



UCC

SCHOOL BULLETIN



Ullswater Community College

Website: www.ullswatercc.co.uk

July 2023

Welcome to the final newsletter of the year...

Thank you – are once again my opening words to all our students, parents and staff for the hard work you have put into the UCC community over the past 12 months! It has been another incredibly productive and busy year and it feels as though we have made a lot of positive progress under some ongoing challenging circumstances.

The students at UCC are our biggest asset and they never cease to amaze – once again this year they have **raised £1000s for charity**, taken part in community activities and represented the school with pride at every opportunity. A big mention for all of our year 11 and 13 students who have worked incredibly hard in preparing for their exams. I look forward to seeing them on the **results days in summer (17th August for 6th form and 24th August for the Year 11s)**, when I am sure they will all receive the grades they deserve. We will be in contact with more information about the results days, as well as all the support available to ensure everyone can get to where they want to be.

Having **secured Good in every category** in our recent Ofsted Inspection – and feedback outlining how close we are to Outstanding in some categories – it is wonderful to have **our early progress towards Outstanding recognised**. It has further reinforced our resolve to keep improving what we do in the school for all our students, parents and staff.

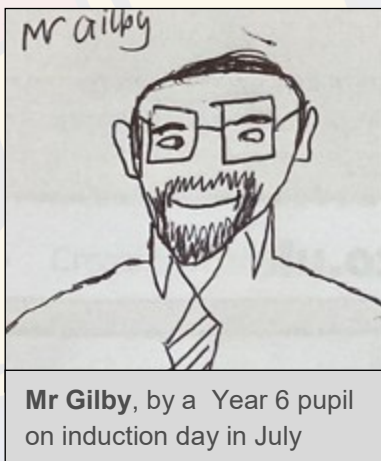
We should soon receive details of when we will appear in the schedule of the **Schools Rebuilding Programme**. To think that potentially we may be able to provide **millions of pounds of investment into Penrith** and our school community is incredible and a very exciting opportunity for all involved.

I must **thank all of the staff here at UCC**, who have again gone above and beyond to do the very best for every one of the young people in our charge. **Our parents and carers** have also done everything they can to support the school and support our students inside and outside the walls of UCC.

Now and into the future, the resilience, commitment, attitude, effort and adaptability of our students is to be commended, **like me, I know how very proud of them you are!**

Remember – stay safe, stay in touch and let us know if you need anything. 2023-24 is going to be another incredible year for UCC! My thanks to each and every one of you, kind regards.

Mr Gilby
Headteacher



Mr Gilby, by a Year 6 pupil
on induction day in July

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ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION

The Art Department's annual exhibition was a fantastic celebration of students' hard work and dedication. The department showcased talent from all key stages, including the work of GCSE and A level students in Years 11 and 13.

Thank you to everyone who attended and well done to all our brilliant artists!

Mrs Campbell
Head of Art



MATHS CHALLENGE

UCC students in Years 7 and 8 represented the school in the National Junior Maths Challenge.

In Year 7, Amber, Zane, Phoebe, Danny and Jacob received bronze certificates, with Elsa also achieving best in year, along with her bronze.

In Year 8, Emma, William D, Finlay, Bella, Taylor, Caleb and William YB achieved bronze certificates. Kamryn was awarded a gold certificate and also the best score in school.

Well done to all students who took part!

Mr Marshall, Maths Department



LAND-BASED COURSES

Places are still available – through our partnership with Myerscough College – on their A-level equivalent Agriculture, Animal Studies and Arboriculture/Forestry courses, based here at UCC and starting in September.

These courses are ideal for any Year 11 leavers still undecided about their future options.

Myerscough also offers apprenticeships in each of these subjects, working with employers across the county.



More information is available on the Myerscough website at: <https://www.myerscough.ac.uk/cumbria> and they'll have staff on site at school on GCSE results day (Thursday 17 August).

For any current Year 10s interested in the Myerscough courses for September 2024, they'll be doing an assembly presentation (and having their own Open Days and careers events) when you return in September.

ucc young musicians at the RNCM

Fourteen music students (plus music staff) from UCC took a huge range of instruments – flute, tenor saxophone, alto saxophone, trumpet, tuba, bass clarinet, trombone and tenor horn – to the final event of the Orchestras for All Modulo Programme at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester.

Working with students from six other secondary schools across the north west, students were taken through their paces in sectional rehearsals and then performed the 3 pieces they had been working on – *Hornet*, *Merry Go Round of Life* and *99 Red Balloons* – to over 100 people at the end of the day.

Some of our students also introduced the pieces of music and explained what they had got out of the Modulo scheme.

It was great to see the students flinging themselves into the day and being challenged to improve their musicality and musicianship, as well as seeing and hearing opportunities for further study at colleges and universities.

Mr Bryant
Head of Music



asdan ICE LOLLIES

Working as a team, the sixth form ASDAN group completed their "Participating in an Enterprise" activity module.

The group worked with the school's catering team to sell ice lollies at lunch times.

Thanks to donated stock by Pioneer Foods, they managed to raise £1067. The money raised will go towards the costs of a residential trip to Bendrigg Trust in October.

Mrs Ridley



TASTER SESSIONS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CUMBRIA

Sixth Form Early Years and Health and Social Care students participated in some 'taster' seminars for future primary education teachers, and health professions, at the University of Cumbria.

The live lectures and webinars were hosted by experts in their field and students gained insight into university study, with real lessons, case studies and topical debates.



a message FOR YEAR 7

And as quick as that we have reached the end of Year 7! How fast it has gone!

I am so proud of the year group for making such a brilliant transition into secondary school – the students can now well and truly say they are part of the UCC family.

Over the course of the year, Year 7 students have achieved some great successes in a huge variety of ways – in sport, music, art, in the classroom, in the library, with the Eco Council, the Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Group.

The vast majority of the year group have achieved some or all of their pledges and their ATL badges, which shows a consistently good attitude towards their attitude at school.

I would like to say an extra well done to 7NXF who topped the Y7 league table and, along with 7PCO who finished a close second, enjoyed a well-earned pizza party and afternoon of games.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents and carers who have supported us in supporting your children over their first year at UCC. I'm looking forward to seeing what brilliant things this year group has in store for us when they return in September as Year 8s!

Wishing you all a very restful and enjoyable summer break.

Mr Castle, Head of Year 7

YEAR 13 LEAVERS

I want to congratulate Year 13 on their attitude and application over the past two years and especially in the way they have supported each other.

Some things in life aren't measured by exams but are the most important of all and the positive, kind, caring and fun attitude this year group has, has made them an absolute delight to work with. I'm very proud of each and every one of them, loved their leavers' day and celebrating with them at their Summer Ball on the 30th June and look forward to A Level results day in August.

Mr Jackson

Head of Sixth Form



FAMILY HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES WITH FOOD

Westmorland & Furness Council is running the Holiday Activities with Food scheme over the summer break.

The events and activities are free to families on free school meals and some will take place in Penrith Children's Centre.

Follow this link to sign up for the Barnardo's newsletter, which gives times and locations for the activities.

Contact the Children's Centre (01768 899901) to book your place or visits the website to find out more about the help and services on offer.



YEAR 11 SIXTH FORM INDUCTION DAYS

The Sixth Form induction days took place on the 3rd and 4th July and form an important part of a successful sixth form experience. A significant part of induction is devoted to the summer projects that each department expects students to complete before starting courses in September. This bridging work will help students start their subjects with a solid foundation after a positive GCSE exam season.

YEAR 11 OXFORD UNIVERSITY VISIT

In June, a group of keen Year 11 students visited our link colleges at the University of Oxford. They met undergraduates and tutors at both The Queen's College and New College, as well as completing workshops on successful Oxbridge applications. As part of the 'Step Up' programme our students will develop a close relationship with the University of Oxford over their sixth form careers and benefit from mentoring and advice throughout this time.



NCFE ASPIRATION AWARDS 2023

Congratulations to Year 11 Health & Social Care student Mia Reynolds, who has won the national NCFE V Cert Pupil of the Year

The national NCFE Aspiration Awards are about honouring the success of learners, apprentices, educators, support staff and educational organisations across the UK. NCFE says:

"The V Cert Pupil of the Year category recognises an exceptional learner for their work, either within their qualification or in relation to a particular project related to their studies. This year's winner is Mia Reynolds of Ullswater Community College, who is studying for our Level 2 Technical Award in Health and Social Care.

Working in health and social care requires a special kind of person. Mia undoubtedly applies the 6 Cs of health and social care practice (courage, communication, competence, commitment, care and compassion) to her Year 11 studies, and to her life! Mia is such an asset to her school community. As well as being a model student who has shown herself to be an honest, hard-working, and personable individual, Mia is an active participant in all classroom discussions and activities, encouraging an environment of inclusion for all other students as well. Mia has been a joy to teach, with her love of learning and her enthusiasm for new ideas and for challenges! "

Representatives from NCFE travelled to UCC to present Mia with her certificate and a £100 voucher.



MUSICIANS IN CONCERT AND ON TOUR!

LONDON CONCERT: 4 JULY 2023

The London Concert saw 70 students and 10 staff members perform their set list to a sell-out audience.

The Concert Band, Brass Band, String Orchestra, two rock bands (called *Crocs and Socks* and *The Disputes*) as well as UCC Singers, Streetband and Big Band took part. The money was raised for the London music tour and the quality and professionalism of all students was very positively commented on.

Thank you for supporting this event and look out for further events coming up.

LONDON CONCERT TOUR

The London Music Tour set off on 12 July after much practice and preparation! It was a fantastic trip and our two open-air concerts were very well received!



Y12 HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE WORK PLACEMENT – DYLAN JACKSON SAYS:

“For my work experience, I went to Center Parcs, specifically the First Aid Centre where there are first responders/technicians and nurses who respond to any emergencies that happen on site. I thoroughly enjoyed myself. I have been invited back in the following months to gain further experience. I am now absolutely certain that I would like to become a trained paramedic in the future and I have since booked an Open Day at University of Central Lancashire, to explore my options.”

We are very proud of Dylan – becoming a paramedic is a noble and admirable goal, if you’ve “got the dream of a lifetime” you should chase it!



YEAR 12 – SUTTON TRUST SUMMER SCHOOL APPLICATIONS & WORK EXPERIENCE

A record number of Year 12 students applied to the Sutton Trust summer schools this year. 9 students were successful and accepted to schools either in person or online at the following institutions and courses:

- The University of Edinburgh Chemistry & Biological Sciences
- The University of Edinburgh English Literature & Philosophy
- The University of Edinburgh Computer Science & Engineering
- Durham University Law
- Durham University Sociology & Criminology
- The University of Nottingham Psychology, Sociology & Criminology
- University of Glasgow Common Law

The Sutton Trust is a charity that supports students to explore, apply to, prepare for and succeed at university or an apprenticeship. We encourage every Year 12 student to apply to as many summer schools and access programmes as possible through assemblies and tutor periods. As part of the programme students will have access to:

- Exclusive content on university and apprenticeship pathways
- Webinars with leading universities and companies
- OSCAR, an interactive tool with admissions test and interview support, along with a personal statement builder tool
- Chat rooms with Sutton Trust Alumni
- The option to apply for a personal statement mentor



SPELLBINDING BOOKS!

UCC Book Club students attended the Cumbria Schools Spellbinding Book Awards Celebration.

They met a number of famous authors, including Patrice Lawrence and Jonathan Tulloch, and Lilly won a book art competition, receiving £75 in book vouchers!



OPERATION WALLACEA

Students and staff are now in Honduras on a trip of a lifetime.



UCC HEALTH HUB

We've had another great term in the UCC Health Hub and, as always, continue to be here to support the students by providing first aid, mental health and wellbeing support.

During the course of this year our students have been supported through the Hub by a range of service providers such as EYC, Barnardos LINK, Spiral, Your Voice and the Sexual Health service.

We continue to grow and develop the Hub and will be expanding our offer further to make services and support as easy to access as possible not only for students but also for families and carers.

We will keep you updated on any developments and all other information through the [Health and Wellbeing Hub page](#) on the UCC website.



EQUALITY, DIVERSITY, INCLUSION

Some of our Sixth Formers have created this fantastic Equality, Diversity and Inclusion display in support of LGBT+



WELCOME TO THE YEAR 6 STUDENTS

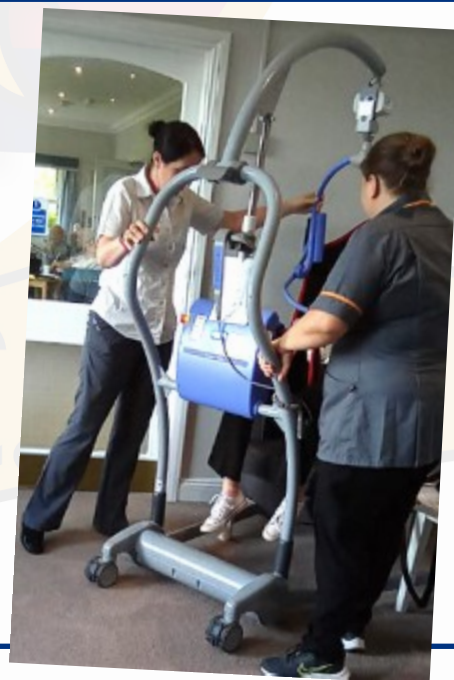
Year 6 students are enjoying their induction day at UCC today. They've attended English, Science, Maths, Drama, History, Art, R.E and P.E lessons; they've had a good lunch and met up with friends from their own and other Primary Schools. Many have made new friends already!



WORKING IN HEALTH and SOCIAL CARE

Year 12 Health and Social Care students enjoyed a visit to Cold Springs Care Home, where they learnt about moving and handling, infection prevention, care planning, fire safety and companion pets.

The visit supported students with their examined unit: "Working in Health & Social Care 1" and helps them to consider possible future career options.



ULLSWATER COMMUNITY COLLEGE ASSOCIATION

Plans are evolving to establish an Ullswater Community College Association (UCCA), which will be a parent-run body formed with the purpose of involving parents in the life of the school and offering opportunities for social or other events of interest to parents.

A small group of parents and governors have begun to set up the UCCA

and some parents served coffee and cake at the recent Year 5 open evening. Through donations the school fund benefited to the tune of £74.84.

Raising money is just one of the objectives of the Association. Any raised will be used to support the School Fund, a well-established charity that can be used to enable all students to participate in trips and visits or to buy equipment for the school that might be too expensive to be covered by the normal school budget. One example of this could be the replacement of one of the minibuses.

A letter will be sent to all parents during the autumn term with information about the new Association and forthcoming plans. We hope that many parents will be keen to join in with this exciting development.

David Carter
Chair of Governors



UCC SPORTS PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Will, who won UCC's 8th Sports Personality of the Year.

Will was presented the award by Tara Simpson Sullivan who was UCC's first ever winner of the prestigious award and is now an international hammer thrower.



Will and the other 9 nominees have been exceptional ambassadors for UCC and superb role models to younger students.

Congratulations to all those who were nominated for different awards on the evening.

We are very proud of you all!

Mr Key
PE Department & SPOTY
Organiser

SPIRITED ARTS

In the summer term, Year 9 students took part in a national RE competition called "Spirited Arts".

Run by the National Association of Teachers of RE (NATRE), over the years more than 340,000 young people have entered their RE-related artwork to this national competition. UCC has previously entered artwork and has had a first place winner!



Over the course of 6 weeks, our students explored 6 themes and created their own pieces of art that reflected their beliefs and values. Each class voted their overall winners and on Year 5 Open Evening, parents and students cast their votes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

We are delighted with all entries and would like to take this opportunity to again say well done to our students for their creative and philosophical work. #PROUD TO BE UCC

Mr McCanny
Head of RE

PARENT GOVERNORS – a NOTE FROM DAVID CARTER, CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Governors are appointed to oversee the running of the school, to set a strategic direction and to hold the leaders of the school to account. UCC has a total of 20 governors. Six of these governors are parents, elected by the parent body to bring their personal skills and experience of the school to the Governing Board.

We currently have some vacancies for parent governors and will be in touch to ask for nominations after the summer break.

In each academic year there will be:

- up to 5 meetings of the Full Governing Board
- 3 meetings of each of the sub committees

Governors are expected to serve on a sub-committee, so the commitment for a parent governor is 8 meetings during the course of the school year.

Full Board meetings are held on Wednesdays and the sub-committees meet on Tuesday – all commencing at 5.30pm and ending by 7.30pm.

Governors are also linked to a subject department or aspect of the school so that we build up our understanding of how the school works. The expectation is that, if possible, each governor will make one half-day visit each term. Governors are provided with a framework

for each visit so we are all looking at similar things and our notes can be summarised together.

Although it can be a difficult line to tread, parent governors do not speak on behalf of parents but rather use their perspective to help the Governing Board understand the parental viewpoint.

Our induction programme helps new governors understand the role and begin to learn how the school functions. All new governors are linked to an experienced mentor and online training is available through the National Governors Association. All governors are required to undergo a DBS check.

Please consider joining the Governors. If you want to talk about it and what is involved, then email d.carter@ullswatercc.co.uk and I'll arrange to meet or phone.

Being a Governor is a real opportunity to help with the development of UCC during what looks to be an exciting part of its history.

Elections will be arranged to fill three vacancies in early September.

David Carter
Chair of Governors

SPANISH AND SCIENCE

In recognition of the hard work, determination and commitment shown in their Spanish throughout Key Stage 3, the Languages Department was delighted to award Year 9 students with a certificate and badge honouring their achievements.



Ms Toomey and Mr Daley have been teaching science lessons in Spanish! Estupendo!



DO SOMETHING WILD!

Our Year 7 Nurture Group have been making bird feeders. They used pine cones to hold fat, seeds and meal worms for the birds to come and feast upon.

This activity was part of the 'Do Something Wild Week' which focused on creating bird habitats.

Well done to everyone involved!



CHEER AT SKELTON!

UCC South Africa Sports Tour students worked hard at Skelton Show on Saturday, fundraising for the Tour in 2024. They were selling cakes, face painting and doing cheer stunts with customers. They also performed in the main ring in front of hundreds of people! Well done girls, all your hard work paid off!



KOOTH—MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

With summer just around the corner we'd like to remind parents and students of the free mental health support available for young people from Kooth.



This free, safe and anonymous support includes live

text-based counselling, peer to peer support and self-help resources. There is no waiting list, no minimum criteria to access support and no referral needed.

[Click here](#) to go to the Kooth website and find out more.



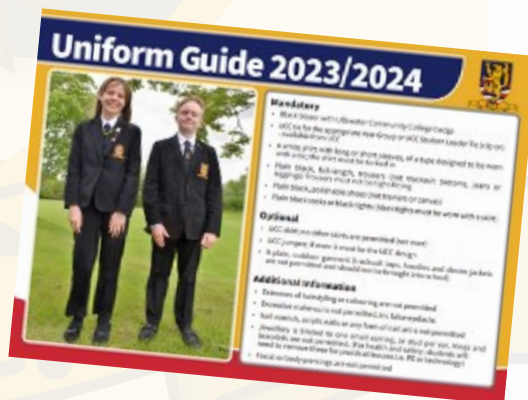
COLLECTING NEW ITEMS OF UNIFORM?

Major electrical works over the summer break will affect the school reception, which will not be accessible for the first few weeks of the holiday.

We will email you when your uniform order is ready but, for advance notice, reception will be open for uniform collection between 9am and 3pm on the following dates:

- Tuesday 8 August
- Wednesday 9 August
- Monday 14 August
- Tuesday 15 August
- Wednesday 16 August
- Thursday 17 August
- Friday 18 August
- Monday 21 August
- Thursday 24 August
- Friday 25 August
- Thursday 31 August
- Friday 1 September

Please wait for an email before coming into school – we need to make up the individual orders before getting in touch with you.



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 also entitled to Working Tax Credit. Also your annual gross income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on paid 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Universal Credit – if your household income is less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get).

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.



RETURN TO SCHOOL

We're looking forward to the start of the next academic year: Years 7, 11 & 12 to return Tuesday 5 September and all year groups Wednesday 6 September

Term dates can be found on the school [website](#)

HELP FOR STUDENTS AT UCC

- In light of the financial squeeze the country is experiencing at the moment, we would like to highlight some of the support available to UCC students :
- Free breakfast for every student – free toast, jam and water; tea, coffee, and juice are available in the Westmorland hall from 8:15am.
- Period products – are freely available in the girls' toilets and from the student hub.
- Stationery – every classroom has a box of pens, pencils, rulers, etc. for students to borrow during the lesson; for sixth form students, folders, dividers, plastic wallets and lined paper are available in the study room.
- The sixth form bursary is available for families who are finding it a challenge to provide their young people with books or equipment to support their studies, with the cost of transport to and from school or with the cost of lunches. Bursary guidance and forms can be collected from the sixth form office or downloaded from the school website.

COST OF LIVING SUPPORT

With the cost of living on the rise, there will be people in Cumbria who are struggling, whether that's emotionally, financially or just because they need practical help to get in touch and seek support.

It can be daunting to search through what is on offer and to find what you need. Cumbria County Council provides information for Cumbrian residents on a range of helpful topics:

- Food support
- Financial support
- Domestic abuse support
- Energy-saving advice
- Mental health support

Click [here](#) to access the Westmorland & Furness Council web page.