



Hello everyone and welcome to the final newsletter of the year...

It is hard to believe that I have only been here at Ullswater for two academic years when so much has happened. Once again, it has been an absolute pleasure working with and getting to know such a wonderful and supportive group of staff, parents and of course our amazing students!

It has been a challenging year. When we returned in September all those months ago, we were optimistic that the lockdown was behind us and we could get about our business supporting all our students to make progress in the classroom and have another great year at UCC.

Looking back, it is hard to describe the many difficulties everyone has faced but once again the UCC community has pulled together and overcome those challenges.

Once again, our staff have gone above and beyond to do our very best for every one of the young people in our charge.

Once again, our parents and carers have done everything they can to support the school and support our students inside and outside school.

Once again, our students have proved themselves to be our greatest asset – now and into the future. Their resilience, commitment, attitude, effort and adaptability is to be commended, you should be very proud of them!

Plans for September are well underway and a lot of useful information appears in this newsletter and on the school website. So please take a few minutes to take a good look through.

We have done our best throughout the last year to keep those clear lines of communication open; something that will continue over the coming weeks. If we have learnt one thing it is that we will need to continue to respond and adapt to an ever-changing landscape and prepare as best we can for whatever is around the next corner.

As I said last year – the journey to being an Outstanding school is hard, but it is no less than our students deserve and we will continue to build on the progress we have already made.

Remember – stay safe, stay in touch and let us know if you need anything. 2021–22 is going to be another incredible year.

My thanks to each and every one of you.

Kind regards
Mr Gilby
Headteacher

WELCOME BACK!

We look forward to welcoming students back into school in September:

- Thursday 2 September: Years 7, 11 and 13 only
- Friday 3 September: all year groups

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YEAR 7 COUNCIL

The recently formed Year 7 Council is a fantastic opportunity for Year 7 students to voice their opinions and ideas about their time at UCC and has already come up with some excellent ideas and strategies to make the student experience even more enjoyable.

Well done to all those who stepped out of their comfort zone to take part in the elections! We're excited to see the positive difference you are going to make to UCC and the community.



Mr Key
Head of Year 7

Members of the
Year 7 Council

STUDENT LIBRARIANS

As UCC Library continues to develop, student voice and direction is paramount. The library stock is expanding all the time and students are invited to suggest and request books and resources they would like us to buy. Recent popular requests include numerous manga series, science-fiction novels and LGBTQ+ titles.

Of course, once new books are bought they then need to be processed. This is where our stellar team of Year 7 students librarians has woven their booky magic this half-term. Staying after school once a week, the eight students have stickered and processed hundreds of books, readying them for borrowing in September.

The student librarian team will grow next year when more students will be able to apply for a role.

Miss McKay
School Librarian



HEGARTY MATHS

All students can use Hegarty Maths to further develop their maths skills. To help them catch up, teachers have set their students tasks on specific areas for development to work through over the summer. Students can also work on any other areas of maths by typing the topic into the Hegarty search bar and selecting a task.



Miss John, Head of Mathematics

A VISIT FROM SKYE

Key Stage 4/5 students who were researching the skills and qualities needed in the workplace were delighted when Nicky Williams from the Oak Tree Animal Charity and her rescue dog, Skye, paid them a visit.

Through an informative question-and-answer session they found out the five stages of animal care, the laws that protect animals and the personal qualities needed to work at the rescue centre.

KS4/5 Students



EARLY YEARS AND HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

The virtual baby has been on her travels, enjoying Covid-safe overnight stays with the Early Years students. So far, all the students have achieved 100% in their care skills!



The virtual baby helps students to experience meta-cognitive growth in practical parenting skills along with better understanding of dealing with babies' needs, coping with stress and time management.

In Health and Social Care, students Ellie Morton and Callie Beattie have started their Level 3 Health and Social Care work placement at Cumbria Quality Care. This fantastic placement

gives them the opportunity to work alongside qualified and experienced practitioners and is enabling them to put into practice the theory they have covered far on the course. They would both like to volunteer with Cumbria Quality Care over the summer and will continue to develop their experience throughout Year 13. Both Callie and Ellie plan to follow careers in nursing and paramedic science when they leave the sixth form.

Sharon Baxter, one of the directors of Cumbria Quality Care, commented:

“ From how they did on their first day I think they show fantastic potential for a career in health and social care. Callie and Ellie did great. They got involved and interacted really well with the clients,

not an easy task when all of our clients yesterday had either dementia or Alzheimer's disease. They should be very proud of how they did.

It was an absolutely fabulous day and the clients interacted really well, participated and had smiles ear to ear. In the morning they did some activities like painting,

sanding of wood, board games, chatting, darts and then went for a short walk. This gave us a good chance to see how they interacted with each other and their individual capabilities. ”



Other students on the course are also busy attending or organising placements at other local partner organisations including Mencap and North Lakes School.

Well done Callie and Ellie, you have set the standard for all of our Health and Social Care students. I'm sure you'll agree, they certainly look the part in their uniform!

Mrs McCormick

1000 POSITIVE ATLS!

Ten students in Year 7 have achieved over 1000 positive Attitude to Learning awards (ATLS) this school year. This is an outstanding achievement considering what a strange year it has been!

Every single one of these students shares the same qualities of resilience, determination and enthusiasm. They are a credit to the school and their families. If they continue through UCC with the same exceptional attitude they are sure to leave with some superb results. Well done to the 'top 10' – you should be incredibly proud of all your endeavours!

Mr Key, Head of Year 7



CLARE BALDING

Year 7 students enjoyed an exclusive virtual visit from Clare Balding this term, in which she discussed her new book *Fall Off, Get Back On, Keep Going*. The book is full of real-life anecdotes, tips and tricks for building resilience and self-belief.

Students delighted in hearing anecdotes from the sports and TV star about times she has slipped up in life and how she builds herself back up.

Miss McKay
School Librarian

YEAR 12 BOOK CLUB

Year 12 Early Years students continue to enjoy their weekly book club. Each week, students note their insights and share them with the group.

Book clubs are a great way to gain other perspectives on the world. Not only do books help us learn about the world around us through the text itself, they facilitate conversation and discussion. As books bring out thoughts and personal experiences of their readers, book clubs can be a great way to see the world through someone else's viewpoint.



RESULTS DAYS

This year, both GCSE and A level results days will take place in the same week.

A Level results: from 8.30am* on Tuesday 10 August 2021

GCSE results: from 10am on Thursday 12 August 2021.

***Please note change in time from 8am**

If you're not able to attend and collect your results in person, please contact exams@ullswatercc.co.uk and we will send your results to you via email (on the day) or by post (you'll receive them the following day).

PLAY and LEARNING cakes

Sixth Form Early Years students enjoyed an end of term bake-off with the theme 'play & learning'. Their creations were nothing short of spectacular and we all enjoyed the judging!



LET THEM eat cake!

The Year 12 Health & Social Care students carried out an action research project to answer the question: "Does eating cake improve well being?"

Overall, the results show that eating cake does improve wellbeing, so feel free to treat yourself, in moderation of course!

Special thanks to Mrs Robertson who was invited (and accepted the challenge enthusiastically) to take part in the study.



SUMMER ENGLISH— EDUCAKE

The English Department is delighted to be able to provide help and support with additional learning over the summer break. As well as signing up to read 'Six in Six' (six books across six weeks) with the Library, students can also benefit from Educake, an extremely student-friendly online learning platform.

Educake allows students to select bespoke areas they wish to work on – spelling, punctuation, grammar, vocabulary and comprehension activities – and provides them with immediate feedback. Their scores are logged as a percentage and they can track their own progress from the Home screen; their teachers can see their incredible efforts too!

[Access Educake here](#)

Students: don't worry if you can't remember your username and log-in – you can request these from the website; your password has been reset (to your username – all lower case).

Mrs Wilson

FOREST SCHOOLS

In a nutshell, Forest Schools take learning outdoors for a part of the day. This may involve exploring the woods as a group and collecting treasures, building a den or simply taking a lesson outdoors away from the classroom.

Forest Schools began in the UK in 1993 and are based on a Scandinavian idea that recognises the importance of children's contact with nature. Our Early Years students certainly enjoyed being outdoors and making a bug hotel, aptly naming it Bug-Ingham palace!



MATHS SUMMER COMPETITION

Prizes will be awarded in September to the students in each year group who improve their Times Tables Rock Stars scores the most during the 6-week holiday



POLAR BEAR – THE POET

Performance poet Polar Bear paid a virtual visit to Year 8 students recently. A wonderful time was had coming up with poetry ideas, building confidence for performance and hearing some of Polar Bear's amazing work!

Following this experience, the students have been learning poems by heart for our big Creative Futures Festival oracy celebration on July 9th, when class representatives will be competing. May the best class win!

Miss Allen, English



a message FOR YEAR 8

What a turbulent time we have seen again this year and what a credit the shared attitudes of Year 8 pupils and parents have been in making sure that once again we are making the most of the situation!

I have been so proud and impressed by the resilience of the pupils in Year 8 and their ability to keep going with such a shared and positive outlook. We have made the most of our time in our bubble and the Maths block and Eamont Gardens have started to feel like home. These final weeks of glorious sunshine and the investment in outdoor seating have created an idyll in the centre of it all. Year 8 have made the very best of the space and have joined in sporting activities at lunch time, which have demonstrated our positive and inclusive attitude to all things. The pupils really are a credit to their families and the school and I cannot express enough, on behalf of the entire staff year team, our thanks and gratitude for your support.

As the final days of the school year pass and the holidays begin, we are looking ahead to Year 9 and all that we hope this will bring: a return to 'normal' school movement, access again to specialist teaching areas, an improved school uniform and so on. In addition, the Year 8s will be entering the mid-point of their journey to GCSEs and the options process will begin in earnest later this year. I have every confidence that once again this exceptional group of young people will prove their worth and demonstrate the same determined engagement with making UCC and our year group great!

I wish you all a well earned and restful holiday!

Mr Forrest
Head of Year 8

PARENT GOVERNOR vacancies

From the end of September there will be vacancies for three parent governors at UCC. Governors serve a 4-year term and at the end of that time either leave the Governing Body or can stand for a second term of 4 years.

Three of our parent governors began their first term of office at the end of September 2017. They can put themselves forward for re-election but we also have to offer this opportunity to all parents.

The Governing Body plays an important role in the life of UCC. It sets out and supports the strategic development of the school and holds the school leaders to account for the management and success of the school.

Governors' meetings tend to start at 5:30pm and end by 7:30pm. There are five full Governing Body meetings in the year, on Wednesdays, and each governor also serves on one of two sub-committees: Finance, Premises and Personnel or Curriculum and Standards. Each sub-committee has up to 6 meetings a year, currently on Tuesdays. In addition, each governor is linked to a department or key area of the school so that we build up our knowledge of how the school operates.

Governors are also expected to participate in training. This used to involve attendance at courses across Cumbria but the County is giving us the opportunity to use an online system of high-quality training comprising individual units lasting between 10 minutes and one and a half hours depending on the topic.

If you would like to nominate yourself to join the Governing Body, please submit:

1. A brief letter nominating yourself and countersigned by two sponsors, who should be parents of a child/children currently at the school.
2. A short statement (no more than 250 words) explaining why you would like to serve as a parent governor and outlining:
 - Any relevant skills and experience that would help the Governing Body
 - How you plan to contribute to the future work of the Governing Body
 - Whether you would be able to undertake training to acquire or develop the skills needed to be an effective governor

These statements will only be used if a vote is necessary, when they will be circulated to all those who are entitled to vote in the secret ballot.

Please email nominations to: Eleanor Flood, Clerk to the Governing Body at clerk@ullswatercc.co.uk to arrive **by 12 noon on Friday 10 September**. An election will be held if more than 3 nominations are received.

Details and a job description for the role of School Governor can be found on the school [website](#).

David Carter
Chair of the UCC Governing Body

eco garden

Year 7 students have had a wonderful time in the Eco Garden this half term, working with 'Branch out' to build dens and friendships.

Students have explored the forest, created works of art, made popcorn, played games and developed coping strategies for life.

We are looking forward to growing together – see you all in the Eco Garden soon!

The gardeners meet once a month, the next dates are:

- Saturday 17 July between 2 and 3:30pm
- Friday 13 August between 2 and 3:30pm

Email nmccanny@ullswatercc.co.uk for more details if you would like to help.

Thank you to all our community gardeners for looking after the site and making this possible.



UNIFORM Reminder

Please don't forget to order any school uniform that you require i.e. tie, jumper, skirt – **as soon as possible.**



Full information can be found on the school website: <https://ullswatercc.co.uk/uniform/>

To make a purchase: log into your www.ipayimpact.co.uk account, add the items you need to your basket and check out.

Once this has been done we will get in touch about collection slots over the summer holidays.



COVID TESTING

Students who are in school this week will be issued with a box of lateral flow tests to enable them to test during the week leading up to their return to school.

Students who were absent this week can collect test kits (free of charge) from any pharmacy over the summer holidays.

As you may be aware schools are being asked to test students twice in early September. We will be in touch later in the summer regarding consent and logistics of this testing.

ACCELERATED READER

Accelerated Reader continued to prove popular with Year 7 and 8 students this half-term. Collectively, they passed quizzes on over 2500 books and read a mammoth 102,000,000 words!

The incentive scheme has something for everybody, including scratch cards for those who enjoy short-term goals and a differentiated Millionaires' Club for those who thrive by working towards long-term goals.

Students who earned a place in this year's Millionaires' Club were rewarded with an end-of term pizza party in the library.

Miss McKay
School Librarian

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD

A 4-week holiday scheme will run at Penrith Leisure Centre over the summer holidays as part of the government's Holiday Activities and Food Programme for children who receive free school meals.

The sessions are free of charge and will run from 10am to 2pm Monday to Thursday for children aged 5-11- and 11-15 on the following dates:

- Monday 2 August to Thursday 5 August: 10 am to 2 pm
- Monday 9 August to Thursday 12 August: 10 am to 2 pm
- Monday 16 August to Thursday 19 August: 10 am to 2 pm
- Monday 23 August to Thursday 26 August: 10 am to 2 pm

Spaces are limited to 25 children aged 5–11 and 20 children aged 11–15 per day. They will be filled on a first come, first served basis. Depending on availability, you can book onto as many days as you like.

To reserve a place or request more information email:

claire.larssen@gll.org or ann.rylands@gll.org

The programme will be a mixture of sports, activities, games, cheer leading and gymnastics. Every child will have access to sandwich at lunchtime so please advise if they have any food allergies and/or medication requirements. Sessions will be delivered by qualified coaches from GLL.



CREATIVE FUTURES FESTIVAL 2021

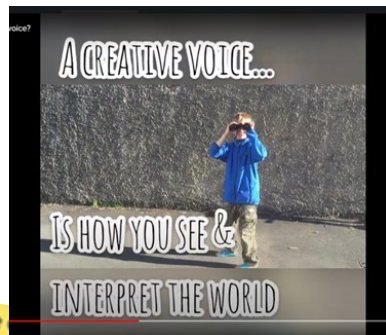


The last four weeks of the summer term saw the fourth year of UCC's 'Creative Futures' festival; this year's theme being 'Find Your Voice'.

Following strict Covid protocols, this year's festival has been bigger and better than ever, with a plethora of exciting artists and arts organisations including: Polar Bear the poet, Lakeland Arts, BlueJam Arts, UpFront Theatre, Ragtag Arts and the University of Sunderland Glass and Ceramics course.

Hundreds of students have taken part in creative activities to 'Find their voice' – COVID didn't stop UCC from making a positive end to the year.!

Year 10 students in a CFF21 maths lesson took inspiration from designer Morag Myerscough to solve maths puzzles and create some exciting geometric artwork.



What a wonderful week of creative activity we had with our friends Lakeland Arts and their new MEND van project. Over 150 of our students worked with them over a week to design and make their own zines and to contribute to an aural history project. All as part of this year's 'Find Your Voice' themed Creative Futures Festival.

We were thrilled to host the University of Sunderland's glass and ceramics students, technician and senior lecturer to work with some of our Year 9 students. What a fantastic start to their artistic careers!



HELP WITH SCHOOL MEALS AND CLOTHING

The current situation is proving difficult for many people; free school meals and clothing vouchers are available if you receive one of the following qualifying benefits:

- Income Support (IS)
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA)
- An income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs) that as of April 2012 does not exceed £16,190. *Note:* From 1st May 2009, where you are entitled to Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after your employment ceases, or after you start to work less than 16 hours per week, your children are entitled to Free School Meals, this may be extended
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Universal Credit



Please note that you may not be eligible for free school meals or clothing grants if you receive working tax credits. Children who receive Income Support or Income Based Jobseekers Allowance in their own right are also entitled to receive free school meals.

HOW TO APPLY

Where possible, all parents and guardians should **apply online** – you will receive an immediate response advising you whether you are eligible or not.

If you are unable to apply online, please contact the free school meals team – telephone: **01228 606060**

Please note: Children who currently receive free school meals and clothing grants do not need to apply each year.

THE ULLSWATER VALUES

The UCC values have been pulled together by representatives of the school population and you will see them appearing throughout UCC.

Ambitious: at Ullswater we are ambitious for **all** our students, staff and community to succeed in reaching their potential.

Caring: at Ullswater we look after each other. Listening, supporting and working together so we can **all** achieve.

Equal: at Ullswater **everyone** is equal irrespective of background, ability or characteristic.

#proudtobeUCC



Don't forget to order your uniform!

#proudtobeUCC

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

WELCOME BACK!

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