Weekly Newsletter
Friday 14th February 2025

WELCOME

I would like to recognise all of the hard work that our young people have put into their studies since Christmas. Our Year 11 and 13s are now preparing for their final examinations and we wish them well over the coming months.

I am delighted to announce that we have appointed a permanent Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Karen Kellett. Karen is armed with a wealth of experience and will be an asset in delivering the best possible education for our young people.

Stephen Grant, our new Headteacher, will join us permanently after May half term. He has been in school two days this week and hopes to spend more time at the academy until he takes up the post permanently.

I hope that you all have a restful half term.

Best Wishes
Mr P Croft
Acting Head of School

SIXTH FORM APPLICATIONS OPEN

Is your child considering their next steps after Year 11? Applications for the West Lakes Academy Sixth Form are now open for September 2025.
We offer a wide range of courses to help students achieve their goals, whether they're preparing for university, an apprenticeship, or a career. Our course guide and application form are available now on our website at: https://wla.education/sixth-form/.

To apply, please download and complete the application form by **Friday 28th March 2025**. Forms can be handed in at school reception or emailed to contactus.wla@changinglives.education.

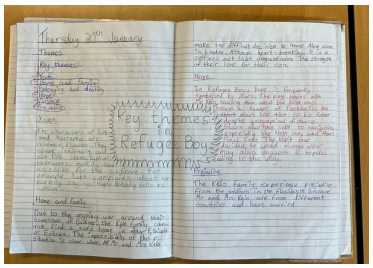
We will be in contact shortly after the application deadline to schedule an interview. Interviews will be held between 9am and 6pm Monday to Friday.

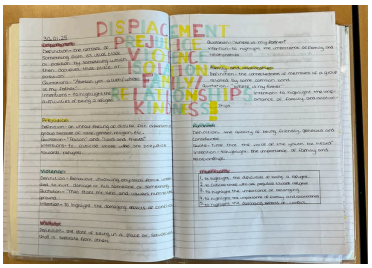
If you have any further questions or would like guidance completing this form, please contact us on 01946 820356 or email Miss Stott at stottm@changinglives.education.

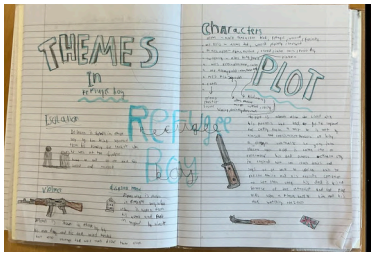
YEAR 8 English Lessons

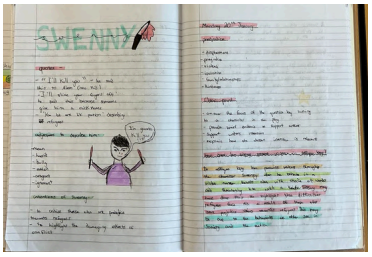
This half term, our Year 8 English students have been studying the play *Refugee Boy*. *Refugee Boy* tells the story of boy called Alem who, in order to protect him from the violence his family faces in Ethiopia and Eritrea, his father travels with him to the UK, then leaves him behind.

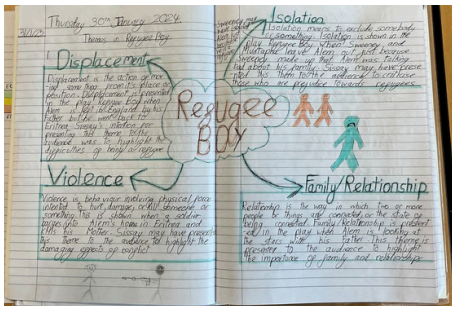
The students have explored the play sensitively and thoroughly enjoyed reading as the different characters in the play. During their lessons this week, students have been exploring the characters and the themes of the play by creating double page spreads. We have been really impressed with the pride students are taking in their work and can't wait to move on to using our drama skills in lesson this week to explore the themes in more depth!











FUNDRAISING SUCCESS

Following the success of the academy's recent *Pyjama Day*, Sixth Form Leaders have been fundraising further for World Cancer Day with a bake sale and face painting at break time on Tuesday and Wednesday last week.

It's always so lovely to see our wonderful Sixth Formers lead on a project; organising themselves and other Student Council members to pull off yet another fantastic event.

The total raised has reached a huge £620. Well done everyone!

YEAR 11 FOOTBALL

The Year 11 football team put up a strong fight in their County Cup semi-final on Tuesday, but narrowly missed out on a place in the final, losing 4-3 against The Lakes School.

It was a game that could have gone either way, with both teams battling hard until the final whistle. Archie Butterworth found the net, while Jake Henney, who was named Man of the Match, scored twice to keep the team in contention.

Despite the disappointment, the team should be proud of their performance and determination. Well done to all the players for their effort and sportsmanship!

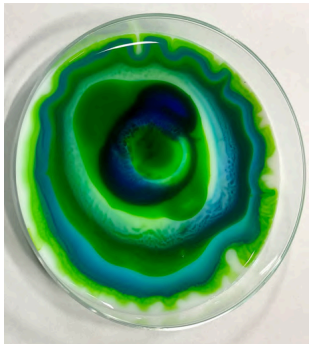
ARTISTS OF THE WEEK

The art department is thrilled to share their artists of the week:

Martha C - Year 12

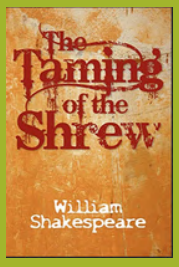
Anna Beattie
Year 9

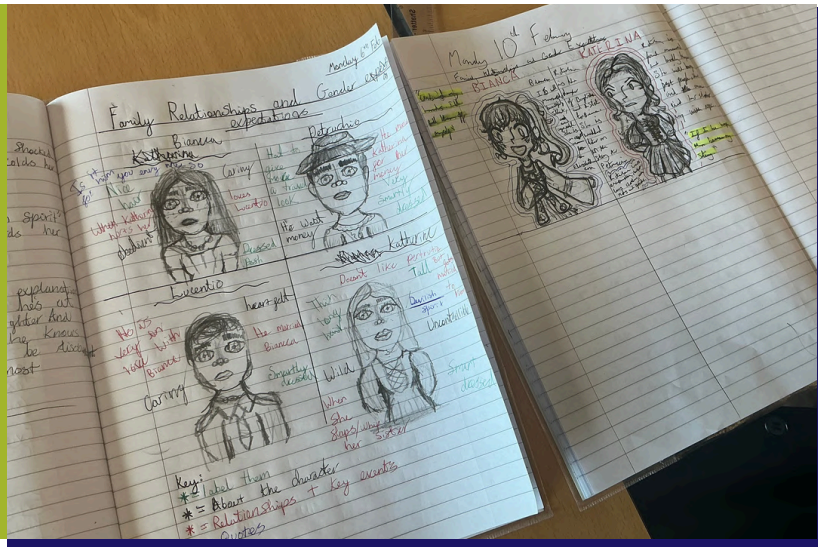
Millie Corrie
Year 9



YEAR 7 ENGLISH LESSONS

Year 7 have been working on The Taming of the Shrew in English lessons. In Monday's lesson they have been creating character pages using their prior knowledge. These pages included quotes from the text and they colour coded these to help them refer back. Mrs Whitaker was very pleased with their creativity and independence during the lesson.





UPCOMING KEY DATES

- **Spring Half Term** - Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February
- **Year 9 Options Week** - W/b Monday 24th February
- **Year 10 Mock Interviews** - Wednesday 26th February
- **Year 9 Options Evening** - Thursday 27th February
- **Year 10 Work Experience Week** - W/b Monday 3rd March
- **World Book Day** - Thursday 6th March
- **Year 9 World of Work Day** - Thursday 13th March
- **Year 10 Parents' Evening** - Thursday 27th March

EXAMS NOTICE

Year 11, Year 12 BTEC (Sport, Business and Health & Social Care) and Year 13 mock exam timetables have now been made available to students via the exam section of EduLink. Timetables include student exam numbers and details of the date, time, venue and allocated seat number for each examination.

Mock exam information has been uploaded to the EduLink Noticeboard (and to the exam information section of the school website). This information can be accessed by parents/carers to help students prepare for their forthcoming mock exams.

Hub 2U

Official launch

Free fun event

Help us to celebrate the launch of the Hub2U ‘Family Hub on Wheels’ bus

SCAN ME

Tuesday 18 February: 1pm to 4pm

Family Hub on the Harbour, Swingpump Lane, Whitehaven, CA28 7LZ

Snacks | Facepainting | other fun activities – all free!