



The Hyndburn Academy
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#TeamHYA Newsletter

Issue 2 – Autumn Term 2025



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A Farewell Message from our Head Teacher

As I retire, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to our wonderful students, supportive parents, and caring community. It has been an honour to share in your child's learning and growth during my six years as Headteacher. I will cherish the memories made along the way.

I wish you all the very best for the future and am confident the Academy will continue to go from strength to strength.

I look forward to watching the Academy's future successes from afar. I hope you enjoy this final newsletter and have a wonderful Christmas break.

Warm regards,

Nicola Palmer



Miss N Palmer
Head Teacher



Dates for your Diary

Students return on Tuesday 6th January 2026

Wednesday 7th January 2026 – Y11 Business Studies and Sports Studies Exam 9am.

Wednesday 7th January 2026 – Y11 Health and Social Care Exam 1.30pm

Friday 9th January 2026 – Y11 Child Development Exam 9am

Tuesday 13th January 2026 – Y11 Travel and Tourism Exam 1.30pm

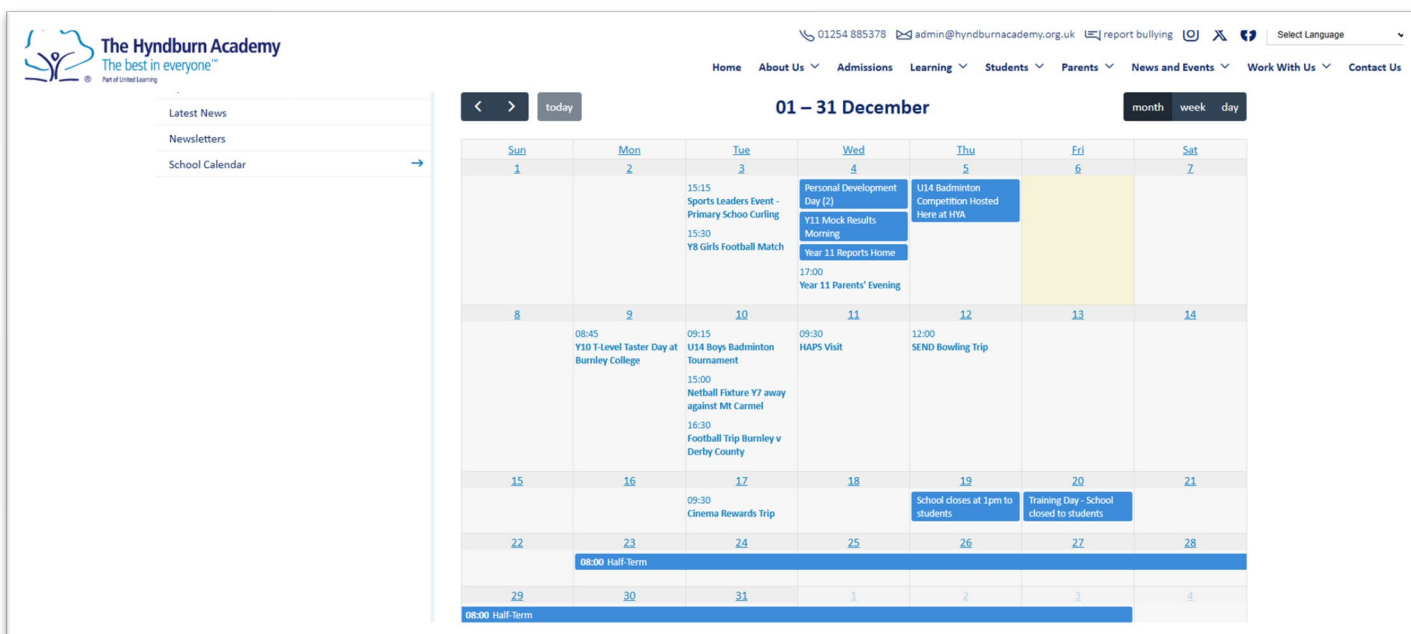
Monday 12th January 2026 Mid-Year Assessments begin, please see timetable

Monday 2nd February 2026 – Year 9 Parents Evening and Introduction to KS4 options

Stay Connected

The Hyndburn Academy Website

Our website www.thehyndburnacademy.org.uk holds all the latest information you will need, such as a new school calendar, term dates and the latest news. At the top of the website, you will find a Google



Translate tool; to use it simply select your language from the drop-down menu.

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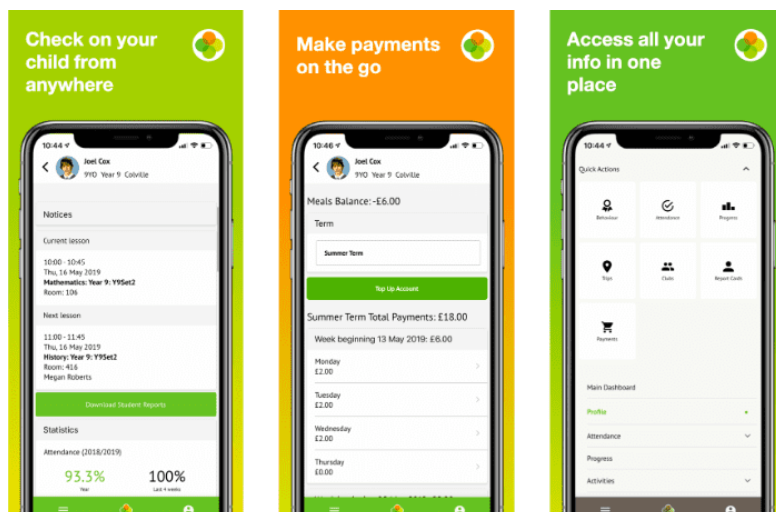
Please check out our
social media for all
our latest updates.

Download our Parent App

Download our parent app Arbor.

The Arbor App allows you to view your child's timetable, pay for school meals, your child's achievement and behaviour points and read your child's latest progress report.

You can also receive and send messages free of charge, sign up to trips and purchase items from the school shop





Year 10 Spread Festive Kindness in the Community

During our recent Personal Development Day, Year 10 students took part in a heart-warming activity that focused on kindness, community and social responsibility. Students carefully wrote Christmas cards filled with festive messages and well wishes for local residents, reflecting on the importance of empathy and compassion.

As part of the Lancashire Cards for Kindness Campaign, these cards were personally delivered by our Year 10 senior leaders to local care homes, helping to spread Christmas cheer to members of the community who may otherwise feel isolated during the festive period.

The initiative provided students with an opportunity to understand the impact of small acts of kindness and the difference they can make to others.

Mr Bradshaw, Head of Year 10, said:

"I am incredibly proud of our Year 10 students. They approached this activity with maturity and genuine care, producing thoughtful messages that will undoubtedly bring smiles to the faces of those receiving them. It's wonderful to see our students actively contributing to the community in such a meaningful way."

This initiative reflects The Hyndburn Academy's commitment to developing compassionate, socially responsible young people who understand the importance of giving back.



Thank You for Supporting Our Food Bank Appeal

A huge thank you to everyone who generously donated to our Food Bank Appeal this year. Your kindness and support have made a real difference to families in need within our community.

Together, we've shown the power of compassion and care.

Celebrating our Students of the Month

We are thrilled to announce the recipients of our Student of the Month awards for this term:

- September: Ryan and Anaya
- October: Olivia and Maria
- November: Charlie and Innayah

These awards, presented by Miss Palmer, celebrate students who consistently uphold and live out the core values that make our school community strong. Each awardee is proudly featured on our Student of the Month display.

As a special recognition, all students who earn this accolade throughout the year will be invited to a celebratory lunch with the at the end of the school year, a wonderful opportunity to reflect on their achievements and enjoy a well-deserved treat!

"Our students are the heart of our school, and these awards highlight the incredible effort, kindness, and resilience they show every day. Congratulations to each of you".

Miss Palmer commented: *"A huge well done to all our amazing students, keep up the great work."*



Ryan 10F



Anaya 7L



Olivia C 7I



Maria M 11NBR



Charlie 7I



Innayah 8N

Sparx Movie Afternoon – A Reward for Dedication!

We were delighted to host a special Sparx Movie Afternoon for students who have completed their Sparx Homework on time and achieved 100% accuracy since 21st November. This event was a fantastic way to celebrate their hard work, commitment, and perseverance.

Well done to all the students who earned this reward!

Sparx Maths
Sparx Reader
Sparx Science



Rewarding Excellence – Celebrating Charter and Festive Fun

At the end of half-term 1, we proudly hosted our first charter awards celebration. Each week during Friday form time, students reflect on their attendance, behaviour and achievement in their charter booklet, grading themselves against bronze, silver, or gold criteria.



Bronze students enjoy tasty treats at break time.

Silver students receive an extended lunch.

Gold students celebrate with a fun games' afternoon.

To mark the end of the full term, bronze and silver students received their rewards again and gold students were treated to an exciting morning at Vue Cinema, a fantastic way to celebrate their commitment and success.

The festive season brought even more joy with Rudolph Recognition, Miss Palmer's 12 Days of Christmas rewards giveaway, where 12 lucky students received goody bags filled with treats. Year 11 students also enjoyed a day out at the Trafford Centre.

A huge congratulations to all our students for their hard work and enthusiasm, keep aiming high and enjoying these well-deserved rewards!





Introducing the HYArmy – Inspiring Futures in Public Services

Our Careers Lead, Mrs Ross, has launched an exciting new initiative called the HYArmy, aimed at students who are currently part of the Cadets or who have a strong interest in pursuing careers within the public services after leaving school.

The HYArmy provides students with tailored opportunities to explore pathways into careers such as the Armed Forces, Police, Fire Service and other public service roles. Members will take part in specialist careers sessions, workshops and events designed to give them a clear insight into the skills, qualifications and experiences needed for success in these fields.

Already, HYArmy members have attended a public services workshop, taken part in a Remembrance parade, and benefited from a visit from the Royal Artillery, who spoke to students about career routes, training opportunities and life within the Armed Forces.

Mrs Ross explained: *"The HYArmy is about supporting students who already have an interest in serving their communities. By giving them access to focused careers guidance and real-world experiences, we can help them make informed decisions and prepare for exciting futures in public service."*

This initiative reflects our commitment to providing personalised careers education and ensuring every student has the opportunity to explore pathways that match their ambitions.

Going forward, HYArmy members will continue to benefit from exclusive careers sessions, guest speakers from public service organisations and visits to relevant employers and training providers.



Inspiring Future Healthcare Professionals

At The Hyndburn Academy, we are delighted to be part of the Marsden Medics programme, delivered in partnership with Marsden Heights Community College and Nelson and Colne Sixth Form College.

The initiative provides selected Year 10 students with an exciting opportunity to explore careers in healthcare and medicine through specialist support, college and university visits, and engagement with medical professionals.

Our students have shown great ambition and enthusiasm, with Year 10 student Wiktorina commenting, *"Being a part of Marsden Medics will give me more experience for a future in Nursing."* We are extremely proud of our students and look forward to supporting them as they work towards their future career goals.



BAE Systems STEM Roadshow inspires our students

We were delighted to host the BAE Systems STEM Roadshow, delivered in partnership with the Royal Air Force and Royal Navy. This engaging event provided an invaluable opportunity for our Year 7 and Year 8 students to explore the exciting world of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM).

The theme of this year's roadshow focused on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its growing influence on the modern world. Students enjoyed interactive demonstrations, including the highlight of the day – an AI-powered robotic dog capable of performing complex movements and responding to commands. Students also experimented with AI technology to create their own music and videos, combining creativity with innovation.



The roadshow aimed to broaden students' understanding of STEM careers and the skills required for future opportunities in industries such as aerospace, engineering and technology.

Mrs Ross, Careers Advisor, commented: "Events like this are invaluable for inspiring students and showing them the real-world applications of STEM. It helps them see how their interests can lead to exciting careers in technology and engineering."

Adelle, Year 7, shared her thoughts: "I loved the roadshow, especially the robotic dog! It was amazing to see what technology can do. I want to learn more about how it works."

We extend our thanks to BAE Systems, the Royal Air Force, and the Royal Navy for delivering such an inspiring and informative experience. Opportunities like this encourage our students to think ambitiously about their futures and the role they can play in shaping tomorrow's technology.

Year 11 explore future careers at BAE Systems

Our Year 11 students enjoyed an inspiring visit to BAE Systems, where they explored future career pathways in engineering and defence. The visit included a presentation about the company's work, a look at current engineering projects, and a hands-on careers workshop highlighting the skills and qualifications needed in the industry.

Students also experienced an immersive VR Cave demonstration and visited apprenticeship stalls, where they spoke directly with industry professionals about different career routes. The visit was highly motivating, and we thank BAE Systems for providing such a valuable experience for our students.



Pride, Performance and Participation

It has been a busy and positive period for school sport, with our students showing fantastic determination, teamwork and resilience across a wide range of events.

Our Year 7 and Year 9 netball teams played their first fixtures of the year against a strong Clitheroe Grammar side. Both teams impressed with their attitude and effort, growing in confidence throughout the matches. Player of the Match awards went to Maggie A. (Y7) for her excellent defending in a new position, and Ella B. (Y9) for her strong defensive work and movement.

In football, our Year 7/8 girls competed in the Girls' Cup at Accrington Stanley Sports Hub, facing tough opposition including CRGS, Bowland and Mount Carmel. The team showed great progress in confidence and skill, particularly after a challenging opening match. Year 7 girls also took part in the Hyndburn & Ribble Valley tournament, supported by Year 8 students Madison S, Ellie-May B and Matilda H, who stepped in to help ensure the team could compete.

Our Year 8 athletics team represented the school at the Indoor Athletics competition, achieving some outstanding results. Highlights included Emmanuel A. winning three events, strong performances from Olly A, and a podium finish for Ellie-May B.

Cross country has also been a highlight this term. Following our House Cross Country event earlier in the term, a large group of students went on to represent the Academy at the District Cross Country at Witton Park in October. Thirty-seven students competed and behaved impeccably throughout the day. Ellie R. produced the best HYA performance in the Year 7 girls' race, finishing 26th, while Oscar P. was the first HYA runner home in the Year 7 boys' race. All Year 8/9 girls and boys completed the challenging 3.2km course, with many improving on last year's results. The Year 10 boys: Jack Y, Ryan R, Cohen H and Kai S completed the gruelling 4.5km race, with Kai achieving the strongest HYA finish in his category.

The Hyndburn Academy hosted the District U14 Badminton Championships, where Dylan M, Jack C, Harry J and Dean A competed against strong opposition. Despite it being their first appearance at this level, the team showed great resilience, secured several match wins and gained valuable experience for the future.

To round off a fantastic term of sport, our newly appointed Sports Leaders have led two HRVSSP primary school curling events. They demonstrated excellent leadership, organisation and communication skills, representing the school superbly and making a positive impact on younger pupils.

Well done to all students involved for representing the school with pride.



DofE Goes from Strength to Strength

We are incredibly proud to share our biggest Duke of Edinburgh's Award uptake to date. This year, 34 students are currently working towards their Bronze Award, while 17 students are taking on the challenge of the Silver Award.

Taking part in DofE requires commitment, resilience and determination, with students developing valuable life skills through volunteering, physical activity, skill development and expedition work. It is fantastic to see so many students embracing the challenge and showing such enthusiasm for the programme.

Well done to all students involved for their hard work and dedication so far — we look forward to celebrating their continued progress and future successes.



THE HYNDBURN
ACADEMY



Winter Wonderland

Our Winter Wonderland School Show was a spectacular celebration of talent, featuring outstanding performances in dance, drama, and music.

Students showcased their creativity and dedication, bringing the stage to life with energy and passion. Miss Palmer shared, "It's been great to see students back on the stage performing, and even more inspiring to see those who struggle with confidence using it as a platform to shine."

The event was a wonderful reminder of the power of the arts to build confidence, foster teamwork, and create lasting memories for our school community.





Building Confidence Beyond the Classroom

This term has been packed with exciting and purposeful interventions designed to support students' wellbeing, confidence and personal development.

Four groups of students have taken part in Fishing, enjoying the calm, focus, and teamwork the sessions encourage. Meanwhile, four further groups have been attending Boxing at Clayton Amateur Boxing Club, where students have shown impressive discipline, resilience and commitment in a structured and motivating environment.

Students have also been developing concentration and precision through Archery at Accrington and Rossendale College, with excellent engagement throughout.

A new wellbeing initiative, Walk and Talk, has been launched this term, giving students the opportunity to get out into the local community, enjoy a walk, and talk through any worries in a relaxed and supportive setting.

Making Waves: Our New Rowing Team Sets Sail

Our new team of rowers have made an excellent start this term, taking to the water with the Warrington Youth Rowing Team. The students have shown enthusiasm, commitment and a real willingness to learn as they develop their rowing skills. We are also delighted to welcome back Dylan (Year 9), who has returned after leaving a lasting impression on the coaches and will now support the team in a coaching role this year.

Training is well underway as the team prepares for the Warrington Youth Indoor Rowing Championships in January. The students are working hard, demonstrating resilience and teamwork at every session. We wish them the very best of luck and hope they continue the strong tradition of success built by previous rowing teams.