



Dear All,

It has been a challenging year in every sense of the word. It is in times of adversity that we most acutely reveal our character; in other words, how do we behave when the going gets tough? I am extremely proud of the courage, kindness, fortitude, discipline, responsibility, compassion and humanity that Netherhall School, its staff, students, parents and community have demonstrated and continue to do so.

Hard times handled in the right way build empathy, trust and fellowship, the core values of a community.

It is possible to emerge from a difficult situation far stronger than you were before, which is where I truly believe we are.

Thank you to everyone who has and continues to support Netherhall School, your words and actions are of immeasurable value and really do make a difference.

Thank you once more, I hope you have a very good Christmas and I look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Best wishes,
Mr D W Tromans

Headteacher



Christmas 2020

Every year we take part in the Maryport Christmas Tree Festival but sadly there wasn't to be one this year.

So, not to be deterred, the Learning Support Department helped by Mrs Birkett decided to focus their efforts on decorating the school Christmas tree.

This year we didn't have a theme so we decorated snowmen, candy canes and snowflakes to put on the tree and our main colour was red.

Ciaran "enjoyed using the glitter to decorate the snowflakes, it was everywhere."

Brandon "found it tricky putting the lights around the tree."

Max & James said "it was good fun."

They found it difficult to put the hat on top of the tree but have found a secret way to keep it there.

We would like to say a big thank you to Martyn Turner from Tynedale Farm Services who provided our tree and Iggesund for paying for it.

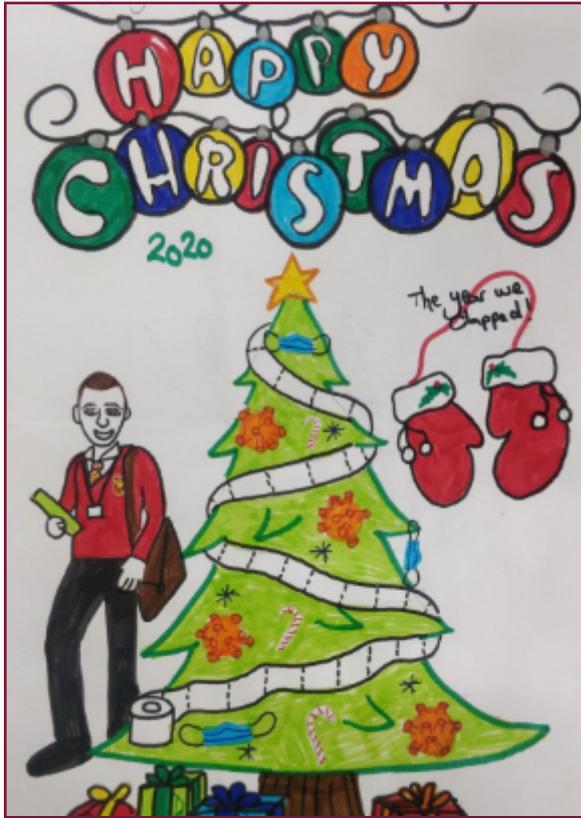
We are very proud of our tree and hope it makes everyone smile.

Mrs Beverley Johnstone

Head of SENCO

Christmas Card Competition Winners

This half term students have taken part in a Christmas card design art competition. Students were asked to come up with a creative design which included Netherhall in some way, using either the logo or the school's name.



Entries came in from students of all ages across the year groups; the work produced is reflective of the hard work the art department put in to encouraging students to explore a wide range of techniques and styles within their artwork.

Well done to everyone who entered, it was lovely to see so many students getting involved.

The winning pieces have been created by the following students:

Ms H Cotton

Head of Art, Design & Technology

Duke of Edinburgh Award

This year has caused significant disruption to the school's Duke of Edinburgh programme, with the cancellation of expeditions and students having to change activities. However, we have been able to successfully support a number of students in the completion of their awards.

Harrison Savage has successfully gained his Gold Award; well done to Harrison who is now waiting to visit Buckingham Palace to receive his certificate.

We also have a number of year 12 students who have been able to complete their Silver Awards before moving onto the Gold Award following in Harrison's footsteps. Well done to all of you!

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is well established in the school and we have recently signed on 30 year 9 students to the Bronze Award. We look forward to being able to celebrate many more successes with these and other year groups in the future.

Mr L Wassell

Duke of Edinburgh Co-ordinator

Dream Placement 2020-21



Mrs Nicola Woolley of the Centre for Leadership Performance addressing year 12 students.

Sixth form students had the fantastic opportunity to listen to an introductory presentation on the Dream Placement programme for 2021 on Wednesday, 21 October. We are extremely grateful to Mrs Nicola Woolley of the Centre for Leadership Performance for coming into school to explain the outstanding opportunity that awaits our students.

The Dream Placement Scheme gives students aged 16-18 an insight into the world of work with a leading Cumbrian employer. It is not, however, a simple work-experience scheme. Students get a unique opportunity to see how the senior teams and leaders of industry go about dealing with the challenges they face. Dream Placement brings together young students of Cumbria with some of the most forward-looking and successful businesses in the county. It is a chance for students to learn vital leadership skills, boost their confidence and see a glimpse of how their working life could be in 10 years' time.

Even at these challenging times, Netherhall School is committed to providing all students with a wide range of opportunities to enhance their personal, social and wider work experience skills in order to ensure they are in a fantastic position to achieve their

future career ambitions. The success that year 13 students have had in securing so many apprenticeships and positions through GEN2 and with Sellafield in recent years has proven to current sixth form students the absolute value of taking part in opportunities like Dream Placement to help secure their future career dreams.

Mr C H Pattinson

Assistant Headteacher Head of Sixth Form

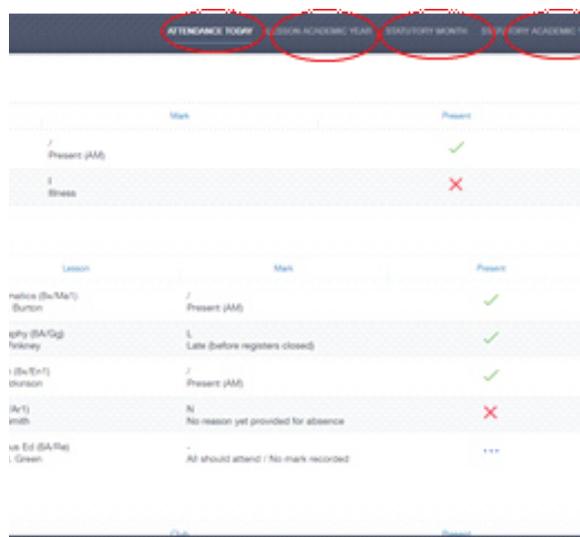
Edulink One: Attendance

How can I find my child's attendance in Edulink One?

Log into your Edulink One account and select the orange 'Attendance' tab from the options wheel.

This will open the attendance section.

What does the attendance section show me?



There are 4 tabs in the attendance section:

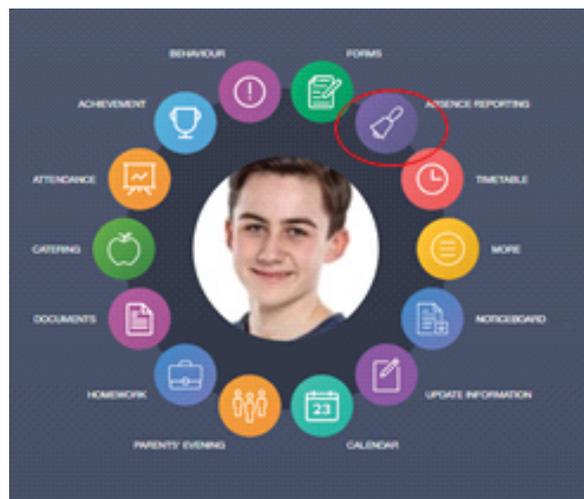
1. Attendance today – this shows whether your child has absence or present marks for that day, this includes morning registration and each of their lessons.
2. Lesson academic year – this shows attendance charts by subject. This section allows you to see the impact of absence on

your child's learning in each of their subjects.

3. Statutory month – this shows their attendance to morning and afternoon registration in the last month. It will also list whether any absences have been authorised or unauthorised.

4. Statutory academic year – this shows your child's attendance across this academic year and will also show the reason code allocated and whether this was authorised or unauthorised.

How do I let school know that my child will be absent?



The 'absence reporting' tab on your parental Edulink wheel will bring up a form for you to complete with the date and reason for your child's absence.

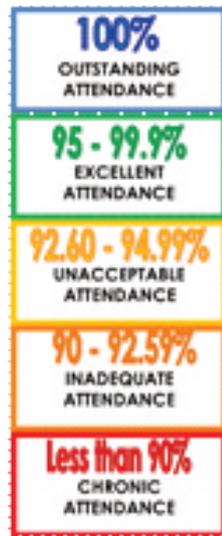
This alert will then be sent to the Attendance Officer in school for them to record the absence.

You must either complete this form or call school on 01900 813434 option 1 to speak to/leave a message for the attendance officer. This must be on each day of absence.

What is 'good' attendance?

All students should be aiming to keep within the blue and green attendance bands in each academic year which requires 95%+ attendance.

- 95% attendance (green) = 9 days absence per year
- 92% attendance (yellow) = 15 days absence per year
- 90% attendance (amber) = 19 days absence per year
- 89% absence (red) = 20+ days absence per year



Any absence (authorised or unauthorised) will affect your child's attendance and therefore their learning.

Why is attendance so important?

- Good attendance and punctuality help to prepare your child for their later working life.
- Absence from school results in missed learning for your child and ultimately affects their attainment, and therefore their potential career goals.
- Attendance is a key factor for post-16 and 18 providers when interviewing for course places, apprenticeships etc.
- Regularly missing school can cause negative social effects for students.
- "Parents are responsible for making sure that their children of compulsory school age receive a suitable full-time education" – gov.uk

What can I do to help my child maintain good attendance?

"Parents are responsible for making sure that their children of compulsory school age receive a suitable full-time education" – gov.uk

- You can help us to ensure your child has good attendance by:
- Regularly discussing the importance of school and good attendance with your child.
- Communicate any concerns or factors which may affect attendance with your child's head of year or the attendance officer e.g. medical so that we can look at ways to support your child.
- Try to avoid medical appointments within the school day where possible, or alternatively, encourage your child to attend before and/or after the appointment.
- Report any absences promptly so that these do not become unauthorised.

Do not book term-time holidays – we are only able to authorise these in exceptional circumstances if a written request is made to school in good time.

I do not have an Edulink account or I am struggling to access it, what should I do?

You can find the information of how to set up a parent Edulink account here:

Website: [Useful links](#)

Or, you can email the IT Helpdesk for more support:

itsupport@netherhall.cumbria.sch.uk

Exam News

The return to school after the long break has seen all systems go for exams with a full programme of mocks for Years 11, 12 and 13. Students have taken them in their stride and understand the importance of the mocks as these will count towards their grades, should we need to submit sample work to the exam boards if the Summer exams do not go ahead in June 2021.

Any students absent for a mock exam will be required to sit the exam on return to school.

Good homework study schedules will certainly be the order of the day for all students, as the following mocks will be due to take place on return after Christmas.

January 2021 Internal

Commencing the 6th January 2021 to 22nd January 2021:

- Year 9: Mock exams 11th – 15th
- Year 11: Mock exams 18th – 22nd
- Year 7: Reading & Spelling Test – Thursday 14th
- Year 8: Reading & Spelling Test – Friday 15th

January 2021 External

Year 10: Construction – Thursday 7th

Year 13: H&SC Unit 2 / ICT Unit 1 – Monday 11th

- Sport Unit 1 – Tuesday 12th
- H&SC Unit 3 – Wednesday 13th
- H&SC Unit 7 – Tuesday 19th

February 2021 Internal

Year 11: Mock Science exams 1st – 5th

Year 10: Mock exams 22nd – 26th

Timetables for all the above exams will be available on students' Edulink accounts before the Christmas break.

Gen2 Talk for Aspiring Apprentices

Jordan Walker of Gen2 has recently visited sixth form students at Netherhall School to talk about the many opportunities offered by the Workington-based training organisation. Every year, a large number of students progress from Netherhall School Sixth Form to take up higher and degree apprenticeships, before going on to have successful careers in various fields including engineering, nuclear and project management.



Jordan Walker of Gen 2 with year 13 students.

Gen2 provides accessible routes to a range of innovative, industry-led Higher Educational programmes to support lifelong learning up to Masters level. They work closely with several large employers, including Amec Foster Wheeler, Sellafield Ltd, TSP Engineering, Iggesund Paperboard and Innovia Films.

Jordan talked through the different routes on offer, the benefits of work-based training

and the potential that talented young people have to progress in local companies. We are grateful to Jordan and Gen2. We also wish the best of luck to all of our students who are applying to their training programmes this year!

Mr C H Pattinson

Assistant Headteacher / Head of Sixth Form

Oxbridge Experience for Netherhall School Sixth Form Students

Former Netherhall School pupil Jodie Pearce returned to school earlier this term to talk to year 12 and 13 students about Oxbridge and Russell Group universities.

A brilliant student in her time at Netherhall, Jodie has continued her success since leaving school. She studied English literature at Glasgow University, then completed a masters degree at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge University. She is now working for her PhD with Lancaster University.

On her return to Netherhall, Jodie shared her experiences with students in our sixth form who are aspiring to secure places on degree courses at the country's top universities. Every year, an increasing number of students from Netherhall School move on to begin degrees in the Russell Group, which represents the UK's 24 top universities and includes world-renowned establishments such as Oxford, Cambridge, Manchester and Newcastle.

Jodie has also returned to school to help conduct mock interviews with a year 13 student in preparation for interview at Cambridge University.

We are really grateful to Jodie for sharing her experiences and giving such a fascinating presentation. Like many former Netherhall School pupils, Jodie has gone on

to have a very successful career. We look forward to seeing many students in the sixth form taking inspiration and following in her footsteps in the future!

Mr C H Pattinson

Assistant Headteacher / Head of Sixth Form.

Year 11 Soft Toy Project

The year 11 vocational group have completed their soft toy project just in time for Christmas! Students designed their toy, made paper patterns and then used hand embroidery to decorate and construct their final product. The results are original and amazing.



Ms L Roche

Art, Design & Technology

Year 13 Nursing and Healthcare Careers Session with Emma Garner-Smith



Former star student of Netherhall School, Emma Garner-Smith.

Year 13 students were treated to a workshop on nursing and healthcare careers provided by former student of Netherhall School, Emma Garner-Smith, just before the half-term break. Emma was a star student during her time with us at Netherhall School between 2002-09, completing her A level courses in business studies, history and psychology before reading for a mental health nursing degree at the University of Cumbria. Since graduating, Emma has worked locally and progressed quickly in her career as a mental health nurse prescriber.

Emma gave students a fascinating insight into the joys, challenges and rewards of a career in nursing. She also gave them the chance to get hands on with some diagnostic equipment, and provided her own insights into the different career and training opportunities available to students who wish to follow in her footsteps.

We are immensely proud of the successes of all our students, not least because they go on to make such a valuable contribution to communities in Cumbria and across the country. The strength of Netherhall School's

health and social care courses means that, every year, many students progress to nursing degrees and other training in the health and care sector.



Year 13 students listening intently to Emma Garner-Smith during the recent nursing and healthcare careers session she kindly provided.

We are especially grateful to Emma for dedicating her free time to come back to Netherhall School and run such a brilliant session; year 13 students were universal in their praise of Emma, who they have described as "an inspiration" and "fantastic role-model" for them to aspire to follow. Indeed, the careers session was such a success that we have invited Emma back to talk to our year 12 students!

Mr C H Pattinson

Assistant Headteacher / Head of Sixth Form

Mrs Holliday's Half Term Achiever

Total Points Achieved Autumn 1

- Year 7: Olivia Ireland - 73
- Year 8: Evie Kirkbride - 49
- Year 9: Ewan Chambers - 65
- Year 10: Casey Jo Nelson & Callum Todd - 45
- Year 11: Shakira Radford & Stephen McCallig - 25



7 Year Olivia Ireland

Academic Honours Board Update

Following our recent Facebook articles on the updated Netherhall School Honours Boards, it has been a great pleasure to welcome back to school another pair of our brilliant former students. I was delighted to meet with both Amie Birkett and Brandan Copeland prior to the half term break to show them the new honours boards and give them a tour of the newly refurbished school buildings, and it was fantastic to hear how well they have done since leaving us.



Amie Birkett was a fantastic student throughout her time at Netherhall, leaving us in the summer of 2014 having completed her A level studies in art, performing arts and travel and tourism, where she secured excellent results. Amie then embarked upon her undergraduate career, reading for a BA (Hons) degree in event management at the University of Central Lancashire, where she graduated in the summer of 2017. Since that time, Amie's career has gone from strength to strength and she now pursues a career in her chosen field as an events co-ordinator with UCLAN based in Preston. It was fantastic to see Amie once again and to hear how well she is doing; she is very highly thought of by her former teachers who are delighted at the fantastic career she has earned for herself

with her ever positive commitment to hard work and the highest standards at all times. Many congratulations to you Amie and best wishes for the future!



Brandan Copeland also called in to see us prior to the half term break; another student who is warmly remembered by his former teachers, it was again a joy to hear of all his triumphs since leaving us in 2015. Having completed his A level studies in geography, history and IT, Brandan embarked upon his undergraduate studies, reading for a BA (Hons) degree in history, also at the University of Central Lancashire.

It is with great pleasure that I can inform you that Brandan graduated this summer, achieving First Class Honours in his chosen subject and has now begun his Masters in Research degree, also in history at the University of Central Lancashire, while his long-term ambition is to go on to read for a PhD in history. I am also delighted to inform you that Brandan's outstanding efforts during his time at university have led to him receiving the prestigious Sydney Lee Prize for academic excellence in history at UCLAN. On behalf of the school, I would like to congratulate Brandan on his incredible achievements and to wish him well for his future academic career.

Again, I would like to congratulate all those students who have made an appearance

on the Netherhall School Academic Honours Boards, which have been brilliantly designed by Firpress Printers of Workington; the inspiration you are providing to our current students cannot be overstated.

Your many achievements guide the way for our current pupils to realise all that can be achieved and all that lies ahead for them with the right attitude and commitment to the highest standards. I would also like to take this opportunity to invite all former students who would like to visit the school, to have their picture taken with the honours boards and to have a look around the fully refurbished and fantastic looking school buildings,

We would be delighted to welcome family members to join you when you visit (after school hours from 3.30pm and at social distance of course) and very much look forward to welcoming you back to school!

Mr M D Bailey
Deputy Headteacher

PE - Year 7 and 8 Fitness Test Results

All students in year 7 and 8 have had the opportunity to take part in a variety of fitness tests during PE lessons this half term. These tests are designed to measure a number of different components of fitness. The students enjoyed the challenge, and being competitive with each other but really relished the chance to beat their own personal best score each week.

It was clear from the results that we have some brilliant all-round athletes, with several students scoring well on a number of the tests. The top scorers from year 7 and 8, boys and girls, are listed below.

Well done to all the students who took part and congratulations to the top scorers.



Year 7 Girls				
Name	Tutor	Fitness Test	Fitness Component	Top Score
Maddie Routledge Lucy-Jo Rowley	Adair Fleming	12 Minute Cooper Test	Aerobic Endurance	2200 metres
Meya Moore	Adair	30m Sprint Test	Speed	5.16 seconds
Kacie Wilson	Lister	60 Second Press Up Test	Muscular Endurance	42 Press Ups
Sarah Jarvis	Ismay	Standing Stork Test	Balance	42 seconds
Jessica Courty Tilly Smiles Leah Ackerley	Fleming Ismay Lister	60 Second Sit up Test	Muscular Endurance	40 Sit Ups
Armani McDowell	Ismay	Ruler Drop Test	Reaction Time	1 cm
Sarah Jarvis	Ismay	One handed Tennis Ball Catch	Coordination	28 Catches
Kacie Wilson	Lister	Standing Long Jump	Power	1.81m
Lacey Scholey Millie Houghton	Christian	Sit & Reach Test	Flexibility	49cm
Maddie Routledge Olivia Ireland	Adair	Illinois Agility Test	Agility	18.17 seconds
Maddie Routledge	Adair	Bleep Test	Aerobic Endurance	Level 9.1

Year 7 Boys				
Name	Tutor	Fitness Test	Fitness Component	Top Score
Jonah Murray	Christian	12 Minute Cooper Test	Aerobic Endurance	2300 metres
Lewis Walling	Adair	30m Sprint Test	Speed	4.78 seconds
Seb Clague	Ismay	60 Second Press Up Test	Muscular Endurance	51 Press Ups
Seb Clague	Ismay	Standing Stork Test	Balance	47 seconds
Kobe Perry Connor Sharp	Ismay Lister	60 Second Sit up Test	Muscular Endurance	45 Sit ups
Michael Miller	Christian	Ruler Drop Test	Reaction Time	3cm
Gary-Jack Alderson	Christian	One handed Tennis Ball Catch	Coordination	46 Catches
Daniel Cunningham	Ismay	Standing Long Jump	Power	1.95m
Tyler Chilton	Christian	Sit & Reach Test	Flexibility	30 cm
McKenzie Houghton	Ismay	Illinois Agility Test	Agility	17.03 seconds
Lewis Walling	Adair	Bleep Test	Aerobic Endurance	Level 10.5

Year 8 Girls				
Name	Tutor	Fitness Test	Fitness Component	Top Score
Danielle Wilson	Christian	12 Minute Cooper Test	Aerobic Endurance	2025 metres
Ellie Atkinson	Adair	30m Sprint Test	Speed	4.28 seconds
Evie Kirkbride	Fleming	60 Second Press Up Test	Muscular Endurance	29 Press Ups
Libby Dunstan	Christian	Standing Stork Test	Balance	32 seconds
Catherine Corlett Katie Drugan-Swain	Adair Fleming	60 Second Sit up Test	Muscular Endurance	35 Sit Ups
Harriet Mossop	Adair	Ruler Drop Test	Reaction Time	2cm
Alison Dakers	Adair	One handed Tennis Ball Catch	Coordination	56 Catches
Lilly Fearon Ava Maxwell	Christian	Standing Long Jump	Power	1.90m
Isla Hadden	Adair	Sit & Reach Test	Flexibility	35cm
Ellie Atkinson	Adair	Illinois Agility Test	Agility	18.14 seconds
Danielle Wilson	Christian	Bleep Test	Aerobic Endurance	Level 8.6

Year 8 Boys				
Name	Tutor	Fitness Test	Fitness Component	Top Score
Riley Brown	Lister	12 Minute Cooper Test	Aerobic Endurance	2600 metres
Emilio Perestrelo	Fleming	30m Sprint Test	Speed	4.19 seconds
Daniel Thompson	Ismay	60 Second Press Up Test	Muscular Endurance	49 Press Ups
Joseph Douglas	Ismay	Standing Stork Test	Balance	50 seconds
Cinar Cakmak	Adair	60 Second Sit up Test	Muscular Endurance	67 Sit Ups
Tyler Huddart	Adair	Ruler Drop Test	Reaction Time	2cm
Branden Kray	Christian	One handed Tennis Ball Catch	Coordination	59 Catches
Finlay Routledge	Christian	Standing Long Jump	Power	2.10m
Kieran Abram	Adair	Sit & Reach Test	Flexibility	37cm
Rhys Kirkbride	Lister	Illinois Agility Test	Agility	16.5 seconds
Riley Brown	Lister	Bleep Test	Aerobic Endurance	Level 10.2

Extra-curricular Sports Practices

Week Beginning: 11/1/21

Day	Year	Activity	Location	Staff
Monday	9	Sports Club	Sports Hall/ Astro turf	Miss Adams/TBC
Tuesday	8	Girls Sports Club	Sports Hall/ Astro turf	Miss Scott
	8	Boys Sports Club	Sports Hall/ Astro turf	Mr Fulton
Thursday	7	Girls Sports Club	Sports Hall/ Astro turf	Mrs Holliday
	7	Boys Sports Club	Sports Hall/ Astro turf	Mr Holliday



*Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year!*

