



LYMM
HIGH SCHOOL

FOUNDED c.1592



Living History,
p.16

Staff and students
learnt about
Oughtrington Hall
through the ages.

**Kindness
candidates,**
p.20

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

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE: JANUARY 2025 · WWW.LYMMHIGH.ORG.UK



DISCOVERING DATA

Chester Zoo was the ideal setting for Year 8 students to explore data collection.

On a recent trip to Chester Zoo, 30 Year 8 students, accompanied by Mrs Binks and Mrs Peacock,

had the opportunity to combine learning with adventure as they undertook a data collection activity. The

visit was designed to help students gather primary data, which they will later use in their spreadsheet unit.

SCHOOL NEWS

Chester Zoo is home to a diverse range of animals, including elephants, giraffes, lions and rhinos. A particular highlight of the day was watching the tigers energetically chasing each other around their enclosure. Meanwhile, the penguins delighted students by leaping into the water and showing off their impressive swimming skills, with some students even getting splashed in the process.

However, not all areas of the zoo were as well received. The bat cave, with its dark and enclosed space, was not a favourite among the students, with many finding



the experience a little too eerie for their liking.

Throughout the day, students were tasked with collecting data on the number of animals in different enclosures, their habitats, physical

features and observed behaviours. This hands-on experience provided an engaging way to understand the importance of primary data collection and how it can be applied in future lessons. The Year 8 cohort will use this data in their spreadsheet unit, helping them develop their analytical and data management skills. Additionally, this links directly to their core unit on digital literacy in computing, reinforcing key skills such as data organisation, critical analysis and effective use of digital tools.

The trip was a great success, offering an exciting and interactive way to bring classroom learning to life while exploring the wonders of the animal kingdom.



RA

Call for entries

An exciting opportunity for students aged 4–18, who are living and studying in the UK, to exhibit their artwork on site or online at the Royal Academy of Arts.

Open for submissions

6 January – 5 March 2025

Find out more and enter

roy.ac/youngartists

#RAYoungArtists

Young Artists' Summer Show

2025

See also p.9

Royal
Academy
of Arts

Made possible by Robin Hambro

YEAR OF THE SNAKE

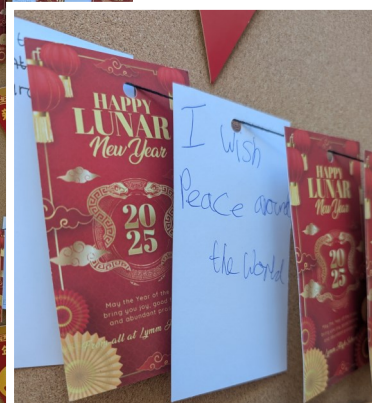
Chinese New Year is a time of celebration and renewal, marking the start of the lunar calendar year.



It has been celebrated for over 4000 years, with traditions focused on family, fortune, and the hope for prosperity. Each year, the Chinese zodiac is represented by an animal, and the Year of the Snake symbolises wisdom, intuition and transformation, encouraging reflection and careful planning for the year ahead.



Our installation in the school Atrium is a collaboration between the Modern Foreign Languages and Visual Arts departments. It draws inspiration from the traditional Chinese wishing tree, where people hang their wishes for the coming year. We have incorporated lengths of red and gold-painted willow branches, which represent good fortune and wealth. Red is believed to ward off evil spirits and bring luck, while gold symbolises prosperity and success. Along with the Chinese money wallets, lanterns and red ribbons, the display brings together a beautiful and meaningful expression of these traditions.



Students from Years 7, 8 and 9 have participated by writing their wishes for the New Year on wishing tags, which are included in the display, allowing everyone to contribute their hopes for the year ahead.

Students have been enjoying a wealth of activities to celebrate the Year of the Snake, which began on Wednesday 29th January. Various workshops are taking place, including Chinese calligraphy and paper folding.

Winnie from the Manchester Chinese Centre came and delivered the calligraphy workshop on Thursday 30th January. Students were shown which strokes were required to form the Chinese characters.



“It was very relaxing and mindful”, said Mrs Tasker. “The students did an incredible job.”

蛇年吉祥



MAHJONG CLUB

Lymm High's Mahjong Club is a fantastic opportunity for students to engage in a fun and strategic game that encourages critical thinking, teamwork and cultural exploration. Each week, under the expert tutelage of Mr Pickford, students gather to learn the rules, improve their skills and enjoy friendly competition.

Mahjong, a traditional Chinese game, combines elements of skill, strategy and luck, making it a perfect blend of fun and challenge. Many of our students who attend Mahjong Club have learned Mahjong from scratch and are now becoming Mahjong Masters!





INTER-HALL DARTS WINNER

Huge congratulations to Year 11 Will Chandler who defeated Mr Hampton and Mr Pickles to win the Staff and Seniors Inter-Hall Darts trophy. It was a tremendous game!

CYBER SECURITY AWARD



Lymm High is celebrating its recognition as a Bronze Cyber First school.

The application for Cyber First recognition involved a rigorous process, which was spearheaded by Mrs Binks, Head of Computer Science and IT. Mrs Binks needed collaboration from lots of different departments across the school to demonstrate the ways we at Lymm promote, report and embed cyber safety into our lessons, Life Programme and the wider community.

The award means we have shown evidence of aspirational goals to deliver good cyber security education. We will hold this award for 18 months at which point we can apply to Silver or re-apply for the Bronze award.

TALENT OF TOMORROW

The Graduate Fashion Foundation invites students to design a full outfit, following the theme 'Imagining Tomorrow' for the chance to attend Graduate Fashion Week 2025 and see the designed piece come to life! The competition is open to all students studying Textiles, Art or a relevant design subject between the ages of 11–18. There will be three winners across the three age categories: Years 7–9, Years 10–11 and Years 12–13.

The deadline for entries is **Friday 21st March**. For further information, [click here](#).



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Helpful articles



Community Support



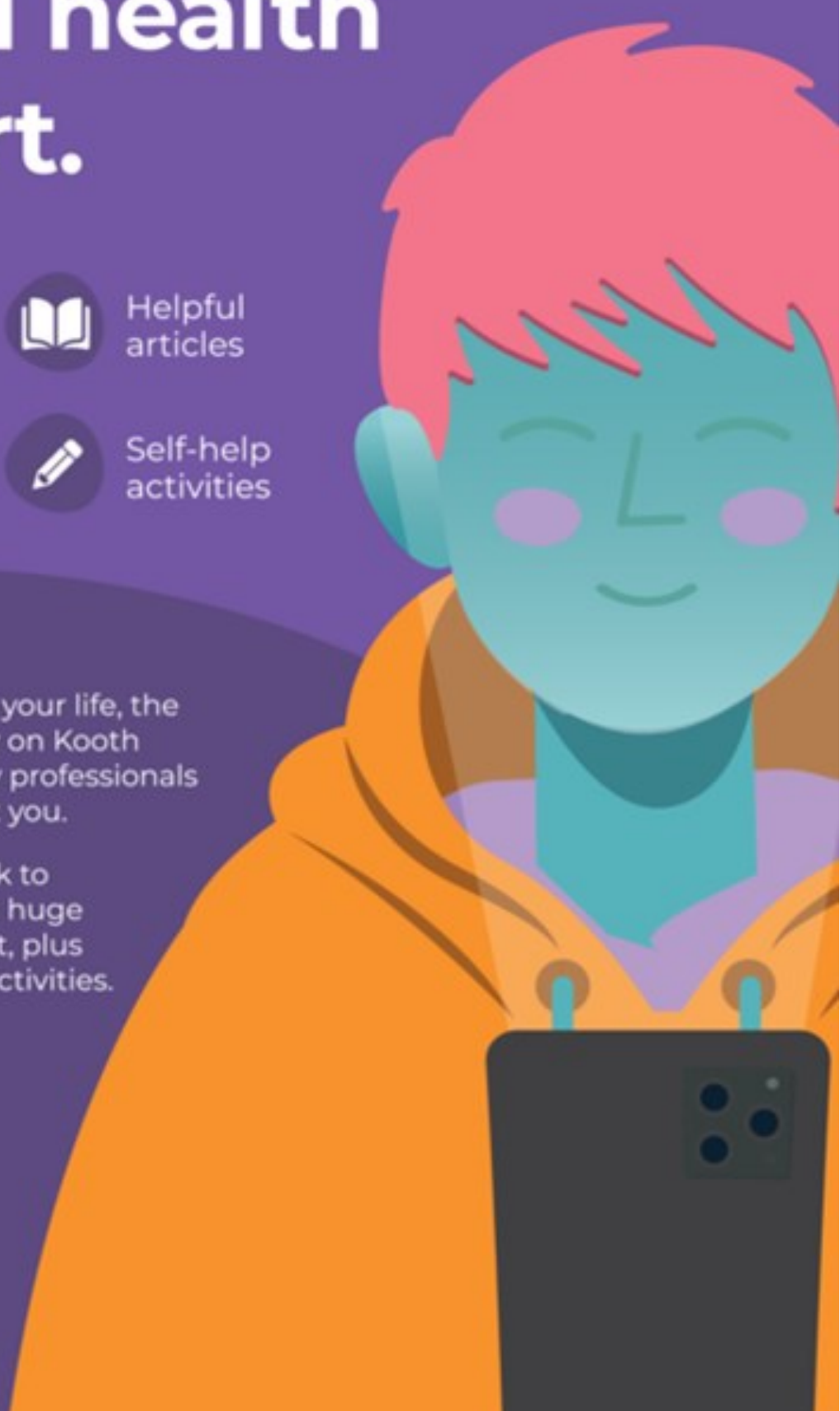
Self-help activities

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VIDEO GRILLED THE RADIO STARS

Students were recently interviewed by *ITV News Granada Reports* in their Cheshire's Mix56 studios.

Following last year's nomination for an ARIAS National Radio Award from The Radio Academy, the TV reporter was keen to know how the award nomination had impacted the *Kids Live at 5* team. Elizabeth Nelson, Monty Openshaw, Reuben Roberts and Oscar Wilkinson have been involved in presenting weekly on *Kids Live at 5* for the past 4 years. They each spoke to *Granada Reports* about their contributions, and how being involved in the show has benefited them.

The programme's focus is to inspire, educate, entertain and involve local children with exciting topics and themes. In addition to being available online and on digital radio, the show

is now played within local schools and Warrington Hospital.

The reporter was interested to hear how the show provided a safe space for any child to take part, and how it had helped the team in areas such as confidence, speech and their mental health.

Year 13 Elizabeth has presented the show since it started in April 2020. Year 11 Reuben hosts a weekly sports report. Year 8 Monty provides weekly theme content and regular interviews. The youngest member of the Lymm High cohort, Year 7 Oscar Wilkinson, presents the weekly space update.

The *ITV News Granada Reports* show will be aired in early February.

Kids Live at 5 airs every Sunday at 5pm. If you would like to find out more about the show or take part, [click here](#). Alternatively, you can email the team on kids@mix56.co.uk.



ROYAL ACADEMY SUMMER SHOW

The Royal Academy is a highly prestigious art gallery, which runs an annual competition for students. There is no theme and pieces to submit may include drawing, painting, printing, photography, sculpture, textile, fashion, animation or even video!

Entries can be made [here](#) or with the help of Miss Simms (technician). The deadline is Wednesday 5th March. Artworks submitted are judged by a panel of artists and

arts professionals, with selected artworks displayed online and on-site at the Royal Academy of Arts, which is a fantastic opportunity!

“We have had students selected in previous years to be displayed online or in the Royal Academy of Arts itself, and it would be fantastic to have more Lymm High School students chosen for this year’s competition!”, said Miss Simms.





Year 11 students had the opportunity to attend an insightful workshop led by Police Constable Stu Campion, a member of Cheshire Police's Cyber Crime Team.

As the force's Cyber Crime Prevent Officer, PC Campion works with young people to raise awareness of cyber security, the legal implications of online behaviour, and the importance of making responsible choices in the digital world.

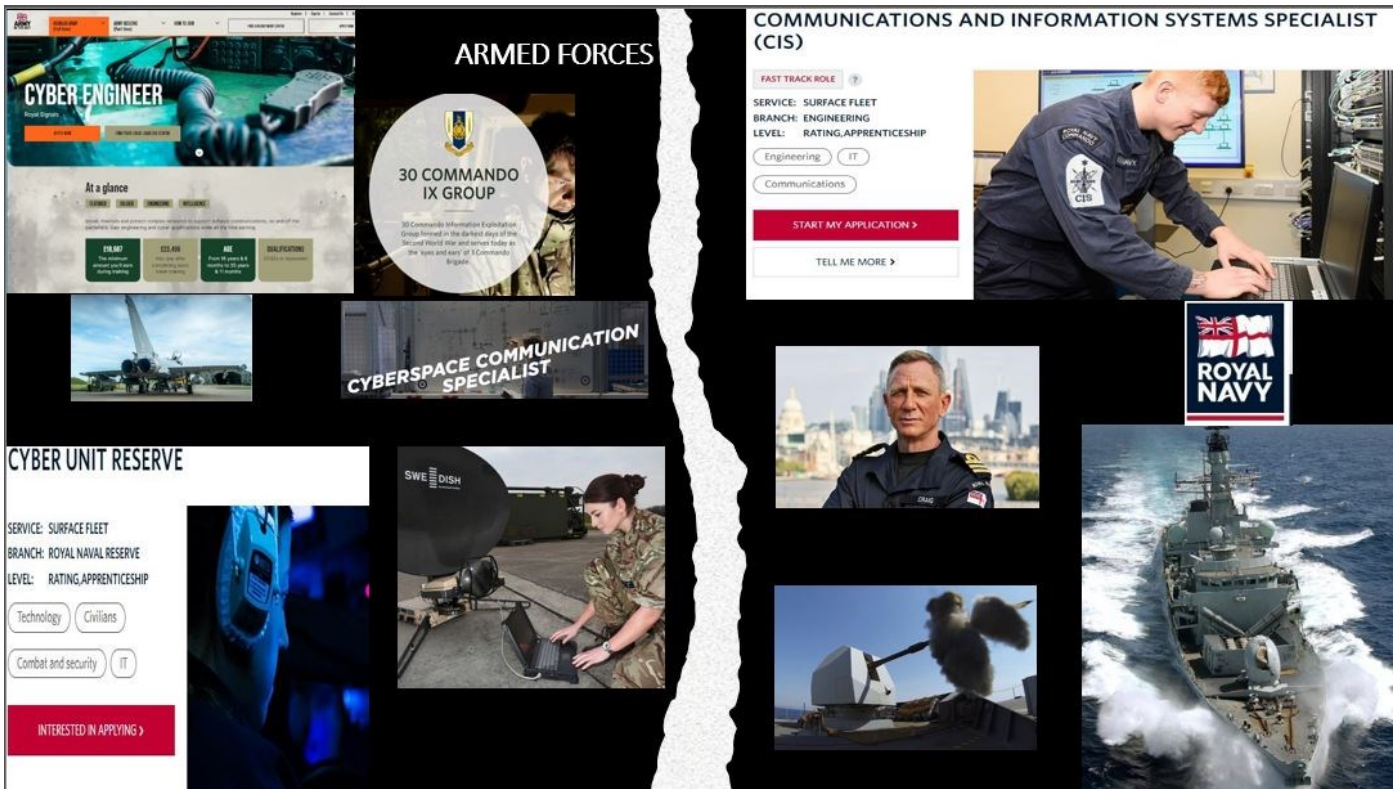
The session, part of the *Cyber Choices* programme run by Cheshire Police, focused on two key pieces of legislation: the Computer Misuse Act 1990 and the Online Safety Act 2023. Students learned how these laws aim to protect individuals and businesses from cyber crime,

while also helping those with an interest in IT, programming, and ethical hacking to understand the boundaries of legal and ethical behaviour.

A highlight of the workshop was PC Campion's demonstration of how cyber crime

investigations work. He explained how officers trace online activity, track offenders and record evidence, giving students a fascinating behind-the-scenes look at the digital forensics process. To bring the process to life, stu-





dents watched a real video of Cheshire Police officers searching a suspect's home. The footage showed how evidence – such as computers and smartphones – is carefully collected, logged and analysed to build a strong case.

The workshop tied directly into the school's GCSE Computer Science and IT courses, where students develop programming, problem-solving and digital literacy skills. PC Campion showed how these skills could lead to exciting careers in cybersecurity, ethical hacking or digital investigations.

Students were captivated by the real-world examples and the chance to see how their classroom learning applies to protecting people from cyber threats. The session also stressed the importance of using their skills responsibly, with PC Campion highlighting the growing need for ethical hackers and cybersecurity experts in today's world.

PC Campion said, "It was a pleasure to spend time with such well behaved students, they

are a credit to the school."

The workshop not only deepened students' understanding of the digital world, it also inspired them to think about how they can use their skills to make a positive difference in the future.

CYBER CHOICES

HACKING IT LEGAL

- For a list of fun and challenging activities online to legally test and develop your cyber skills, [click here](#).
- For further information on the Cyber Choices programme, [click here](#).



The next generation of Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) explorers stepped up to the plate to embrace their new challenge.

Students from Years 9, 10 and 12 who have signed up for their Bronze, Silver and Gold awards braved the January storms to take their first expedition steps for later this year.

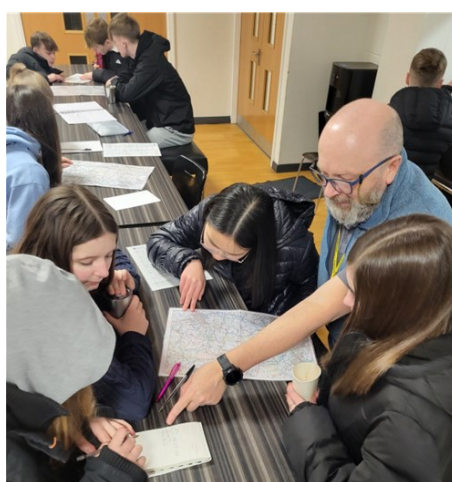
The students threw themselves into activities, gaining a great deal of knowledge and understanding about

map reading, packing a rucksack, first aid and using a Trangia stove.

Students 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 Mr Greenwood in the Head of Year office.





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work out for you?

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things triggering?

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ROWERS WOW WITH POSITIVE PERFORMANCES

Our team of Year 8 rowers made waves in a recent indoor rowing competition at Birchwood High School.

Out of 27 schools competing from Warrington and Northwich, Lymm High School's Krzysztof Kraska achieved first place out of all the boys gaining a gold medal.

A similar number of schools from Merseyside competed in the afternoon and Krzysztof was 3rd overall out of both competitions, which is an amazing accomplishment.

Krzysztof was asked what the win meant to him. He said, "I feel really proud. I didn't think I could be that good at something. It's been so good learning a new skill. I realise now it is all about your mentality, whatever you are doing and you just never know what



you can achieve if you stay positive."

Lymm had further success in the Year 8 relays. We achieved 2nd place in both the boys and girls relays making us the only school in the whole competition to win medals in both the boys and girls categories. An amazing achievement!

Miss Hayes and Miss McMullen are so proud of the crew. "They have been respectful, driven and committed throughout and they totally deserved it!", said Miss Hayes.



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SCHOOL
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UNRAVELLING LYMM HIGH HISTORY

On Wednesday 15th January, we had the privilege of hosting local historian Roger Hannam, who recently published his book, *Oughtrington Hall and its People*.

Roger led two insightful events, offering students and staff a unique opportunity to explore the rich history of Oughtrington Hall, which has ties to both the local community and global events.

During Period 5, Roger held a special presentation and workshop for our Year 9 Scholars. He asked students to imagine themselves in different historical periods of the Hall's long history, bringing the past to life in an interactive and engaging way using the style of David Olusoga's *'A House Through Time'*. With the help of a metaphorical time machine, Roger transported the group first to the early 1800s, when Oughtrington Hall was owned by Trafford Trafford and his family. Trafford had to change his surname from Leigh (his mother's family name) in order to inherit the estate. The Leigh family were Liverpool merchants who had made their money through the slave trade. Trafford also had a major role to play in the Peterloo Massacre.

The journey continued to 1871 when Oughtrington Hall was purchased by the Dewhurst family who ran a successful cotton business. Gerard Dewhurst acted as Lord of Manor to

the tenants on the land and was a local magistrate. The family built St Peter's Church in 1872, which we still use for school Christmas assemblies and events today. The estate was later bought by the Lever brothers who were soap manufacturers. They were mainly interested in purchasing the land for the salt so did not live in the Hall.

Roger then took students to 1915 when Oughtrington Hall served as a refuge for Belgian families fleeing the German invasion during World War I. Henry Ford, the famous US car manufacturer and businessman, had wanted to help the war effort but was not allowed to do so due to American neutrality. His agent, Percival Perry, lived in Lymm and suggested Ford lease Oughtrington Hall to accommodate 90 men, women and children. The Belgian community established their own





chapel, doctor's surgery, laundry and workshops, and even had a small farm with pigs and stables on the grounds. These areas, which are now part of the school's fields, played a crucial role in the lives of these displaced families. Perry sent regular reports and photos to Ford which provide great sources of evidence of what the Hall was like in this period. Our students enjoyed trying to identify their classrooms in the old photographs.

The next 'time jump' was to 1939 when Charis Frankenburg evacuated over 40 children and eight staff to Oughtrington Hall from her Open-Air School in Salford. A woman ahead of her time, Charis was one of the first women

to get an Oxford degree and was a strong advocate for women's reproductive rights and family planning. She also employed a houseman and parlour man to work at Oughtrington Hall: positions traditionally filled by women. During World War II, Charis opened up her home for refugees who were disabled children from a Salford School. Due to difficulties in moving the children, they had to sleep in the cellars every night as air raid shelters! At the end of the War, Charis relocated to Oxfordshire. Thanks to some of the work Charis did in adapting rooms for school use, Lymm Grammar School managed to persuade the County Council to purchase the Hall as an



SCHOOL NEWS

overflow for the school in the 1950s. Lymm High School later came into being in 1985.

At the end of talk, Roger undertook a Question & Answer session with Lymm High's Head of History, Miss Howard. Roger's key message for students was that "all history is local" and he was able to show how the history of our school is linked to British and global history.

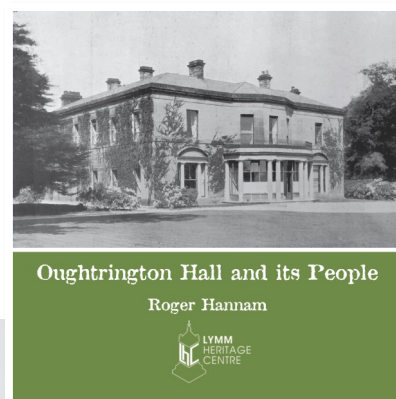
Following the presentation, students were taken to the Boardroom (located in B Block, within the Hall itself) to view a special exhibition. The display featured sources of evidence including old maps, wills and testaments, newspaper clippings, estate listings, and photographs of Oughtrington Hall throughout the years. One surprising discovery was an image of the very room the students were in – a Drawing Room complete with ornate gas lighting, offering a glimpse into how it once appeared.

In the evening, staff members were invited to view the exhibition and celebrate the history

of our school alongside local historians from the Lymm Heritage Centre. The event was a wonderful opportunity for everyone to deepen their knowledge of the school's heritage and appreciate the fascinating stories that have shaped the community. Many of the visitors had attended Lymm High when it was Lymm Grammar School or had previously worked at the school. Some had brought memorabilia with them, including a school newsletter from 1950!

This event was a valuable chance for both students and staff to connect with the past and gain a deeper understanding of the history that surrounds us every day. We look forward to more opportunities to explore and celebrate the unique history of Lymm High and the wider Lymm area.

Oughtrington Hall and its People is available from the [Lymm Heritage Centre](#) at a price of £6.50.



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!



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

- Year 7 **Kaia Shaw** has completed multiple acts of kindness. As well as doing a litter pick around the park in her estate, she donated two full bin bags of food to a foodbank, helped set up her local poppy appeal, and is her Form Eco Rep.
- After becoming KS3 darts champion in Lymm High's Inter-Hall tournament, **Oliver 'The Bullet' Edwards** challenged himself to a darts marathon. Year 8 Oliver played for 12 hours, reached 90,000 points and raised a tremendous £580.49 for Macmillan Cancer Support.
- **Heidi Clark, Megan Riley and Beau Cooper** fundraised for Alder Hey Children's Hospital. The Year 7 students arranged the bake sale completely independently and worked so hard making a delightful assortment of homemade cupcakes, cookies, scrunchies, phone charms





and badges. Their efforts attracted plenty of support from their peers and teachers alike, resulting in an impressive £300 being raised for the charity.

- It was **Alfie Broadstock's** suggestion that Lymm High supported the Cash for Kids Mission Christmas appeal this year. In addition, Year 10 Alfie took part in the Children in Need Choir performance at Media City, which formed part of the live BBC TV programme.
- Year 9 **Maggie Clair**, together with family and friends, took part in a 33-mile walk to raise money for the treatment and rehabilitation of Oli Coppock, her cousin's boyfriend. Oli has been hospitalised following a brain injury and can now only communicate by blinking his eyes and shrugging his shoulders.
- Year 8 **Darcy Heath** donated a big bag of scarves and hats she had knitted with her Gran to the Manchester Street Angels collection for the homeless.
- **Ollie Wright** from Year 8 created an entire shoe box on his own for the Manchester Street Angels collection for the homeless. He also handed an item to someone in Form so that they could get a Hall point for bringing in an item to donate.





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FURTHER INFORMATION



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www.warringtonwolvesfoundation.com

SEEKING FUTURE CYCLING TALENT



The Great Britain Cycling Team are on the look for talented young people.

The Track Cycling Talent Identification Programme aims to identify the cycling potential of talented young people from across England, with those successful going on to join British Cycling's Talent Development and Performance Pathways.

This could be the start of a journey that could lead to potentially going to the Olympic games and following in the footsteps of British Olympic medallists Dame Laura Kenny, Emma Finucane, Katie Archibald and Jack Carlin.

If your child would like to get involved in this Talent ID Programme, then please complete the application form by [clicking here](#). Applications will close on Sunday 30th March

2025. Students must be born in the years 2010, 2011 or 2012 to apply and be eligible for a British passport, but no prior racing experience is required, just the ability to ride a bike!

If successful, your child could be invited to one of three testing days taking place across England throughout April:

- Manchester – Thursday 17th April 2025
- London – Saturday 19th April 2025
- Derby – Monday 21st April 2025

These will comprise: a workshop delivered by coaches from the Great Britain Cycling Team explaining the cycling pathway and the exciting journey riders could go on, a number of physical tests using Wattbikes, and off the bike tests.

RUNNING FOR ENGLAND

Year 12 student selected for U20 Cross Country.



UPCOMING DATES

Thursday 13th February

Year 11 History
trip to Berlin

Visual Arts &
Technology trip to
Florence

Year 9 Parents'
Evening

Sunday 16th February

Ski trip departs

**Monday 17th to
Friday 21st February**
February half term

Thursday 6th March
Year 8 Parents'
Evening

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Having been selected for England U20 Cross Country, Sixth Former Jack Marwood raced in Elgoibar, Spain, on Sunday 5th January. He came 16th out of 73, and was the youngest in the race.

Jack (who now runs for Salford Harriers) was then selected to race in Hannut, Belgium, for

the U20s Belgium Cross Cup on Sunday 26th January. He finished 7th.

Off the back of this race, he's been selected again for England for the Home Nations Cross Challenge in Leeds on Saturday 8th February.

We wish you the best of luck, Jack!