters were able to demonstrate engaging and relevant experiments bringing the subject matter to life for the audience – it was a really fun and lively workshop with plenty of audience interaction.

The roadshow highlighted to students how their classroom learnings are usable skills which can be applied to their future education, apprenticeships and career aspirations.

Our students thoroughly enjoyed their visit from Mr Magnet and we look forward to welcoming BAE Systems back next year!



Wednesday 30th March 2022

CAREERS FAIR

Lower Hex, Sixth Form
4-7pm



HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

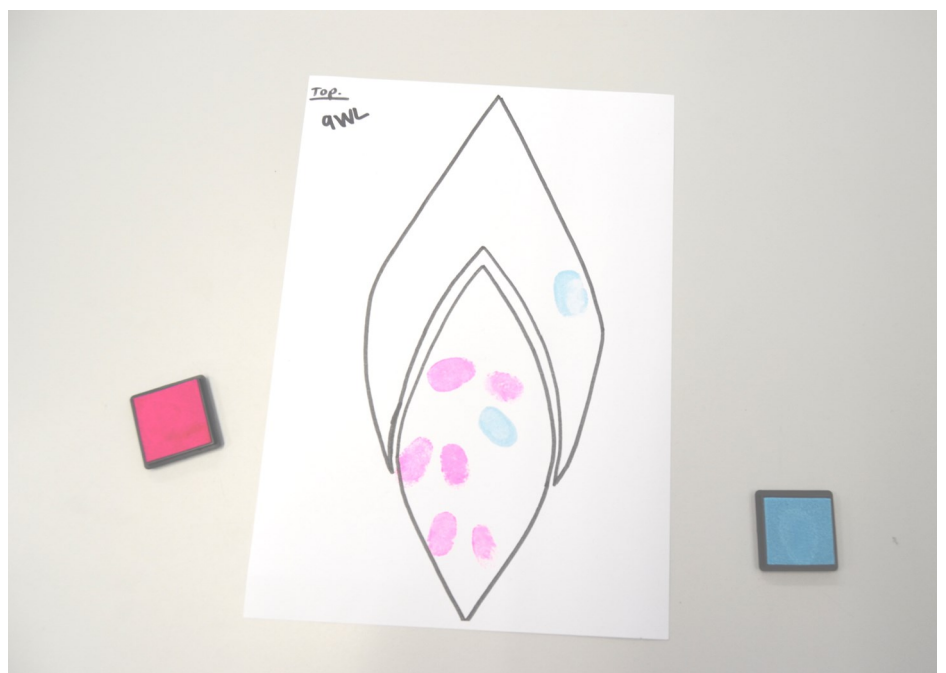
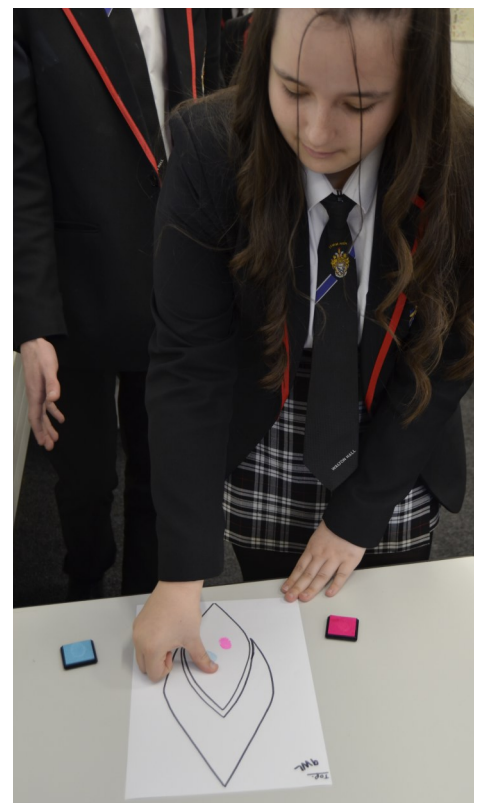
Lymm High students remember and pledge to stand up against all forms of hate.

Students made a pledge to always remember those who lost their lives in the Holocaust during a national Memorial Day for the mass murder.

During Form time, groups around the school commemorated the loss of life both during the Holocaust and in genocides that have taken place since World War Two.

They made their pledge by marking their fingerprint on a piece of paper along with their peers and school staff in the shape of a flame – the official emblem of the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust.

As the students made their mark they were encouraged to think about themes of loss, disappearance and memory.



DOFE PRACTICE EXPEDITIONS



DofE is back with the first round of practice expeditions of 2022.

The Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) cohorts were out on a training walk in January up Moel Famau near Mold.

The weather was not great with driving rain and high winds but they all showed so much resilience and positivity and did a fabulous job!



In addition to that, the Get Outside The Classroom instructors went out of their way to tell us what a delightful group of young people they were and a real credit to the school – of course we know this already but it was so

lovely to hear they thought the same and we are very proud of all the students involved.

We very much look forward to the training expeditions in the Peak District in a couple of months' time.

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CYBER SAFETY

Lymm High School students urged to 'stop and think' to keep safe online.

Last month, Years 7–11 had assemblies about online hate from a Detective Constable in the Cyber Crime Team.

The students learnt that anything posted on social media, or sent to messaging groups, has a unique digital footprint, which is permanent.

A consequence of this permanent digital footprint was highlighted effectively by Detective Constable Andrew Kevan who told students about the case of a local teen who is currently serving a

2-year sentence in a Youth Offenders Institute.

The teenager had been found guilty of requesting inappropriate images, sharing them, and using bullying tactics to gain more images.

These digital images were able to be viewed and traced back to the student despite attempts to delete them from his phone.

"Every image has unique identifying characteristics or 'metadata' that provide information about when and

where it was taken", Detective Constable Kevan told the students.

"This is why you need to stop and think before you send anything. Only by doing this, can you protect yourself", he said.



Rethinking online safety

Detective Constable Kevan played the audience an interview he had recorded with Trisha Prabhu: a 21-year-old innovator, social entrepreneur and inventor of the ReThink™ App.

This patented technology is used as an effective way to detect and stop online hate, and was invented following Trisha's experience of being cyberbullied herself.

The App detects and stops online hate at the source, before the bullying occurs and before any damage is done.

"Research has shown that with ReThink™, adolescents change their mind 93% of the time and decide not to post an offensive

message", said Detective Constable Kevan.

Trisha Prabhu's ReThink™ App has received worldwide acclaim. She has the esteemed distinction of showcasing and sharing the technology at the White House Science Fair at the invitation of President Obama.

For her advocacy, public service, and commitment to leading an anti-cyberbullying movement, she received the Anti-Bullying Champion Award from the International Princess Diana Awards, the Global Anti-Bullying Hero Award from Auburn University, and the Upstander Legacy Celebration Award from the Tyler Clementi Foundation.

Parents can find out more information and download the ReThink™ App by [clicking here](#).

Further links to help prevent cyber fraud are listed below:

- [A compact guide](#) to recognising the early signs of falling victim to online fraud.
- Check if your email or phone is in a data breach by [clicking here](#).
- Check if your email has been compromised, and how to reset your password if it has, by [clicking here](#).
- One stop shop for all Cyber issues: [The National Cyber Security Centre](#)



CELEBRATING 25 YEARS



Students and staff came together in the ILC last month to celebrate the magical world of Harry Potter.

Twenty five years after the publication of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* the story of Harry and his wizarding friends is still capturing the imagination of readers young and old.

Witches, wizards and Muggles from Years 7 to 11 gathered during lunch time to take part in magical crafts, bewitching quizzes and enchanting competitions.

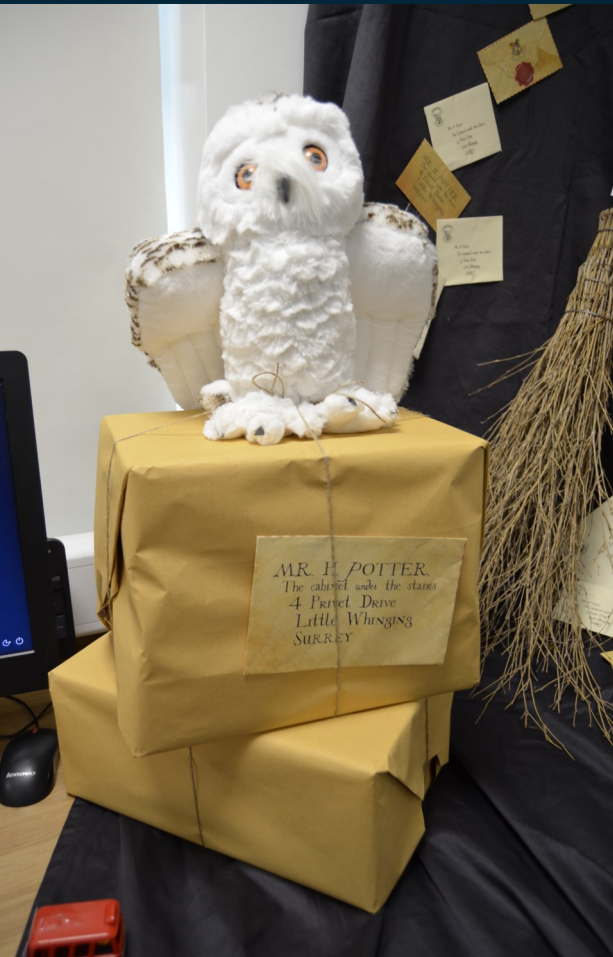
The ILC was decorated with Potter paraphernalia and Hedwig watched over the event from his brown parcel perch!

It was wonderful to see so many new faces discovering the fun side of the ILC for the first time this year.

We hope to see many more in the coming months as we resume our extracurricular events to share a love of books and stories, and to promote reading for pleasure.



RS OF HARRY POTTER



ATTENDANCE MATTERS



As we get back to some kind of normality following the Covid pandemic, the media has been focussing on student attendance at school. Figures from early March show that almost one in ten Year 11 pupils nationally are still absent from school [1]. This is almost 60% higher than the average for pre-pandemic Spring 2019. With just 2 months to go until the start of GCSE exams this is a worrying situation.

“At Lymm High, we know that excellent attendance is not just valuable, it's essential”, says Assistant Headteacher Mr Thompson. This is because excellent attendance at school is directly linked to better

exam performance, which should in turn lead to further learning opportunities, better job prospects and higher lifetime wages. As well as this, going to school helps students to develop friendships, provides exposure to cultural experiences, and helps them learn tolerance, empathy and social responsibility (See Box 1).

Lymm High has three Attendance Officers, two in main school – Paul Dooley and Leanne Mitchell – and one in the Sixth Form – Alex Lewis. The role of an attendance officer is to track student attendance, monitor the health and welfare of students, and to enforce compulsory attendance laws where necessary. “Excellent

Excellent attendance at school means:

- Amazing exam results at GCSE and A' level
- Stronger bonds with friends
- Opportunities for extracurricular activities and trips
- Character development (become a better human being!)
- Preparation for life (e.g., Life Programme)
- Good habits for college, university and work
- Rewards
- Pastoral and academic support from staff

Box 1: Why is attendance so important?



Paul Dooley and Leanne Mitchell.

attendance and punctuality play an extremely important part in helping students achieve their full potential at Lymm High School", according to Mr Dooley.

Registers are taken every lesson to monitor attendance, but the two crucial registers

that impact a student's overall attendance figure are Registration and Period 4.

So why might students not want to attend school? We asked a selection of frequent absentees and came up with a list of the responses shown in Box 2. The important message

to get across to all of our students is that all of these supposed 'reasons' for non-attendance are not valid. All students need to be in school each day, on time, unless for a legitimate reason, such as illness, family funeral or unavoidable appointment. Where possible, we ask that appointments are made after school, at weekends or during holidays.

Missing the odd hour, here or there, really adds up. A student at school only 90% of the time will miss 95 hours of teaching over the school year (*see Table 1*). In addition, did you know that when a student applies for Sixth Form, college, university or an apprenticeship, school is always asked what the student's attendance was?

- Minor ailment or illness
- Lack of morning routine at home
- Developing a habit of non-attendance
- Sibling is absent
- Feeling tired from a late night or weekend away
- Slightly 'under the weather'
- Friendship problem or bullying
- Not done homework
- Worried about a test or assessment
- Ill family member
- Having problems in a particular lesson or subject
- Avoiding social times in school
- A learning difficulty or finding reading difficult
- Thinking you deserve a day off
- Medical appointments during school day (or whole day)

Box 2: Student reasons for non-attendance.

ATTENDANCE	APPROX HOURS OF LESSONS MISSED BY END OF EACH HALF-TERM					
	HALF-TERM 1	HALF-TERM 2	HALF-TERM 3	HALF-TERM 4	HALF-TERM 5	HALF-TERM 6
95%	9 hrs	17 hrs	26 hrs	32 hrs	39 hrs	47 hrs
90%	17 hrs	35 hrs	52 hrs	64 hrs	78 hrs	95 hrs
85%	26 hrs	52 hrs	77 hrs	96 hrs	117 hrs	142 hrs
80%	34 hrs	69 hrs	103 hrs	128 hrs	156 hrs	189 hrs
75%	43 hrs	86 hrs	129 hrs	160 hrs	195 hrs	236 hrs
70%	51 hrs	104 hrs	155 hrs	192 hrs	234 hrs	284 hrs
65%	60 hrs	121 hrs	180 hrs	224 hrs	273 hrs	331 hrs
60%	68 hrs	138 hrs	206 hrs	256 hrs	312 hrs	378 hrs

Table 1. How missed lessons add up over the year.

What do we mean by excellent attendance at Lymm High School?

Excellent attendance at school means students being present 98% of the time and above.

Good attendance is 96–97.9%.

If a student's attendance drops to 90.1–95.9% then this needs to be improved. In the first instance, one of our Attendance Officers would flag the low attendance rate to the student's Head of Year who would follow up with parents.

Any student with an attendance rate of 90% or below would be a cause for concern. In these cases, parents would be invited to school to see how we can support the student to improve on their attendance rate.

Incentives and rewards to improve on attendance are already in operation and

students regularly receive sweet treats, certificates and can get entered into a raffle for prizes.

How can parents help?

We know that parents and carers want the best for their child, just as we do as a school. To ensure that they fulfil their potential and go on to rewarding further education, apprenticeships or work, please encourage them to come to school each day. Not only will they reap the benefits listed in Box 1, they will be preparing themselves to be socially responsible citizens

who turn up on time and take pride in their work.

[1] FFT Education Datalab weekly attendance tracker: 9.3% of Year 11 pupils nationally were absent in the week ending 4th March 2022.



Alex Lewis.

How should parents report a student absence?

There are three ways:

- Call 01925 755458 and press option 1.
- Email Attendance@lymmhigh.org.uk
- Via the School Gateway

BOOKBUZZ



Back in October Bookbuzz was launched to Year 7 students during lessons in the Independent Learning Centre (ILC). Now in its 10th year, Bookbuzz provides a book for all Year 7 students soon after their transition from primary to secondary school – a crucial time when attitudes towards reading are developed.

Bookbuzz is a national reading programme from Booktrust, which supports schools to develop a whole school reading culture by encouraging reading for pleasure and independent pupil choice. Students viewed the 17 books on offer this year and each chose one book to order that they would most like to own.

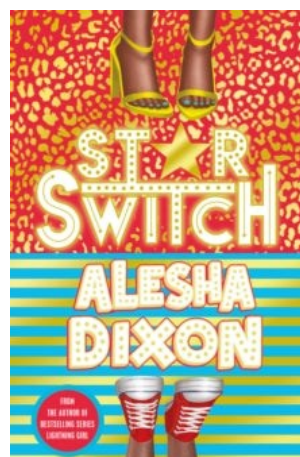
This term Year 7 classes have been back into the ILC to collect their books and they started reading them straight away in the lesson. Bookbuzz is a brilliant way of introducing new authors and

genres and stimulating conversations about books. Most importantly, students are excited about getting the books they've chosen for themselves! Pupils who finish reading their books are encouraged to return them to the ILC's 'Swap Box' where they can deposit them and choose another book to read.

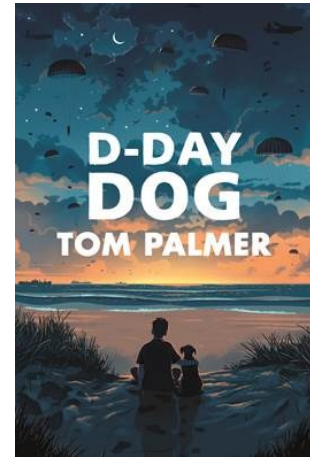
The four most requested books from Bookbuzz this year have also been purchased as Ebooks and are available to borrow from the school's collection on the Sora platform. Books can be downloaded for free onto a PC, tablet or phone. The four new resources are:

Star Switch

by Alesha Dixon



D-Day Dog by Tom Palmer

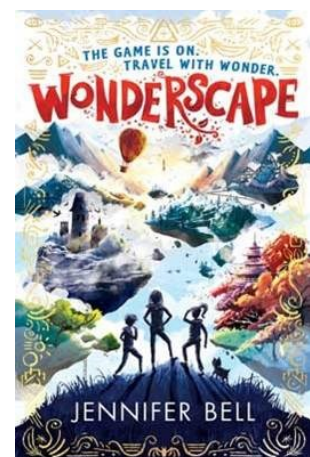


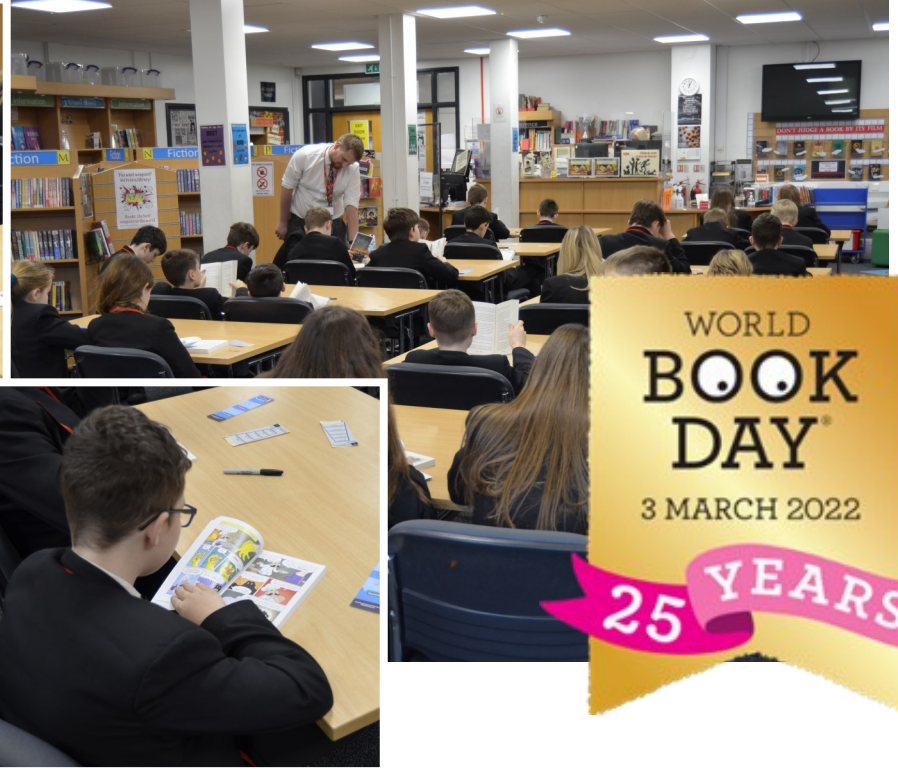
The Haunting of Aveline Jones by Phil Hickeys



Wonderscape

by Jennifer Bell





WORLD BOOK DAY

On Thursday 3rd March over 100 countries around the globe will celebrate the 25th Anniversary of World Book Day, which was founded to encourage young people to discover the pleasure of reading.

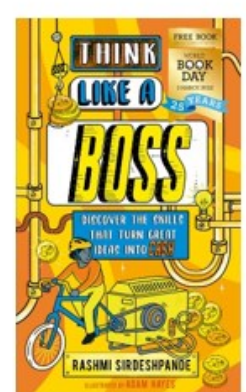
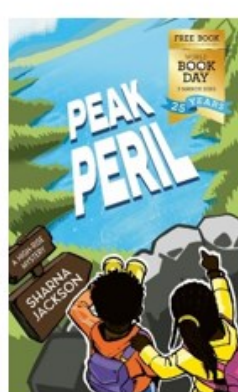
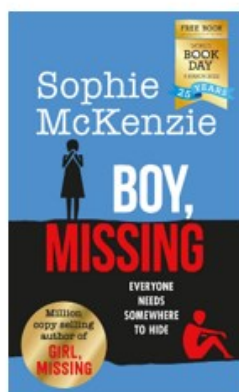
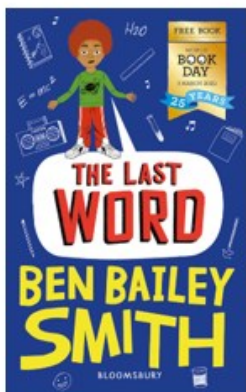
Spending just 10 minutes a day reading and sharing stories with children can make a

crucial difference to their future and lead to a lifelong habit of reading. Research shows that, 'reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a child's future success – more than their family circumstances, their parents' educational background or their income'.

World Book Day tokens will be distributed to all Year 7

students during form-time and students from other year groups can pick up a token from the ILC.

Each token can either be exchanged for one of the specially produced World Book Day books or as a £1 contribution to the price of any book or audiobook costing £2.99 or more.





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YourSchoolLottery.co.uk/play
and search for: Lymm





INTER-HALL IS BACK

The Halls were chasing, but Walton can't be caught!

Mr Skilbeck and Mr Hayes have been running 'The Chase' in the main hall as an inter-hall competition.

The week saw students from all five Halls face up against a 'Chaser' member of staff. Monday was just the beginning of the excitement as Mr Dobson just ran out of time, with one answer to go, and Arley took 56 Hall Points away. There was a great reception from the crowd eating their lunch and it continued to build up through the week.

On Tuesday, Mrs Scott lived up to her nickname of the 'Brutal Biologist' beating a fierce Dunham side with one

second left on the clock. All four chasers had made it to the final round, but unfortunately were one answer short.

Staff victories were short lived as Moreton fired back on Wednesday. Despite the 'Scouse Slayer' Mr Finnigan knocking out the first two participants, the students then wisely opted for a smaller offer and got through to the Final Chase. It was another closely run affair as the students won by one answer, showing some fierce competition between staff and students.

By Thursday, all of the technical glitches were solved and the Sixth Form team organised some brilliant lighting to raise

the atmosphere in the Hall.

Tatton tried to push leaders Arley as far as they could, but they were wary of the 'Head of Fear' Mr Scott catching them after their 'points builder'.

Tatton had a lot of home support in the crowd as huge cheers went up when each student got to the final Chase. Mr Scott looked to have the win sealed, until with one question needed he received some tough questions he could not quite answer.

The crowd were overjoyed by the Tatton success, with a huge roar erupting when the time ran out. Another day of such small margins between the student team and staff chasers.

Finally, on Friday, Walton assembled a formidable side. They built well early, picking up 68 Hall Points between three final participants.

They matched Arley's 'Final Chase' target, and the 'Mathemagican' Mr Bennett needed to be on his game to beat them.

Despite getting off to a quick start, he could not match the pace of the Walton side and eventually lost out to Walton's impressive score.

Mr Skilbeck presented the Walton team with the trophy first, before finding Miss Crowder, Head of Walton Hall, to share the success with.

It was a fantastic week chasing, and we're looking forward to many more inter-hall events through the year.

If you have any ideas for events please email Mr Hayes (jhayes@lymmhigh.org.uk) or Mr Skilbeck (lskilbeck@lymmhigh.org.uk) and they will look to try and accommodate it.

Congratulations to Walton, and thank you to all who participated and came to support.



FRISBEE GOLF EXTRAORDINAIRE



In January, Lymm High School students played frisbee golf in their first inter-hall competition of 2022.

Representatives from each Hall took part in the tournament with a number of non-players dropping by to watch and offer their support.

Frisbee Golf (or Disc Golf), is a flying disc game, with the aim being to reach the target in as few throws as possible. Played over several tees, similar to a golf course, players navigate around corners, between trees and various obstacles to reach the target before their opposition.

After a fierce contest, Year 11 student Thomas Anderson was crowned the overall winner, claiming victory for Arley.

JUGGLING ACT

Students try their hand at juggling to win Hall points.

Frisbee Golf wasn't the only inter-hall competition to take place in the last month.

Students went head-to-head to compete in a contest of skill and artistry in our inter-hall juggling competition.

The winners were as follows:

- 1st Zephan Hughes (Moreton)
- 2nd Keela Istephan (Walton)
- 3rd Zach Pomfret (Moreton)



Lymm High PTA BAND NIGHT

Saturday 14th May 2022



The
Fraudsters

7.30pm LYMM GOLF CLUB

*£25 (early bird), £30 (from 19th April) on ParentPay
includes hotpot supper.*

Dietary requirements to PTA@lymmhigh.org.uk

HAIR RAISING

Kind-hearted student
donates hair to the Little
Princess Trust.

One of our students has recently had her hair cut off by a local hairdresser for charity.

Aafrah Adams, in Year 8, had a number of inches chopped off from her locks taking its length from her waist to above her shoulders. Following her 'big chop', Aafrah has donated her hair to the Little Princess Trust, a charity which provides real hair wigs to children and young people with hair loss.

The Little Princess Trust use hair donations and fundraising monies sent to them by their amazing supporters (just like Aafrah), to manufacture and fit their real hair wigs.

Established in 2006, they have supplied over 8000 wigs to children and young people and invested circa £5 million into ground-breaking childhood cancer research.

It is a truly incredible and kind act for someone so young and a fantastic example of being a socially responsible citizen. All of us at Lymm High School could not be prouder!



HALL RUNNERS

Five members of staff ran the High Legh 10K this month to raise money for our Hall charities. Mr Starkey came first out of the group with a time of 50 minutes 51 seconds. So far, they have raised over £1000, and there's still time to donate!

The runners were:

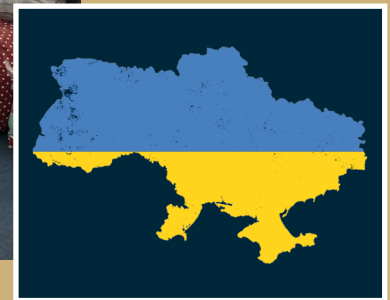
- Mr Thompson: Arley Hall ([Meningitis Research Foundation](#))
- Mr Timms: Dunham Hall ([Help for Heroes](#))
- Miss Tasker: Moreton Hall ([The Christie](#))
- Mr Hayes: Tatton Hall ([Claire House](#))
- Mr Starkey: Walton Hall ([St Rocco's Hospice](#))



HELP FOR UKRAINIAN REFUGEES

Lymm staff, students and parents started a collection this month for those caught up in the Ukraine conflict. After only one week, the staffroom was bursting at the seams with essential items, such as blankets, sanitary products, first aid kits, thermal clothing and towels.

Head of Ethos, Mr Hayes, said he was blown away by the generosity of the donors. "I can't believe how much has been collected in such a short space of time!" The challenge now is to get the vital supplies over to those most in need. Thank you to everyone who contributed.



WASTE NOT, WANT NOT

The Waste team at Lymm High are trying to reduce and/or recycle as much paper waste in school as possible. The shredded paper is collected on a regular basis for Bleakholt Animal Sanctuary in Bury where it is used for small animal bedding. We also collect newspapers, which are delivered to Lowton Hedgehog Sanctuary.



CREATIVE WRITING SUCCESS

In December, students from Miss Melia's creative writing club created some sensational and imaginative entries for a National Writing Competition, called *Twisted Tales*. The contest asked students to write a 100-word story, that flipped traditional narratives and made readers feel sympathy for characters who we would typically label as villains. The entries from all of our Lymm High School students were exceptional, and the effort that had been put into them was clear to see. The organisers (Young Writers) were particularly impressed by the originality and clarity that they saw from the entrants.



"Out of thousands of entries nationwide, I am delighted to say that four of our wonderful students have had their work

selected for National publication in April", said Miss Melia. The successful writers are:

Ellie Mead - Year 7
Mia Persoglio - Year 7
Matilda Usher – Year 8
Kaitlin Wilson - Year 9

"This is an incredible achievement that reflects their dedication to creative writing, and is certainly something to be proud of. We will be looking to run further competitions through the creative writing club later in the year, and look forward to even more writing success!"



Visual Arts Trip to London

Year 12 and 13 Fine Art, Product design, Fashion and Photography students spent a weekend in London from Friday 18th to Sunday 20th February. During their time the group of 48 visited a wide range of galleries including the V&A, the Fashion & Textiles museum, the Royal Academy of Arts, the National Gallery, Tate Britain, Tate Modern and the Saatchi Gallery. Galleries hosted an array of exhibitions and collections that covered something for everyone, ranging from Architecture models to Pre-Raphaelite paintings.

Students had tasks to complete within each gallery in order to make the most of the time in each setting. These included taking lots of photographs and recording pieces of work of the gallery itself through a series of observational drawings.

Students and staff thoroughly enjoyed exploring the different galleries as well as seeing the famous sights of London made possible by travelling around the city by coach.



HEALTHY EATING IN ACTION

On Friday 4th March our very own Catering Manager, Mr Timms, was invited to attend a local junior school.

The visit to Bradshaw Primary School in Grappenhall was to talk to pupils about healthy eating and involved a cookery demonstration.

“Mrs Buck’s Year 3 class were ace and we had lots of fun”, said Mr Timms.



AWARD-WINNING TEACHERS

Two of Lymm High’s members of staff have been shortlisted in this year’s virtual *Warrington Guardian* Education Awards.

- High School Teacher of the Year — Mrs Wagstaff
- Unsung Hero Award — Mrs Ball



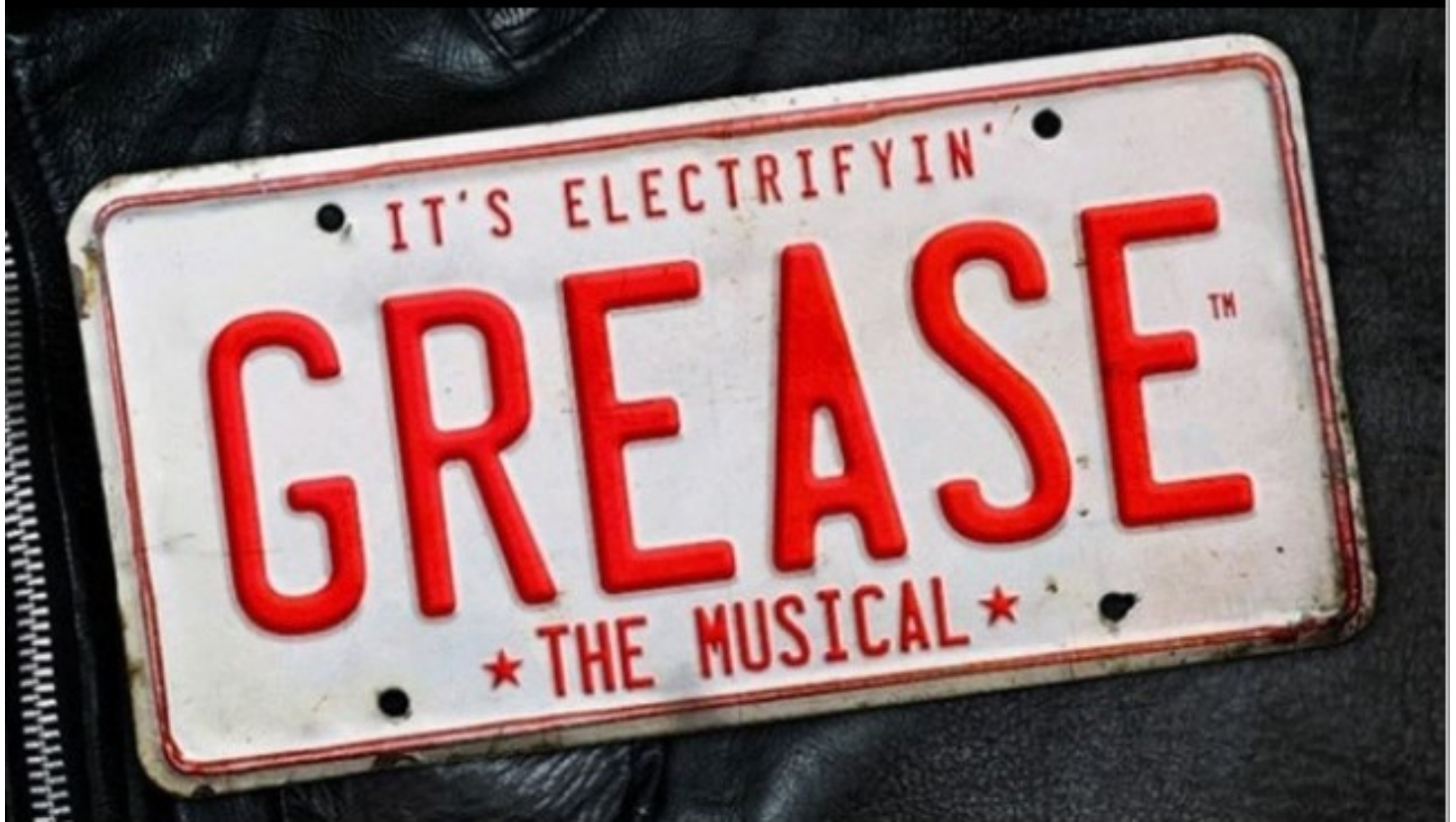
The virtual event takes place on Thursday 17th March. The ceremony begins at 7pm & you can access the live stream by [clicking here](#).

We wish Mrs Wagstaff and Mrs Ball the best of luck!



"A must see"

LYMM HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS



Tuesday 22nd March
Wednesday 23rd March
Thursday 24th March
Friday 25th March

7pm

Main Hall



Tickets now on sale from the school shop
Adults £10; Children & Concessions £5

SALE SHARKS

Lymm High have had six members of their U14's make it to the Sale Sharks Academy DPP (Developing Player Programme).

Toby Neal, Charlie Worsfold, Dan Segal, Max Ottiwell, Eifion Williams and Jamie Cope all went through an extensive trials system through November and December.

Assessment took place through live training sessions, games and skill zone sessions.

At the completion of this, a squad of around 40 was selected to represent the Cheshire Central region.

They have had their first training session as a group and will continue to do so every other Monday.

At the end of the season, they will test their skills in fixtures against other regions. It is a great achievement and they are all benefitting from high level coaching.

Mr Skilbeck, their Y9 Rugby coach this year, said "It's fantastic to see some members of our squad rewarded for their efforts this year."

"The whole squad has represented the school wonderfully and played some great rugby alongside it. Congratulations to the successful 6, it's been great getting back out training with the students again."



NETBALL SUCCESS



(l-r) Ana Green, Nell Dixon-Pybus, Ciara Bennett (Capt) and Lilly Dell.

Lymm's senior netball squad have had a fantastic season.

Lymm's senior netball squad have lost only one match in the National Cup in the last 36. The squad is Heather Evans, Nicole Nevitt, Amelia Barker, Millie Evans, Anya Grieve, Ciara Bennett (Capt), Ana Green, Nell Dixon-Pybus and Lilly Dell.

The team also went to the Cheshire County netball finals last week winning their group, beating Kings Macclesfield, Fallibroome and Alderley Edge in their group, and then beating Wilmslow in the semi-finals. We then just lost to The Grange in the final by 2 goals.

"A special well done to the four Year 13s who have represented the school brilliantly throughout their time at Lymm", said Mrs Walsh. "A great group of girls."

Well done all!



CROSS COUNTRY SUCCESS

Following the Walton Gardens cross country race, Lymm High students were selected to represent Warrington schools at the annual Cheshire Schools' cross country event. This was held at Knights Grange Sports Complex in Winsford on 5th February in very muddy conditions. Students from across all year groups were selected, including Annie Martin (pictured) who was the fifth girl from the Warrington consort for her age range. “

All of the competitors did brilliantly representing the school and Warrington, but a special

mention must go to Jack Marwood who was crowned county champion.”, said Mr Scott.

Congratulations also go to Year 8 girls and boys who won the Warrington indoor athletics competition. They will now attend the county championships on 15th March.



UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday 17th March
Year 10 Parents' Evening

Warrington Guardian
Virtual Education Awards
7pm
(see p.24)
[Click here](#) to watch live

Friday 18th March
Red Nose Day

Tuesday 22nd–25th March
Grease
(see p.25)

Wednesday 30th March
Careers Fair
Lower Hex, 4-7pm

Friday 1st April
Doughnut Day

Monday 4th–18th April
Easter holidays

Tuesday 19th April
Summer term starts

Monday 25th April
PTA Meeting
7pm

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