

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was excellent to see the school so full and buzzing for **Sixth Form Taster Day** yesterday. I hope that the day was very useful and motivating for our Year 11s as they consider A-level options ahead.

Thank you to Sixth Form volunteers who were brilliant ambassadors.

Well done to the Upper Sixth on completing their **A-level Mocks**. This is a major stepping stone. Be encouraged! Keep going!

Recent highlights have included the Newcastle Classics Conference, Science Live, Music & Drama trip to see Hamilton, skiing in Kendal, and visits from former pupils including actor Joel Phillimore who appears in *The Boys in the Boat*, directed by George Clooney.

Friday 26th January 2024



Full house for Sixth Form taster day

## **Pupil achievements**

Congratulations to all our students who have gained university offers from Oxford and Cambridge: **Ahmed Ali** (Engineering), **Beth Armer** (Engineering), **Oliver Dingle** (Economics & Management), **Joe Eaton** (2023, Mathematics), **Sandy George** (Classics), **Morgan Knight** (Philosophy & Theology), **Alex Roe** (Materials Science), **Aditya Vege** (Medicine), **Ishmael Wadee** (Medicine).



## **Lenten charities**

Well done to forms whose charity fundraising is up and running! Initiatives so far include popcorn, cake sales, chess, darts, 9S raffle, darts, press-ups, Oddballs bobble hats – and plenty more I'm sure! We are supporting: North West Children's Support Group; Cancer Research UK; British Red Cross – Red Crescent Israel & Occupied Palestinian Territory Appeal; Money for Madagascar; Team Reece.

## Vaping and THCs – Police warning www.bl

www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-lancashire-68076862

Lancashire Police report that five teenagers in Lancaster and Morecambe have recently been hospitalised after using vapes that contained THCs (an active ingredient of cannabis) or amphetamines.

The legal age for using or buying vapes is 18, but some children are buying unregulated vapes via social media. There are multiple news reports nationally about children falling ill after taking vapes laced with illegal drugs.

The school has a strong educational, disciplinary and pastoral approach to vaping and drug use. Please do contact us if it would be helpful to discuss support for your child at any point.

## Careers Insight Fortnight: Business, Finance, Digital, IT

We are have a brilliant range of speakers for our next Careers Insight Fortnight which begins today. Pupils have all been sent details. Please encourage your son or daughter to attend these sessions – some live and some on Teams. We are also promoting National Apprenticeship Week ( $5^{th} - 11^{th}$  February): national apprenticeship week.co.uk

Best wishes for exeat weekend, to hardy cadets on Operation Night Owl, and to all those celebrating Burns Night!

With all best wishes ~ Dr C.J. Pyle

GCSE PE - Snozone







Joel Phillimore OL – film actor Science Club – DNA!