

Contact





**Welcome from Mr Wright,
Executive Headteacher:**

Welcome to the Whit edition of Contact!

This half term of only five weeks has nevertheless been full of great activities. We have much to report for you and the remainder of the summer term will be packed with more exciting events for our students. We are looking forward to beginning our transition activities with our new, 'soon to be' Year 7 students now their SATs are over. As you may know we have increased our admission number for September to 375 and have been allocated a full cohort from first preferences. This is a huge accolade for the school and a great privilege and responsibility that we take very seriously. We are progressing a good number of projects, which will benefit all our students.

The end of SATs always signals the start of GCSEs and A levels and I would like to reassure parents that our detailed, intensive revision programme has been well received by students and we have fully prepared the sports hall for this. We are aware that this time of year can prove a stressful one for students, the NHS provide a series of tips to help

parents help their children with exam stress. This edition of Contact and our website have links to this resource.

There is so much we might focus on, but it would be remiss not to recall in March, our attendance at the Remembrance Day for the Warrington bombings, which was a very inspiring and moving experience. Our students were fantastic ambassadors for their town, taking centre stage and singing so beautifully and then later at the Peace Centre, the mood was lightened by a very appreciative Princess Anne enquiring if the children had had any lunch, whilst they were in full flight. A special moment was created by the coming together of all local religious leaders, standing as one to give blessings in all faiths, which represented something so valuable and important for any child to see.

I wish you all a safe and happy holiday and send Years 11, 12 and 13 the very best of luck for their revision and exams.



**Welcome from Mrs Crawley,
Headteacher:**

Welcome to our latest edition of Contact.

There is much to celebrate this half term. Our year 13 and 11 are in the midst of their A level and GCSE examinations. We wish them every success and look forward to celebrating with them in the summer! I know that they have been working hard to prepare for these exams.

At this time of the year, our Year 9s are busy completing their practice Duke of Edinburgh Bronze expedition. It has been wonderful to see so many of the year group engaging in this prestigious award. I am thankful that they have had wonderful weather whilst completing the expedition, which is always a bonus!

I am always humbled by the

generosity of our students. We have had numerous cake sales, Easter tombola and raffles all in aid of the various charities that each House supports. It was lovely to see staff and students from Stephenson House involved in our first Race for life. We are hoping that this will now become an annual event.

I was delighted to be asked to judge the S Factor again this year. It is a privilege to see the many and varied talents of our students. They certainly made the judging difficult. Our local MP Faisal Rashid was a guest judge and very generously offered an additional prize of a trip to the Houses of Parliament. Emma and Ellie had a wonderful time.

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your support and wish you a restful half term.



BANNISTER

This is probably my last Contact entry before Ms Bayne returns so I would like to take the opportunity to thank a number of people. Firstly Mrs Cahill for her help and support. She does a fantastic job in the house office sorting out all your day to day issues and so much more! I'd like to thank Jamie and Leah again, as House Captains, for all their hard work this year. And lastly to all of Bannister for your hard work and co-operation. It has been a real pleasure being the acting Head of House.

Ms Clark x

AUSTEN

A big well done to everyone in Austen House for all their hard work so far this half term. A particular mention to our Year 11 forms who are working so hard in their revision sessions and exams.

All of Austen House would like to say a HUGE thank you to our wonderful House Captains, Louise (11AM) and James (11AM). They have been fantastic role models to the rest of the House and we wish them every luck with their exams and for the future.

Congratulations to our lovely Year 8 students, Tom, Joe, Ryan, Oliwier, Katie and Rosie, for their participation in the Bake-off and winning!! We are all really proud of them, well done. Have a lovely half term break everyone,

Take care,
Mrs Masher x

THOMPSON

It has been another busy term for the students in Thompson House. The Year 11 students have been working hard in preparation for their GCSE exams, engaging in a full programme of revision booster classes. Meanwhile, Year 8 classes have been involved in an Interhouse baking competition. Enthusiasm for the baking was so great that a separate boy and girl's competition was called for.

7TW have raised over £100 for our chosen charity, Cancer Research UK. Thank you to everyone the bought a cake or ticket for the Tombola.

Mr Cawthorn

NEWTON

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all Year 11 students good luck in their upcoming GCSE exams. I have been hugely impressed with the work ethic and attitude of all students in Newton House. I would also like to say a huge thank you to Matthew for a fantastic job as deputy head boy, Nic and Ellie for their brilliant work as House Captains. A huge well done to Adam, Troy, Ellie and Nathan for their brilliant performance in the Year 7 Warrington Schools Cup Final.

Have a great half term.
Mr Bate



STEPHENSON

We have had another excellent half-term as a House, we have consistently been top of the attendance charts and we are currently doing very well on the House points chart as well so a fantastic effort on all fronts.

On the charity front the two Year 9 forms raised a fantastic amount of money doing an Easter tombola. I would like to thank all the students of 9SG and 9SM and their teachers for organising this.

A fantastic effort at the Year 8 Bake-Off saw Ethan getting second place for Stephenson House with his Viennese whirls. The students and teachers in Stephenson House held the very first Race for Life in School, it was a fabulous warm day and all students either ran or walked the whole course. The winners of the actual race were:

Boys - 1st Max, 2nd Charlie, 3rd Taylor
Girls - 1st Charis, 2nd Jade, 3rd Hannah

Thank you to all the runners and walkers we have managed to raise a lot of money so far but you can sponsor us here

<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/great-sankey-high-schoolk>

to enable us to raise as much money as possible to help beat cancer sooner.

Next term I am really looking forward to the interviews for Head Boy and Head Girl and the Stephenson House Captains – Good Luck to all who have applied.

I would like to wish our Year 11's Good luck in their GCSE exams – they have been two fabulous forms and we are really going to miss them.

Best wishes
Mrs Steele

PARKS

Congratulations to Leah in 7PT

Recently, Leah entered the Wicked Young Writer of the Year writing competition. Leah had to write a 500 word story. Leah's story was called 'False'. Lots of people entered the competition but only 20 were chosen as finalists. As one of the finalists, Leah will travel to London in June to attend the ceremony at the Apollo Victorian Theatre. Leah is entered in the 12-14 years category and if she is successful she will have the chance to meet the Wicked cast along with winning books for the school.

Leah is really looking forward to the day and the whole of Parks House and the rest of the school wish Leah the best of luck. The short story can be found in this edition of Contact!

Congratulations to Katie in 8PH

Katie competed at National Development Plan Grades recently.

She competed at Grade 1 and passed with a distinction. She came Third overall and has qualified to represent the North West at the National finals in May.

Well done Katie - we are all so proud of you.

Mrs Lee



College Law Students Win National Competition

Having already made the final of the National Bar Mock Trial Competition heat in Liverpool Crown Court in December 2017, the Barrow Hall College team faced Priestly College students in the locally organised Magistrates competition at the combined courts in Warrington.

Presenting the prosecution and defence of a 'possession of a bladed instrument' case, the team won both rounds, securing them a victory in the overall competition.



The team wowed the Magistrates with their preparation and performance on the day, none more so than Hannah and Tom who presented the prosecution case. Magistrates were unable to choose between them for the best student performance award.

Law teacher Rhianne Bond is exceptionally proud and has signed the team up to lead next year's Year 12s to success.

HE+ Poster Competition



Matthew (Year 12) came joint first in the Wigan & Warrington HE+ Consortium academic poster competition. His poster was based on the consequences of the recent case of Richard Osborn-Brooks on the law of self-defence & society. The judges (Academics from University of Cambridge and Dr Nayyar Naqvi OBE) were impressed with Matthews research skills and his ability to analyse future implications of legal decisions. Matthew had some strong competition with over 100 students taking part (18 from Barrow Hall College).

Hard To Swallow

On Monday 14th May the Year 10 GCSE Drama group performed a selection of extracts from their GCSE set text 'Hard To Swallow'. The students did incredibly well performing sections of this moving story to an audience of family, friends and staff.

The Drama department would again like to thank those that came and supported.



DT Technician

The School has a current vacancy for a DT technician.

This is a 22.5 hours per week, term time only position.

For more details please see the [recruitment section](#) of the school website.

Dancing Stars

Abbey in 8PH got a distinction in her ISTD Ballet exam grade 3. She also performed in 3 group dances in the Senior Acts section of the " Friends of Jeannette McCulloch School of Dance Festival " on Sunday 13th May representing Sarah Royle School of Dance. Along with Abbey were students from other Houses at Sankey and together they were placed 1st , 2nd and 3rd in the competition. Other students involved were Melissa (Austen), Holly, Ellen, Eva, Mia, Ella (Newton), Jorja, Freya (Bannister), Anya (Thompson) and Lucy (Stevenson).

--The-- GEOGRAPHY TRIP To ITALY --October 2018--

Can we remind all students and parents that the final deadline for full payment on Wisepay is July 4th.

Any questions, please contact Mr James at school.



Exam Stress Busting!

As many of our students enter the exam season it is worth remembering that some students can find this time of year incredibly stressful. The NHS have some valuable tips for parents about supporting students throughout the exam period.

[This link will take you there.](#)



Great Sankey High School Remembrance Service



Great Sankey High School and members of Barrowhall Lane Primary Choir joined together with members of our wider community to remember all those we have lost on a personal level, as a school community and as the wider community of Warrington.

Our annual memorial service was held on Friday 23rd March 2018 and kindly officiated by Curate Pete Atkinson, West Warrington Church who provided us with support and guidance through a very moving period of reflection. Our service included contributions from a number of staff and students with singing, readings, prayers and laying of flowers in memory of those we have lost. At 2:10pm, the whole school community stood together for a 2 minutes silence united as one.

We remember all those members of the school community we have lost. However, this was the year of the 25th anniversary of the day Warrington will never forget, when for many, lives changed immediately after an IRA bomb exploded in the town centre. Our service was closed by Colin Parry OBE whose son Tim, a member of Great Sankey High School at the time, sadly sustained injuries so severe that five days after the blast he sadly died.

Students and staff produced a book of remembrance poetry which was presented to all our guests. We hope that this will support and remind them of the special place they and their loved ones have in the hearts of our school community.

In our thoughts you are always near
Still loved, still missed, still very dear
But happy memories we keep forever
Of days when we were all together
In heaven you rest, no worries, no pain
But in our hearts you will always remain.



Warrington 25 Year Anniversary Remembrance Service



Sankey Singers, Barrow Hall Primary School Choir and Warrington Male Voice Choir were honoured to perform at a special service of remembrance, attended by HRH The Princess Royal, Princess Anne. Hundreds of people lined the streets to pay their respects as Warrington again showed the world how to respond to atrocity with dignity.

Musically directed by our Head of Music, Ms Meredith, and streamed live on the Warrington Guardian website, we heard a collaboration of three choirs conveying an emotionally positive message. Song choices were "Imagine" by John Lennon and "Something Inside So Strong" by Labi Siffre. Our students also sang again at the Peace Centre for HRH The Princess Royal, Princess Anne.

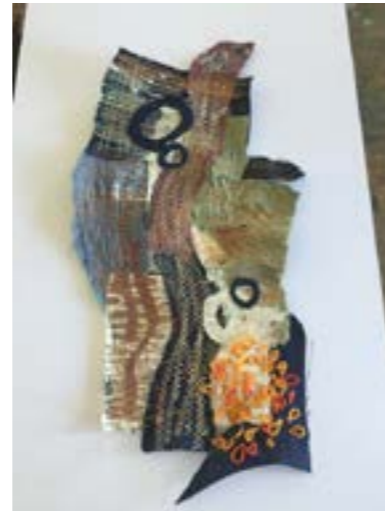
Tim Parry was a former student of our school; the Sankey Singers are very proud to have been part of yesterday's service. Great Sankey High School will also be holding our annual memorial service this Friday afternoon in our Tim Parry Memorial Garden; our Great Sankey community will have the opportunity to remember students, staff and significant people to them who have also passed away.



YEAR 10 ART RESIDENTIAL



On the last weekend in April eighteen Year 10 Art and Design students attended a residential art course at the Conway Centre on Anglesey, accompanied by Mr Rose, Mrs Pickwell and Mrs Forber from the Art Department. During an intensive and enjoyable weekend the students took part in a series of workshops based on the theme of East Meets West and produced work in a variety of media including paint, papier-mache, textiles and wood and paper sculpture. The work produced during this weekend will form part of the students GCSE art and design coursework.



Youth Health Champions – Passed and Qualified!



A huge well done to Declan, Lily, Holly, Tom, Emilie and Rhiannon on passing the 'Level 2 Certificate for Youth Health Champions'. It was a great achievement and they have worked very hard towards passing it.

In order to become a Young Health Champion, candidates are required to undertake the revised RSPH Level 2 Award for Young Health Champions, equivalent to a GCSE grade A-C, consisting of four modules (and workbooks):

- Basic understanding of the key determinants of health.
- A research task about the health facilities in the students own community.
- Practice at delivering health messages to their peers.
- One specialist module to deepen the students understanding of a specific aspect of health.

What are the benefits for the students involved?

Increased awareness of the risks associated with negative behaviours;
Increased knowledge of the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, with particular reference to aspirations and the importance of health for our futures;
A link between the school and external health improvement agencies and services in the community; Increased confidence in health behaviours, social norming and positive role models; CV development.

What are the benefits for schools?

Supports the messages of effective PSHE / SMSC programmes (Personal Health and Social Education/ Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development) by raising awareness of issues affecting health and wellbeing;
Supports Ofsted inspection of SMSC and improves the health of the young people involved.

S FACTOR 2018

The talent on display at this years S Factor was simply outstanding with a variety of genres and acts. The whole evening was very heartwarming to watch, particularly when all the students, ranging from Year 7- 13 genuinely supported one another. Thank you to our excellent presenting duo, Adam (Year 10) and Mrs Mullin!

Our judging panel of Mr Wright, Mrs Crawley, Ms Meredith and our guest Faisal Rashid MP for Warrington South, found it an extremely difficult decision. Congratulations to all our contestants.

Our winners for 2018 are:-

Years 7-9 – Bodhi

Years 10-13 – Adriana

Groups- Jessica & Yasmin

Overall winner (MP Special Prize) – Emma & Ellie



YEAR 7 STEM COMPETITION RACE FOR THE LINE REGIONAL FINAL-- FULWOOD BARRACKS



This event was the next round in the Year 7 STEM competition, held at Fulwood Barracks, Preston on Tuesday 15th May. The winning team for the school race day qualified for this event.

At the event were the winning teams from schools from the three “hubs” from all over the north west. In total there were 30 schools from 3 hubs. Great Sankey High School were in the Liverpool hub, consisting of 9 schools from around the area.

On arrival at the Army Barracks, the pupils were allowed some time to plan for the building of their race car. Then it was down to designing and making the body for their rocket powered race car. The wheels and axles had been pre-made in school but needed fitting to the race car on the day.

After one hours build time, it was lunch and time to take a rest. After lunch the pupils were taken to various activities around the camp as each “hub” raced their cars.

Finally, it was the turn for the Liverpool hub to race. All the cars were lined up and, after a briefing on how to launch the car, the cars were raced.

At the end of the day the team from Great Sankey finished second, by 2 milliseconds (that makes F1 look like a snail race) to the school from Ellesmere Port. From the 30 schools that were there, Great Sankey finished 5th fastest overall. To put this into perspective, Great Sankey were 2nd fastest out of around 550 teams from the Liverpool hub, or 5th fastest from around 1800 teams from the north west region.

All in all an excellent result for the year 7 team from Great Sankey High School. As a result of coming second, the team could be entered into the National Final on a “Wild Card” entry. We await the phone call!!!

Well done to the following pupils from year 7;

Saul 7SE
Harvey 7SE
Benjamin 7SE



S FACTOR WINNERS GRAND DAY OUT



Earlier in the year we were very fortunate to have Warrington South MP Faisal Rashid star as one of the judges in the annual S Factor singing competition. Two of the winners, Emma and Ellie (Year 9), walked away with a special prize of spending a VIP day in London as guests of Mr Rashid.

The students had a brilliant time with a full tour of Parliament, sitting in the viewing gallery and watching Boris taking part in a question/answer session followed by a very nice lunch on the outdoor terrace next to the Thames with Mr Rashid. They topped the day off with a Thames cruise and ice creams!

Thank you to Mr Rashid and his staff for making this a very special day for the students.

Leah (7PT) has made it into the final of this year's Wicked Young Writer's out of thousands of entries with her thrilling story 'False.' She has been invited to the final in London at The Apollo Theatre with the other finalists and some of the cast of Wicked.

She will meet the Patron of Wicked Young Writer's, The Duchess of Cornwall and also the honorary judges Michael Morpurgo, Cressida Cowell, Ed Balls, Nicky Cox MBE, Caleb Femi, Jonathan Douglas and Michael Macabe.

This is a fantastic achievement and we, as a school, are very proud of Leah. It is our pleasure to be able to reproduce her story below.

Discontented, I awoke, staring at a plain wall. Regaining my balance, I rose to my feet, stumbling as the room spun. Desperately scanning the walls for something to hold on to, I clawed at the wall that I was leaning on. Clutching at my head, it throbbed despite the silence. Then it appeared to me that in the room that I stood in, three different rooms lead away from it. Confused, I peered down one of them, still struggling to support myself. I saw nothing but a hall leading into ominous darkness. It became clear that this was repeated down each path.

Cautiously, I stumbled down the hall, keeping one hand on the wall beside me. I couldn't shake the feeling that I was being watched. Feeling hazy, I wandered aimlessly walking past other halls before reaching a dead end. It occurred to me that I was in a maze. Retracing my steps, I turned down a different hall and was quickly faced with another wall blocking the way. Irritated, I tried to remember what happened previous to my unconsciousness. In the mess of my thoughts and memories circling my mind, I recalled being in a busy public area, so it surely couldn't have been kidnapping. I can't have been attacked due to the great dead of muscle on my body and training lessons I have attended.

Calming slightly, I continued. My peace was soon disturbed by a deep growl. I felt my face go pale. A chill crept down my spine. As the colour drained from my body, I held my breath, listening out for another noise . . . Silence. Breathing a sigh of relief, I continued on my way, still taking silent steps. Suddenly I heard a loud bark. Two unnaturally big wolves prowled out of the darkness. Feeling my jaw drop, I saw a blood thirsty murderous glimmer in their eyes. My blood ran cold. Realising my situation, I broke into a sprint. I heard their claws scraping the glossy floor as they began to run. Running at full speed, my throat went dry. My legs ached and my lungs burned. My hair flew back from my eyes as I ran for my life. As the ferocious animals quickly matched my speed, I forced myself to speed up, despite my draining exhaustion. I felt a sharp pain in the bottom of my leg. As I peered down at my feet, blood began soaking through my jeans. One of the wolves' chins was marked with blood.

Losing my balance, I stumbled. Stopping, I clung to the wall and the wolves slowed down to a mocking walk. Growl deepening, I started at a limp, trying to ignore the searing pain and panic. Both wolves irrupted into uncontrollable barking before pushing on. Summoning all the energy I had left, I whipped around a corner, pressing my back to the wall. When they ran fast at full speed, I let out a breath that I didn't realise I was holding and crumpled to the ground. I let out a pained hiss-like noise through my teeth. Crawling around the corner, I noticed that the wolves had disappeared. Recoiling in confusion, it occurred to me that my pain had gone. Returning my gaze to my wound, it wasn't there. No blood. No pain. No bite. A slow, loud clap bounced off the walls. Looking up in horror, I sprung back at the sight of a man approaching me. A smirk plastered on his handsome face.

"Excellent performance my friend" he spoke, his intimidating voice matched his tuxedo, that refined him. I crawled backwards until my back hit the wall. "You need not fear me," he said, willing me into a false sense of security. "It is merely a simulation." The maze faded into a single room. "I was surprised how willingly you followed when I offered you the chance to witness this." He spoke mockingly.

"What is this?... How did you?" I questioned with a shaky voice.

"Ah! Well, I have created a simulator that reflects the pain and emotions of real life," he muttered, and I needed a permanent test subject to check my simulations. Someone naive." He traced a pattern across the wall. "Each time a simulation is completed you forget your experience. It's an infinite cycle. Forever. Do not try to escape friend. There will be consequences as I see fit. "He threatened. His painted face landed on me. Forever?

Will I ever escape this nightmare?

By Leah (7PT)

SPORTS NEWS

Success for Year 7 & 8

The Warrington schools football season came to a close this month with Year 7 & 8 finishing victorious. Year 7 played against Lymm in which two goals from Troy led to a thrilling 2-2 draw at full time. The match was settled on penalties, with Will keeping his cool to seal victory. This completed an unbeaten season for Year 7 and added to previous success in winning the Warrington schools and Cheshire 5aside competitions.

The Year 8 final was equally competitive with Great Sankey pushing all the way against a strong Bridgewater side. Goals from Jo and captain Ed sealed a 2-0 victory and a second successive title.

Big thanks goes to Mr Kong, Mr Gray, Mr Evans & Mr Twist for the support they have given the PE department in running teams this year.

Girls Rugby Round Up

Year 10/11 girls reached the NW Counties final, but lost to a very strong Deanery side. Player of the match was Natalya.

Two weeks later they represented the North West in the National Festival, playing against the best teams in the country. A really hard but enjoyable afternoon saw the girls finish in 6th place. Try scorers Natalya and Phoebe, Eron converted one of the tries. Great Sankey player of the tournament was Phoebe.

Any girls in Year 9 or 10 who are interested in playing rugby are welcome to come to training Friday nights on the astro.



Congratulations

Congratulations to Joe who represented Cheshire at the recent English Schools Cross Country Championships in Leeds



Omega Football Tournament

The PE department at Great Sankey ran a Primary School Football tournament for the schools within the Omega Multi-Academy Trust.

Teams from Chapelford, Burtonwood, Old Hall and Park Road competed against each other to see who would be crowned the winners of this inaugural event.

The students had a great time and enjoyed playing on the fantastic 4G pitches here at Great Sankey High School. This kind of event is a good example of the opportunities that students can be given through cross academy collaboration.

Winners:
Boys- Chapelford 2
Girls- Old Hall



MFL Club

There is an extra-curricular MFL club for Years 7 and 8 (Tuesdays 2.30 – 3.30) which is run by our Year 12 linguists. Each week they focus on a different language, country/culture. Most recently these have included Greek, Filipino, Romanian and Turkish in addition to the traditional languages. Please encourage your child to attend.

Bienvenue, Willkommen and Bienvenido
The Year 12 Language Leaders invite you to:

MFL Club!

Every Tuesday in L4
2:30-3:20
Everyone welcome!

Try some traditional foods from each country!

Practice your language and learn a new one!

Learn about French, German and Spanish culture - plus many others!

Ask any questions you need - there will be plenty of help and assistance!

Listen to French, German and Spanish music - maybe we can learn some traditional dances!

Learn about customs!

Great Sankey High School Summer Concert

Tuesday 26th June 2018
Barrow Hall Theatre
7.00pm

All musical ensembles will be performing plus selected soloists and small ensembles

Friends of Sankey Music will be selling refreshments.

Tickets available from school reception
Adults £4 / under 18 £2

