

Walney School

Christmas 2017

Newsletter

HEAD'S INTRODUCTION



This Autumn Term has been yet another incredibly busy one for students and staff at Walney School. Our students continue to show a “Pride in the School”, across all year groups. It is fantastic to have the privilege, day in and day out, of walking around classrooms, seeing what an Ofsted inspector recently described as a “calm, purposeful climate where learning time is not wasted”. Our new Year 7 have settled really well into the life of the school and join a student body focused on achievement, brilliantly led by our new Senior Students under the guidance of Megan and Harry our new Head Girl and Boy.

This newsletter is just a small summary of all the outstanding opportunities that are available to both Walney students and our

wider community. I hope you enjoy reading about what is happening in lessons, outside of lessons and beyond the walls of our school. My thanks go to all staff for the time that they give to provide these opportunities along with you, as parents, for helping and encouraging your children to take such an active part in the life of the school. It was fantastic to celebrate much of this in our recent awards ceremony at the Forum. There are more details within our newsletter.

With the festive season rapidly approaching, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Miss Eason, Miss Jagger and all our students for the huge commitment you have shown to the production of our Christmas show. It will be a fantastic way to

kick off our Christmas period.

With my very best wishes for a fun-filled Christmas and a New Year filled with exciting new opportunities.

John Richardson



Attendance

This school year we have put in place some extra rewards for pupils who achieve 96% attendance or above. Thursday 14th December is our Attendance Cinema afternoon. This is the idea of the School Council and is available to pupils who have achieved good attendance this half term.

We have also held whole school attendance days, with spot prizes being awarded through form for pupils who have good school attendance and punctuality or have made an effort to improve their attendance. (Picture – Evie Autef Year 8 whole school attendance day).

Towards the end of term we also have planned some exciting year group trips for students. A level of attendance of 96% or above is expected for pupils to be eligible for the trips.

On a more serious note please be aware that the Government has changed the law regarding holidays in term time.

Attendance Percentages:

90% in a test is a good score; 90% attendance isn't – it's the same as having nearly 4 weeks off school a year!

See the grid below for other percentages and see how much time off per year it adds up to:

Attendance percentage	Number of sessions missed	Equivalent number of days missed	Equivalent number of weeks missed	Equivalent number of lessons missed
100%	0	0	0	0
95%	19	9 ½	~2	48
90%	38	19	~4	95
85%	57	28 ½	~ 6	143
80%	76	38	~ 8	190
75%	95	47 ½	9 ½	238
00%	114	57	11 ½	285

Achievement:

- 17 school days missed = 1 GCSE grade dropped (on average)
- 17 school days missed = 91.1% attendance for the year
- 34 school days missed = 82.1% attendance for the year

Any pupil whose attendance is below 90% is at risk of the Local Authority issuing a £60

Fixed Penalty Notice regardless of the reason for the absences.

Transition Camp

Transition time. A huge step for our new year 7s who have recently graced the doors, corridors and classrooms of Walney School. For most, it's exciting and empowering, but equally a challenging period. Our pupils are fantastic at throwing themselves into making friends, and at Walney we believe that relationships and social skills are a huge part of the experience. So what better way to get to know one-another than a good old camping trip?

Only the second week in and Year Head Mrs Stockdale along with Mr Gilbert packed up and embarked upon a four day trip to Abbot Park where they saw over 80 of our year 7 pupils pitching their tents for a night under the stars. Our Chief Campers played

hosts to a different form each night complete with their very own form tutor and a range of visiting staff meaning no night was the same, but most definitely a resounding success!

We love a bit of competition at Walney School, so of course, a huge inter-form competition took place. Challenges from welly-wanging to the Oreo biscuit challenge had our pupil's problem solving and engaging in real teamwork in order to gain the best outcome for their form. It was a real nail-biter in the 'big reveal' assembly, a close call, but a win for 7W!

After working up an appetite completing all of the challenges, our Head Chef made sure we had burgers, bacon and sausage

buns and plenty of cheese for meal times. A very special moment saw our brand new pupils making memories, sharing stories and building relationships whilst toasting marshmallows around the campfire. As staff, it was great to see strong friendships forming so early on and the support and teamwork shown by the pupils towards one another was inspiring. Every single evening was a privilege to spend with such enthusiastic, caring and outgoing pupils. It was an experience they'll never forget and the first bonding experience they shared with their form whom they'll spend the next five years of their lives with.

Miss Eason



Awards event

It is a fundamental belief of mine that seeing the success of others inspires people to want to achieve at the same high levels. That is why last year we moved our Awards Ceremony to the Forum to enable us to have all students in the audience, such that they can recognise the pride that award winners feel and aspire to receive awards themselves the following year.

The new format of the event also allows students to present to the audience the huge range of extra-curricular activities that have contributed to the wider life of our school. I was incredibly impressed by the confidence and pride that students spoke with about the ever growing opportunities

that are on offer to promote learning beyond the classroom in our school.

Over the course of three awards ceremonies we gave out 363 prizes to 187 students. Every one of these awards carried real merit and are testament to the ever growing achievements of our students. It was a day that made me realise how proud I am to be Headteacher of our school.



I hope, if you were a part of it, that you shared this sense of pride too.



Fabulous Futures Friday

On Friday 10th November we held our first Futures Friday at Walney School and it was fabulous!

The day was organised to support Walney students to develop their employability skills and to understand how school life prepares them for the world of work. "I now know what I want to do as a job," wrote one Year 9 student after a day working with Young Enterprise. Another wrote, "I have learnt to be more resilient by learning from my mistakes."

During the course of the day we welcomed 45 visitors into school to inspire our students with stories of their working life and career journeys. Our visitors were from a variety of employment sectors, including: fire service, teaching, engineering, construction, the arts, media, publishing, voluntary sector, accountancy, police service, etc. We were also joined by representatives from Hello Future, Inspira, Brathay Trust and Jobcentre Plus.

We were delighted to have some former students join us, such as Hannah Willets, local artist, who commented, "Fantastic to

be back in the school and see the new building. Children seemed really keen, asked lots of questions and were lovely!" Amy Farish who is now Apprentice and Skills Development Coach at BAE Systems, said, "Really enjoyed today. Would love to come back and talk to more Year 11s!"

Futures Friday was the launch day for Walney's Employability Passport which students will develop every year from Year 7 onwards, gaining Employability certificates when they are successful. The Passport has been developed in consultation with employers and supports Walney students to develop the following skills: team working, communication, customer/client service & commercial business awareness, organisation, planning & time management, problem solving, self-awareness and entrepreneurial skills.

Deputy headteacher Allison Redshaw commented, "We are thrilled at the support that local businesses have given to Futures Friday. Our students have been thoroughly inspired by the career journeys that our visitors have shared with them. This event has helped to raise aspirations and inspire careers. Thank you to all involved."



The Big Bang Fair

On the morning of the 17th October we had a really great time. Year 8 got on the coach to go to the Big Bang Fair at Furness College.

We learnt all about different Science experiments, my favourite was when we mixed icing sugar with flames and we watched it explode. There were lots of different fun activities which were challenging (this was great as I love a challenge).

The part I found the most interesting was when we learnt how to resuscitate a person and used a dummy to do so making sure that we placed the right tube into the dummies throat.

Overall I had an amazing time at the Big Bang Fair and it has even given me an insight into what I might want to be when I get older.

By Asha Year 8



Leadership Teambuilding Day

It was a wet and windy Saturday morning at the start of the October half term, when we went to Brathay Hall in Ambleside for our Leadership Teambuilding Day. We were all a bit apprehensive, but excited because we didn't know what we were going to be doing!

When we got there, we introduced ourselves and then split into two groups. First, we had to try and work as a team to try and get a tyre over everyone in the group as quickly as we could – we had to beat our times. Then throughout the day, we took part in other challenges such as getting our

team through nets, low level ropes, orienteering and a blindfolded challenge. The biggest challenge for all of us was climbing a 40ft pole! We were harnessed and attached to ropes, but we had to work as a team to get 3 people each time to stand on the table at the top, lean back and jump off!

We all learned a lot about ourselves on this day and grew as a team. It was brilliant!

Thank you to the Brathay Trust for inviting us and to Mrs Redshaw, Mrs Magee and Mr Corcoran for coming along to support us.

Senior Students



Leadership Day

Working with the Senior Student team has been a real highlight of this term for me and one event in particular which showcased the mature thinking and team ethic of these young people was our inaugural Student Leadership Day in September. Mrs Redshaw and I were delighted to spend the day working with our team of 40 students, to support them in developing their leadership goals, growing their teamwork skills and furthermore, encouraging their ideas for the year ahead in their new roles.

During the day, students had the opportunity to take part in workshops with myself and Mrs Redshaw, alongside hearing presentations from Mr Sinton (Chair of Governors) and our Headteacher Mr Richardson; hearing about varying journeys through different leadership pathways.

It was a genuine pleasure to spend time with such enthusiastic students, who are keen to not only develop their skills, but also want to help to grow our school community and support other students. I very much look forward to working with all of the team throughout the year and sharing their successes with you.

Mrs Magee – Head of Year 11



Infinity Science Festival

On Thursday 28th September six students were taken to West Lakes Academy for the amazing Infinity Science Festival. It introduced students to future careers and lots of science related fun. Such as a flight simulator, drones and a nitrogen shower.

We also met a variety of different science icons who told us all about the importance of flies, astronomy and lots more of interesting things. This was a great opportunity to meet Professor Brian Cox and other experts in the field of science.

The aim of the festival was to inspire young people to be more interested in science. This certainly had an effect on us as we could see how the science we learn in the classroom is used in everyday life.

This festival was very inspirational and a real eye opener for me and I am glad we all got the opportunity to go. The best part was meeting Professor Brian Cox and getting our picture taken with him.

Evan Rushton Year 9



Starlight Express



It was full steam ahead for the selection of pupils who were lucky enough to watch the SOLD OUT production of 'Starlight Express' at the Forum. The well-known musical is about a child's train set that comes to life and competes to become the fastest engine in the world and the entire show is performed on roller-skates!

On 16th November we were so pleased to be able to take 40 pupils to watch the highly professional, energetic and memorable show. It was an especially special evening for us supporting ex-pupil



and star, Kieran McCormack and our current pupil, the very talented Megan

Bradley. They both, along with the rest of the cast, absolutely rocked the Forum stage for 4 evenings. The outstanding and electric performance was reflected by the huge response from the audience who encouraged by our own inspired pupils, were all dancing the finale away in complete awe of the extremely talented cast.

We thoroughly enjoyed the performance and we congratulate the cast and crew for their extremely successful production.

GCSE photography

The year 11 students as part of their GCSE photography course have been researching photographer's work and camera techniques to gain inspiration and knowledge to help them to take their own photographs. As part of the course students visited South Lakes Safari Zoo and the surrounding areas of Barrow to take photographs for their current project. The intended outcomes from the trip were to raise self-esteem, sense of achievement and reward for good quality work. This is an important element to the course for the students to make progress and take photographs related to their individual theme. The students thoroughly enjoyed the experience and captured some stunning photographs.

"Seeing how proud our students were of their photographs was a joy to see" - **Mr Costa**

"I found the experience fascinating. It was a good opportunity to put all of my learning in to practice to take my own photographs" - **Sammy Howard**

"I enjoyed the photography trip and I was delighted with my photographs" - **Ryan Hunt**



Chloe Haney, Sammy Howard, Tyler Baines, Enzo Wilkinson, Ben Sheard, and Ryan Hunt



2018 Photography Calendar

Students GCSE Photography work is featured in a 2018 calendar and is on sale from reception for £4. All money raised will go towards the end of year photography exhibition.

Year 5 And 6 Open Evening

On the 20th September we hosted our annual Open Evening where we welcome students from the local community (and beyond) to our school to have a taste of life at Walney School. Mr Richardson gave a speech that was well attended by many parents before everyone headed out to the classrooms to see what was on offer. Children enjoyed a multitude of activities hosted by every subject area in the school. The Maths Department had converted their teaching rooms into an airport check in zone where lots of practical maths activities were available. The Science Department did "live" experiments on jelly babies which drew the crowds along with many experiments for our visitors to have a go at. The History Department did their usual sterling job

of setting off the fire alarm with their realistic World War 1 trench simulation! The Murder Mystery in English was well attended and the Modern Foreign Language café was a hit and many croissants were consumed in the course of the evening. Running, ball throwing and kicking speeds were tested in our Sports Hall and many children enjoyed the experience of bouncing on our trampolines and trying a stunt or two. Souvenir key rings were created in Technology and finally Mr Gilbert showed what the Year 7 transition camp was like by demonstrating camping and outdoor cooking skills. The atmosphere in school was electric all evening and every visitor agreed that it was a very exciting and enjoyable evening.



UNITracks

Three Year 10 pupils have recently joined the Unitracks programme at Warwick University. Over the next few years they now have the chance to:

- Step outside their comfort zone through exploring new subjects
- Discover hidden talents through projects and challenges
- Develop the skills that universities and future employers look for, such as teamwork and communication

- Work towards improving their academic grades
- Make new friends from across the country

The three pupils, Will Corkill, Lauren Irvine, Reece Mossop attended an Induction event in October 2017 and were told a little bit more about the programme. In addition to a very early start, the day included sessions on University life, and introduction to the forthcoming spring projects. They were also treated to a campus tour before

departing ready to start their first task: 500 words about their hometown of Barrow-in-Furness.

Will, Lauren and Reece now look forward to the "Shooting the Past" project in the spring where they will put their filmmaking skills to the test to inform others around the country of the past of the area in which they live.

Reece Mossop

Barrow is a good place to grow up because we don't have too much crime or poverty. Many people will say that Barrow is boring because we have no good shops but to me that makes going away to Manchester or Liverpool or even Lancaster that little bit more exciting and worthwhile. With regard to things to do, Barrow actually has lots to do if you look hard enough and scratch under the surface. For example, we have multiple beaches, nature reserves and we also have Barrow Park which in itself has a lot to offer; some of these things are the lake, on which you can rent boats or even zorbing balls to roll around in. Barrow also has many opportunities for sport, with the Barrow rugby and football youth teams and also many smaller clubs for most sports. Very close to Barrow we have the Lake District National Park which was previously home to the author Beatrix Potter and also on Coniston Water Donald Campbell broke the water speed record with the Bluebird in 1967. Barrow also has a large historical background. One of the most historic things in Barrow is the Furness Abbey, founded in 1123 and it was then demolished in 1537. This abbey was the second richest abbey in England. The smaller population of Barrow is another amazing thing about the town. Everybody knows each other so you can always rely that somebody has your back. Barrow has a brand new college making it a great place to study. After this you can then move on to one of many apprenticeships available from BAE Systems, one of the largest local employers. In conclusion, I believe that Barrow is a good place to live because we have a small crime rate, a friendly population and availability of employment and further education.

Lauren Irvine

I come from Barrow-in-Furness, a small area in South Cumbria. Growing up here is great because there is a wide sense of community and loads to do. Some of my favourite things are the Town Centre and Zoo as they are both usually full of different people from all across the area. There has always been something for me and my friends to enjoy no matter what age we are. I live about 10 minutes away from the beach and local parks. We have everything anyone would ever need, about ten schools, two colleges and the university is a short drive away.

My town is very unique because there is lots of history, including the steelworks and railway. There are lots of interesting places where the old tracks and factories were. However, in more recent years more modern companies have found themselves, such as BAE systems. This offers lots of jobs for my local area and there are different jobs and opportunities for everyone. Having big companies in the area opens up more chances to travel around the world and do work elsewhere.

Barrow has developed over the past decade to become a fun area for all age groups, from cinemas to newly refurbished gardens. Our leisure centre holds two gyms, two swimming pools, and roller skating etc. Inside the leisure centre there are lots of clubs for different groups of people that help everyone feel welcome. I am part of a dance group and running club. We train and compete with other clubs around our county.

During Christmas season we annually switch on the Christmas lights and decorations at the Town Hall. There are live performances from huge bands and local musicians. My favourite things are the festivals and carnivals. Just recently there was a festival in the rugby stadium. Within the carnivals the communities gather and celebrate fundraising for the less fortunate people of my area. People from my local area are very kind and willing to help each other.

My town is mostly shown for its bad parts and consequently all the fun festivities are rarely praised. Thinking into more depth I have learnt to really enjoy the place I come from more as I mature. By far the thing I enjoy the most would be the Forum. Here we hold shows and plays. My favourite play was performed here by the young actors in the area, they perform lots of different genres from Les Misérables to fun comedy skits.

Just outside of my town lies the Lake District, full of beautiful forests and scenery. We often travel here to enjoy weekends or holidays. My favourite part of this is Grizedale Forest, where there are lots of trails and waterfalls. People often get married here or celebrate other milestones. We often used to take trips here and to other places in Primary School using The La'al ratty or "little railway" as it is now more popularly called. Overall, after debating it, I really enjoy my hometown and I think there is a lot to do here and I would persuade others to visit..

Will Corkill

It is good to come from my area, Barrow-in-Furness because there are many things to do.

Things such as going to the Town Centre can be very entertaining; there are many shops for people to go and look around in. The Town Centre is one of the most popular places in Barrow, many of the leading stores and restaurants are centred around the Town Hall. We also have an indoor market with various stalls, selling different sorts of things.

There is also a lot of natural landscapes and beautiful scenery around Barrow, which is good for me because I have an interest in photography and I can use it for my GCSE Art project. There are places such as the nature reserves where there are also lots of animals; on the South Walney Nature Reserve there are animals such as seals and different types of birds. On the North Walney Nature Reserve there are dunes where there are lots of seagull habitats. There are also lots of beaches where I can take lots of sunset photos. Barrow is also an excellent area because we are on the edge of the Lake District National Park. It is England's largest national park, and it is a world heritage site. It has the highest mountain in England, Scafell Pike, and also the deepest lake in England, Wastwater.

Walney Island is situated just across from Barrow; it is connected to Barrow using the Jubilee Bridge, which was opened by the late Queen Mother in 1908. It is a Bascule bridge, which is also known as a Drawbridge, used for boat traffic traveling through the narrow Walney channel. Walney Island was also the motivation for The Island of Sodor, the fictional island of Thomas the Tank Engine as the author of the series used to come on holiday to Walney Island.

Another good thing about Barrow is that there are a lot of places to socialise with friends, such as the various parks or at the town or in the market. There are also places on Walney such as Tummar Hill which is a place that has sports pitches where friends can socialise and play different sports.

Barrow's biggest employer is BAE Systems, a company that builds ships and submarines. It attracts a large percentage of Barrow's workers. Barrow has been building vessels and submarines since 1871. The shipyard is currently working on the new Dreadnought Submarine Programme; it is a replacement nuclear deterrent for the UK.

Furthering Barrow's historical past, we also have the Furness Abbey. The Furness Abbey was a church built in 1123, it was constructed entirely out of local sandstone and was later demolished by order of King Henry VIII in 1537. It is now an English heritage site available for the public to explore. Additionally, there is a small island just across from Walney that is home to a historical castle known as Piel Island. This castle is also entirely different to when it was first built, many parts of the castle have fallen, and the public can only look through the remaining portions of the castle from the outside due to the possibility of more of the castle falling to pieces.

Overall, Barrow is an extremely lovely place to come from despite the negative opinions that some people might have about my hometown. There are many things to do as well as the town having a great historical background.

Charities Roundup



Every Thursday a group of 20+ students meet up as a Charities Group and try to come up with new ways to raise money for charity. Last year, we supported several different charities including Save the Children, Boxes of Hope and Barrow

Foodbank. This year, we have supported the great

work of MacMillan Cancer Support, donating £250 from our cake sale; Boxes of Hope, donating 78 boxes full of gifts plus a further £200; Children in Need, raising £650 from our non-uniform day and cake sale plus an additional donation of £250 to Chris Lewis, who is walking the entire coastline of the UK in aid of SAFA.

Last year we are proud to have raised £4752 and hope to raise even more than that in this academic year. At already £1300, we are well on our way!

We are currently working on a project called Bs' Buttons. This is a remembrance project where we aim to collect as many buttons as possible. Each button represents a child that died in the holocaust which was 1.5 million. When all the buttons have been collected, they will be developed into a product. Please do help us to achieve our goal – we need your buttons!

This Christmas, we are holding our annual 5 Days of Christmas in aid of Save the Children, Cancer Research UK and to support the great work that Walney School do for the local community. This week will see us hold a bake sale, a Christmas Kindness drive, a Christmas Crafts session and our 4th annual Santa Dash – a sponsored 1 mile event, all in Christmas fancy dress!

The Charities Committee is open to all year groups and anyone can join when they wish. Part of the fun is to hold events and meet the people we help. Every penny counts.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Mrs Magee & the Charities Committee

Great Walney School

Year 6 Bake Off



The transition from Primary to Secondary School is a huge step. Our young people have to adjust to new surroundings, become familiar with new teachers and peers, learn new ways of working, and make sense of the rules and routines that operate in their classes - so it is important that we get it right. At Walney School we believe that organising transition projects is an investment for the future. It is important that pupils feel that they belong in their new (or future) school, feel included and have the opportunity to try new, exciting things and to extend their particular skills and interests.

By working with our local feeder schools, we get to know the pupils in our local community, including their strengths, interests and their learning needs, prior to them actually starting in year 7.

During Autumn term, we invited all our local feeder schools to participate in our latest transition event – 'The Great Walney School Year 6 Bake Off'. Year 6s were 'challenged' to design, produce and serve afternoon tea to a group of four judges. Year 6s would have the use of the food and textiles class rooms (complete with expertise) for the duration. The criteria included a drink, sandwich choice, two varieties of cake and a type of scone. Marks would be awarded for taste, texture, appearance, originality, teamwork, cleaning up skills and overall theme and presentation.

South Walney, Vickerstown, Barrow Island and St George's Schools all rose to the challenge!

Over the course of five weeks, we were treat to an amazing array of afternoon teas.

Bonfire Night was the theme for Mrs Banks' class from South Walney, complete

with Catherine wheel sandwiches, winter hot chocolate and sausage sparklers all of which came presented on a home-made stand with Guy Fawkes, gunpowder barrel and real fire (ok, candles!)

Mr Leggett's Barrow Island year 6s were next and they produced a delicious display based on a traditional afternoon tea with butterflies. Tea served in a china teapot, complete with doilies and artistic origami butterflies. The bacon, egg and tomato bites proved to be a very popular addition.

Vickerstown, accompanied by Mr Brown, decided to base their theme on a topic they are covering in lessons – WWII. They introduced their afternoon tea to the judges and explained that they had researched what would be popular in the 1940s. The Victoria sponge cake was outstanding and the overall presentation was very well received, including homemade Union Jack bunting and bespoke tablecloth.

Mrs McKellars year 6s from South Walney had a lot to live up to and based their design around Children In Need. The perfect Pudsey cloche, lifted to reveal



an array of Pudsey shaped tuna and cheese sandwiches was the climax of the afternoon.

Finally, we welcomed Mr Costa and the pupils of St George's school. Once again, Year 6s chose to base their theme around a topic studied during lessons, the Amazon Rain forest. Snake sandwiches, an avocado drink that looked like something worthy of an Im a Celebrity trial (but tasted delicious!) and a chocolate log adorned with fondant snakes draped around the outside was exceptional.

It was great to see the pupils working together as a team, learning new skills and presenting their afternoon tea to our judges – Mr Richards and Mrs Hayes (school governors), Mr Cubiss and Mrs Dickinson.

The judges had a very hard decision to make, commenting that some of the cakes were good enough to sell at Marks and Spencer!

The ultimate winner will be revealed at our Year 7 Proud of our Achievements Christmas assembly – look out for the result on Twitter!

A very special thank you to the primary schools, our judges and to Mrs A Turner and Mrs L Knaggs who supported the event.

A fantastic event thoroughly enjoyed by all! **Mrs Stockdale**



Cinema Reward



On the 10th and 16th of November over 80 children in Year 7 went on a trip to the Vue Cinema in Barrow, to watch Moana or the Lego Batman Movie. This was a reward for engaging in Walney School's Accelerated Reading Programme. The idea is that you read a book and then take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have just read. However, it wasn't as simple as just completing a quiz you also had to get over 80% in it! Mrs Stockdale,

the Head of Year 7, arranged the trip, made the day possible, and made sure everyone who passed a quiz received an invitation. When the day finally arrived, we all met at the cinema, bought our drinks and popcorn and were excited to watch the film and have a good time. After the films had finished we were transported by bus back to school. Overall, it was a fantastic day full of fun!

Ben and Annabel Year 7

The Royal Refurb workshop



On Wednesday 18th October we were delighted to welcome GLEEDS and the Transformation Trust to Walney School. GLEEDS is a leading global property and construction consultancy and their clients include BAE Systems, Barclaycard, University of Leicester, and a huge list of other impressive companies.

GLEEDS have won the contract to refurbish the stables at Windsor Castle for the Royal Household and they brought 8 members of staff to Walney to work with 30 Year 8 and Year 9 students to design a new stable block. The students were given a brief to work to:

Client – The Royal Household

Budget - £5 million

Funded by – The Crown Estate

Construction timescales – 15 months

Size of land to build on – 5,000 square metres

In addition the students were told that their building had to be modern, environmentally friendly, and it had to have the following: 16 individual stable units, feed room, tack room, hay bedding store, wash box, lighting & heating solutions and an exercise area.

Our students took on roles – project manager, cost manager, architect, communications manager and health & safety/environmental manager. They considered construction tenders from 4 different companies and selected the one they felt best matched their brief, and they drew their design plan for the new stable block.

It was not all plain sailing though! As in the real world, the students had to deal with problems that were thrown their way: the press found out about the refurbishment and wanted details, and snow stopped construction for two



weeks. Our students' problem-solving skills were stretched to the limit. Finally, each group of students gave a presentation and were judged on their research skills, the creativity of their project, their ability to overcome hurdles and their presentation skills.

All of the students worked very well together and developed their skills. Congratulations go to India, Glenn, Fallon and Beth who were Centuries of Construction – the winners!

Sport



Football

Recently the girls have been very successful in several competitions across all age groups. Most notably are the Under 15 girls who have enjoyed positive experiences in both the English Schools

Football Association, and the Cumbria Schools Football Association competitions. As a result they have managed to progress into the semi-final of Cumbria Schools Football Association competition. Also the under 13 girls have particularly impressed this year competing

in both the competitions mentioned above, and unfortunately just missing out on the next stage of the 5-a-side Barrow Schools competition due to goal difference. They look forward to travelling to Morecambe to compete in the English Schools Football League competition.

The year 10 boys have also enjoyed success, winning the 6-a-side Barrow schools tournament. A strong squad performance meant the boys

managed to win all their games and did not concede a goal throughout the tournament.



Sporting Success



Other sporting success has included Amelia Langhorn winning a table Tennis competition in Blackpool and Ella Gill being included in the North West Regional boxing squad.