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March Newsletter

This is always a short but busy half term and it has been a very productive one. Easter is always a really significant point as we prepare for the formal examinations for Years 11 and 13 in May.

As we break up for Easter the work doesn't stop, there are further revision sessions taking place before, during and after the break (please check our website for details). The extra work that the staff put into these sessions is greatly appreciated and I am confident everyone will support us in making sure that the students take full advantage of these. As I write this we currently have over 70 Year 11 students and a good number of Year 13 students in school taking advantage of this great opportunity!

With further changes to qualifications and assessments we've continued to invest a lot of time in staff becoming more aware of the new requirements. Sometimes it feels as if the pace of change is too fast but our staff and the students have responded with diligence and hard work to be as ready as we can be for the summer exams.

Once again, United Learning have supported our development with visits, webinars and by hosting lots

of training and collaboration across the group, something our students in Carlisle ultimately benefit from.

We continue to work with our primary colleagues to see how we can best support all our students as they make their way into Central. This year it has been wonderful to welcome so many young students from across the city into the Academy and to take part in a whole host of sporting, dance and academic activities.

We'd really like you all to be more involved as we move forward and I hope that you will be able to join us at the **coffee morning on Thursday 26th April, 9.30 – 11 am**. You will have the opportunity to have a look around, ask any questions and have a chance to share any ideas you might have as to how we can continue to move the Academy forwards.

We recently held an additional Year 11 Parents' evening. My thanks to those who attended and received some additional resources to support exam preparation and a brief presentation about how you, as parents can continue to support your son/ daughter.

We will soon be holding our Year 8 Parents' and Options Evening. I'm

sure I will see you all there to find out what choices and opportunities await in Year 9!

Working in partnership is the most effective and only way to ensure your child achieves their full potential. Please remember you are always welcome to contact us with any enquiries and to make use of the *Insight* system to keep an eye on how things are progressing.

Other News:

Maths: It will be the turn of our Years 7 and 8 Maths whizz-kids to face the Maths Challenge during April. They have a lot to live up to, following our best-ever year in the challenge when measured by Golds, Silver and Bronze certificates, let alone students advancing through to the Upper Challenge rounds. We look forward to sharing their results with you all, probably in the May newsletter. Come on, Years 7 and 8!

English - Despite the chaos caused by the "Beast from the East", our rescheduled World Book Day celebrations were a huge success. During lessons, students from our Key Stage Three classes competed to persuade their teacher that they, over all others, deserved the coveted prize of a reading book and a jumbo lollipop! The quality of

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persuasive arguments was so outstanding that we had to purchase well deserved additional prizes.



Thirty avid readers were also treated to an afternoon of reading and relaxation. Students made themselves comfortable in onesies and dressing gowns. Our objective for the afternoon? Simply reading for pleasure.

Music: On Monday 19th March, music students from Years 9 – 12 put on their second concert of the year, in the Sixth Form area. The concert opened with a performance of 'Meditation' from Thais by Massenet and 'Hoedown' by Aaron Copeland by **Ruben Burt** on the violin. There was a wide variety of performances, including songs by Oasis, Foo Fighters and Green Day. It was great to see how our students have made progress since the last concert and

many of them are growing in confidence and developing their performance skills.

Many thanks to **Mr Canham** and **Mr Murgatroyd** for their technical support on the day.

We are already planning and looking forward to our next concert on **Wednesday 20th June** at the Old Fire Station, watch this space for further information.



Health & Social Care - International Women's Day (8 March) is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. North West Ambulance Service focused on helping younger girls to make the important link between their learning and futures, and also wanted to encourage older girls to think about their next steps, focusing on careers within North West Ambulance Service (NWAS).

The North West Ambulance Service professionals came in to speak to the Health and Social Care students to celebrate International Women's Day. The speaker gave an invaluable insight into what roles they carry out within the service and also the career paths available to them. She also spoke about the barriers they may have to face daily and also in connection to getting to where they are in society today. She added information about how they have dealt with them, and how it is an important role to carry out and an excellent career choice to take. This was a very informative talk given to students in KS3, KS4 and KS5.

Sport Relief & Ride ABC - The Academy supported Sport Relief for some fantastic fundraising activity in the lead up to Friday 23rd March. This year's Sport Relief was all about doing whatever moves you to raise money and change lives through physical activity and sport.



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United Learning was honoured to be partnering with Sport Relief this year. The money raised will be split between Sport Relief (75%) and United Learning's SITUPS programme (25%). SITUPS stands for **School Improvement Through Using the Power of Sport**.

The catalyst for the activities was a charity cycle ride from Ashford to Bournemouth to Carlisle (Ride ABC). Two United Learning central office workers, Shaun and Bruce, cycled the 600 mile route over eight days between the 5th and 12th March. On the 12th March we were honoured to be chosen as the finishing point for the ride and the whole of the Academy surrounded the atrium to welcome the riders with balloons, banners and a standing ovation.

To celebrate their achievement Years 7 and 8 took part in a challenge event in PE aiming to score 600 points, through activities which involved climbing, trampolining, fitness, basketball, football and distance running. To fundraise in PE lessons our students showed fantastic efforts in running the sport relief mile. Some students attempted a further challenge and a special mention goes to **Mikey Norman-Baty** who ran just short of five miles and **Gemma Longford** who ran 3.5 miles.

On Sport Relief day itself our students supported fundraising again with a non-uniform day in sports clothing. Alongside this we had sporting challenges during the day in the sports hall and a cake sale. Huge congratulations to all staff and students who raised over £1,000 from the Academy with our sponsorship money still to add to this as we go to press.

U12 Football - The U12 football team have had two recent fixtures, one against Trinity and then the City Final to nearly complete the season. There is one remaining fixture, a Cup Semi Final against UCC after Easter.

Against Trinity the boys played really well and held their own for much of the game. Trinity were the stronger side overall and had many chances. There were some fine saves by 'Man of the Match', **Declan Kirkpatrick** in goal including a penalty save. He really did keep Central in the game as Trinity pushed and probed for the winner. It ended with a 1-1 score line following and equalising goal scored by **Nathan Noble**.

The City Tournament was held on Thursday 22nd March at the Sheppmount where each city side played each other in a round robin tournament with straight games of 15 minutes each. The going was hard

from the start with a 4-0 loss against Caldey. This seemed to set the standard as the following next two games against William Howard and Trinity finished with the same scoreline. This didn't reflect the hard work and determination displayed by the team, they never gave up despite being up against some excellent teams. The final game they played Newman, which was a closer affair with Central coming out on top with a close 1-0 win with the goal coming from **Tyler Young**.

U15 Rugby - The U15 boys entered their first 7's tournament at QEGS on Thursday 8th March. They were split into two separate groups and were set to play two rounds of matches throughout the afternoon

In the first two games they were pitched against QEGS and Kirkby Stephen Grammar School.

The boys were apprehensive as they were new to the format but soon settled into some fine play and were quickly in the lead! **Jonny Boileau** broke away and used his speed to score under the posts. He did the same again before half time to ensure they were in the lead at the break. The second half was played in much the same manner with Central dominating play and scored with a

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superb speedy break by **Marc Haughan**.

The second game looked a more difficult scenario as KS romped their first game by six tries! The lads went behind by two tries to nil but stuck at it to bring it back to 14-7 at half time with **Jonny Boileau** again the scorer. The second started with KS scoring quickly much to their merriment. However, they were soon silenced when **Marc Haughan** put on the afterburners and scored his second. It was a close affair and the nerves were showing, but it was again **Jonny Boileau** who outpaced the KS team to score his second and end the game even!

The second round of games saw them face Austin Friars who were well organised and experienced. They played well against a tough opposition but were 21 points down in a short space of time. However, **Marc Haughan** again showed his pace and put on the afterburners to out pace the Austin Friars team and score his first of a hat-trick in this game. Austin Friars continued to play well but were hit twice more by **Haughan** and his pace as he completed his hat-trick and the game ended 35- 21.

In their final game the boys were tired but played well against an

organised Ullswater outfit. The game ended 28 – 7 to UCC with **Syzmon Klimek** getting the score this time. It was a great afternoon with the boys finally realising that they can compete and beat the other schools and that training together regularly is the key!

Arts: Twenty Year 12 and 13 A Level Art and Textile students had the opportunity to participate in two printmaking workshops facilitated by staff from the Art Faculty at the Brampton Road site of the University of Cumbria. They demonstrated a new technique to our students called 'dry point' printing. They each produced three prints using different materials, based on their own photographs, so that the work complemented their current A Level project. The students were delighted with their printmaking results and they thoroughly enjoyed their experience in the University workshop.



I look forward to seeing you in the future and very best wishes for a Happy Easter break.

Mr Gilby
Principal



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Calendar:

- **Easter Holidays**
Thurs 29th Mar – Mon 16th Apr
- **Summer Term Begins**
Tues 17th April, 2018
- **Tues 17th – Fri 20th Apr**
Assessment WK6
- **Mon 23rd & Tues 24th April**
GCSE Photography Exam
- **Thurs 26th April**
Y8 Options & Parents' Evening
- **Wed 25th – Fri 27th April**
GCSE Art Exam
- **Thurs 26th April**
Junior Maths Challenge
- **Fri 27th April**
AS & A Level Photography Exam
- **Mon 30th Apr & Tues 1st May**
A Level Textiles & Art Exam
- **Wed 2nd May**
GCSE Textiles Exam
- **Thurs 3rd May**
A Level Textiles & Art Exam
- **Fri 4th May**
A Level Photography Exam
- **Mon 7th May**
May Bank Holiday
- **Tues 8th – Fri 11th May**
Y10 Work Experience
- **Tues 8th & Wed 9th May**
GCSE Textiles Exam
- **Wed 9th May**
Interim Reports
- **Fri 11th May**
A Level Photography Exam
- **Fri 25th – Tues 29th May**
MFL Trip – Paris
- **Half Term**
Mon 28th May – Fri 1st June
- **Mon 11th – Fri 15th June**
Assessment WK7
- **Mon 18th – Fri 22nd June**
Assessment WK8
Y7-10 UL Exams
- **Wed 20th June**
Music Concert
- **Thurs 21st & Fri 22nd June**
Y5 Taster Days
- **Thurs 21st June**
Y5 Open Evening / Art Show
- **Mon 25th June**
Y6 SEN Transition Day
- **Mon 2nd – Fri 6th July**
Y10 Mock Exams
- **Mon 2nd July**
Y6 Induction Day
- **Tues 3rd July**
Y9 Parents' Evening
- **Friday 20th July**
Summer Term Ends
- **Autumn Term Begins**
Wed 5th Sept, 2018

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