

## 1. STUDENTS AND CURRICULUM – DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

### THE ARTS DEPARTMENT (Art, Drama & Music)

#### ART

Subject Leader: Miranda Bond

- Ms Bond change in job role. Now Subject Lead Art, not Creative Arts.
- Kerry-Ann Moody (P.E.) now teaching Years 8 and 9 Art due to Jess Mitchell needing to teach extra DT.
- Leanne Crooks (Art Technician) now on maternity leave. Position was advertised and filled internally.
- Ms Bond attended and passed AQA moderators moderation.
- Ms Bond moderating AQA GCSE Art in the following schools: Millom, Cartmel, Chadwick High, QKS and Kirkbie Kendal.
- FEC meeting attended - shared different graded examples from our new Year 10 project.
- Ms Bond met with Marc Rowland to discuss Pupil Premium in Art.
- Ms Bond created GCSE Art UMS boundary/grade convertor to accurately translate the exam and coursework percentage weighting. Shared with Walney School.
- Year 11 GCSE Art student tracker guides and countdown calendar created to assist students planning.
- Year 11 GCSE Art exam and coursework now finished and marks submitted to the exam board. If no boundary changes Progress 8 +0.19.
- Year 10 GCSE Art intervention group created for students who need extra time or help. Runs for two extra periods a week and is extremely popular - this is in addition to period 7.
- Year 7 collaborative project with Science. Competition entries for the Science week poster design competition in Art lessons.
- Year 5 Creative Arts transition week planned. 11 primary schools visiting w/c 17<sup>th</sup> June.
- Year 8 lunchtime Sculpture Club.
- SOW developments - step by step 'How To' guides being created for KS3. This is a great tool for non-specialist teachers teaching art as well as the students.
- **Date for your diaries: GCSE Art Exhibition - Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June, 6:00pm-7:00pm.**
- Love Cumbria Jigsaw project entered. Year 9 students helped create a giant jigsaw piece promoting Cumbria. This is Furness Academy's piece:



## DRAMA

Subject Leader: Richard Kitchin

### Trips

Several local theatre trips have been successfully organised for a range of students including:

- “**Hamlet**” at the Old Laundry in Bowness.
- “**The 39 Steps**” by Ulverston Outsiders at the Coronation Hall, Ulverston.
- “**And Then There Were None**” again by Ulverston Outsiders.
- Later in June, students in Year 10 will be able to see work by ex-students as they are part of the musical “**How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying**” by Kendal College Performing Arts Department.
- Looking ahead, I am currently planning a trip to see the national tour of “**The Woman in Black**” at the Grand Theatre in Blackpool for September and also the new “**Back to the Future**” musical in February/March 2020 in Manchester.

### School Show

- The cast of “The Wind in The Willows” continue to polish their performance in readiness for July’s performance.
- Tickets for the show have gone on sale for Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July, £6 adults and £4 under 16s.
- Tech Crew have been recruited with over 20 students from Year 7-10 learning about their roles to support the performance.
- 2 former students have volunteered to come back in and support the students of “Tech Crew” throughout each performance.



FURNESS  
ACADEMY PRESENTS

*The Wind in the Willows*  
THE NEW MUSICAL

Book by JULIAN FELLOWES—Music by GEORGE STILES—Lyrics by ANTHONY DREWE  
Based on the book by KENNETH GRAHAM  
Original Production Produced by JAMIE HENDRY

7<sup>PM</sup> THURSDAY 11TH JULY  
TO  
SATURDAY 13TH JULY

ADULT £6 UNDER 16 £4

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### Drama Club

- Lunchtime drama club for Year 7 students continues to be led by a group of Year 10 drama students. Each Friday lunchtime they plan the following session, with my guidance, and then deliver the activities to a group of around 20 younger pupils the following Thursday.

### Big Sing

- Eight students from Year 9 have completed their performances at the primary school KS1 event known as the "Furness Voices **Big Sing**". The students took on numerous roles as the villagers in "Lazy Daisy Village" in a short musical "**The Litter Muncher**" as the primary school children joined together and sang the songs.
- 3 performances with KS1 children including some reception children.
- 16 schools from Ulverston, Barrow and surrounding areas.
- Over 400 children took part with an audience total of around 1,200.

## MUSIC

Subject Leader: Michelle Larcombe

- **Academy Calling** – Huge success with more participation from groups, sponsorship. Community involvement. Date for next year to be confirmed, but already in talks with groups and agent regarding involvement for next year.
- **You Bring the Band** – Successful project building resilience through music – lottery funded and accessed by 26 students from the Academy who performed in a Battle of the Bands competition against St Bernard's and Mill Lane Learning Centre. All groups recorded a cover song and wrote their own song – they recorded a digital album and all proceeds from the album sales will be going to St Mary's Hospice.
- **Rock/Classix Academy** – Taking part at Academy Calling – looking at ways of getting more students to access the lessons.
- **Darth Beats** – Drumming club – 10 Parkside Academy students have joined and are working with our students. They performed at Academy Calling and also at Parkside's celebration assembly.
- **Wind in the Willows**– Rehearsals every week. Liaising with peri teachers and outside musicians to rehearse the orchestration for the show which will take place Friday 14<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June.
- **eDUCATE** – ERASMUS project involving Year 8. First mobility with students in May to Frankfurt. 15 students were taken and they had to write and perform a play based on Human Dignity – they were a credit to the school with all the European teachers commenting on their manners and their respect towards others. They now have to present their experiences to their year group – hopefully they will perform their play in an assembly
- **Exchange** – Itinerary and scheduling in motion liaising with German partners from drama project in bringing 15 exchange students across in September to work with some students and see our education system.
- **Yarlside Academy** – Using school hall for their performance of Lion King – borrowing music department costumes and props. Assisting in the sound and lighting for the event.

## COMPUTING, ICT & BUSINESS STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Subject Leader: Claire Lyons

- Year 11 CN IT RO13 results (coursework) were issued on 6<sup>th</sup> March – some excellent results for students. Positive feedback received from moderator on quality of teacher assessment and student work.
- GCSE Computer Science and Cambridge Nationals IT exams completed in May – exam boosters timetabled for all students P5/6 on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May
- 50 Year 10 and Year 11 CN IT students attended additional optional after-school booster Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May until 5:00pm – refreshments supplied for students from Mrs Beach.
- iCAP project continued with 11 Year 9 students preparing resources throughout spring term to take to the iCAP mobility meeting in Volos, Greece. Meeting attended 13/05/19–17/05/19 by all students accompanied by CLY and Laura Jesson. Students were outstanding in all areas and complimented by University of Gloucester team on their excellent behaviour and contributions.

- DWI/CCO/CLY identified a cohort of motivated Year 8 students to take part in a Virtual Reality Wind Farm STEM Event with Orsted – DWI supported the event on 07/05/19 and the event was an engaging and challenging experience for the students.
- CLY/DWI – May half-term started lesson preparation for CN IT coursework assignment for January 2020 submission.

## **ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**

**Subject Leader: Julia Ingham**

- The department has re-written the whole of the Year 7 scheme of work and stream-lined the assessment.
- A new Assessment Framework has been created to create seamless transition to KS4.
- Year 8 schemes of work have a new long and mid-term plans and the department is currently resourcing the short-term plans.
- 48 students competed in a writing mini saga competition and have had their work published.
- In Year 11, intervention programme offers bespoke lessons twice a week in registration time to targeted students, period 7s and intervention in PD/ PE time – HOD currently runs 4 intervention groups in free periods, second in dept. one and the 2 Assistant Heads one session extra each).
- Two clinics in the Easter holidays took place as did an intervention session on a Saturday to support Year 11 students.
- Year 10 have an intervention session before lessons every Tuesday registration time delivered by HoD. Students have been targeted from ARR data.
- Year 9 students are currently following the new scheme of work which enables them to access KS4 early. This is proving successful.
- The department has recruited 2 new members of staff for September.
- A programme of visits from student teachers has taken place. We have had 4 student teachers spend a day in the department observing lessons and every Monday a student attends am sessions.
- French and Italian teachers have attended lessons and a CPD session.

## **HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT (Geography, History and Religious Education)**

**Subject Leader: Susan Bainbridge**

- All Humanities GCSE exams completed by 13<sup>th</sup> June.
- Interventions now focusing on selected Year 10 students in order for a good start in Year 11.
- We have been busy creating a departmental bank of literacy resources to share good practice, based on the 'Closing the Vocabulary Gap' and other research.
- Year 7 History students enjoyed making the castles – images on social media and positive feedback from parents at parents' evening.
- Year 10 History – Started the third of four units for the GCSE course (American West 1835-95) which will leave more time for revision in Year 11 than in previous years.
- Mrs Warren and Mr Goodwin finally jetted off to Naples with 30 students on 28<sup>th</sup> May.
- Summer Term - Geography began the GCSE syllabus with Year 9.
- Organising 'Activities Week' – Humanities are taking students to White Scar Caves, the Imperial War Museum and the Chill Factor in Manchester.

## **MATHS DEPARTMENT**

**Subject Leader: John-Paul Duckworth**

- Maths Puzzle Club is continuing to run every Monday lunchtime.
- A Year 8 and Year 9 team entered the UKMT Maths Team Challenge. They performed very well on the day.
- A number of Year 7-8 pupils attempted the UKMT Junior Maths Individual Challenge. They obtained 3 Gold, 4 Silver and 5 Bronze certificates. One entrant has progressed through to the final round.
- One member of the team has attended a Maths subject lead meeting for local primary schools.
- Targeted period 7s have been happening for Maths and Statistics.



- Other interventions for Year 11 have been running, these have included:
  - Easter holiday clinic
  - Half term clinic
  - 2 Saturday morning sessions
  - The Maths form group
- A new cohort of 21 Gifted and Talented Year 6 Mathematicians from our feeder primary schools is happening on a Monday night.
- A small group of Year 10 students have continued Maths intervention during form time, once a week.

## **MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT**

**Subject Leader: Anna-Maria Rothnie**

- Data from ARR2 was quite positive across KS3. In Year 7, there was the most noticeable improvement with regard to boys' achievement as well as the achievement of SEND students.
- The Vocab Express Global Challenge took place in March. It was pleasing to see students attempting word blocks in French as well as in languages they are not studying. Portuguese seemed popular and Furness Academy came runner-up in the Genius Cup in this language.
- There will be a class studying GCSE in Year 10 with a range of ability levels, which is really positive.
- The educational visit to France will be taking place in July 2019 with 35 students participating. A variety of cultural and historical activities have been planned and students will be carrying out tasks during the trip. The trip will include a workshop in bread making and visits to a chocolaterie, Mont St Michel, Honfleur, Deauville, the Wellington Quarries in Arras (which students learn about in their history lessons) and Disneyland, Paris.

## **PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT / HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE**

**Subject Leader: Abbie Rawlinson**

### **Personal Development**

- Year 11 career planning – All students continue to be tracked on the destinations database, the identified 'at risk of becoming NEET' group continue to work with Inspira. This will also continue over the summer break.
- A meeting took place between ARA, LMC, JWI and Sue Orrell to identify students who need additional support to succeed with transition.
- ARA working with FE to check students' progress to offered placements in September.
- 175 Year 10 students completed Work Experience successfully. Lots of positive feedback from the business community.
- Year 9 have worked with CADAS on a programme 'Emotional Health'. This was very well received and we plan to incorporate into our curriculum for 2020.
- PD staff have received CPD training with staff from The Birchwood Clinic (GUM).
- Taster days planned for both Barrow Sixth Form, Furness College .and Kendal College.
- Year 9 careers taster day at Kendal College - whole cohort will visit.

### **Health and Social Care**

- We have received the verifier's report and confirmation that the sample has passed; students are now completing the final aspects of Unit 2.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

**Subject Leader: Catherine Amison**

- **Athletics:** English Schools' Track and Field cup – teams entered and students performed well in the first round of a national competition.
- **Athletics:** Furness Schools Championships – teams entered and 12 students qualified for the county championships in Copeland on 8<sup>th</sup> June.

- **Athletics:** Year 7 Furness Schools Championships – team to be selected to compete in championships. Year 7 inclusive events to also run alongside the event for SEN students. These will include 100m, long jump, and a throw.
- **BTEC:** Students completing final pieces of work. 1 to 1 interventions taking place to ensure students on track to complete work at target level grade.
- Celebration day to be held for 80 students who have regularly attended and participated in PE extra-curricular activities including football, netball, athletics, dance, rugby and badminton.
- Erin Hargreaves from Love 2 Dance holding dance classes during CPD Wednesday time. Attendance so far has been promising. Staff sessions to be held on alternate weeks.
- Matt Green – strength and conditioning. PE department attended Dalton S/C to take part in a CPD session aimed towards developing some techniques and exercises for our Health and Fitness programme. Focus was based upon core strength and developing the range of movement.
- Leadership Academy – 4 students selected by Youth Sports trust to attend a series of workshops and activities to develop leadership skills. Students have been working with primary feeder schools and a range of students in indoor athletics, fitness and trampolining.
- Inclusive events – students have qualified in boccia, table cricket and indoor football to represent the Furness area at the Cumbria Youth Games.
- Barrow Island rugby coaching – Dave Clarke and Joe Elliott to hold training sessions for students in Years 7, 8 and 9.
- Under 15 cricket finals – Girls represented the county at the North West Regional finals. They played some excellent teams and developed well as the tournament progressed.
- Erasmus Porto trip – CAN travelled to Porto to continue with the planning for the student Erasmus trip focusing upon student health and wellbeing, mental health and nutrition.
- Football finals – Teams from Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 qualified for the Furness football finals. Some fantastic games were played with the teams from Years 8 and 10 successfully winning.
- **Rugby finals – YEAR 9 COUNTY CUP WINNERS.**

#### School Games Officer and Youth Sports Trust (Oliver Carswell)

After attending the Cumbria conference and delivering a short session on one of his new incentives, Oliver has been selected to present at the national conference to share his work relating to orienteering at the Animal Wildlife Park.

#### SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

##### Assistant Director of STEM for Science: Emma Coulter

- Ian Barnes was appointed to 'Raising Standards Leader – Science'.
- Damian Ainscough completed the final CPD session with the department. Practical approaches and protocols in the department have now been reviewed against the Gatsby benchmarks. A department policy on practical work has been written and effective practical work is a focus of all lesson observations. Work has now started on integrating the 'Science Capital' teaching approach which will be a focus for work next year.
- British science week 2019: 'Journeys'
- **Year 7:** Working in teams of 4 students designed and built rocket cars. Each car was launched with the air pump and the fastest three from each class then qualified to be launched outside with a rocket. The fastest 3 groups then journeyed to Penrith for the regional final. One of our teams won the competition and they will now compete in the national final on 27<sup>th</sup> June.
- **Year 8:** All students participated in an 'Expeditions' project to investigate exothermic reactions to heat food on the go.

Plus:

- A 'Discoveries' quiz on the science corridor open to all KS3 students
- Students in Art participated in a science themed competition based on 'Journeys'
- During registration forms participated in a science quiz.

## SEND DEPARTMENT

SENCo: Emma Elliott

- Work is underway to prepare our new cohort of Year 7s for transition in September. We are taking part in visits to primary schools to collate SEND information, meeting with parents and carers and also inviting students in as part of small groups/individual sessions where required to familiarise themselves with the building and staff. We have already been identified as the future provider for the education of two students currently in Year 5; it is positive that parents within the local area feel confident about selecting us at such an early stage.
- A small group of Year 8 students with SEND have been to Inclusive sporting events and have felt incredibly proud to have qualified for future competitions.
- Teaching Assistants have supported our Year 10 students with SEND recently with their work experience. One particularly notable success was a student with complex learning needs who had returned to his old primary school to work with the reception class. He received a glowing report and was able to return to school and identify just how important a role classroom teachers and teaching assistants had played in developing his confidence and abilities over time.
- We have recently submitted three new requests for Education, Health and Care Plans to secure future support and provision for our students. These have been accepted by the Local Authority for assessment and we plan to make a further three requests before the summer holidays.

## STEM DEPARTMENT / DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Director of STEM: Steve Faragher

- **Race for the Line** rocket car competition - Design Technology and Science collaboration. Attendance to the regional finals at Penrith, whole of Year 8.
- **Big Bang Exhibition**, NEC Birmingham - 143 Year 9 students plus 7 staff attended.
- **Yarlside Academy STEM Fair** - attendance and Academy updated STEM boards exhibited.
- **STEM Science** practical demonstrations by Fiona Kitchin - 3 x 1 hour sessions.
- **BAE Skills & Learning Academy** visit on 21<sup>st</sup> March - 21 Year 9 More Able students (BEP funded).
- **Small Piece residential**, Lancaster University, on 23<sup>rd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> April - 4 female students.
- **BAE Small Piece Activity Day** on 23<sup>rd</sup> April - 30 Year 9 students.
- **Orsted Wind Farm Development Day** - 30 Year 8 students.
- **Faraday Challenge Day** on 19<sup>th</sup> June - 36 Year 8/9 students.

## DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Assistant Director of STEM for D&T: Emma Rees

- **Academy Calling:** JDN – Displayed posters prior in school  
ERE – Assisted the set up on the day  
ERE/JDN – Worked on Academy stalls/other duties  
JCL – Laser printed merchandise that was sold on the day
- **Erasmus:** ERE 4<sup>th</sup> meeting regarding 3D printing in Slovenia (full week)  
Ecuador trip – ERE and JDN assisted students in making popcorn for popcorn cones to be sold to raise money for the trip
- **Year 11 Engineering:** Extra Period 7 classes SFA/ERE  
Extra timetabled lessons SFA/ERE
- Furness Academy STEM page on Facebook – set up by ERE
- Cross-curricular – ERE/SFA/JCL assist in the 'Bee' club working with students from Science
- Race for the Line – JCL created resources that were used in the competition (laser cut wheels etc.)
- Year 8 STEM activity – 60 students off timetable (full day) to work in teams with BAE - SFA/JMI/ERE
- Change of timetables: ERE now delivering Catering at KS4 (increased timetable)  
JMI now delivering Engineering in Year 10  
ERE/JMI – increased class sizes in Year 7 to allow for specialist teaching and less impact on cost of cover

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## **2. STUDENTS: DIRECTOR OF LEARNING & STANDARDS REPORTS**

### **DoLS - YEAR 7**

**James Riley**

- 10 students taking part in the 'Kick Start' programme – focus on building confidence and resilience
- 10 students attending Afternoon Tea
- Brathay & Cumbria Youth Engagement Scheme project (CYES) being finalised for between 10-20 students – focus on building positive relationships with the police in the local community
- Continued positive behaviour and achievement in lessons across the year group
- Best behaviour record of all year groups – lowest average points per student
- Highest average achievement points of all year groups. Average = 936 achievement points
- Individual Behaviour Plans set up with small 'behavioural focus groups' to further improve standards of behaviour across the year group – 3 students
- Attendance focus groups and plans in place for 8 students to tackle attendance concerns
- Year 7 students performed at Academy Calling
- 7 students completed the Coniston to Barrow walk as part of the Academy team
- Parents Evening well attended with lots of positive feedback given

### **DoLS - YEAR 8**

**Rebecca Roseblade**

- In PE lessons, Barrow Raiders have worked with students on their rugby skills and Erin has worked with them on dance and fitness
- Freddie Lawton has been chosen for the U-13 County cricket squad
- Lewis Ballantyne represented Furness District at Cumbria cross country
- The Year 8 rugby team reached the county cup semi-finals
- Paddy Burns and Jake Brownson have passed their basic skills at Army Cadets
- The Kick Start group produced posters on safety online that are displayed in all other schools, they also attended the presentation ceremony at Forum 28
- A small group attended the Lord Taveners table cricket county final
- More are accessing extra-curricular activities, including sculpture club
- About 30 students have been abroad with the Erasmus projects, representing the school in a friendly and professional manner
- We have been selected by the Sheffield Hallam University programme residential scheme

### **DoLS - YEAR 9**

**Helen Knagg-Baugh**

- Focus on attendance – daily tick sheets, targeted group receiving positive messages via SIMS (had a positive effect), best form prizes, focus groups to avoid persistent absence.
- Weekly spot prizes for 5 students randomly selected with no behaviour points – straight to lunch pass or chocolate. Has been positively received
- Year 9 boys became county rugby champions
- Year 9 girls became county cricket champions
- Year 9 boys and Kate McKenna participated in the Barrow District cup but sadly didn't win.
- Year 9 students participated in Erasmus trips to Slovenia and Greece
- Year 9 students with low reading ages are now mentoring Year 7 students in reading on a weekly basis
- Options are just about finalised with just a few issues to iron out
- Year 9 participated in and performed in the Young Bring the Band project organised by MLA (Music)
- All Year 9 students went to Cooke Studios and took part in an impressive, immersive theatre performance highlighting the dangers of County Lines
- We held a 2<sup>nd</sup> secret breakfast who had all goods and excellents for effort on the spring report entry. These students also received a postcard home praising them for their efforts.
- We have a weekly boys intervention taking place at Cumbria Strength and Conditioning



- Year 9 students also participated in STEM events
- Externally, we have Cameron McBain playing for Warrington, Max Davies is enjoying karting success in the British Championships, Kate McKenna is playing football for Preston and Emily Smith has been selected to take part in a Guides trip to Poland.

#### **DoLS – YEAR 10**

##### **Philip Moody**

- Focus groups set up for English, Maths and Science to increase predicted grades by targeting individuals who have the capacity to improve by a full grade with additional support/guidance. Students selected based on ARR data (effort and progress) and individual class teachers view on who could potentially move up a grade if offered more concentrated support. Focus kept on those who worked hard and showed resilience. Form time used one morning per week with review taking place prior to end of term – very positive feedback so far.
- SKE and SBI into targeted lessons to support option choices to ensure all work up to date by the end of the academic year.
- 32 Year 10 students signed up for two day Crime, Investigation and the Law workshop run by Lancaster University. In addition to, we also have 4 students enrolled on a summer residential to Derwent Hill, Keswick (from 22<sup>nd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> July) again working with Hello Future and the University of Lancaster.
- 8 students visited University Campus of Football Business (UCFB) at the Etihad Stadium to learn more about job opportunities available in the world of sport. The group then also attended a taster session on the BMX track at the National Cycling Centre.
- Prefect and Head Boy/Head Girl assembly completed to inform students of minimum expectations and job specifications for those wishing to apply – over 100 application forms taken following presentation.
- 'Reader group' set up for Year 7 students to read to Year 10 students one morning per week in the library.
- Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh practice walk/navigate/camp session completed from Ulverston to Coniston. All students worked exceptionally hard throughout.

#### **DoLS – YEAR 11**

##### **Craig Maclean**

- Year 11s are focused on their GCSE examinations, which are going well.
- Revision boosters prior to each exam are supporting students.
- Saturday clinics and Period 7 lessons have been well attended.
- Messages of support/encouragement from the Year 7s have been positively received by Year 11s.
- Leavers' prom is at The Abbey House Hotel on Wednesday 26 June 2019 - letters have been sent to students. Several students have been rewarded by a reduced ticket price, an incentive set out earlier in the year for students regularly attending extra sessions.
- The Year Team are visiting primary schools to meet with students and primary teachers. The transition days are going to be held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2019.
- Sue Orrell from Inspira has been giving extra careers advice.

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### **3. SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS**

#### **ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER – TEACHING & LEARNING/CPD/RESEARCH & INNOVATION**

**Stephen Kelly**

- The South Cumbria School Direct programme has had a very successful recruitment drive and courses are now closed as we have reached capacity.
- We have recruited nine teachers in total from a range of subjects including English, Maths and Science. The quality of applicants has been strong and, with most trainees doing a placement at the Academy, it is anticipated the initiative will support future recruitment.
- Our working partnership with Ripley has been finalized, ensuring that the programme will also be financially profitable for the Academy.
- To help develop our profile we hosted a training day on assessment for all the Ripley trainees. The day went very well and the feedback was strong. We will look to provide further training days next year at earlier points in the school calendar.
- We are also hosting two Teaching Internships in both Science and Maths across the summer term and we have also had confirmation of our two Teach First teachers – one in English and one in Science. They will join us for two induction days in July. All these initiatives will help to provide quality teachers to cover Academy growth over coming years.
- Curriculum has been a big area of focus over recent weeks: A workshop has taken place and as a result a whole school philosophy and intent has been created. This has been shared with subject leaders who are now beginning to work on their own subject specific rationale.

#### **ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER – CURRICULUM, ASSESSMENT & DATA**

**David Mason**

##### **Timetable**

The curriculum model for the timetable is now in place. The key change to the model compared to last year is that the bridge (additional KS3 support for students who would benefit from further development of their literacy skills) is streamlined at KS3 and extended into Year 10. We have appointed two Teach First staff, in English and Science, and are hopeful that we can further develop our relationship with Teach First in the future in order to meet our growing staffing needs.

##### **Data and Reporting**

The spring term data collection worked well in terms of the accuracy of the reports with a reduced need for them to be adapted following tutors' input of their comments. Year 11 students have engaged well with their GCSE examination preparations including the wide range of additional support sessions that staff have offered both during the school day and outside of normal hours. Whilst we are anticipating a dip in our Progress 8 score this summer, Year 10 data continues to show that this will be followed by an improvement the following year.

#### **ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER – STUDENT PROGRESS & SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT**

**Helen Robinson**

- Successful completion of FEC schools Pupil Premium review conducted with Marc Rowland from Rosendale Research School. Report produced for FEC headteachers and each individual school.
- Furness Academy lead FEC school for the delivery of the 'Sport England Secondary Teacher Training Programme' (HRO & AMO)
- We have had another two successful applications approved with the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF). 'Improving Science Teaching Programme' and 'Adventure Learning', to start 2019/20.
- Admission numbers confirmed (256) and admission process started for September 2019.
- Production of the Year 11 final weeks' arrangement booklet, extra subject revision sessions timetabled and a Year 11 revision pack of essentials for their exams.

- Half term and Easter clinics saw a number of targeted Year 11 students attend. The Saturday openings continue to be well attended by a number of Year 11 for revision sessions.
- The programme and impact report for 'The Scholars Programme' was produced and identified some good impact from the programme (report attached).
- Erasmus projects – It has been a very busy period this half term, with **39 students and 10 staff travelling to 5 different European countries**. The introduction of 'International Ambassadors' are for students who are involved in any Erasmus project and will receive an 'International Ambassador badge' in recognition of their role.
- Hosted 3 Italian teachers on a teacher exchange programme. They spent the week in school, observing lessons, meeting with students and also the opportunity for some cultural experiences and trips.
- Whole school student survey completed, informing us of their experiences of school life at Furness Academy.
- Parents' Evening took place for Year 11 (69% attendance), Year 8 (67% attendance) and Year 7 (69% attendance).
- The parents' survey feedback from the parent evenings (Years 7 and 8) was very positive: 99% in both year groups said, "Their child is happy at school and feels safe", 99% said, "Their child is making good progress at Furness Academy" and 100% "would recommend it to another parent". 100% of Year 11 parents either strongly agreed or agreed that, "Their child had been supported well in preparation for their GCSE exams" and 100% were, "Happy that they chose to send their child to Furness Academy".
- Launch of the trial for the new Homework APP (Year 7) with English and Mathematics.
- Visits by Governors and Board Members took place including subject drop-ins and link meetings.
- Attended the ASCL National Conference, Birmingham.

#### **ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER – STUDENT BEHAVIOUR, SAFETY, WELFARE & CHILD PROTECTION**

**Linzi Stanway**

- We have had 2 students become CLA.
- 4 more students have been moved to Child Protection.
- All early helps have been internally reviewed.
- A new attendance initiative has been running over the previous half term.
- Afternoon Tea celebration held for students and parents in Years 7-10, based on biggest improvement on data from starting point.
- 40 staff/students took part in the Coniston to Barrow walk for charity.

#### **ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER – STUDENT BEHAVIOUR, SAFETY, WELFARE & CHILD PROTECTION**

**Jenny Wildman**

In order to support the Better Health at Work award, we arranged a health check with CS Healthcare; they're a private health care provider, specialising in offering private healthcare packages for those working in the education sector. More than 50 members of staff (classroom and support) participated in the confidential check, which also gave the opportunity for us to gather information in the form of a staff survey. The results were guaranteed to be completely confidential and will offer a range of views on how to improve morale and well-being in the future. It will also give us a measure of how many people take up the facilities currently on offer. I have undertaken Health Advocate Training to support the development of this initiative and will be using the feedback from the questionnaires to develop the next part of the academy's file for assessment (BHAW).

A number of initiatives have been launched to support Year 11 in the final few weeks of their academy careers: Students were given a 'goody bag' at the end of term with fresh revision materials, some 'energy' in the form of sweet treats – and a number of good luck messages, written by Year 7 students. These were very well received. We ran a short campaign with Year 7, introducing them to the types of pressures Year 11 are under at this time of year, to try and prepare the ground for their own journeys to KS4. This culminated in the writing of the good luck messages. The road to exams with Year 11 has required intricate planning; each Year 11 student has been given a personalised timetable, based on feedback from staff on areas of coursework they are falling behind on. Their PE and PD sessions have been given over to 'catch up' and rooming, staffing and direction for students as to what work to complete was provided. Targeted support for core subjects has also been provided in these sessions. We have tried to be a consistent presence in lessons and booster sessions and supported the start and end of exams wherever available.

In terms of planning for the improvement of whole school literacy, we have developed some specific 'bricks' to reward the use of strong vocabulary, to be launched at the next whole school CPD, we have arranged for the Academy to be part of the next Literature festival in Dalton (Litfest), we have reduced the number of students arriving without a book to DEAR sessions – and we have enlisted the support of a group of Year 10s, the librarian and a primary ITT student to offer some bespoke support on literacy for PP boys; we would like to reduce the amount of punishments these pupils in particular associate with reading. We are also looking into ways to provide more training on learning to read, in order to best support those with low levels of literacy. A 'Reading for Meaning' scheme is also about to be rolled out in Year 10 form time and a group of more able readers in Year 9 has been identified to be part of a pilot which will look at extending their access to challenging reads/classic novels as part of DEAR (and beyond the classroom).

Planning continues on the Culture ladders and for the implementation of activities week in July, alongside the daily issues related to behaviour and safety for Years 7 & 11. A spot check has been carried out on the Single Central Record. It is up to date and robust. A system is in place for recording visitors to the site and this has been amended following the check to include the 'source' of DBS proof that we have had sight of.

**BUSINESS DIRECTOR**  
**John Rawsthorne**

- The financial position at the end of March 2019 was an overspend of £86,000 compared to the forecast overspend of £130,000. The year-end forecast has been revised from an overspend of £221,000 to an overspend of £159,000, largely because of an increase in funding to cover teachers' pay awards in 2018/19 (through the Teachers' Pay Grant) and (national) deferral of the increase in Teacher Pensions Contributions until September 2019.
- The Budget Forecast Return Outturn (BFRO) was submitted to the Education & Skills Funding Agency before the deadline of 21 May. This provides the ESFA with the latest forecast of our financial position at the end of August 2019 and reflects the figures in the March management accounts. Submission of the BFRO is a requirement of our Funding Agreement.
- We continue to receive positive feedback on the maintenance and site management service that we provide for Barrow Island Community Primary School and St James' C of E Primary School. In addition, the site team is providing site management for Yarlside Academy and supporting capital developments at Yarlside, Victoria and Parkside GGI Academies, ahead of the MAT merger. The site team has refurbished a room at the community entrance to Furness Academy, as a base for the new MAT central service team. This was completed by utilising the excellent skills of the site team at little cost to the Academy.
- Erasmus+ visits have finished for this year but May was an extremely busy month, with successful trips to Slovenia, Italy, Greece, Germany and Portugal. The programme of visits re starts in September with a German student exchange visit to the Academy and becomes very busy in October and November.
- The administration team is supporting a busy half term programme which includes transition events, activities week and the Sports Awards Evening. They are also focusing on the school calendar for the new academic year, as well as the staff timetable and staff planners.
- The catering team continues to perform well and has received positive feedback from Parkside GGI Academy on the management of their catering function, which Furness Academy has delivered since 1 April 2019. Preparation for the implementation of a new cashless catering till system is underway and installation will be completed during the summer break. This has involved re registering the thumb prints of all staff and students, whilst trying to cause as little disruption as possible. A new counter and pasta bar has been installed outside the Courtyard to provide an additional food outlet to cater for the record number of students that will be attending the Academy in September.

**Simon Laheney**  
Headteacher  
5 June 2019