**Cartmel Priory School, November ‘20**

The first half term at Cartmel Priory CE School was fairly quiet, given the new restrictions on what we are able to do, but it was a relief to get back into school and be able to reassure parents and students that we are here to support them as we continue to live this strange life that we are adapting to.

Despite not being able to accommodate all the extra-curricular activities and the special events that we would normally hold in school, we have been endeavouring to promote student successes by publishing events and activities on our Facebook page. In the first half term since September, Year 8 students produced some amazingly eruptive volcanoes which, with a little help from some baking soda, which created an explosive display. Year 7’s have produced colour wheel collages which look extremely effective and made very colourful displays for the class walls.

Years 10 and 11 made moulds from shells and casted copper into them as part of an art project and we introduced our new Equestrian team, with 6 of our students and their ponies now training weekly with a view to participating in regional competitions. The school is always looking to support opportunities for our young people to showcase their abilities and this is an exciting and very different sport to our normal curricular activities.

In October, our Art department held a Zentangle Pumpkin competition – all the entries were brilliant and our staff found it very difficult to choose the eventual winners. The colourful displays were posted on the Facebook page for all to see.

We have continued to support charities this term through our non-uniform days, including Guide Dogs for the Blind. Our Year 10 students have been practising their assignments for the Rock School music course, still determined to continue to promote their music prowess despite the current restrictions. We look forward to the next half term, heading towards the festive season and continuing to look for opportunities to showcase the school and the incredibly talented young people we have here.