



WESTHOLME

UNRIVALLED HOLISTIC EXCELLENCE

# A Level Results Day 2024



“They leave Westholme with our admiration and gratitude”

MR TAYLOR, PRINCIPAL

1/4 of all entries were awarded top

A\*/A Grade

80% of students

achieved their first choice University and Degree Apprenticeship.

A LEVEL RESULTS SPECIAL 2024

# Principal's message:

## Congratulations from Mr Taylor

Dear Westholme Families,

**Many congratulations to every member of our Upper Sixth who received their A Level results today.**

I know that they worked incredibly hard to achieve these grades and I hope they enjoy the celebrations over the coming days before embarking on the exciting next steps of their careers. Some will go straight to university, some have gap years and others go into degree apprenticeships. Regardless, they leave Westholme with our admiration and gratitude.

Congratulations too to Deputy Head (Academic) Mrs Cowan, and to Mr Oracz and Miss Lloyd, our Sixth Form leadership team, who guided the students through the challenges of the last two years. Many thanks to our talented and dedicated teachers who inspired these successes.

However, our A Level results do not define us. I'm sure we have all met very academic people who have struggled with work or life in general: perhaps they lacked leadership skills or weren't good team players; perhaps they struggled to recover from setbacks; or, perhaps they lacked the confidence to communicate their aims.



Our leavers have embraced the academic challenges of Sixth Form study while making the most of the wider opportunities available to them in the INSPIRED Westholme Sixth Form.

Consequently, they have solid foundations in the skills and personality traits required to thrive in this exciting but fast paced and competitive world.

Westholme School has been the platform from which they are now launched into the stratosphere of life. As Gabby Logan said when our brilliant England team won the 2022 Euros, "You think it's all over? It's only just begun."

**Mr Paul Taylor**  
**Principal**

**"Westholme School has been the platform from which our students are now launched into the stratosphere of life"**

**A huge congratulations to our Year 13 students on their excellent results. It gives us great pride to see students achieve their results and move forwards into their next steps with such accomplishments.**

It is also a pleasure knowing that they leave as well-rounded, charismatic young adults, who step out into the world with both the skills and personalities to match.

I have personally enjoyed all of those memories made during their time within our INSPIRED Sixth Form and know that they move forwards with all of the talent, qualities and virtue that we expect from a Westholme student.

We thank them for their time at Westholme and look forward to witnessing their future successes in the years to come. As the newest members of the Westholme alumni family, we are proud of all you achieved during your time at school and cannot wait to follow your journey beyond Westholme.

**Mr Oracz**  
**Head of INSPIRED Sixth Form**



**“Congratulations to all students on their A Level results and achievements today”**

**Congratulations to all of our students on their A Level results and achievements today. Results Day marks the opportunity to celebrate their academic successes but also the personal journeys that all students have gone on, to secure their results.**

They all emerge today with so much more than what a single piece of paper can ever reflect: the development and refinement of key skills such as resilience, independence and academic curiosity; first-hand knowledge and experience of the importance of hard work and dedication and finally, access to an exciting, new chapter and part of their lives.

Some of those chapters will be expected, others might belong to a different book entirely but I have every faith that regardless of the text, the final chapter will be the same for each and every student: secured personal and professional success.

**Mrs Cowan**  
**Senior Deputy Head - Academic**

# Hannah sets sights on a career in finance

Hannah has achieved an A\* in Spanish and A's in Business and Mandarin in her A Levels. She is now heading to the University of Bath to study International Management and Spanish, inspired by her work experiences in Spain over the past two summers.

Hannah said: "Westholme has felt like being part of a family. I've fully immersed myself in the huge range of activities and opportunities on offer while working as hard as I can in the classroom."

Hannah has been an active member of the school community. She served as the CFO of Westies, the Westholme School Shop, and held the position of Assistant Head Girl. Among her many accomplishments, she completed her grade 8 piano and performed in numerous school concerts with the orchestra and swing band. Additionally, she won a modern languages competition hosted by the University of Lancaster for an essay she submitted in Mandarin.

With her sights set on a career in finance in either Spain or Latin America, Hannah said: "I've been inspired into the world of finance by my parents, and I want to combine that with my love for languages and international management."

Hannah's advice to other students is to embrace all the opportunities available: "Westholme offers so much, so dive in and make the most of everything. It's an incredible place to grow, learn and be inspired."



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## OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 3 OCTOBER 2024

6PM - 9PM

Meins Road, Pleasington BB2 6QU | 01254 506070

# Ahmad shines to move one step closer to a career in data science

**Ahmad is a step closer to pursuing a career in data science.**

Ahmad achieved A\*s in Maths, Further Maths, Physics and Computer Science and now plans to attend Imperial College London to study Computing.

Having joined Westholme in reception, he spoke about the highlights of his time at the school: “There’s no one thing. It’s the whole experience. The community of Westholme and the family feel. It is a family.”

During his time at the Blackburn school, Ahmad has been involved in a number of sports including tennis, football, swimming and cricket.

He said his friendship group are all going their separate ways to study different things – but admits “the school has nurtured our interests.”

At his Senior prizegiving, Ahmad received the Academic Achievement prize for Best Results from Alumni and guest speaker Victoria Mawson (pictured).



# Eadie chases a career in business

**Sports-mad Eadie is looking forward to her next step as a Degree Apprentice in Retail Leadership with Lidl, following her achievements in Business, Economics and Physical Education, for which she was awarded ABC.**

Eadie, who joined Westholme in Year 7, will be enrolling with Kingston University in London before carrying out her placement in Preston.

She said: “I’m really happy with my results. What I’m doing next didn’t require specific results. I was really happy to get decent grades! I was very nervous about this morning.

“During my time here, everything has revolved around sport. I have loved being part of the hockey, netball, athletics, rounders and cross-country teams.”

With her sights set on a career in business, Eadie plans to bring her teamwork ethos from her Westholme days into her work. She said: “I love the communication that comes with teamwork, and I hope to lead a team as a quantity surveyor.”

Talking about the support she has received during her time at school, Eadie said: “There’s always been somebody there to help – a friend, a teacher, anybody. It feels like one big family, and I’ll miss that sense of never feeling like you’re on your own.”

Eadie’s advice for the next cohort of A Level students: “Keep on top of your work, don’t stress too much and make sure to set aside time to spend with your friends.”



# Congratulations to all

and good luck to Westholme's class of 2024!



## Ben ready for degree in Biomedicine at Manchester

**Ben has achieved an A in Biology, and Bs in Chemistry and Drama in his A Levels and is now looking forward to taking one step closer to his dream of becoming a biomedical scientist by studying for a degree in Biomedicine at the University of Manchester.**

Ben is excited about Manchester because of its rich history in science, inspired by figures like Ernest Rutherford. He said, “Manchester is where all the best scientists have studied and worked. It’s amazing to think I’ll be walking the same halls as some of my heroes, and I have Westholme to thank for helping me towards this.”

Ben has thoroughly enjoyed his time at Westholme, particularly the dramatic performances, including playing Marius in the school’s recent sell out production of *Les Misérables*. He also won the chess competition in 2024, a highlight of his school career.

Ben said, “The school has been really, really good to me. I’ll miss the teachers, the opportunities the school provides, the parts in the plays, and most of all, my group of friends. Westholme has given me so much, both academically and personally.”

Ben looks forward to his next chapter at the University of Manchester and feels “all the weight of the last few months has been lifted”. He is ready to embrace new challenges and continue his journey in the field of science.



## James exceeds his own expectations

**James is celebrating after achieving an A in Art and Design (Photography), B in Business Management and a Merit in his Food Science Diploma.**

James is now looking at his options after exceeding his expectations, and is considering a career in sales.

The shocked teen said: “I didn’t expect that. I’m so happy. I couldn’t be happier! I revised a lot and tried not to be distracted and it worked.

James, who enjoys working out at the gym and playing golf in his spare time, has attended Westholme since Year 4.

He said: “My highlights have probably been the school trip. Last year I had the opportunity to go skiing in Canada.”





## Emma looks forward to gap year with a future in Criminology and Criminal Justice on the cards

Emma is thrilled after receiving an A\* in Criminology, A in Psychology and B in Design Technology.

Following a gap year, Emma hopes to study Criminology with Criminal Justice at Leeds University.

Emma, who started studying Criminology in Year 13, and said she just clicked with the subject.

She said: "I'm really happy with the results. I just seemed to get it."

Since starting at Westholme School in Year 7, Emma said she has made some friends for life - particularly during her time in the Sixth Form.



## Quotes from our INSPIRED Sixth Formers

"Westholme offers so much, so dive in and make the most of everything. It's an incredible place to grow, learn and be inspired."

- Hannah

"The school has been really, really good to me. I'll miss the teachers, the opportunities the school provides, the parts in the plays, and most of all, my group of friends. Westholme has given me so much, both academically and personally."

- Ben

"The main thing I'll miss is the connection with the teachers and other students. They say Westholme is like a family - and it really is. Make the most of it whilst you can!"

- Bill

"Choose subjects you're passionate about and take advantage of everything the school offers. You really can do it all!"

- Molly

"Keep on top of your work and don't stress too much and make sure to set aside time to spend with your friends."

- Eadie

"I've had such great teachers - they have been amazing! They have encouraged me to pursue what I want to do."

- Amelia

"My highlights at Westholme have been the personal approach, care and flexibility. There's lots of opportunities if you want to take them."

- Theo

## Finance in the North East awaits for Faye

**Faye is looking forward to studying Finance at Durham University after achieving an A\* in Art, A in Geography, and B in Maths in her A Levels.**

Faye said she's not sure what the future holds – but realised her love of studying finance during her work experience in London through a family friend.

Faye, a ballet dancer since the age of 6, also enjoys painting in her spare time and has particularly enjoyed drawing portraits while studying Art.

She said: "I joined Westholme in the Sixth Form and it's been really nice here. People are so friendly and I have made some great friends."



## Juwairiyah aims for career in Medicine after being accepted to UCLan

**Juwairiyah has her sights set on a career in the medical field after achieving A\*AB in her A Levels including an A\* in Psychology.**

Juwairiyah came to Westholme Sixth Form with the goal of studying Medicine at university and says she is grateful to have received the results she needed to pursue her dream career. She will go on to study Medicine and Surgery at UCLan in September.

Upon opening her results, she said: "I'm shocked but very happy."

During her studies, Juwairiyah completed a summer placement at Blackburn Hospital in which she shadowed junior doctors and consultants to see how they interacted with patients in the Emergency Surgery unit.

She said: "Observing the doctors was very valuable. We had a debrief afterwards where they explained what they had said and why. It was a great learning experience."

Reflecting on her time at Westholme, Juwairiyah's favourite memories were during her enrichment activities, where she took part in classroom support, helping the children in Westholme Prep.



# Bill aims for centre stage on the West End

Bill has the bright lights of the West End in sights after achieving an A in Drama and Theatre Studies, an A in Business Studies and a Distinction in Food Science and Nutrition (Level 3 Diploma).

He is now looking forward to attending the Emil Day Academy in London to study musical theatre.

Bill has loved performing in the numerous school productions – from playing Rolf in the Sound of Music, Nick in Fame, and most recently Inspector Javert in Les Misérables.

He said: “The Sound of Music was my first major show - and I have done every show since!”

The budding actor joined Westholme School in Year 9. Since then he has led drama classes to help inspire the next generation, completed his Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award, and been the food ambassador for the school – encouraging younger students to get excited about the subject.

Speaking about his highlights at Westholme, Bill said: “When I first joined, the first highlight was the overwhelming welcome from the Westholme Community.



“During my time at Westholme I loved playing Javert. I also think I rose to the challenge when I played Rev Paris in The Crucible. I was drafted in at the last minute and had 300 lines to learn in just two days.

“It’s experiences like this that have pushed me to pursue a career of being on the West End. My dream part would be to play Link in hairspray, or Mike in Chorus Line.

“For me, it’s the teamwork needed for a show – from costumes, to lighting, set design and characters. The show can’t go on without the whole team.”

Bill is no stranger to the small screen either – having appeared as an extra in Coronation Street, Waterloo Road and Ackley Bridge. He has also performed in Disneyland Paris twice and performed to over 2,000 people at the Shaftesbury Theatre on the West End.

He added: “The main thing I’ll miss is the connection with the teachers and other students. They say Westholme is like a family – and it really is!”

## Freya looks forward to writing the next chapter

**Budding novelist Freya is looking forward to studying English Literature at the University of Manchester after achieving 3 As in her A Levels.**

Freya, achieved her As in Classical Civilisation, Computer Science and English Literature, said her ideal job would be in publishing as either a writer for TV shows, or as a novelist.

Freya said: "I'm really relieved. I was a bit anxious but the grades are about what I expected."

Her mum said: "I'm really proud of her. She did a lot of hard work and put in the effort."

Freya loves gothic writing – focusing more on fantasy and mythology – and hopes to have her own book published by the end of the summer.

She said: "I do a lot of writing in my spare time. It's a hobby that helps me when I'm stressed."

"I owe a lot to my English teachers. They have always been really supportive of my career choices and my style of writing. Their encouragement has been really helpful, turning my hobby into hopefully a career."

"I will miss my teachers when I leave. I think of them as friends."



## Theo figures out the formula for Leeds

**Theo has his sights on Leeds University where he hopes to study Electronic and Electrical Engineering.**

Theo achieved an A\* in Maths, and A's in Further Maths and Physics and would like to pursue a career in statistics.

Theo joined Westholme in the Sixth Form on a scholarship.

He said: "Westholme was very welcoming. The small class sizes have been really beneficial. The classes have streamlined note taking, and a high level of engagement. I have particularly loved my Further Maths class."

Theo, who previously attended Alder Grange School, said he knew he wanted to aim for University and said Westholme school has helped him through the process.

He added: "I've had eight mock interviews, and support writing my personal statement. I have taken part in maths enrichment classes and worked with peers in the year above me. I have been fully supported through the process."

"My highlights at Westholme have been the personal approach, care and flexibility. There's lots of opportunities if you want to take them. The workload has been high in Year 13 but I have had a phenomenal year as a result."



# Molly moves into Business Management

Molly achieved an A in Sociology and A\*s in Criminology and Photography in her A Levels. Having joined Westholme in Year 7, she's now looking forward to starting a Degree Apprenticeship in Business Management with Panache Cruises with UCLan in Preston, inspired by her dad, who runs his own business.

She said: "I'm ecstatic. I'm a bit overwhelmed. The results are a lot better than I expected. I had worked hard but today I was really nervous about opening the envelope."

Molly is now looking forward to starting her job and induction at University on Monday.

Molly said that her time at Westholme was incredibly rewarding. "The friendly atmosphere and the support from teachers have been fantastic. The one-to-one feedback and guidance I received really helped me excel," she said.

Some of her favourite memories include cross-country running in her early years and the holidays she enjoyed with school friends. "I'll really miss the camaraderie and the supportive environment," Molly added.

Her advice for students entering the INSPIRED Sixth Form at Westholme is simple: "Choose subjects you're passionate about and take advantage of everything the school offers. You really can do it all!"



## JOIN OUR ALUMNI NETWORK

STAY CONNECTED TO THE WESTHOLME FAMILY

JOIN THE ALUMNI WEBSITE



JOIN THE ALUMNI FACEBOOK GROUP



# Isabella sets sail for Digital Marketing apprenticeship with cruise company

The world is Isabella's oyster as her grades pave the way for a Degree Apprenticeship in Digital Marketing with Panache Cruises, studying at UCLan.

Isabella has been at Westholme for 11 years. Her teachers noted she worked exceptionally hard during her A Level studies, having often stayed late to get the grades she wanted. Her hard work paid off as she achieved an A\* in Photography, B in Religious Studies, and C in English Language.

She has always had a keen interest in travelling and says she is thrilled to be going onto a Digital Marketing Degree Apprenticeship with Panache Cruises, where she had already secured a job during her studies.

"I've been to places like the Maldives and Vietnam, so this opportunity is perfect to continue exploring," she said.

Isabella is already making use of her studies, having used the skills she has acquired through English Language to create her first blog for Panache Cruises on the topic of African Safaris. She says: "I'm excited to try copywriting with the skills I've learnt from English Language."

Outside of school, Isabella has completed a British Sub-Aqua Club (BSAC) qualification in ocean scuba diving to bolster her experience in the field of travel.

After opening her results, Isabella was incredibly relieved, saying: "I'm so surprised. The results are beyond what I was expecting - I'm so happy. I've really exceeded my own expectations."

Isabella credits Westholme for supporting her through her studies and will carry the friendships and bonds she has made with her into the world of work.



# Amelia to study Business Management at York

**Amelia will soon be undertaking Business Management at the University of York having studied Sociology, Business and Economics at Westholme.**

Amelia said: "I am relieved I got into my dream university. I have grown up in a business family and I have always wanted a career in business management. I'm not quite sure what field yet – possibly consultancy."

"I've had such great teachers – they have been amazing! They have encouraged me to pursue what I want to do."

Amelia has also been the marketing executive of the school's 'Westies' shop – run by the students for the students.

She also loved the work experience placement at Media Village, producing graphics and marketing materials.

Amelia added: "My parents are happy for me and want to see me do something I love and that I'm passionate about."



Amelia joined Westholme in Year 7 and said one of the highlights was the school trip to Paris – her first holiday without her parents. Amelia has recently sat her LAMDA Grade 8 exam in which she gained a Distinction – which has given her confidence and experience in communication.

She said: "I came from a small village primary school and I was really shy growing up. LAMDA helped with my confidence and networking skills." Amelia has also played hockey throughout the school, which enabled her to join Pendle Forest Hockey club outside of school.

## Final word from Head of Careers Mrs Hibberd

Following on from our success this year in achieving the Independent School of the Year award for Careers, we celebrate another successful year for our aspiring undergraduates and apprentices with students gaining offers from a wide range of universities and coveted degree level apprenticeships at companies such as Lidl, PwC, Panache Cruises and the Post Office.

Our students have successfully navigated the rigorous application processes to secure their highly sought-after offers. They are testament to Westholme's commitment to developing essential 21st Century Skills throughout all aspects of school life, helping to prepare students for their next step.

We wish you all the very best of luck and look forward to welcoming you back to Westholme to inspire our current students to aim high and follow in your footsteps.

**Mrs Hibberd**  
Head of Careers





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