



HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME

Hello and welcome to our March Newsletter. There has been a lot of coverage in the press about these unprecedented and challenging times, and they are correct. We all have to do our bit to secure the safety and well being of those around us, at the moment we're doing that by staying at home in order to slow the spread of Covid19.

There are some practical bits of useful information contained in the newsletter and also on our website – we're doing our best to keep people informed every step of the way and if you have any suggestions or feedback we are always willing to listen and try to do things even better. An enormous thank you to all those parents who have taken the time to pass on their thanks and good news stories, these are wonderful messages to share with staff and keep us all motivated.

Staff and students are working hard to maintain the high standards we expect from everyone. All I can say is well done! Keep it up! and just keep trying your very best!

We are still awaiting formal news in relation to what will happen to the results for our Year 11s and 13s. Rest assured we are doing everything we can to make sure no-one is disadvantaged by the changes being put in place for the summer assessments, that everyone receives the grades they deserve and that these reflect the tremendous amount of hard work you have all put into your studies in recent years. Also let me reassure you that **at some point in the future our school Proms will happen!**

It has been incredibly heartwarming to see the way in which all our students, parents and staff have approached this with their usual **'can do' positive attitude**. I believe looking out for those around us is a philosophy that is right at the heart of the UCC community, and whether it is doing our bit to tackle Covid19 or just looking out for friends, neighbours and colleagues – this is something that comes naturally to all those who are a part of UCC.

We are all likely to know someone who works in the NHS as do many of your friends and relatives, and if not the health service perhaps they are other front-line workers. Over the coming weeks they will be deployed to do their very best to look after those amongst us who need it most. So, to everyone who is contributing or making this possible, **I offer my sincere thanks.**

We will continue to do everything we can to support all your efforts although there will undoubtedly be some tough times ahead of us!

Mr Gilby
Headteacher



Issue 3 – March 2020

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WORK AT UCC

We're advertising for new members of staff at UCC:

- Cover supervisors (two posts)
- School Librarian
- Internal Exclusion Unit (IEU) Manager

Please see the school website for full details.

CANCELLATIONS!

Unfortunately, the following events have had to be cancelled because of the school closure. We hope to be able to re-arrange some of these in the future:

April 17: Spring concert

April 23: Drama trip to Northern Stage

May 1: Higher education fair

YEAR 10 UPDATE

As we enter this period of change in terms of how you access school, it is more important than ever to recognise the brilliant things our students do. Over the coming weeks I would love to hear about things you have been up to so please email me updates at mcastle@ullswatercc.co.uk.

In the weeks leading up to the school closure the Year 10s did loads of really brilliant things. Their involvement in supporting "Sport Relief", especially those students on the Sports Council, allowed the school to raise in excess of £1200, which was an amazing effort. They were directly involved in bake sales, wear-your-own-kit-to-PE lessons, quizzes, a dodgeball tournament and the staff v. student netball match, where I must give a special mention to Freya Leathers who quite simply marked me out of the game – well played Freya and to all the other students who took part!

Other Year 10 sports teams were also in action. The footballers enjoyed an excellent fixture away at Windermere School, where they played and beat two teams, and the rugby players did themselves proud at the 7's tournament. Lewis Jackson once again showed off his amazing culinary skills at the Ready, Steady Cook competition whilst on a more day-to-day matter all students have been working super hard at their GCSEs, with many subjects starting important pieces of coursework.



Please, please, please send me updates on what you are up to, keep up with your studies and above all stay safe.

Mr Castle, Head of Year 10

ONLINE SAFETY PACKS

Each fortnight the school will be sending home activity packs around the subject of Online Safety. These packs have two 15-minute activities that parents can work on with their children, created by the National Crime Agency.

We feel this is timely with current school closures resulting in an ever-increasing reliance on online resources by students continuing their education from home.

There will be a different focus each fortnight, with the first pack discussing the issue of online peer pressure.

Mr Jackson
Head of ICT



CHECK OUT THE ART DEPARTMENT!

Why not have a look at the Art Department Twitter feed – [uccartdept](https://twitter.com/uccartdept) – to see the daily art challenges that are being set and some of the students' work.



PRIORITY CHILDCARE HUB

UCC is closed until further notice. In line with government guidance, children should be kept at home if at all possible. The provision for children of essential workers has relocated to Beaconside Primary School from Monday 30 March (9.30 to 3.40).

Please note that, as before, **this offer of emergency childcare applies only to children of essential workers** and to vulnerable children. If your child(ren) fall into these categories, let us know whether to expect them next week by emailing: prioritychildcare@ullswatercc.co.uk Please include the name of your employer and the category you fall into in your email.

Students should be dropped off in the Eden Mount car park and should use the access door to the Junior school, **not** the main school reception. Students should be in full school uniform and must bring a packed lunch.

Mr Pattinson

YEAR 7 UPDATE

Looking back and celebrating the wonderful efforts of our new Year 7s is a perfect opportunity to reflect on the great work and achievements they managed before these unprecedented times!

In February we were lucky enough to celebrate two separate achievement moments with our students in the form of the Platinum Award and the first ever 100% Club. Both of these awards reflect exceptional effort from the students receiving them and it is important to take a moment to recognise those efforts.

We were able to distribute the first eight Platinum badges to pupils who had managed to accrue a staggering 225 positive ATL points within the first half of the year! Since then, we have been delighted to see a total of 31 pupils achieving the same number of points, with three students going on to achieve their Diamond Award by collecting 300 points!

In addition to that, an amazing 48 pupils managed to achieve a perfect 100% attendance score for the first 100 days of the year AND secure 100 or more positive ATL points! No mean feat by any length of the imagination in a year where many of us encountered illness along the way. These pupils will have their names entered for a prize draw later in the year in recognition for their efforts.

It is encouraging to see so many of the Year 7s continuing to make strong efforts via the virtual school environment and ATL points are still being gathered for excellent efforts and engagement with the lessons. Our Year Team has come up with many innovative ways of continuing to achieve the school pledges even while isolating at home and I continue to be impressed by the innovative resilience of the young people in Year 7, who have done themselves and UCC proud.

Well done to all of Year 7, stay safe and I look forward to welcoming you back when school re-opens.

Mr Forrest
Head of Year 7



CONTACT US

We are always pleased to hear from parents. Please get in touch with us if you have any concerns:

E-mail: admin@ullswatercc.co.uk

Or visit the school website:
www.ullswatercc.co.uk

THE EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ)

Currently, 92 Year 11 and Year 12 students have signed up to the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) and 27 members of staff have agreed to support them online, through Google Classrooms.

The EPQ involves students researching a topic that interests them and then writing an academic report on their findings. This essay can be in the form of a scientific report, a literature review or an artefact. An artefact is a commission that a student creates; previous examples include pieces of art, a dance performance, fashion garments and computer games. Current project ideas include: "Can architects aid the environment?", "What do someone's dreams really say about them?" and "Should religion be taught in schools?".

The research focus of the project makes the EPQ highly regarded by universities and gives students the opportunity to experience degree-level study before deciding on this career path. The EPQ also has the benefit of commanding UCAS tariff points. We wish all the students involved the very best of luck!

Mr Jackson
Head of Sixth Form

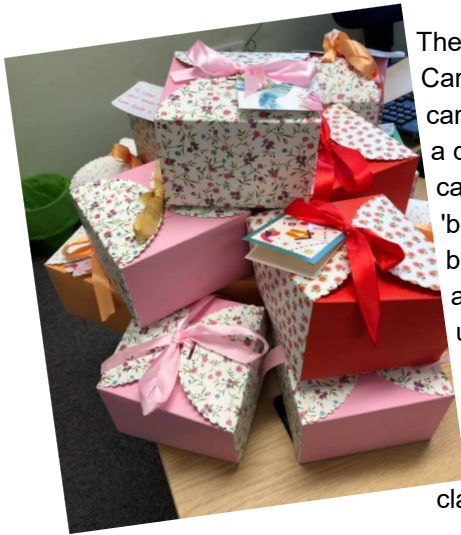
YEAR 7 RAINBOWS!

Students in 7EMC have been creating colourful rainbows to put in their windows at home to bring some colour and cheer to people who pass by in the street. Here are some early examples...

Mrs McCormick



HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE



The Year 11 Health and Social care class have been very busy this month. Eden Carers kindly gave their time to talk to the students about the role of a carer. Many carers are unpaid and find themselves looking after a relative or friend who, due to a disability, illness or old age, cannot manage at home without their help. Caring can be an extremely demanding and often isolating role, so the class made 'boxes of love' to bring a smile to the hard-working carers within Eden. Students brought in gifts ranging from hair and body care to chocolate and candles. They added messages of support to the boxes to show the receiver that they are valued and that they are doing a wonderful job.

With the coronavirus making an appearance in Cumbria, trips to local care homes were cancelled. Outreach work is vital for our Health and Social care classes to see hands-on care and practice core skills that are discussed in class. The residents have always thoroughly enjoy meeting our students and it makes us so proud as a department to see our students engage with, and put a smile on the face of each individual they connect with. As a result of this, students wrote letters to the residents to let them know we are thinking of them at this challenging time. Replies from the residents have been posted on Year 11 Health and Social Care Google Classrooms and will bring both a smile (and a tear) to your eyes. Please encourage your son/daughter to send a message, poem or picture to an elderly person living near you to keep the community spirits up, it really does mean a lot to them.



Mrs Davidson