Welcome from Mr Wright, 
Omega MAT CEO:

Welcome once again to a final edition of this academic year’s Contact!

We’ve had another busy term with a range of excellent student achievements to delight you. We are so proud of all of their successes.

We have a number of staff leaving us after many years of fantastic contribution to our school and we thank them for all their hard work and commitment and wish them well in their retirement and futures. This includes our Headteacher, Paula Crawley, who has provided the school with a period of needed stability and managed many of the recent changes in education. I thank her on behalf of our whole school community for all she has achieved and congratulate her on a job well done.

I wish you all a safe and happy holiday and send Years 11 and 13 the very best of luck for August!
Mr Wright, CEO.

Welcome from Mrs Crawley, 
Headteacher:

Dear parents

It is with some sadness that I write my last introduction to this summer’s Contact magazine.

It has been an honour and a privilege to serve as Headteacher for the last 6 years. I am very proud of each and every one of our students – they are amazing! The students have made so many positive contributions to the life of the school. They are very supportive of each other and have worked tirelessly to raise money for the many and numerous charities that we support.

This term has been very busy. Year 7 students enjoyed the delights of the Year 7 camp. Our Year 9’s have been busy throughout the year completing their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award, this last half term has seen them participate in the expedition. I would like to thank all the staff who have organised these events, as without their support we would not be able to offer so many opportunities to our students.

It was a pleasure to spend time with our Year 13 and Year 11 leavers at their proms. I wish them all every success and look forward to celebrating their results with them in August. It was lovely to see so many of our Year 11s enjoying the team building activities on their College taster day.

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I am looking forward to watching our Year 7 rugby team play in the final at Wembley in August. This is an amazing opportunity and I know the team and Mr Gee are really excited

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

With very best wishes
P Crawley
Congratulations and welcome to our new House Captains Olivia and Cian. 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 such a strong field 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.

Inter-House/ sport
Another Brilliant year of inter-house events, including the bake off, football, dodgeball and sports day.

Students from Bannister have also enjoyed sporting successful in many areas from cross country to football and a special mention has to go out to the Year 7 rugby team whom have won every competition going. Best of luck to them in the Wembley final

Charity
Bannister house have continued their caring and giving spirit this year. Getting involved in cake sales, sponsored bike rides, raffles and much more.

The Bannister volunteer club have been an absolute pleasure to work with on a Friday night and have really done themselves and the school proud. They have litter picked in the local area, supported numerous charities and most impressive of all they have given up a great deal of time to plan activities and work with the residents of Green Lane Residential home. A massive thank you and well done to all involved.

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.

Mrs Bayne

It has been another great year for Austen House with students excelling in football, netball, dodgeball and the school sports day. We had fantastic entries in the bake off that tasted as delicious as they looked!

Austen students have showed their skills in all areas of school life and outside of school, performing in concerts, having success in their sport clubs and showing themselves to be valuable members of the community.

It has been as pleasure as always to work with Austen students and i am looking forward to starting the school year working with our new House Captains, I am certain they will do a brilliant job!

Mrs Masher
It has been another fantastic year for students in Newton House with a number of impressive performances.

In athletics Olivia has enjoyed a successful year representing Cheshire for javelin. Good luck to Toby who is competing in the British Nationals in swimming over the summer holidays, Toby will be racing in several events including the 50M backstroke, 100M front crawl and 50M fly. Within the House I have enjoyed seeing students participate in the interhouse bake offs, dance shows, dodgeball, football and STEM club.

Well done to Andrew, Jason and Ceejay who made the national finals for ‘the race to the line’ and students that competed at Town Sports particularly the girls who were overall winners. I would like to say a big thank you to Owen who has played the piano beautifully in a number of assemblies this year, his performances have been an inspiration.

Congratulations to Ashvin who was successful in his application for Deputy Head Boy and I would also like to welcome Toby and Ellen as new House Captains you will do a fantastic job.

A huge well done to Ellie who won the Newton Giant award this year, a fantastic achievement for Ellie who has raised over £100 for charity this year.

Finally I would like to thank all students for their efforts this year, have a great summer and I will see you all in September.

Mr Bate

House Captains
I am very pleased to announce that the new House Captains are Natayla and Sophia both from 10PV. Well done and I look forward to working alongside you next year.

Bake – off
In recent weeks Ms Knight has supervised 2 after school Bake-Off inter-house competitions involving both the Year 7s and the Year 8s. Congratulations to both teams who each came Second in their respective competitions.

Sports Day
Parks House achieved Second place in the recent Sports Day. Congratulations to all those who represented the House and thanks to the rest of the House who cheered on those competing.

Snippets from the forms
7PS – Georgia competed in a riding competition at Croft
7PP – Max and Zak’s football team lost in the semi-final in a penalty shoot-out.
8PT – Josh has moved up to Intermediate 1 in gymnastics
9PH – Katie and Abbie have both been busy with their dancing whilst Charlotte continues with her Drama work.
10PJ – Holly is singing at the Halton Stadium with Owen Lancaster. Meanwhile, Josh’s team topped the basketball league.
10PV – Izzy achieved a First place in her dance competition.

Mrs Lee

Nightmare slumber
I’m blinded by the feeling
I’m trapped, bound
I can’t move, jump or cry for help
Tied without a rope.
Imprisoned without a cage.
Nothing can be heard
Just the noise in my head.
An ocean, the water is murky and deep.
It stays with me everywhere I go.
I feel tired; worthless.
My body so heavy, and I feel I can’t take it no more.
Legs ache with every step
Threatening to crumble.
Just one step, one step, I tell myself, but my lies pile up; and I drag them around too.
Eyes flickering, like shutters on a camera.
They capture the cold, dark and empty eyes.
For that is my world.
The wasteland behind my eyelids.
I call it nightmare slumber.

Lucie 8PD
The year has flown by – we have had lots of success in interhouse 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 fabulous to kick the year off with a great winning start!

Stephenson House have done amazingly well and been crowned House Champions 2019. Well done to the whole House for your fantastic efforts throughout the year. 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 our 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 Alder Hey Children’s hospital. We have had lots of events including bake sales, Easter raffles, coffee mornings and lots of glitter! The final amount raised is still being. Thanks to all parents who sponsored us throughout the year.

We had some shockingly bad news in March of this year when we were told our beautiful Amber tragically lost her battle with cancer. We had a memorial day in school where every member of the school, staff and children wore bright clothes to remember Amber. We raised a lot of money on this day for the charity Charlie’s Chance, which is the charity that supported Amber and her family. We will continue to raise money for Charlie’s Chance in the next school year too.

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 Molly and Ellinor. They will do a fantastic job and I look forward to working with them over the next 12 months.

Best wishes
Mrs Steele

This is just a short message to say thank you to all the form tutors in Thompson House for all their work this year. I would especially like to mention Mr Stocks who is leaving to begin a new job, promoted to head of Geography in a school in Bolton. Mr Brindle has also been a member of the Thompson house tutor team for the last four years and is taking a well-earned retirement after 31 years at Great Sankey high school.

I also want to congratulate Eve and Jack who have been selected to represent Thompson House as our new House captains.

Finally, as you may already know, I too am retiring at the end of this year. It has been a pleasure to lead Thompson House since the creation of the House system in 2007. My job would have been impossible without the support of Mrs Buchan in the house office, so a massive thank you to her! I have thoroughly enjoyed my teaching career over the last 32 years here.

I wish Mr Stewart, the new head of Thompson House, all the very best for the continued success of Thompson House, but most of all I wish great success to all of the students of Thompson house.

Mr Caithorn
A group of students have recently taken part in the Cheshire Book Quiz 2019. Students need to be in Year 7 or 8 to take part in the quiz that runs every year from October-June. To take part, they had to read 6 books and be able to answer questions on each, along with general questions on a wide range of other titles.

Participants from the 24 schools that took part were invited to the Cheshire Book Quiz final which took place at The Kings School, Chester. The guest speaker was historical author, Paul Dowswell.

Well done to all the students.

We recently took some of our Year 9 and 10 students for a reward event to ClueHQ in Warrington. ClueHQ is a live escape room and the students really enjoyed themselves, working together to solve puzzles, unlock rooms and escape in under 60 minutes.

The students had a fantastic time and were a credit to themselves and the school.

Emma represented the school last week singing a solo at Liverpool Anglican Cathedral at the Feast of Choirs Gospel Event. Voice of an angel! Well done Emma.

Congratulations to pianist Owen from Year 7 for representing GSHS in Accent Music Hub’s “Young Musician of the Year” at St Luke’s in Widnes.

All the young musicians from across Warrington and Halton were super talented and really entertained the adjudicators and audience.

It is with some sadness that we say goodbye to the current Year 11. Their last day was a festival of fancy dress with a concert in the afternoon featuring their classmates and teachers.

We all wish them the very best of luck with their exam results and future in general, and look forward to seeing those returning to Barrow Hall College in September.
Year 7 Adventure Camp

This year saw another Year 7 adventure camp. Everybody had a fantastic time taking part in all of the activities, learning new skills and enjoying spending time with their classmates.

Hiking, raft building, rock climbing, archery and shelter building were amongst the things keeping the Year 7s busy, and they all did brilliantly.

The students were a credit to themselves. Thank you to all the staff involved.
What a fantastic year it has been in Food Technology. There have been some amazing dishes made and I'm impressed as always with the quality of presentation by some students.

Year 7s have loved the practical lessons and I'm delighted that lots of students have adapted the basic recipes to make them their own. Year 8s have enjoyed the more challenging recipes and it has been lovely to see photos of the recipes they have made again at home! The Year 9s have been lucky enough to have 2 lessons per fortnight this year and have made a whole variety of multicultural dishes as well as technical challenges and competitions.

Our GCSE classes have been superb and I am always wowed by the attention to detail in practical sessions.

Year 10 have really improved their skills and enjoyed making a wide variety of pastry dishes, enriched breads and home made pasta to name a few. The Year 11s excelled in the practical exam and it was a pleasure to see their hard work paying off. Once the marks have been verified we will share the amazing photos so you too will be astounded by the quality.

A Masterclass course was organised for selected Year 9s this term too and they learnt how to portion a chicken and make a roux to produce a Chicken and Leek Pie, as well as producing Fruit Tarts with Pate Sucree and Creme Patisserie. Another highlight was the production of Choux pastry to make Toffee Profiteroles!

Transition Day at Barrow Hall College is designed to introduce Year 12 September starters to the college. The students attended talks, took part in team building exercises and enjoyed a BBQ and ice cream. It was a brilliant day with all of the students spending time getting to know their future classmates and tutors.

Our college team are always available to speak to you about your future options and arrange for you to come in for a visit.

http://www.barrowhallcollege.co.uk
The time has flown by since January and we are almost at the end of the summer term. The GCSE and A level exams went really well and both external moderators gave very positive feedback when they visited school.

The student's work looked great with an enormous range of diverse materials, techniques and responses. The quality of work in sketchbooks is always highly praised and it is great to be able to support and encourage students to have such pride in their work. It is always lovely to see the exciting range of independent exam responses from the same initial starting point. Every student has their own "right answer" which is fantastic! It’s now fingers crossed for results day!

Art clubs have continued to thrive this term with Year 7 regularly packing C5 to the rafters on Wednesday afternoons. Year 10 art and textiles students have been working on a cultural project on Thursday afternoons and the work produced is looking great so far.

Year 12 students have been busy visiting degree shows and exhibitions and starting to plan for their time after BHC. It was great to visit the end of year exhibitions at Carmel and the degree shows at MMU to see the work of past students.

Year 10 have got their holiday homework task to visit a gallery or exhibition – there are loads of great exhibitions and galleries around our region and most of them are free to visit. Get out there and see what’s happening in the art world. If you are travelling further afield there are galleries in holiday spots and far flung places all over the world. There is a Year 7 and 8 holiday drawing challenge with prizes in September – see your teacher for details.

There are more exciting changes in the next school year – after our current art team teaching for almost 120 years between us, I am retiring and Mrs Forber is leaving to start a new job on the Wirral which is much closer to home. There will be two new art teachers joining the department in September and Mrs Philcock is taking over as Head of Department. Meanwhile, I will be busy painting and off to visit as many galleries as I can starting with the Royal Academy Summer show and the Chihuly glass exhibition at Kew gardens.

Have a lovely summer and good luck for next year!
This is a STEM competition open to all Year 7 pupils and is inspired by the Bloodhound SSC land speed record. Overall there were 196 schools, from all over England and Wales, taking part in the competition this year.

The objective is to design, develop, make and race a model rocket powered model car. The design and making was completed in the Design & Technology lessons, with links to science, maths and ICT.

This year we saw 100 cars designed and made with them all being raced in March 2019. A big thank you to the sixth form BTEC Engineers for their help on the day and also Mr Gould for helping fire the rockets.

The top three teams were:
1. RedExcallibuss
2. Nothin
3. Squad IIIX

The top team was then invited to compete in the North West Regional Final at Cardinal Langley RC School, Manchester. This event took place in May 2019 and our winning team (RedExcallibuss) had to re-build their race car for the event and finished second, which allowed them to represent the North West at the National Final, in June, at RAF Duxford, Cambridgeshire.

June 27th, National Final and the pupils find out that there are two 6 O’Clocks in the day! Again the team had to re-build their car ready for the race. Once built there was time to look around the stalls and exhibits from various organisations. This was followed by a visit to the air museum and a walk through Concord as well as other planes on show.

Then it was time to race the car against the other 55 schools present. The final result was that we finished a very creditable 17th overall. In September 196 teams started the competition and 55 teams went to the final so as you can see the team did brilliantly.

A big well done to the team, Jason, Andrew and Ayjay as well as a big thankyou to all staff and students involved in this year’s competition.

Great Sankey High School has signed up for season 5 and has secured sponsorship from HIDEN Analytical, Warrington, so we look forward to working with them on the competition.

Next year’s year 7 have a pretty high standard to beat.
Summer term has seen over 230 students complete their bronze expeditions and 42 complete silver.

The majority of awards are now complete with a presentation evening planned for autumn term. Thanks to all the staff who have helped out at these expeditions.
Summer Concert

Congratulations to all students who performed in the Music department Summer Concert. We had an array of genres and traditions ranging from “The Hit Men” performing “Ghostbusters” on timpani, marimba, glockenspiel, kit and congas to a SATB Wicked medley accompanied by a staff band. A collective team effort from Year 7 right through to Year 13. A huge thanks to our parent group, FoSM for all your continued support.

We wish every success to Barrow Hall College student Matthew in Year 13 who has been offered a place to read music at King’s College, Cambridge. Well done to all of our students who have completed music examinations supported by our wonderful team of peripatetic music tutors.
Sports Day 2019

The sun shone and the competition was tight for this year's sports day. The whole school took part in track and field events and cheered on their Houses in the relay races to see Newton take the title of 2019 Champions.

A fantastic day, well done to all the competitors!
**Rugby**

The success of the Year 7 team continues; the team have reached the National final of the RFL Champion Schools competition to be played as a curtain raiser to the Challenge Cup final Wembley stadium on 24th August. Since the semi final they have also won the RFL National 9 a side competition and the Warrington Schools 9 a side.

The Year 8 and 9 teams also played in the Warrington 9 a side finals. The Year 9 team lost 16-20 in a close contest with a strong Bridgewater HS side and the year 8 won the Plate competition beating Kings academy 34-12.

Thanks to Mr Stocks for his work with this team over the last two years.

**Athletics**

Congratulations to the Girl’s athletics team who won the Warrington Town Sports Athletics Championships for the first time ever – what a fantastic achievement and what a great trophy!

**Football**

Lacey has been selected for Cheshire school U13’s – the only Year 7 girl to be selected. Well done Lacey!