Welcome from Mrs Crawley, Headteacher:

Dear parents
This is our final Contact for the academic year 2017/18. There has been so much to celebrate this year. I was delighted to attend all 6 House assemblies over the last 2 days. It is humbling to see the many and varied achievements of our students. I was delighted to see so many nominations in all subject areas for ‘Most Improved’. It has been fantastic to see how students have stepped up to the plate and have really engaged in the life of the school. There were many students who achieved a 100% attendance certificate, which is no mean feat!

It has been a real pleasure to see the numbers of students in Year 10 wishing to take up leadership posts at the school. I am delighted to announce that the student Senior Leadership team for 2018/19 is Mark Strickland, Head Boy, Beth Jones, Head Girl, Adam Humphreys Deputy Headboy and Emily Tandy, Deputy Headgirl. There were so many strong applications for these posts and I am looking forward to working with the student leaders to continue to grow and develop the school. I know that all the Houses are waiting to find out who is the overall House winner for this year and am looking forward to announcing this on the last day!

It remains for me to wish you a peaceful and restful summer holiday - I hope that the warm weather continues once we break up.

I look forward to welcoming students back to school on Tuesday 4th September.
With very best wishes
Congratulations and welcome to our new House Captains Phoebe and Sam. I am really looking forward to working with you both and seeing what amazing things you have to offer the students in Bannister House.

I would also like to say a massive well done and thank you to all of those who applied for this position it was the strongest field I have had the pleasure of interviewing and you all did yourselves proud. I really hope you still choose to work alongside the leadership team in September as you have some excellent ideas.

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All that is left for me to say is thank you and well done to the students of Bannister house. It has been a great year for the vast majority of you and I look forward to improving on your efforts next year.

Have a wonderful summer, be safe and have fun.

Ms Bayne
AUSTEN

What a fantastic year Austen House has had as Champion House.
I would like to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you to all our students and tutors for their support and involvement in our House again, we have had a brilliant year.

We would like to congratulate our new House Captains, Luke Murray (10AB) and Caitlyn York (10AV) on their new role. They have already started and are doing a great job, but we are looking forward to having them in full role in September. Well done guys!

Have a wonderful summer Austen and I look forward to seeing you all in September.

Take care, Mrs Masher xx

THOMPSON

Sporting success for two students from Thompson house this half term. Mark from 9TB has recently won the North Wales road to Wimbledon competition and has won the privilege of playing on the famous Wimbledon grass courts this summer.

Meanwhile, Abbie from 10TW has represented the North west in the National Trampoline Finals in Nottingham. Finally I wish to congratulate Ellis and Imogen (10TW) who were appointed as Thompson House Captains for the next academic year alongside Adam, 10TC, who has also been appointed as Deputy Head boy.

Mr Cawthorn
Newton students have enjoyed another fantastic year and have enjoyed a number of successes in an array of activities including swimming, gymnastics, dance, singing and acting. Students from Newton House have consistently demonstrated a fantastic community spirit and I am proud of their achievements this academic year.

In July Newton students organised the inaugural mini Olympics event in order to raise money for the House Charity ‘The Alder Hey Kidney Fund’. This was a huge success with over 200 students involved competing in a variety of events.

A huge well done to Daniel, (565) Natasha (495) , Ashwin (440) and Thomas (365) for achieving most House points in their respective age groups. This demonstrates their positive attitude to learning and work ethic in lessons throughout the school year.

I am delighted to announce that Mark was selected as Head Boy, Emily as Deputy Head Girl and also Tom and Alex as House Captains. These students have consistently demonstrated outstanding leadership skills and are fantastic role models for all students in Newton House.

Finally I would like to thank all students for their hard work and dedication and wish everyone a fantastic Summer holiday. I look forward to seeing you all in September. Well done!

Mr Bate
Congratulations to Katie

Katie helped the North West team secure 6th place overall at National Development Plan Finals. She did a great job, especially on bars coming 3rd in Great Britain! A fantastic achievement Katie – we are so proud of you. Congratulations

Mrs Canning and myself had the great pleasure of interviewing the Year 10s who put themselves forward to be considered for the position of House Captain for Parks House. The candidates had already written a letter of application. Each candidate conducted themselves in a mature and professional manner and each one offered a different strength that could be brought to the role.

I would like to announce that the House Captains for Parks House next year will be Leo and Hannah. I look forward to working with them. Together with the other candidates they will form the Parks House Senior Learner Team. This will involve Holly, Hannah, Natalya and Joseph.

I am confident that together the Senior Learner Team will move Parks House forward.

And finally …
Thank you for all your hard work this year. I hope that you have a lovely summer break and look forward to seeing you all in September.

Mrs Lee
The year has flown by – we have had lots of success in Inter-House competitions the most memorable for me was the Bake-off. This involved all the Year groups and it was lovely to see each year group working as a team! The Quiz at the start of the year was a fabulous way to kick the year off with a great winning start!

We have done very well on the house point charts as well and it is going to be very close as the end of year draws and the Champion House is announced! There were some fantastic costumes on the Year 11 Leavers Day and I would like to wish all of the Stephenson Leavers the very best of luck in their futures be it at Barrow Hall College, another college or doing an Apprenticeship.

On the charity front there has been some fantastic efforts going on and I would like to thank my charity representatives and all students and staff that have been involved in raising money and awareness for Cancer Research UK this year. We have had lots of events including bake sales, Easter raffles, coffee mornings and we held our very own Race For Life. The final amount raised is still being counted but it is well over the £1000 mark. Thanks to all members of the school community who sponsored us throughout the year.

I am pleased to say that I had lots of applicants from the two Year 10 forms for the role of House Captain. After reading their letters and interviewing each applicant I had a very difficult decision to make but I am pleased to announce that my House Captains are Harrison and Nicole. They will do a fantastic job and I look forward to working with them over the next 12 months.

I am looking forward to our final celebration assembly of the year where we will be celebrating the achievement of the students in Stephenson both in class and in extra curricular activities too.

Have a lovely summer!
Best wishes
Mrs Steele
Junior Masterchef

22 high school pupils from across Warrington and Vale Royal swapped the classroom for the Winwick Road college’s state-of-the-art kitchens when they took part in Junior Masterchef on Friday 22nd June.

Great Sankey High School were represented by 4 teams. The teams did fantastically well and won Best Pastry award, as part of their prize the girls get a day doing confectionery and chocolate work at Warrington and Vale Royal College. Judges Scott Surtees, chef lecturer at Warrington & Vale Royal College and pastry chef, and Rob Bruford from Dine Contract Catering – who sponsored the event – had a tough time deciding on a winner, describing the standard of food produced as being “absolutely mind-blowing”.

Each team was tasked with producing a chicken dish, as well as a pastry-based dessert. Other schools taking part in the competition were Culcheth High School, University Academy Warrington, Weaverham High School and Cardinal Newman with Culcheth being crowned winners.

Teacher Mrs Knight, from Great Sankey, said: “Taking part in Junior Masterchef at Warrington & Vale Royal College is an amazing opportunity for our students to work in the industry standard kitchens and feel the pressure as well as improve their overall skills. They have all really enjoyed today and have been encouraged – the enthusiasm that the judges have shown has really spurred them on.”. Chef lecturer Scott Surtees said: “The standard of food produced today as part of Junior Masterchef was absolutely mind-blowing and made judging for myself and Rob extremely difficult. We actually held our own internal competition earlier this month and the majority of the food produced today would have been ranked really highly against that of our full-time catering students. “I hope that these young chefs continue to pursue catering and it’s great to see a standard of food coming through from schools that we would be proud to serve in a restaurant.”

Student Librarians

Congratulations to the newly appointed team of student librarians: Max (8AC), Katie (8AC), Zak (8AS), Evie (8AS), Ella (8BK), Muntazir (8NW), Hashim (8NW) and Harry (8PD). The new team started their training this week and will be ready to take up their positions in September when they are in Year 9. The application process was a rigorous one, with the students having to apply in writing and then attend an interview. Congratulations and good luck to them all when they take up their new positions in Sept.
Rugby Reading Champions

Christine Everett and Matthew Entwistle from LiveWire have been busy working with a group of Year 7s to build their confidence around reading. The project is run in partnership with Warrington Wolves Foundation and Wolves’ player Joe Philbin who is their reading champion. The six week programme has been jam packed with activities; students have created animations of their favourite books, written their own poems and even took a trip out to the Stadium for a tour.

Some comments from the students:
“\textit{I feel more confident reading in front of others}”
“\textit{Creating an animation has helped my imagination}”
“\textit{It was a once in a lifetime opportunity to meet Joe Philbin}”
“\textit{i made new friends}”

The Year 7s involved have been fantastic - well done Year 7s!

Thanks to Christine and Matthew from LiveWire and to Joe Philbin and the Warrington Wolves Foundation for your support in inspiring our young people.

Music News

Summer Concert
Congratulations and thank you to all students involved in the Summer Concert. We had performances from Sankey Singers, Bellas, Swing Band, Junior Ensemble, The Hit Men, Rock Bands and Year 11 and Year 13 Leavers. A night full of creativity, versatility, talent and infectious enthusiasm! We look forward to welcoming our new Year 7’s in September to our music family.
For more information of next year’s concerts and events, please contact Miss J Foster (Head of Music).

Instrumental Lessons
We are currently organising the timetable of instrumental lesson for September 2018. We have ten part time Peripatetic instrumental/ vocal teachers who offer tuition on pretty much any instrument you can think of! Individual lessons are 20 minutes long and cost £7 per week. If students don’t have their own instrument, we have several we can loan out. For an application form, or for more details, please contact Miss J Foster (Head of Music). Lessons are allocated on a first come, first served basis.
Tuesday 26th June it was GSHS’s RAK day!
(Random Acts of Kindness)

The year 8 happiness team put on a great event on the 26th June. All the school, including staff were asked to do a random act of kindness for someone. This could be anything from, smiling at someone on the corridor, sitting with someone at break/lunch who may be sitting on their own, or saying a positive comment to someone!

The team put a lot of effort organising this day and displayed great teamwork! They also put up a great display which promoted some of the random acts of kindness that was completed that day.

The team have also worked on lots of positive mental health projects this year and recently had to go and present their ideas and the work they have done to other students at Culcheth High School!

A big well done to all your hard work.

MFL News

Guten Tag! Bonjour! Hola! We’ve been having a fantastic end of year in the Modern Foreign Languages department. 24 pupils from Year 8 Newton and Parks were selected to take part in the annual German Masterclasses, having shown excellent attainment and effort in German. The pupils were put through their paces in several challenging workshops, which looked at using different tenses more confidently, using connectives to develop writing, and practising spontaneous speaking skills. We were amazed by the dedication and hard-work by the pupils – well done!

Our Year 8 pupils have all been working hard on their Logo competition entries. The task is for pupils to create a new logo for the MFL department to use in official documents. This year, we stepped up the challenge a notch and asked the pupils to create their own slogans to go with their logos.

Pupils in Year 9 have been busy engaging with culture by watching Das Wunder von Bern in German, Les choristes in French and Voces innocentes in Spanish. The pupils were able to really get to grips with the underlying themes in the films, and to further their knowledge and appreciation of countries in which the language they are studying is spoken.

We all wish you a relaxing summer holiday, and look forward to welcoming you back in September.
The Barrow Hall College 2018-20 new cohort of year 12 students joined us for a day of team-building on Monday 9th July. It was wonderful to see new friendships being developed and the college team and students working so well together. The ice-cream van and BBQ were particular highlights enjoyed by all and the weather didn’t let us down! We are looking forward to welcoming the new year 12s in September and wish them all the luck in the world for results day.'
We rounded off our Year 6 transition events as students, staff, governors and the mayor joined forces to bury a time capsule at Great Sankey High School.

Current and future students collected a series of keepsakes to put inside the capsule, which will be opened in 100 years’ time.

The contents included memorabilia from each school in the trust such as uniform items, newsletters and magazines, letters from students and each head teacher, and a copy of the local newspaper.

Mr Masher said: “We brought all of the student councils together from each school as an executive student council to discuss our plans and celebrate our opening.

“One idea from their meetings was this time capsule and the high school was the chosen site for the burial to mark the students coming together, as it is where they will transfer after their primary education.”

Mr Wright, chief executive of the Omega MAT, added: “It was an important day for us. The time capsule marks the coming together formally of five schools as one organisation and is a statement in time of where we are at the start of this exciting and new journey.”
210 Year 7 students each spent 3 days on this year's Adventure Camp. An amazing time was had by all involved with the students getting involved in abseiling, canoeing, raft making, rock climbing and more (Mollie's sweet shop being a particular highlight).

Camp is a brilliant experience that not only gives students a chance to try activities they may never have before but also fosters a sense of community and team work.
Job Vacancies

We currently have vacancies for 3 Catering Assistants. These positions are 16.25 hours a week, term time only and the closing date for applicants is Monday 3rd September.

To request an application pack and view more details please visit the recruitment area of our website.