

## A round up of our Half Term 2 at WHS 2025!



### **Power for Good - Anti-Bullying Week 2025**

Another successful Anti-Bullying week raising awareness about bullying, giving students greater understanding of issues and how to look after each other and share kindness in school and beyond. The week started with Odd Socks day, where staff and students wore odd socks to highlight and celebrate what makes us all unique.

We also held two Anti-Bullying conferences this week, one on Tuesday for our WHS students and one on Thursday where we were able to invite and host groups from all our local primary schools to help educate our future students who may well join Westhoughton High School.

The theme Power for Good was picked this year by the Anti-Bullying Alliance to help students feel empowered to do something positive to counter the harm and hurt that bullying causes. To empower children and young people to use their Power for Good to speak out, support others, and build a world where kindness wins.

### **Our call to action:**

*Every year, bullying impacts the lives of countless young people and silence helps it grow.*

*That's why, this Anti-Bullying Week, we're empowering young people to use their Power for Good to safely speak up and raise awareness when they see bullying, face to face or online.*

*Lasting change needs all of us. From playgrounds to parliament, our homes to our phones — we all have a part to play.*

*Together, we can use our Power for Good to end bullying — for good.*



Penny M-A in Year 10 had a busy half term at the WUKF European championships Latvia 2025.

Penny fought hard and won:

Silver medal in Shitoryu style Kata Individual 🥈

Bronze medal in Open styles Kata 🥉

Bronze medal in Kumite individual open weight 🥉

Gold medal in Kumite team Rotation: Overall champions 🏆

Fabulous achievements again Penny, well done!



### Christmas Break

Monday 22nd December 2025

- Friday 2nd January 2026

**REMINDER**

Emily G in Year 9 is now the ISKA British K1 champion after dominating her fight in Coventry at the weekend. Emily has now qualified for her next big competition in Australia next year! Amazing achievement Emily, well done!



On Saturday 8 November the Westhoughton Darts Hub took on the Macmillan Darts Marathon and scored 100,000 points in just 2 hours and 48 mins. They have so far raised £833.50.

Players from WHS were: Isabella R in Y7 and 3 boys from Y10, Henry P, Jack A and Aiden M. Well done everyone! 🙌🎯

🌈🌈🌈 Congratulations to all our lovely students that have been nominated for showing kindness towards other during the first half term.

Students attended our Kindness Breakfast this morning. We are proud of you and your names have now been put forward for the Morgan Emma Davies Memorial Award that will be presented to a deserving recipient at the end of the year! 🌈🌈🌈







## Lest we Forget

A beautifully respectful 2 minutes silence was observed by our school. A growing number of our young people in cadet, scouts and guides uniforms led brilliantly by Logan and Ollie in Year 11. A live last post, on the trombone, played perfectly by James (also Year 11) has brought the school community together in an act of remembrance. Windows opened across the school to hear the last post and the town hall cannons.

#lestweforget #wewillrememberthem #respect



## Charity Race

Jaydan W Year 10 and Joshua W Year 7 have done amazingly well this weekend on their charity "race for a Reason" raising money for Alfie's Squad.

They came 2nd out of 20 teams!!

"There were plenty of ups and a few downs along the way, but they pushed through every moment for a charity that means so much to us.

To take on a challenge like this at just 14 and 11 years old is something truly special. Their determination, strength, and spirit are on another level. It's a tough challenge that many adults would struggle with but they absolutely smashed it like champs!"

Well done boys and everyone else who took part. As a team they have raised an amazing £2,500 and Alfie's Squad charity has raised over £54,000! What an amazing achievement!



## Senior Presentation Evening

Record numbers arrived to collect their outstanding achievements from the summer exam series. It was just brilliant to see them back and hear about what they are all up to now.

This is a year group that had so many incredible stories over the five years. The Barwise / Walsh team were clearly proud of every one of their crew as they returned last night. This year group raised the bar, showed us what resilience means and taught us so much as a school. They helped the shape our learning culture. Not a year group I will ever forget.

Go well, all of you. Be you. Be kind.





## November

### The Bolton News

"Movember focuses on men's health, especially mental health, suicide prevention, prostate cancer, and testicular cancer- but here at school we're widening the message.

"This month is about supporting everyone's well-being, not just men's. Talking openly, checking in on each other, and making mental and physical health something we all prioritise."



### Ten Pin Bowling event

Some of our Year 7 and Year 8 students had an amazing time at the annual Ten Pin Bowling event led by Bolton Wanderers in the Community! The lanes were full of laughter, friendly competition, and plenty of high fives.

A special shout out to Lean H and Jacob M, our superstar bowlers, who scored over 100 points and proudly walked away with a medal.

Well done to everyone who took part!

### Anne Frank Foundation exhibit.

Our school has hosted the Anne Frank Foundation exhibit. A group of our pupils served as guides, leading tours for classmates, school governors, and visiting Year 6 pupils from local primary schools. They spoke with confidence, maturity, and great sensitivity as they shared Anne Frank's story and the exhibit's important messages of tolerance and empathy.

We're incredibly proud of how professionally they represented the school and how warmly they welcomed our younger visitors. A huge well done to all involved—you made this week truly meaningful for our whole community.

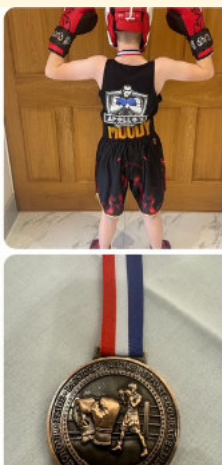






## Boxing

Joseph M in Year 7 took part in his first amateur boxing fight at the Last Drop Village. The event was a "skills bout" and Joseph showed off all his skills he has been learning over the last year after taking up the sport. Joseph had a great time, well done Joseph!



Well done to Oliver J in Year 8 who has been awarded Westhoughton Lions Rugby Under 12s Player of the Year and Players' Player of the Year! A fantastic achievement that reflects his hard work and dedication to the sport. Well done Oliver.



## Pentathlon multi-sports competition

Some of our Year 7 students had an incredible time at Bolton Arena, taking part in a brilliant event led by Bolton Wanderers in the Community. They threw themselves into a Pentathlon multi-sports competition, showing determination, teamwork and plenty of smiles along the way! 🏆🏈🏊🏃

We're so proud of their effort and enthusiasm — and to top it all off, they came home with well-deserved medals! 🏅🇬🇧

A huge thank you to Bolton Wanderers in the Community for hosting such an inspiring event.



## Water-polo Success

Over the last couple of months Alfie D from Year 9 has been attending Water-polo training sessions in Manchester. From around 20 boys Alfie has been selected to represent the North West.

Alfie went to Walsall, Birmingham on Saturday to play all the regions in England and Scotland. They played 4 matches in the group stages and finished second to get into the semi final which they won! They went onto final which finished a 2-2 draw and went onto penalties. Alfie scored the last penalty which meant they are now National Champions!!

Well done Alfie and team, a fabulous achievement.







## Celebration of Christmas

What a lovely festive evening we had at our Celebration of Christmas event, thank you to everyone who came. Thank you and well done to all our students and staff who either sang, played an instrument, had a reading or helped set up and run the event, you were all brilliant. Many thanks to Rector Reverend Carol Pharaoh, Ed McHale and St Bartholomew's Parish Church for their time and hospitality.



## Special thanks to

All students and staff involved in our Celebration of Christmas especially the Performing Arts Dept and Mr C Taylor. Thanks to parents/carers and friends of the school for supporting the event.

We wish to express a special thanks to the  
★ Rector Reverend Carol Pharaoh - Team Rector  
Blackrod, Daisy Hill, Westhoughton  
and Wingates Team  
and to Ed McHale Organist and church warden.

Also thanks to the congregation of  
The Parish Church of St Bartholomew's  
for their hospitality.



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## Good news story

"Ava-Paige R in Year 11 started having music lessons in Westhoughton High School two years ago with Guitar and Bolton music school with no musical experience. Ava-Paige found her confidence to go to after school band every Tuesday at Bolton music school and joined senior rocks, this wouldn't of been possible if you had not made music lessons readily available with funding in your school. Ava-Paige has been accepted in Junior RNCM (Royal Northern College of music ) which is ranked No 5 for music in the 2025 QS World University. She had to audition to a high musical standard and got accepted in September this year. Ava-Paige goes every week. This is a Big thank you to Mr Coe and Westhoughton High to say how much I appreciate the school for letting her achieve her dreams and cannot wait to see where this path takes her. Also big thank to Bolton Music school for taking time to go to Westhoughton High to teach children music."

Well done Ava-Paige for putting in all the hard work a practise, it is great to hear you are getting on so well!







### Westhoughton's Got Talent

The Performing Arts Department would like to thank everyone who attended our Christmas production of Westhoughton's Got Talent. The students showed off a variety of different talents from singing to acting, from dancing to circus tricks to name a few. We are very proud of our performers and crew and thank them for their hard work. The director would like to thank all staff involved for their hard work to allow students the opportunity to shine on stage. #ArtsMatter.



### Christmas Card Competition

Thank you to everyone who entered our Christmas card competition! We had a bumper stack of entries this year!

The winner this year was Aiden M from Year 10! Well, done Aiden. Second place was Samuel S from Year 7 and 3rd place went to Marcus N from Year 9. We also have a special Head Teacher Highlight design from Jessica M from Year 8.

Well done to all of you.





### Let's Share Christmas

This Christmas, our school community came together to support local health services, charities, and elderly residents through the Let's Share Christmas campaign. Thanks to the generosity of students, staff, and families, we were able to spread festive cheer across Westhoughton and the surrounding area. Donations of chocolate oranges were delivered to Bolton Hospital, Bolton Hospice, The Fire Service and the Ambulance Service, as a thank you to NHS staff and emergency workers for their dedication and hard work. We also visited Woodlands Care Home and Wingates Care Home in Westhoughton, sharing gifts and helping to brighten Christmas for elderly members of our local community. In addition, donations of mince pies and cans of pop were given to Urban Outreach, supporting their vital work with vulnerable people. A huge thank you goes to our Year 10 students, who acted as Santa's Elves throughout the campaign. They worked tirelessly to collect, sort, and organise donations, ensuring everything was ready to be delivered on time.

- *Chocolate Oranges donated: 498*
- *Mince Pie packs donated: 307 boxes*
- *Cans of pop donated: 321*

This campaign truly reflected the spirit of giving and community, and we are incredibly proud of everyone involved.



### Annual Christmas Dinner

We held our annual school Christmas Dinner on Wednesday 10th December, all students enjoyed a festive feast with their form group. A treat students and staff enjoy each year.







Freya O'C in Year 9 recently competed in a wrestling tournament in Helsinki, Freya had an outstanding day — winning all five of her matches without dropping a single point and securing a gold medal. 🏆 🥇

A fantastic achievement Freya a great reward for the commitment, discipline, and resilience you have in your sport. Well done! 🙌 🙌 🙌



Keira G in Year 11 competed in her first CrossFit competition last weekend. She was competing in the adult category, the only person under 23 and came 1st place with her team. Well done Keira and team. 🙌 🙌 🙌 🏆



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*Wishing all our Students, Staff,  
Governors and Families a very  
Happy Christmas.*

*Enjoy the festive break, see you back in  
school Monday 5th January 2026!*