



**WESTHOLME'S  
ACADEMIC  
TRIUMPH**



# ACADEMIC TRIUMPH

## HEAD OF YEAR 11

It has been a pleasure to be the Head of Year for such a group of talented, hardworking and inspirational pupils. There is no doubt that they have faced challenges during their two years of GCSE studies. However, they were not fazed by this and showed resilience, determination and adaptability in overcoming the unusual circumstance in which they found themselves. I hope they feel proud of the maturity they have shown over the last two academic years. I know they have taken full advantage of the Enrichment Programme and the opportunities afforded to them to help celebrate the end of their assessments. They have been a joy to work with and I am excited for them with their onward journey into the Inspired Sixth Form and all that it has to offer.

Mrs Adelle Moore



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Huge congratulations to all of our Year 11 students and their families – this is a memorable day for academic accomplishment at Westholme! A remarkable 85% achieved grade 7 and above and this is a phenomenal achievement right across the whole year group. Well done - I am proud of each and every one of you!

It has been an absolute pleasure getting to know our wonderful 11s since I joined Westholme in January. I have been so impressed with the way they have navigated uncertainty, national lockdowns and online learning with an unfailing determination to remain prepared for every eventuality. With 81% of students gaining a grade 8 or above, and 75% receiving at least one grade 9, today's GCSE triumph is testament to the true Westholme spirit.

The grades this year have been allocated through a meticulous and robust process, ensuring evidence submitted was thoroughly moderated and validated internally then externally by examination boards. Our fantastic teachers know all of our students individually and how hard they have worked to produce work worthy of these incredible high grades. I would like to thank all our terrific teaching staff for their dedication this year in ensuring all students had every opportunity to excel.

This year, most of our Year 11s will progress straight into our INSPIRED Sixth Form and have already initiated preparation through their Enrichment Weeks and Induction Days at the end of the summer term. I know they will be very excited to take full advantage of the very best A Level provision that we offer within our unrivalled holistic experience unique to Westholme that includes our bespoke leadership programmes and so much more. Our best ever A Level results this year smashed the school records, and I know that this year's GCSE cohort will be keen to emulate this and achieve amazing feats over their final two years at Westholme in our exciting INSPIRED Sixth Form.

Dr Richard Robson



85%  
GRADE 7  
AND ABOVE



81%  
GRADE 8  
AND ABOVE

75%  
GRADE 9  
AND ABOVE





Amir and Tanveer celebrate their GCSE success!

## HARRY SMITH



After gaining 3A\* GCSE Computing, Maths and History last summer, Harry has continued his run of success with top marks in a further 7 GCSEs and in A Level Computer Science! Harry has defined receiving his results as a 'key moment' in his Westholme journey. *'It is what I've been working towards for the last three years.'*

Harry's parents have expressed their pride in his results: *'Harry has done really well in the UKMT maths challenges each year and achieved several gold awards in this. Harry's ability in Maths has enabled him to take several GCSEs early; these were Maths, Further Maths, Computer Science and History, all of which were completed at the end of Year 10 - Harry achieved a grade 9 in each. Harry has gone on to complete the*

*rest of his GCSEs in Year 11, along with year 1 of the Maths A-Level course and completing the full Computer Science A-Level course in a single year. Harry worked exceptionally hard on his A-Level computing project during what has been the most difficult of years for all school children.'*

Harry has had many highlights since starting Westholme, but says: *'the main thing is that I enjoy school, I have some amazing friends and **THE TEACHERS ARE BRILLIANT**. They always have time for you and work really hard to make sure that **EVERYONE HAS THE OPPORTUNITIES THEY DESERVE**. I have really enjoyed the enrichment activities for the Year 11s and Upper Sixth; these gave us all the opportunity to spend time with friends which we all missed during the pandemic. And the best lesson ever had to be the German lesson we spent describing how different types of chocolate tasted, obviously we had to sample each and every type of chocolate!'*

In terms of the future, Harry is looking forward to starting in our INSPIRED Sixth Form in September, *"It will be exciting and interesting as I start planning what to do after A-Levels!"*

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*Harry has loved his time at Westholme and has flourished academically and personally.*

”

Harry's Parents

## DANIEL KIRKWOOD



A huge congratulations to Daniel who has achieved 11 GCSEs at the highest grade.

On his outstanding results, Daniel expressed: *'**WESTHOLME HAS ALWAYS ENCOURAGED ME TO IMPROVE** by setting high targets. The **SUPPORT OF TEACHERS** and other students made sure that grades never seemed out of reach. Outside of GCSE studies, I pushed myself to achieve grade 5 saxophone, which is an award I never thought of reaching when I arrived in Year 7.*

*Personally, seeing our year group achieve what we have is fantastic. We all supported each other to reach our personal goals for moving forward past Year 11 and into the future.'*



## DEPUTY HEAD ACADEMIC

Our Year 11 students have worked hard throughout the last two years both in school and at home during the lockdown periods, providing the evidence which has formed the basis of the marks awarded this year. There is no doubt that many students have found it a very difficult time, but their support for one another and from all their teachers, in person and on screen, has seen them triumph. We are incredibly proud of them and their well-deserved outcomes which provide Westholme with record-breaking results.

GCSE is not, however, an end in itself and their excellent achievements have given students a strong foundation for post-16 education. Their journey into the INSPIRED Sixth Form at Westholme has already begun, with the Induction days in June and other activities offered during the summer enrichment programme helping to prepare them for A Level study. As students narrow their focus on subjects they have chosen without restriction for the first time, we are delighted that our own Year 11 students will be joined by 17 highly performing external students in the Lower Sixth. Although we know there may still be challenges ahead; we are fully prepared for the continued need for blended learning if students have to isolate, or for a full programme of Home Learning, we are excited to see our students move into Sixth Form life. Their success at GCSE giving them the confidence and academic preparation for an INSPIRED future.

Miss Francine Smith



### HOLLIE CUBBON

Hollie has built solid foundations for a career in engineering – after achieving seven 9s, three 7s and a six in her GCSEs.

Hollie will be studying maths, physics and chemistry at our INSPIRED Sixth Form at Westholme. Despite having dyslexia, Hollie achieved 7s in English – and her mum attributes the success to the support of her teachers. She said: *“The staff go above and beyond. The teachers and the students have worked phenomenally hard.”* Hollie plans to pursue a career in engineering – because of her passion for maths, physics and problem solving.

Speaking about her time at Westholme so far, she said: *“I have loved how there are opportunities in all areas and the staff support every aspect of your school life.”*

### LUCY ROBINSON

Well done to Lucy for her amazing results! Lucy has achieved all 8 grades and above for her GCSEs.

Lucy’s parents expressed their pride: *‘Westholme helped turn Lucy from ‘average’ to outstanding where she has finished her GCSEs in the top handful of students in her year. This happened through the support and great education provided by Westholme’s teachers, along with a great deal of hard work and determination from Lucy. Westholme’s caring approach produced a similar result for her older sister, hence this wasn’t a fluke. Lucy played with her school hockey and netball team, achieved grade 6 at clarinet, came second place in the rotary art competition of Blackburn with Darwen and achieved a certificate in public speaking to help develop skills for life.’*

Lucy

*“Enjoy the small things of everyday because your time here will pass very quickly and soon enough, you’ll be leaving yourself!”*



## HEAD OF SIXTH FORM

I must congratulate Year 11 on their outstanding results and how they have risen to the challenges faced these past two years. I am incredibly excited to be welcoming such a talented, charismatic group of students into the Sixth Form as they now take the step up and embark upon their A Levels.

Last term we were fortunate enough to host Year 11 for two fun-filled induction days, where they were given a taste of the incredible new chapter they are about to begin. It was clear on those two days that this year group are incredibly gifted and will thrive in our INSPIRED Sixth Form. Such is the excitement faced by the new vision for the Sixth Form, we are welcoming the highest number of students in over 10 years into the common room, with record-breaking figures of external students also seeking to benefit from a Westholme education. However, it is not only the outstanding teaching and academic results that students will achieve, as demonstrated by this year's Upper Sixth students, but also the countless opportunities and support available to ensure students leave Westholme as well-rounded leaders in their field, fully equipped with the entrepreneurial skills, academic knowhow and personal characters to match.



With a record number of academic scholars entering our Sixth Form due to **OUTSTANDING RESULTS AT GCSE**, they can look forward to a **PERSONALISED SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME**, tailored to developing them as individuals and supporting their academic progress.

Additionally, students will continue to enjoy all of the opportunities that make Westholme stand out from every other Sixth Form: our innovative Leadership Programme; our **NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES AND WORKPLACE LINKS** that are unparalleled in providing work experience and training for students; the recreational opportunities that enable students to shine at those **CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES** they personally love and wish to continue. All of this, based in the environment of the Sixth Form Centre, which is their place to socialise and stay focused on their A Levels, ensures an exciting two years ahead for our successful Year 11 students now taking their next steps at Westholme School.

Congratulations to you all and I look forward to seeing you in September to begin this fun, new chapter.







Jazlyn Mahaldar celebrates her outstanding results!

“

Mishall's progression through Westholme is evident in her developed **INTERPERSONAL SKILLS.**

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Mishall's parents

*“Get involved in the extra-curricular activities to not only meet new people, but also discover your talents and hobbies. **WESTHOLME PROVIDES YOU WITH LOTS OF OPPORTUNITIES** in many, different areas therefore take advantage of them all.”*

### **MISHALL SONVADI**

Congratulations to Mishall for achieving all 8 grades and above in her GCSE's!

During Mishall's time at Westholme, she has enjoyed taking part in the extra-curricular activities and trips the school has to offer. Mishall has recently enjoyed the enrichment programme where all of the Year 11 students had the opportunity to take part in three weeks of activities to end their year.

Mishall's parents commented, *'during her five years here, Mishall has gained the confidence to interact with new people and socialise in different environments. She is able to conduct herself in a professional manner when needed, a vital skill for her future. Mishall has become a determined hard worker as Westholme has always pushed to see her thrive and explore her capabilities. She has frequently received the award for great exam results and has recently received an award for her work in Spanish. Learning a new language will continue to benefit Mishall in the future as she has enhanced her creative thinking capacity and improved her verbal abilities.'*

When looking back at her time at Westholme, Mishall said *'the highlight of my time at Westholme has been getting to know all of the*

*students in my year and making so many great friends. Being able to start a new school in Year 7 and immediately be part of a welcoming*



*and kind environment was a comforting feeling and I know that I will always treasure the exciting experiences and memories made with my classmates; both in and out of the classroom. I am looking forward to being able to use the skills that I have acquired during my time at Westholme as I progress through my years of education and hopefully graduate from university. I eagerly anticipate figuring out my passions and entering a field of work which I wake up excited for. I hope that in the future I grow into a person that is capable of making a difference in society somehow and help others around the world live a more just life. Finally, I am most looking forward to making many exciting memories along the way and pushing myself to experience new and risky things!'*





Edward, Anna, and Francesca were delighted with their results

## ZARA HAYAT



*Congratulations to Zara for her outstanding GCSE results!*

*Zara's proud mother is delighted with how she has progressed during her time at Westholme: 'Zara has developed a growth mindset where by she has learnt to believe that her abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work. Seeing the positive results of hard work has enabled Zara to have hope and form aspirations for the future. I believe that Westholme has nurtured the desire to continue the learning process, explore new topics and subjects ,reflect and self-develop as a result. As part of her personal development, she has formed long lasting friendships within the*

*Westholme community, and has been guided and supported in improving and refining interpersonal skills to form a well rounded, confident and well respected member of Westholme. Zara received countless votes from her peers and members of her community at school in her bid to become Blackburn and Darwen's Youth MP, with her teachers consistently giving Zara the motivation and encouragement which led to her commendable result. Westholme also helped Zara in gaining a Grade 6 in LAMDA most recently and a distinction in her English public speaking.*

*Looking to the future, Zara is looking forward to progressing into our Lower Sixth. 'The new INSPIRED Sixth Form offers such exciting opportunities and will be a refreshing and energetic approach to A Level studies which I am looking forward to. I am also looking forward to getting to know new subjects and new teachers in Sixth Form. I am hopeful that my next 2 years at Westholme will provide me with all the success I need to be able to go to my desired university!'*

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*Westholme supported Zara in every way possible towards her efforts and ultimate success in becoming Youth MP for Blackburn with Darwen.*

”

Zara's Mum

*Zara added, "Everything you need for success is provided at Westholme, not just the education but the environment you are in and the extra-curricular activities that are brought up in your time."*

*"Zara adapted exceptionally well to Home Learning, and her exemplary work ethic has ensured she has achieved beyond her potential."*

**Mrs Waldron**