



LYMM
HIGH SCHOOL

FOUNDED c.1592



Afritwin,
p.4

Read about our
new partnership
with a school in
Kenya.

Kindness
candidates,
p.22

Our Wall of
Kindness is in the
process of being
updated.

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE: JANUARY 2024 · WWW.LYMMHIGH.ORG.UK



INSPIRING AUTHORS

On Thursday 25th January, the English department were delighted to welcome best-selling author Sophie Anderson into school to give a talk to Year 7 students.

Sophie wrote our Year 7 novel, *The House with Chicken Legs*, which students have been studying since October and this offered them the chance to hear first-hand from the writer.

It was a real privilege to get to hear from the author herself about what inspired her to write the novel and her journey with creative writing. Year 7 represented the school brilliantly and listened

attentively to Sophie's talk, which also included some information about how the publishing process works.

At the end of the session, students were able to ask any burning questions that they



had about the novel or becoming a writer. Sophie provided advice to aspiring authors, and gave her own opinions on the characters in *The House With Chicken Legs*.

"The students came up with some fascinating questions and clearly gained a lot of insight from the answers provided", said Miss Melia.

Students were then invited to bring their own copies of the book into school to be signed by Sophie.

"During the book signing it was wonderful to see our students sharing their love of reading with one another, as well as hearing them discuss their hopes to pursue writing as a career", said Miss Melia.



She certainly has inspired some of our students to keep following their creative writing passions, and we hope to welcome her back to Lymm at some point in the near future.



DofE TRAINING DAYS 2024

Over the last week we've had nearly 200 students undergoing DofE training across Bronze, Silver and Gold levels.

The students involved were absolutely fantastic and threw themselves into activities, gaining a great deal of knowledge and understanding about map reading, packing a rucksack, first aid and using a Trangia stove.

"Students were a real credit to both themselves and to school. The instructors commented about how well behaved and polite they were, which is always lovely to hear", said Miss Dixon.

Students should now ensure they've set their aims and activities on eDofE for their

Skill, Physical and Volunteering sections, and crucially pressed 'submit' so that we can approve them before they start. This is important because there is a very large, but set, [list of activities](#) they

can choose from. Students need to have what they've chosen checked so their efforts don't go to waste. If students have any problems with eDofE, they should see Mrs Riley at main reception.



AFRICA CALLING

We are delighted to be launching a partnership with a school in Kenya.

Social responsibility is at the heart of everything we do. We strive to develop a sense of kindness, tolerance, integrity, and empathy to shape our students into socially responsible citizens at school and in their lives beyond Lymm High.

Therefore, we are proud to announce the launch of our very own Afritwin: a long-term partnership with a school in Africa that we are incredibly lucky to now embrace as part of our own community, writes Miss Tunstall.

Our mission is to work, collaborate and grow with a school where we can make a



real change. To achieve this, our partnership has been established through the help of African Adventures: a unique travel company partnered

with over 20 schools in developing areas of Ghana, Kenya and Zanzibar. Through

careful consideration, they have skilfully matched the strengths of our school with St Trizah: a school that is still in its early stages of growth.

In a developing area of the country, St Trizah is a school in Kenya, which provides a free education and daily meals to 220 students between the ages of 3 and 17, from pre-primary to secondary level. The school was





founded in 2009 by Yuvenalis Mokua and has 15 classrooms. St Trizah used to provide an education to both day and boarding students, but after it relocated to a new plot of land, the boarding school closed, and St Trizah now operates solely as a day school.

This exciting, long-term partnership will involve a variety of events, activities and continued support all year round for many years to come. We aim to build a long-lasting connection where we learn about St Trizah and their culture, whilst fundraising to make an invaluable difference to a community across the world beyond our school walls.

Education is a powerful tool that can transform lives and communities. Unfortunately, many children in Kenya face significant barriers to accessing quality education. By fundraising for St Trizah and spreading awareness at Lymm, we can contribute to breaking down these barriers and providing opportunities for countless children to learn, grow and build better futures.

Our unique school trip to Africa will give our students the opportunity to take their learning beyond the classroom and develop new skills, whilst contributing to real change in a developing community.

For students currently in Years 10–12, a trip to visit St Trizah is running for 13 nights from 13th July 2025. This exciting opportunity will allow us to see the true impact of our fundraising, embrace the community and immerse ourselves in their culture. Whilst on the trip, students will partake in teaching English to the students, coaching sports, and building much needed classrooms and facilities. Beyond the volunteering, there are also opportunities to see the natural beauty of Kenya, learn the local dialect and take cooking classes in Kenyan cuisine.

For more information, [click here](#).

Lymm High School partners with St Trizah School!



When is it?
12th July
2025

How long for?
13 nights

**Flying from
where?**
Manchester

Who is it for?
Current year
10/11/12

MATHS MERIT

Congratulations to Year 13 Thea Benson who achieved a Certificate of Merit for her score in the first round of the British Maths Olympiad. This is a three-and-a-half-hour maths exam sat by 1675 pupils nationally.

Based on her outstanding success in the Senior Maths Challenge, Thea was put forward to take part in the British Maths Olympiad.

This is a huge achievement. Well done Thea!





BEING OARSOME

We are really proud of the cohort of students who are on the Oarsome Project.

The students undertake a weekly session throughout Year 8, developing a skill in rowing. They have experienced both indoor and outdoor rowing so far, and have also taken part in a session with a university student called Ella who is studying Sports Psychology.

The students took part in an indoor rowing competition on 24th January at Birchwood High School where they competed against all the schools in Warrington.

The results were very impressive! Rocco Wahid came 4th in his heat; Lilly Durose came 3rd in her heat; Maya Weavers came joint 2nd in her heat; and Izzy Jenkins came 3rd in her heat. Considering, there were over 30 students in every heat, our students did really well.

In addition, out of 31 schools that competed in the Year 8 girls relay, Lymm came in at 12th place.

However, the best news of the day was that Rocco came 10th out of 165 boys and has qualified to compete at the National Junior Indoor Rowing Competition in London on 1st March!

"The event was so well organised", said Miss Hayes. "The buzz around the place was



spectacular. All of the students did the school proud and conducted themselves so well", she said. "They worked as a team. They focused and competed with energy and enthusiasm."

Well done to everyone involved!



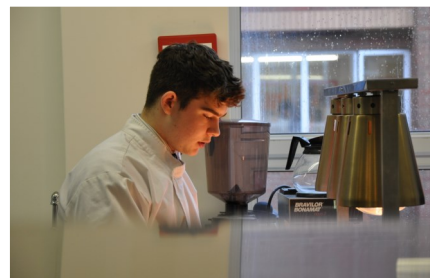
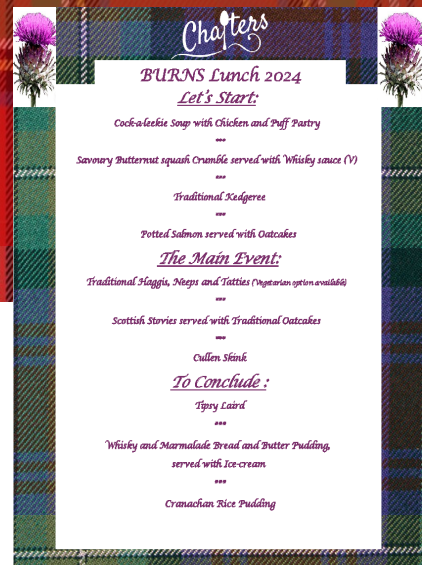
CELEBRATING BURNS

Year 12 and 13 Hospitality and Catering students did an incredible job of running the annual 'Burns Lunch' held in Chapters Restaurant on Tuesday 23rd January.

The delicious dishes they prepared and served to diners included a range of traditional Scottish delicacies, such as kedgeree, haggis with neeps and tatties, and even a whisky and marmalade bread and butter pudding with ice cream.

All students worked extremely well as a team, pulling out all of the stops to make the lunch such a great success.

A huge well done to each of them!





Huge congratulations to Ambrose Lam who was the winner of Lymm High's inaugural Chess tournament.

CHESS CHAMPION

The Year 9 student battled through several rounds to reach the grand final just before Christmas.

Both staff and students took part in the tournament, which was held at lunchtimes in the Main Hall so that all students could watch the competition unfold. The final match was between Ambrose and Jayden Chan.

Mr Soykir, who runs the Lymm High Chess Club, and organised the tournament, said: "The goal was not just

to win but to enjoy the game and create lasting memories. Before each match, students put in extra effort to practice and improve their chess moves. Ultimately, Ambrose, our chess champion emerged demonstrating skill and determination. This victory added another proud moment to our school's chess history.

"The 2023 chess tournament not only brought students together but also emphasised the importance of strategy,

resilience and friendly competition.

"Looking ahead this competition has set a positive tone for the new year. It's a reminder of the fun and camaraderie that come from engaging in friendly games and celebrating each other's successes.

"Cheers to the joy of chess and the wonderful spirit of our school community!"

Chess Club runs every lunchtime (apart from Tuesday) in A113.

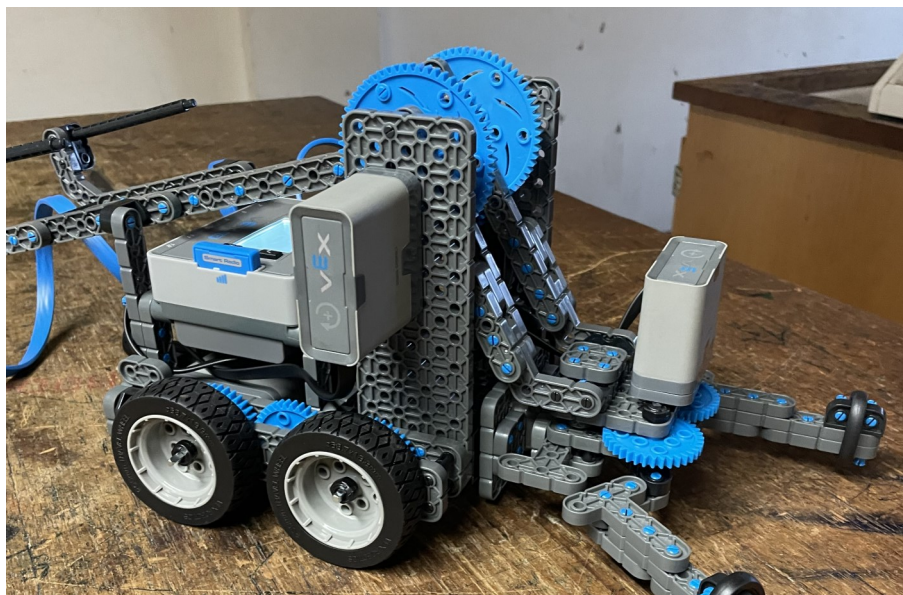
VEX ROBOTICS COMPETITION

In a thrilling display of determination and innovation, our first robotics team embarked on a trip to Liverpool for a highly competitive robotics competition.

Although the victory eluded them this time, their unwavering spirit and invaluable experience mark a significant achievement, writes Miss Farmer. The team, comprising brilliant minds from Years 8 and 9, showcased their dedication to the field of robotics throughout the event.

Their robot, named Kurt, meticulously crafted and programmed, navigated the challenges of the competition arena with precision and agility, earning admiration from both judges and fellow participants.

While the team did not clinch the top spot, their journey was filled with moments of collaboration, problem-solving and learning. They honed their technical skills and worked as a cohesive unit.



Each setback was met with resilience, transforming disappointment into opportunities for growth.

We commend our students for their outstanding efforts. Well done Lulu Horner, Jessica Wright, Evie Strangeways, Eloise Taylor, Emily Burnett, Sophie Lewis and Evie Kelly!

Although the VEX robotics

competitions are over for us this year, the new competition season starts in May across the world, and we can't wait to get started on a new robot.

Our team will be back, more determined than ever and aiming high, with hopes of reaching the world championships in Dallas, Texas.

Watch this space!

THINKING OF AN APPRENTICESHIP ?

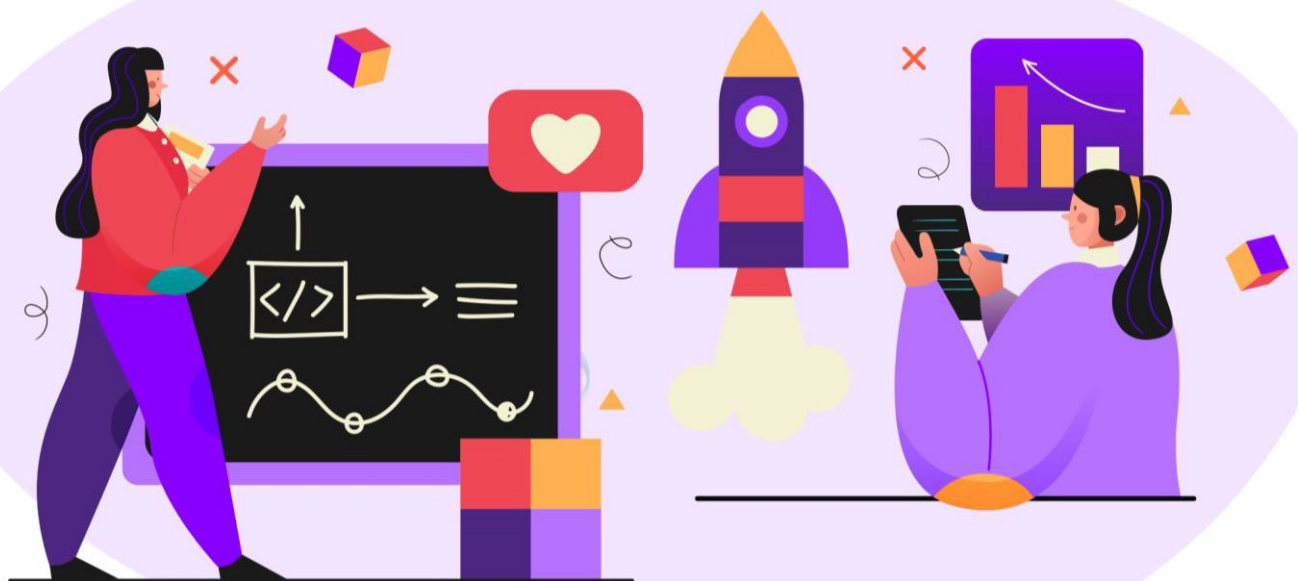
Next week is National Apprenticeship Week (5–11th February). As part of our Careers education, each Year will have an assembly from a different employer to outline what apprenticeships are, and Form time sessions will focus on the different levels of apprenticeships and where to find them. [Click here](#) for further information.



SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL PLAY OUR LOTTERY



- Tickets cost just £1 a week
- The easy way to help us raise funds
- Local cash prizes every week



PLAY NOW



GambleAware



ENTERPRISING STUDENTS

During the last half term KS3 business and enterprise students researched and gathered ideas for products to sell at their Christmas Market.

The initial task was to produce a business plan; this had to be handed to Mrs Worrall or Miss Peacock where it could be checked and discussed with the group. If the business plan was agreed the pupils were given a budget of £10. They had to re-search and source their materials within this budget and if they needed to borrow more they had to present to the staff why they needed an additional loan. To reduce the risk of making a loss students had to produce a financial forecast that outlined their total cash outflow and predicted cash inflow; to do this they had to complete market research with their peers.

Students have spent a lot of their own time gathering their materials and have worked hard to put their products together. They have also designed and created their marketing



posters which have been shown on the school bulletin.

B210 has been a hive of activity every Monday lunchtime and Mrs Worrall and Miss Peacock are incredibly proud of the hard work and resilience that the pupils have shown over the last term.

“The children were amazing and the items they had made just looked fantastic”, said Mrs Worrall.

“In total, they have made around £400 profit which is just amazing! They have all put in so much hard work and lots of their own time outside of school to ensure they have the best product possible; I am so proud of their effort.”





Years 7–9 Winner Maggie Clair (8AL) with her front of the parade photograph. Maggie wins a smart phone camera lens kit.

FESTIVE PHOTOS

The Lymm Dickensian Christmas photography competition challenged students from all year groups to photograph the event on Saturday 9th December capturing ‘Christmas spirit in Lymm’.

The Lymm Dickensian team spoke highly of Lymm High School’s students who arrived at the event, cameras at the ready on the morning.

Years 10–13 Winner Novi Ma (12MH) with her striking image of Morris Dancers. Novi wins a smart phone camera lens kit.



They were very impressed at the high standard of photographic entries they received following the event and, after much deliberation, the judges decided on these worthy winners.

A huge congratulations to these students and a well done to all of those who took part in the competition.

COMMENDED ENTRIES



Ned Martin (8TL)



Ben Shaw (8TL)



Anthony Nicolaou (8TL)

HIGHLY COMMENDED ENTRIES



Martha Roberts (7TL)

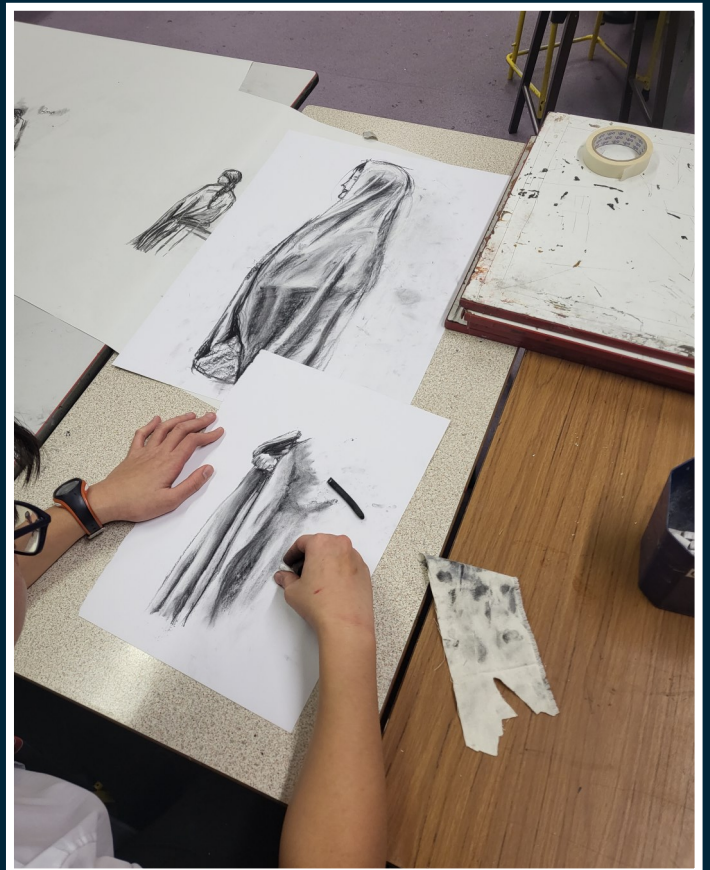


Abigail Liput (7TH)

LIFE DRAWING WORKSHOP

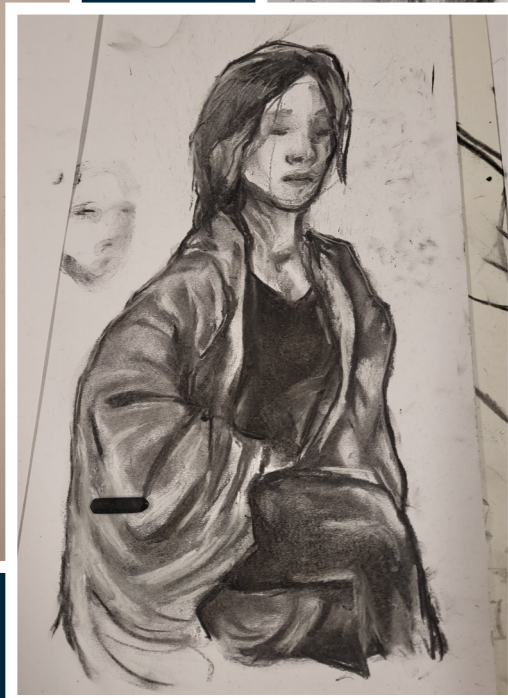
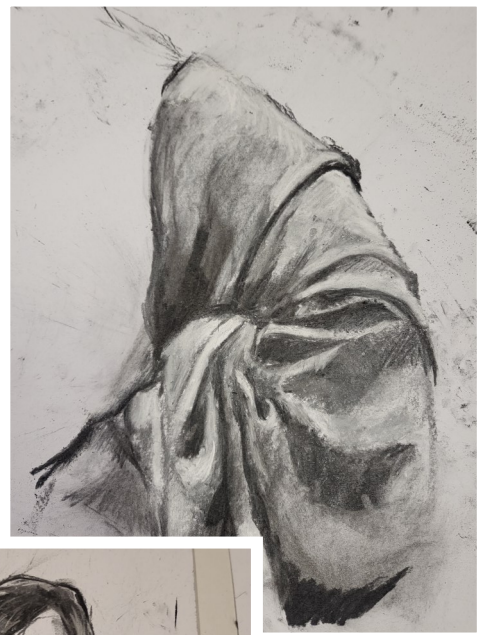
On Tuesday 12th December, the Visual Arts department welcomed artist Brian Raymond from Creative Art Courses Manchester into Lymm High to run an after-school life drawing workshop.

The workshop focussed on observing the way that fabric drapes over the human body. The artist gave students great insight into the different ways that fabric drapes and how, with the careful application of tone, this draping can be represented through drawing.



The 2-hour workshop was a great challenge for the GCSE and A' level students who attended. Their levels of concentration whilst completing each of their 10–15-minute drawings were very impressive. They used only a stick of charcoal and a piece of fabric to blend, which for some students was a brand new material and way of working.

Miss Simms said: "All students who attended the life drawing workshop from Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 produced some amazing observational drawings. All students thoroughly made the most of the time that they had working with a practising artist from outside of the school environment. They asked questions and showed keen interest in his knowledge and experiences."





The 5–11th February is Children's Mental Health Week, writes Miss Newton.

This is an event celebrated across the country to raise awareness of children's mental health and remind young people that they are not alone. The event is organised by the charity Place2Be, and this year's theme is 'My Voice Matters'.

The theme this year is designed to empower children and young people to express themselves and feel like their voices are heard and can make a difference. Young people who believe this have a greater sense of community and self-esteem.

At Lymm High School we always aim to empower young people to use their voices and this shapes every aspect of our school community.

This Children's Mental Health Week to celebrate and raise awareness within our school community we will be sharing an assembly across all year groups that explains

what this week is all about and where to access help and support if needed.

Our wonderful Wellbeing Champions decided that in light of this year's theme they wanted to share ways in which you can use your voice in a positive way. Examples include being kind to others and sharing self-care strategies



that can help to look after your mental health and wellbeing.

If you are struggling with your mental health, or know someone who is, we encourage you to reach out – use your voice and remember that your voice is important. Try to speak to someone around you, at school or at a local agency who may be able to help you further. Visit Student Services in school for one of our 'Wellbeing bookmarks' which contain a list of support lines and strategies to help you.

Whoever you are and whatever background you come from all young people should remember that their voice truly matters.

FREDDO FRIDAY!

As part of our commitment to recognise the brilliant achievements of our students we have launched 'Freddo Friday'.

The top six 'Star Students' in each Year group will be identified and rewarded with a praise postcard and Freddo to spread some Friday joy! Well done to our first winner: Abigail Cooke!



THE 5•4•3•2•1 COPING TECHNIQUES

5 THINGS YOU CAN
SEE
AROUND YOU.

4 THINGS YOU CAN
TOUCH
AROUND YOU.

3 THINGS YOU CAN
HEAR
AROUND YOU.

2 THINGS YOU CAN
SMELL
AROUND YOU.

1 THINGS YOU CAN
TASTE
AROUND YOU.

**EASE YOUR STATE OF MIND
IN STRESSFUL MOMENTS**

MY VOICE MATTERS

10 WAYS TO LOOK AFTER YOUR MENTAL HEALTH

Here are some brilliant tips from young people just like you on how you can look after your mental health.

Place2Be's
**CHILDREN'S
MENTAL HEALTH
WEEK**



- ① Don't keep it all to yourself and spend too much time in your own head. This can sometimes make it keep piling up, and make you feel worse.
- ② Talk to someone you trust and feel comfortable with – a teacher, parent, sibling, cousin, friend... if you can't think of anyone and need to talk, try talking to someone like Shout by texting SHOUT to 85258 for free.
- ③ Write your thoughts and feelings down.
- ④ Keep in contact with people, don't isolate yourself.
- ⑤ Don't dismiss your feelings because you think they aren't valid. Everything you feel is valid and important to you.

- ⑥ Focus on the good parts of your life and doing what you love, rather than the negative.
- ⑦ If you feel like harming yourself then tell someone you trust and distract yourself in the meanwhile.
- ⑧ Do something you enjoy to help you relax and have a break – watch a film, play a game, watch your favourite YouTuber, listen to music.
- ⑨ Be your own best friend because at the end of the day, you're stuck with you – so look after yourself!
- ⑩ Remember that you're not alone, even if it sometimes feels like you are.

*With thanks to students at Stewards Academy and Ark Globe Academy



ASK FOR HELP

Let your family, friends, and teachers know if you are struggling so that they can support you.

If you're feeling overwhelmed and need to talk:

- Text P2B to 85258 for free to speak to Shout
- Call 0800 1111 to speak to Childline, or visit
- [childline.org.uk](https://www.childline.org.uk) for their free online chat
- Visit place2be.org.uk/help for more advice

CHILDRENSMENTALHEALTHWEEK.ORG.UK

It's all About STEM

Our STEM day on Tuesday 23rd January was an engaging experience as Newcastle University conducted two insightful workshops for our Year 8 and 9 students, writes Miss Farmer.



step into the shoes of NHS staff,
immersing themselves in a 24-hour
scenario in A&E.

Our students' eagerness to participate and answer questions reflected an exceptional understanding of the challenges faced by healthcare professionals. Overall, it was an enriching day that fostered practical knowledge and ignited a passion for STEM fields among our students.

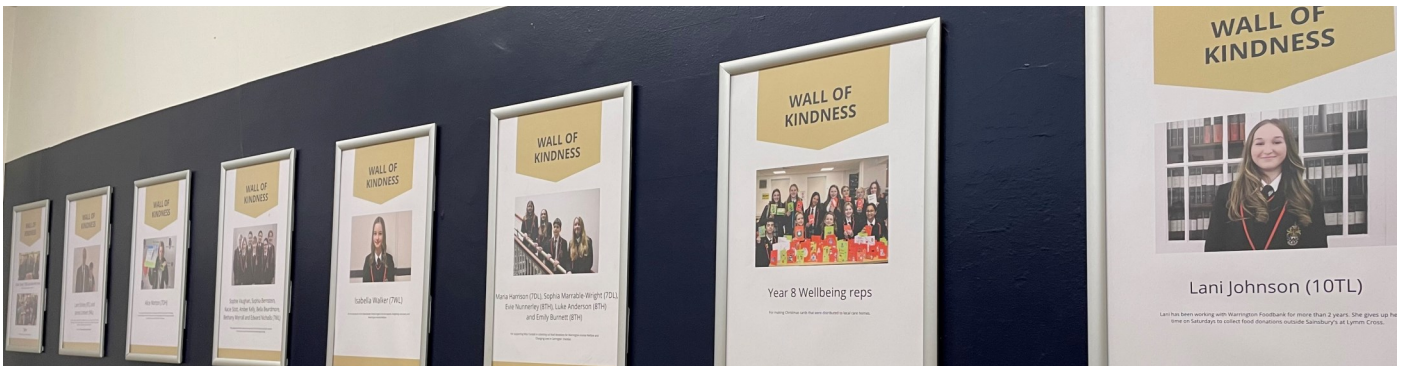
We would like to thank Elayna and the rest of the team from Newcastle STEM Outreach. We can't wait to have you back again.



In the first workshop, students delved into the pharmaceutical industry, gaining hands-on experience by making their own ibuprofen gel.

The second workshop provided a unique opportunity for students to





KINDNESS WALL

Following Kindness Week last term, we started collecting nominations for this year's Wall of Kindness. Here are the first set of worthy winners.



- **Ella Donnelly (8AH)** has been accepted to stand in the next Member of Youth Parliament election for Warrington. She is also heavily involved in a traffic campaign aiming to improve safety for students walking to and from school.
- **Oscar (9AL) and Sebastian Spink (9WL)** are constantly fundraising for Muscular Dystrophy UK. So far the twins have raised over £41,000 for the charity through various means including bake sales, the Superhero Step Challenge,





a balloon race, garden laps and online comedy bingo. They were recently honoured with radio station Cheshire Mix 56's Determinations Award.

- **Robbie Allison** (11AL) has been nominated because of his generosity with our shoe box and foodbank appeals.
- Form **9TL** has been nominated for collecting and giving the most shoe boxes for our Christmas campaign. Within 9TL, Mrs Worrall said: "**Sienna [Taylor]** is just lovely, thoughtful and kind. If I ask for volunteers to help with something she is the first to offer. If we don't have enough volunteers for things such as sports day, she will always offer to do more than one sport. She worries about others when they are upset and goes out of her way to help people. She is the epitome of Social Responsibility."
- Lymm High has been awarded an International Eco-Schools Award for excellence in improving environmental learning and performance. This international accreditation recognises the amazing work Year 13 **Jonny Wilson** and the **Eco-Committee** have done in making Lymm High more environmentally friendly and raising eco-awareness in fellow students.
- The **Wellbeing reps** have done a fantastic job at raising awareness of mental health and spreading positivity within our local community. This includes the Hello Yellow campaign, 'Wear pink for peace' day, and making Christmas cards for local care homes.
- In the **Charity Cheeseboard project**, Harry Norton, Lucy Jolley, Alana Bottomley, Libby Edwardson and Theo Hallam Issacs collaborated on an entrepreneurial project with our DT department. From market research and design, right through to managing orders and delivery, these students did a wonderful job and raised funds for their chosen charity. See also p.26



ONLINE SAFETY

We are thrilled to announce that our school has once again achieved Cyber Essentials Certification for the third consecutive year!

“This accomplishment underscores Lymm High’s unwavering commitment to maintaining a secure digital environment for both students and staff”, said Head of ICT Services, Mr Waslin.

The certification reflects our proactive measures in safeguarding sensitive information, ensuring a safe online learning and working experience for everyone. We take pride in being at the forefront of cyber security, providing a robust foundation for a secure educational ecosystem.

PROGRAMMING PROWESS

In a recent excursion to Legoland, 15 Year 7 computing students immersed themselves in a hands-on programming/robotics workshop, combining creativity, teamwork and coding skills.

The day commenced with the construction of Lego vehicles, showcasing the students' imaginative prowess.

Guided by Legoland's instructors, they seamlessly transitioned to the programming phase, breathing life into their creations with the coding knowledge acquired in the classroom.

The highlight was a riveting racing competition, where the programmed vehicles zoomed across the floor in a bid to win first place.

Among the talented participants, Franky Rebelo emerged as the victor, showcasing exceptional programming skills and determination.

This Legoland trip transcended traditional excursions, offering a dynamic fusion of education and entertainment.

“Congratulations to all participants and a special acknowledgment to Franky Rebelo for exemplifying the coding proficiency of our Year 7 computing students”, said Miss Peacock. “This experience has paved the way for future explorations in the exciting world of programming and robotics.”



Worried about how you're feeling?



**Visit youngminds.org.uk for
information on getting the support
you need and practical tips from
young people just like you.**

YOUNGmINDS



BOARD MEMBERS

In an entrepreneurial effort, students have been offering engraved chopping boards for sale to raise funds for charity.

The personalised wooden boards were sold to staff members in advance of the Christmas holidays as ideal family presents. They could feature the family, or an individual's, name and be used as cheeseboards, snack trays or chopping boards.

All boards were designed and cut by our DT department on its laser cutter. Those destined to be cheeseboards were then packaged with cheese, crackers and chutney handmade by our Food Tech department.

Students ran the whole process, helping to manage the orders, distribute proofs and deliver the boards. Over £300 was raised for Alder Hey's Sunflower House. See also p.23



TELL US!

Be socially responsible and **TELL US** if you see people behaving inappropriately on the school bus.

TELL US: This is a **CONFIDENTIAL** way to help **YOU** or a **FRIEND** or **SOMEONE** access support.

AWESOME!

BE SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE AND TELL US IF YOU SEE ANY BULLYING



Be socially responsible and **TELL US** if you witness anyone being unkind

BOOM!



TRUST US, DON'T KEEP IT TO YOURSELF - TELL US!



HEADING FOR THE CUP

Our Year 7 boys football team have performed amazingly this year and found themselves in the last 32 of the National Cup from nearly 700 teams.

A parent of the boys wanted to help support the school and sponsored the team so they could have a brand new strip ready for their fixture after the Christmas break.

“With the boys enjoying the festive period, a lot of effort was put in place by Alliance Investment and everyone

else involved to get the kit designed and sent out ready for their return”, said Mr Powell.

On their return to school, the Lymm High team played Buxton Community School on Thursday 11th January and magnificently won 5-0 wearing the new shirts and looking amazing.

A huge thank you to Mr Agamian of Alliance Investment for supporting the school and the team.

Round 7 awaits with the winners of St Margarets Academy and Calday Grange coming to Oughtington Lane.

Best of luck boys!

PRIMARY ATHLETICS



On the 10th January we held our annual Primary Athletics competition.

Our local primary schools were in attendance and our Level 2 Sports Leaders organised, managed and helped to run the event as part of their Sports Leadership Award. It was a fantastic event with over 100 primary school pupils in attendance.

“A massive well done to the Sports Leaders involved in the event”, said Mrs Slater. “Within their award they are required to organise a sporting event.”

We will be recruiting some new Sports Leaders for the Level 1 Sports Leadership Award next term. This opportunity is available to any students who are in Year 8 and above.

If you are interested, please come and speak to Mrs Slater in PE.



CUP WINNER

Henry Phillpotts has been playing basketball for Manchester Magic's basketball team since Year 7.



The Magic team currently competes in both the National Cup and League. The commitment to compete at this level sees the team carrying out several intense training sessions during the week and also travelling around the country, from the south coast to Edinburgh, to play games throughout the season.

Watched by a stadium full of supporters and streamed live by film crews on the 20th January, Henry and his team played in the final against a team from Bristol, winning the title of National Cup Under 16 Champions. A terrific achievement! Well done Henry!



UPCOMING DATES

Friday 2nd February
PTA Quiz

Thursday 8th February
Year 8
Parents' Evening

Monday 12th to Friday 16th February
Half-term break

Thursday 22nd February
Year 9
Parents' Evening

w/c Monday 26th February
Year 11 Core Mocks

w/c Monday 4th March
Year 13 Mock exams

Thursday 7th March
Year 12
Parents' Evening

Friday 8th March
Year 9
Choices deadline

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Social Media
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