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The Phoenix



Issue 53

The Meadowhead School Newsletter

July 2008

Year 7 – Castleton Field Trip 4th & 10th June 2008



**Meadowhead
Year 7s in
Castleton Village**

**Can you spot our
very own Trinny
and Susannah?**

Not since the heat-wave of 1976 have we had such good weather for both our trips to the back of beyond. Back in '76, Affleck and Podbury were only a twinkle in their parents' eyes whilst Ms Harper, Mr Barrott, Mrs Holland, Mr Levey and Mrs Vincent were striding up Mam Tor in platforms and flares to the sounds of the Bay City Rollers. Mr Cutts and Mr Quibell were at a school some place in Sheffield, hair gelled into a

punk style and were plotting their rise to the top against the new backdrop of "Anarchy in the UK". Mrs Henry was in London coming to terms with a potential move to an isolated part of the country where people don't speak right, men wear flat caps and people still live in caves! Some desperate place called "The North". Mrs Cousins found herself in a similar position, staring out of her classroom window in

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(Continued from page 1)

Manchester and contemplating a move across the distant Pennines to pastures new and roses white.

This group of teachers, the melange that is now called the humanities department, and Mr Affleck gathered together their troops for the annual visit to "The Sticks" on June 4th and 10th. Both days dawned bright and dry, coach rides were vomit free and a superb day was had by all. The trips up to Mam Tor and Winnat's Pass (Geography),

Peveril Castle (History) and St Edmund's Church (RE) were tackled with gusto by all. Positive comments from members of the public and coach drivers alike reflected just how well-behaved and hardworking our Year 7 students are. A big thanks and well done to all who took part in both trips.

Mr Podbury

The author takes no responsibility for inaccuracy of dates in this piece!!

Geog@Meadowhead

Year 7 PDA Project – The Weather Enquiry

The CLC (City Learning Centre) in Sheffield has been working with Meadowhead School and carrying out a trial of new PDAs (Personal Desktop Assistants). We were extremely pleased that one of our Y7 group was chosen to test out this new technology. Working in conjunction with Mr Podbury, the CLC updated our Year 7 Weather Enquiry so that students could use these handheld computers to record the weather conditions around the school.

The students were given the brief to find the best place for locating a bench around the school grounds. Seven locations were programmed into the PDAs and using GPS the students had to make their way to each location and carry out a number of tests. These included the temperature, wind direction, aspect, cloud cover and view. All data was recorded on the PDA and then downloaded

to our faculty laptop computers. The students are currently undertaking the presentation of this work and we look forward to the finished article soon.

Our students handled the tasks superbly and their mobile phone skills were definitely put to good use. We look forward to future work with the CLC and thank Catherine Moore for her help and support.



**Sophie Wild, Beck Broomhead and Tom Edwards in action.....
Say Cheese!!**

Castleton Poem

By Charlotte Bromley 7A

Our Day Out in Castleton



The famous Humanities field trip
Was a day enjoyed by all
With frolic and fun all day long
All the class had a ball

We waited in the Rosling
And were picked up by coach
It seemed a long journey
Then Castleton finally approached



The first thing we did
Was look at Mam Tor
It goes back to the Iron Age
It had lots to explore



Then we got back on the coach
And went to Winnats Pass
It formed in the last Ice Age
But it's covered now in grass



We were all really hungry
So stopped to have some lunch
Yum Yum Yum
Munch Munch Munch



After lunch we went up a hill
Which led to Peveril Castle
We learnt a lot about this
There were lots of battles



Also in the castle
We were shown the Keep
Where people cooked and cleaned
And even where they'd sleep

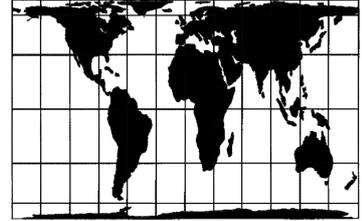
The last thing we went to
Was the gift shop
Sticks of rock, rubbers
Lollipops and spinning tops



Finally it was time to go
We are glad it didn't rain
Sunny, a bit windy though
I'd love to go back again.



Around the world in Geography lessons



Want to improve your world general knowledge then look no further than the new 'starter' activities in Geography lessons.

Last year it was countries and capitals. This year it has been physical features, one for each letter of the alphabet. At the beginning of each lesson an image appears on the whiteboard and pupils have to find out what the image is and enter an answer on their sheet. Before the end of term there will be a quiz featuring all the images.

Some classes are now trying to identify 10 physical features of continents ~ currently South America is the focus. Answer sheets can be submitted in H09 and all correct ones will be entered in a prize draw, with a mini atlas as the prize.

Want to try your hand?

**Meadowhead School
Geography Department
Starter activities**

Name that Physical Feature ~ South America

No:	Clue
1	Longest river in the Western hemisphere
2	Mountain range of the west
3	5 th largest desert area in the world
4	Vegetation of the Amazon
5	World's highest navigable lake
6	An archipelago off the southern tip of the continent
7	Grassy, treeless plains of Argentina
8	World's highest, uninterrupted waterfall
9	Highest mountain
10	The lowest point in the continent

Ms Harper

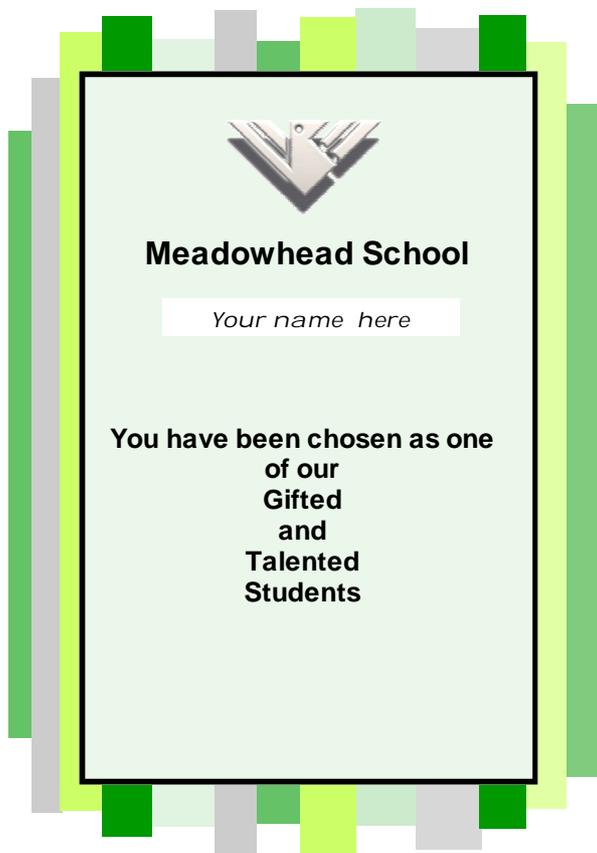
G&T at Meadowhead

This summer we have been piloting a brand new Gifted and Talented scheme of work at Meadowhead.

Lower school students are undertaking **Lost!** and **Lunchbox** Challenges and upper school students are **reporting** on Sports Day and International Day as well as brushing up on their debating skills in **Fight the good Fight**.

These activities are all based around the concept of collaboration on a substantial and open-ended task, which is exactly what teachers and students alike requested when we surveyed them before Easter.

This initiative is new to Meadowhead and supplements the usual gifted and talented provision. We hope to extend this programme of activities in the next school year.



The certificate our Gifted and Talented students will receive.

As you can see the students have enjoyed themselves as well.



If you have any suggestions for Gifted and Talented activities you would like to see at Meadowhead then please contact one of us.

**Mrs Hickman
Mrs Lewis
Miss Livingston
& Mr Mason**

GCSE Art and Design Exhibition 2008

The Art and Design show that takes place in The Rosling atrium is a huge celebration of the visual creativity of the many students who take art and design courses. It is a professional display that is seen by all the students and visitors to the school during the week in May that it is there. The students whose work is on show are especially proud of their achievements.

The photographs below are of some of this year's 'stars'. Many thanks to Mr Greyson for allowing us to use them.



Ella Greyson with her stunning sculptural exam piece titled:
' Why has the world shattered'



Emma Scott next to her brilliant self-portrait
showing strong Pop Art influences



Poonam Saini created truly outstanding work in Art and Design and in Art Textiles



Georgina Norton created this beautiful evening dress for the Fashion element of her coursework.

Congratulations and thanks to all Art and Design students for presenting such a varied and exciting range of work. We all hope you are successful in whatever you do and stay creative. Many of our students are going on to Art courses at different destinations and we know from feedback that Meadowhead art students are known for quality, involvement and enthusiasm.

Please do not forget to come back to collect your work from us at the end of October 2008.

Mr M Robson and the Art and Design Team

Viva España!

The best (and worst) memories of our Y10 Spanish exchange students 2008!



When we arrived in Spain, I was expecting to meet the partners at their school. However they were waiting for us at the airport, so we were all quite shocked.

We went on trips to a French Theatre, Expo 2008, a palace, Gran Casa (shopping centre) and a nature park. The rest of the time we followed our partners in lessons. The lessons weren't very interesting because we weren't involved.

The time I spent with my partner's family went well, but they were quite hard to understand. I spent the weekend with them at their holiday home.

Kristina Flanagan 10I

I think Spain is good but now I understand the Spanish culture and love it.

All the Spanish people welcomed us with open arms and for the first part of the week we were like celebrities.

Jamie Cundy 10J

My best bits:

Going to the disco. There was lots of food and dancing and everyone really enjoyed it.

Ball in the river. We spent ages trying to fish it out. Rose dropped the stick. After all our efforts, a dog eventually got it for us.

Mr Bayarri tried to take a photo of us as a group, but when using Hope's camera he pressed the wrong button and ended up recording a video.

Josephine Hobson 10B

Hope dice

My favourite thing about the exchange was meeting all the gorgeous Spanish people! They were all so welcoming at San Valero and very keen to ask us questions and laugh at us when we replied with ridiculous answers.

I will never forget when we were standing under a pillar at La Aljeferia all posing for a group photo. When it came to taking one with my camera, Mr Bayarri managed to mess it up slightly ... after almost a minute of our cheeks aching and trying to stand still, he said "Oh, this a video, Hope!!" Of course, we saved that clip .

I think the experience was really great!

Hope Marsden 10B

I enjoyed the whole experience of the exchange, when they came to Sheffield and when I went to Zaragoza. The Spanish people were really kind to us all. We met up every day and went out shopping to a place called Gran Casa, and we walked around the town.

When we arrived at Zaragoza airport I was really nervous, but I soon met up with everyone again and my exchange partner and her family were really nice to us. I struggled a lot with the language, then I had to tell my exchange student something, ask for something or describe something to her but it was funny and we had a laugh!

On the Saturday I went to Barcelona with my exchange partner's family and Angela and her exchange partner's family. On Monday Kristina and I went to my exchange student's sister's school to help with English. There was a class of 30, 11/12 years old, they were really shy but they asked us some questions and they told us about Zaragoza. We compared Zaragoza and Sheffield with the weather, food, the meal times and daily routine, etc. On Thursday night we had a leaving party, which was good. We ate a lot of food and danced, I was sad to leave Zaragoza because I had a great time and got to know everyone really well. I hope to come back to Zaragoza in the future to see everyone again!

The experience was great.

Rose Shearstone 10L

On Wednesday April 2nd – 11am, we set off from school waving goodbye to the parents and letting them have some peace and quiet from us kids. Eleven hours passed and we arrived at Zaragoza airport to be greeted by happy faces.

Throughout the week we went on excursions and sampled the Spanish lifestyle! We took part in the lessons and met new friendly people.

At the weekend – Saturday night we went to a disco but could be classed as a nightclub T.B.H.

We met lots of new people there and had a lot of fun. Sunday – we went to the Pilar and the funniest thing is that the Spanish people told us to kiss the feet of a statue of Jesus!!

This trip has been one of the best experiences of my life and if Mr Bayarri and Miss Allen said they want to take us back I would say **YES** straight away.

Thank you for always being there for us.

You've been like a big brother and a mum to me.

Danica Nethercot 10K Take us back ¡Por Favor!



Spain: the land of sun, laughter and utter chaos! I don't think anyone could say this exchange went by uneventfully. However, there were times when you couldn't do anything but laugh. It was hard and I don't think any of us forgot that we were here to learn the language. However, I can honestly say Spain is totally upside down! I think I most enjoyed it when my and Chris's partner challenged us to a game of tennis. Doubles: Spain V England. By the end of the game we found ourselves on the floor in fits of laughter, as Alesandro Chris's partner, was hopeless and hit the ball out of the court and hit one of the old men on the bowling green, just as he went to bowl, right in the face!

Overall the best day was when we went to the Pyrenees. But we didn't get to climb any mountains! However we did get to go on a walk through a nature park and see some native animals, such as Wolves and Lynx.

Overall a great trip, made more fun by the group entertainers! Thanks to Ms Allen and Mr Bayarri. It's a great trip if you want to learn Spanish.

Charlie Newton 10L



When we arrived at Zaragoza airport and received a 'Celebrity ovation', immediately I felt a tremendous sense of graciousness and welcome.

Meeting Alesandro's family was magnificent as their friendly approach instantly made me feel at home.

The excursions we endured together created an irreplaceable spiritual connection with the people who were also participating in the exchange. I enjoyed the exceptional delight of tennis with the Spaniards, as Charlotte and I were left in hysterics at Alesandro disgraceful ability. I also liked the visit to the nature park as I saw reindeer in real life for the first time. I thought we all fitted in brilliantly at the school.

As like the majority of the Spanish environment, they were extremely friendly and greeted us like official visitors.

Saturday was an exceedingly eventful day, as we went to Sergio's house (Charlotte's partner) for dinner and we had rabbit and seafood. I struggled my way throughout the meal as I had never tried rabbit and don't eat anything associated with fish and found it rather disgusting. Overall though I liked most of the food I tried in Spain. We all had a good night at the disco on Saturday. Overall, I have thoroughly enjoyed my stay in Zaragoza.

I enjoyed the whole experience. The family were amazingly kind and talked slowly so I could try and understand what they were saying. Most of it I could understand as they used small simple words.

My fave bit was when we went to Barcelona at the weekend. Me, Rose, and our exchange families all went to Barcelona on Saturday morning. We went on a tourist bus that took us around all the major sights.

Rose went home on Saturday night but we stayed in a very nice hotel! I really enjoyed that weekend and I can't believe how nice they were to me!

The worst part was when we were travelling back from Aljaferia and it started raining **a lot!** We got very wet!"

Angela Woodhouse 10C

German Exchange - May 08



In the Summer Term 2008, Miss Grotzki, Mr Merritt and Ms Maynard organised a German Exchange trip for 18 lucky Meadowhead students. During April, the German partners came over to Sheffield and enjoyed the sights, culture and traditions of our area. In May, it was the English students' turn to travel with Mr Merritt and Ms Maynard to Koblenz in Germany.

The trip was outstanding. The German students and families commented on how welcome the English families had made them feel and how much they enjoyed Sheffield. And, on both stages of the trip, the students were a credit to the staff, school and their families. They also learnt a great deal about German culture and the language, some of which just cannot be taught in a classroom! A huge "thank-you" from Miss Grotzki, Mr Merritt and Ms Maynard goes to the students who were involved in the exchange for their eagerness and their exemplary behaviour!

Mr Merritt

Here are some of the students' reports on the trip.

What an honour to take part in the school's first German exchange! We both had such a great time and it was a fantastic experience. We enjoyed going on all of the trips, although we were slightly disheartened to find that the chocolate museum was closed!

The host families that we stayed with were both lovely and very hospitable towards us; nothing was too much.

The weather during our stay was great, almost always sunny! The food was delicious and it was

good to try something new.

All of the pupils got on so well, and many strong friendships were made. So much so that we are still in touch with our partners and many other friends we made whilst in Germany. Hopefully we will be meeting up with our partners again later this year.

Thank you for this experience, *es war eine leckere Zeri!*

Daniel Turner 7G & Nicola Turner 10L

On the 14th May, many students and I went on a German exchange and had a great time.

But before that happened, the German students came here and went to our school. They did our lessons and saw the sights and then we had to look after them for a whole week. They did all sorts of activities including ice skating and shopping. They had a great time visiting Castleton and Chatsworth. On the Friday everyone went to York to see the National Railway Museum and the town. It was sad that they had to go but they got lots of Sheffield goodies.

On the 14th we finally got to see them again - we went on a plane that took over an hour! We then arrived at the town called Kolbenz.

We had a great time as we visited the two rivers - The Rhine and The Mosel. We visited the town and we also had to do their lessons. They only take 45 minutes and the school finished at 1:00 in the afternoon!

We went bowling one night and the next day I had to wake up really early to go to Phantasialand, a theme park that is a bit smaller than Alton Towers.

One week later we went home but we shall never give up hope, as we will see them again. On the plane some people made friends with an air hostess!

We came home really late only to find we had to go to school the next day.

I was very tired the next day.

Daniel Smith 9A



I thought that the German Exchange was very fun and educational. As well as learning new words we learnt how to understand the language better and how to pick out words we know from long complicated sentences.

The school is very different to ours and they learn English five times a week! The food they eat is slightly different. The houses they live in are a lot bigger and the people are very friendly and helpful.

Overall, I thought that the German Exchange was a very fun, well-planned and worthwhile trip!

Jessica Meadle, 8F



The German Exchange trip was really good. It didn't matter if you were in Year 7, Year 8, Year 9 or Year 10 because we all just got on together!

My favourite thing about it was that I made loads of new friends here and in Germany! Another really good thing was that we could have a look around without the teachers following us, like in Phantasialand..!

Clarisse Gilhooley 7G

As our Y10 Business Language Champions complete their project, business partner Gripple are so pleased with their fantastic audio tour recording about their company in French, that they will be spreading the word to the local press soon – see below.

They have even offered to contribute to a celebratory meal out and bowling at Valley Centertainment in July, to formally thank the group for their hard work after school this year to help French customers learn more about Gripple's business in their own language.

Well done Y10 business Language Champions, and Thank You Gripple for your generous business sponsorship, and time of course!

Miss Allen



News Release

SCHOOL STUDENTS HELP GRIPPLE SAY 'ALLO 'ALLO TO FRENCH VISITORS

Students at Sheffield's Meadowhead School and Language College are helping city-based Gripple improve communications with its French visitors in the latest part of an initiative to promote the value of languages in business.

Gripple, as a Business Language Champion within the Yorkshire and Humberside Regional Language Network, enjoys an ongoing relationship with both the school and college to support their language teaching.

The company, manufacturer of the unique Gripple wire joiner, recently invited the GCSE students to record interviews with company staff, including the managing director! The students have now translated these and an audiotape produced, which will tell French visitors to The Old West Gun Works about Gripple and its products.

In return, Gripple, winner of a 2008 Queen's Award for international business, has sponsored two of eight 24

hour clocks mounted in the school foyer, which is also bedecked with huge flags of numerous countries. Each of the clocks shows the time in an overseas city with which the school has an association.

Gripple office sales manager, Emma Hibbert, who is a fluent French and German speaker and the main link between the company and the school, said: "Producing the audio tape has been a fascinating and rewarding project for all concerned and I am sure it will be an invaluable 'tool' for the company. We thank the students for their hard work and look forward to the next project."

Gripple's work with Meadowhead reflects the importance the company places on speaking to its customers in their own Language. The company is currently capable of communicating in 14 of the world's most commonly spoken languages, with many of its staff being multi-lingual.

Jo Allen, manager of the language college, added: "We are grateful to Gripple for its generous sponsorship and for giving the students the opportunity not only to exercise their language skills but also to learn about the importance of language in business. They all thoroughly enjoyed the project and are now more motivated, enthusiastic and confident as a result of our association with the company."



Business Language Champion group students pictured beneath the 24-hour world time zone clocks in the Rosling.



SUPPORT FUND RAISING FOR SRI LANKAN PARTNER SCHOOL!

A huge Thank you goes out to our local Archer Road Sainsbury's for donating all our fair trade ingredients used by our budding Y9 bakers who cooked up a delicious variety of 250 muffins for our fair trade baking sale on International Day!

The Y9 girls made a fantastic £130.62 from the baking sale, which will go a long way towards buying some much needed internet connection and videoconferencing equipment for our Sri Lankan partner school to enable more students/teachers to get involved and make contact with the school next year in lessons.

Marie Collinson-Wallace, the Sainsbury store community outreach manager, organised both the donation of ingredients, and a fantastic ready steady cook style workshop for one lucky Y9 form on the day, and taught the students more about fair trade products from around the world. Some of the desserts designed by our students will now be developed and hopefully turned into the famous Sainsbury's recipe tip cards!

In fact, Marie has also given our school use of the Sainsbury's restaurant display board for the month of September, so our Art students are currently organising an International Day display for the store itself to showcase Meadowhead's array of International activities held on the day, and raise awareness about our school and Language College. Thanks Marie, thanks Sainsbury's! – we hope you can come again next year!

Ms Allen

Meadowhead Goes International

On Friday, 6th June, the Y9s at Meadowhead School had a multicultural experience. This came in the form of International Day. The day's aim was to teach pupils about cultures, other than our own.



In the morning each form put up a display in their form room to teach people about their chosen country. The country they picked had to start with the same letter as their form did. E.g. - J picked Jamaica.



All day normal lessons were abandoned as each form participated in different activities. These ranged from French boules to Chinese cooking. Some of the activities were run by Meadowhead Staff, while others were run by trained professionals, like the Siyaya African dancing and drumming team



who ran drumming workshops in which everyone got involved in singing and drumming.



There were many different activities taking place throughout the entire school. In the Rosling (the main area in our school) there was the refugee experience where people witnessed what it is like for refugees arriving in the UK and how they are treated once they arrive here. Students were given a CD player and headphones to walk around the display with. The experience was very realistic.

Outside on the MUGA they played New Zealand tig and international sports. While in the learning centre they staged a talk show about stereotypes. This was both funny and entertaining with people getting up to show their dancing skills! This also really got people thinking about how they treat people. Such as men aren't always better drivers than women and not all blonds are dumb.



At break time and lunch there was a cake sale. There were many flavours on offer, like chocolate and banana, which proved to be a favourite, but all of them were delicious! The cakes were all made using only fair-trade ingredients provided by Sainsbury's.



Sainsbury's also provided the ingredients for the fair-trade cooking workshop in which well-trained Sainsbury's staff came in to assist the pupils in making recipes to be put on tip cards. Tip cards are simple recipes with around 4 ingredients that are easy to make. There were also other cooking workshops run during the day, like the Chinese cooking workshop where they made spring rolls which were delicious and even more so when eaten with sweet chilli sauce. There was also the South Asian cooking workshop, Sushi cooking workshop and a Spanish Tapas demonstration. The tapas that Mr Fernandez whipped up tasted great! The paella rice was especially nice, everybody wanted more!



Not only was there Spanish food, there was also Spanish dancing! The Salsa dancing was taught by a professional instructor who came in for the day.



Everybody loved doing the salsa dancing as it got people up and active in a fun way. We had a great time, even though we might have got it all wrong.



At the end of day we all went into the hall for a show by the Siyaya African dance troupe. The show was brilliant, we all loved it, and it was full of energy. We were all on our feet clapping at one point. Their music and songs also meant a lot to them, particularly one that they sang as a tribute to their home country.

The comments we received from participants of International Day were very positive. Everyone I've spoken to really enjoyed International Day and has learnt a lot from it.

We hope that next year's Y9s will enjoy their day as much as we have and we would like to thank all the staff who pulled it all together.

International Day Y9 reporters:
Hazel Sawbridge & Joseph Joyce



The Refugee Experience at Meadowhead

In early June, the Rosling area was made temporarily uglier yet more interesting by the sudden appearance of "The Refugee Experience". Resembling from the outside a large grey shed with a few posters, it was in fact a series of connecting cubicles, which chronicled a refugee's journey from Africa to a safe life in Britain. From the violence of war to a border crossing, from the back of a lorry to a cell in a British detention centre, the pupils followed the journey on a personal stereo and headphones.

We were able to plan for the experience to play a part in International Day for a number of year 9 classes, and overall half of years 7,8 and 9 ended up witnessing not just the exhibit, but also a video and



board-game back in the classroom which reinforced the message.

Particularly pleasing was the number of pupils not timetabled for the lesson, but who willingly gave up 15 minutes of their own lunch-time or after school time to view the exhibit. Thanks go to them, and also to Mrs Webb and Mrs Ford, who worked tirelessly with the headphones. The messages left by the pupils showed a gratifying degree of empathy and understanding, and we can only hope that some of what they learnt can help combat the myths and stereotypes that blight the lives of those who are genuinely just in search of a safe place to live.



Mr Wheatcroft: Behind the moustache

Mr Wheatcroft is the new Pastoral assistant for the Y7 year team.

How do you like our new school community and the buildings?

I really like the new school buildings. As you know, I never actually saw the old school, but the buildings are now excellent. I enjoy being part of the school community; it gives me a comfortable feeling of belonging.

Which part of the building do you like the most?

The easy answer would be "All of it". I especially like how the building is set out. I normally get lost easily, but it's easy to navigate around school.

Do you like the statue of the phoenix in the Rosling and if so, why?

Yes I do. It is a powerful statue with great meaning. The phoenix rising from the ashes symbolises new beginnings. It is certainly a new beginning for me, starting at Meadowhead.

How are you enjoying your new job?

Immensely! It is so different to any work I have ever done before. Each and every day is different. The only downside is that the time goes very quickly and I am still trying to get round school to meet all of our Y7 pupils. I will hopefully manage this before they become Y8s!

Why did you want to apply for this job?

I had a feeling that I could do some good at Meadowhead School. Those who are 11 and 12 years old have a great deal to learn, I wanted to assist in their learning for life.

What did you do before you took up this job?

I worked with 16-19 year olds who hadn't worked when they were at school. Seeing how tough life was for them (no money and no job), I decided to try and help those at an early age understand how important it is to work hard at school. I owned and was managing director of a company that manufactured a natural cherry pip cushion, which could be used as a hot or cold compress. I have bought and restored antique furniture and sold on as an antiques dealer. I have also represented a large European fiduciary organisation as a sourcing agent for African commodities. In short, lots of things!

Have you ever been in the news, and if so, what for?

Yes I have. The cherry pip cushions that my company produced had a lot of interest as they used recycled material and are a natural product. I was on BBC Look North about 10 years ago because I was a supplier of these cushions to the Sultan of Oman and health spas around the United Arab Emirates.

What countries have you visited and which trips did you enjoy the most?

I have visited many countries including South Africa, Spain, Barbados, Eastern Europe, France, Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg, Grand Canaria and Greece. I enjoyed Santorini, a small Greek island the most, as it was so quiet and relaxing.

Have you lived abroad, and if so, where?

From the ages of 2 to 4 I lived in a town called Crater in the Yemen. I spoke Arabic before I had been taught to speak English. When I was 10 years old I lived in Zambia and then on to Rhodesia (this is the country now known as Zimbabwe that is in the news a lot). I loved living in Africa and spoke Afrikaans. I lived in the village of Victoria Falls and it was the best time of my life (until I came to Meadowhead School, of course).

What are your hobbies?

I love looking after tropical fish, collecting and restoring antique furniture and collecting Georgian/Victorian drinking glasses, fossils, semi and precious gemstones and Egyptian artefacts. Basically, anything that is interesting, I am interested in. I also have pets at home with my family. We have a dog, five cats, two terrapins, a Chinchilla and three tanks of tropical fish.

What is your favourite type of music, TV programme, subject, band and song?

Music: Heavy rock 1970s/80s

TV Programme: Life on Mars/Heroes

Song: 'Golden Brown' by the Stranglers

Subject: History

Band: Wishbone Ash (from the 1970s) and Franz Ferdinand

What don't you like?

Least favourite song: Umbrella

Least favourite band- "Them noisy ones"

Least favourite type of music- Rave

Least favourite subject- African politics

***Thomas Champion 7K interviewed
Mr Wheatcroft***

Pupil Mentors

Over the last 2 years we have established pupil mentors within the school. The original intention was to train up pupils to help with the Y6 to Y7 transition. In the old building, with the old timetable when everyone had the same lunchtime, the older students would travel to the South Building and be on "duty" and available to the Y7 and Y8 students for both help and guidance.

In our new building lunchtimes no longer coincide and so our mentor's roles had to change.

Pupil mentors are now trained up in year 9. They learn about basic counselling, child protection and body language. They have also been trained to be Reading Partners and are, during Learning Management, paired with a young student who needs a little help with their reading skills. This paired reading has been underway for over a year and has been very successful.

Mentors are a big part of the Y6 transition. They support staff when pupils come in for the Science "Bubbles" project in June. They are allocated to the new forms in July and contribute in no small part to the 1½ days the Y6 pupils spend in school. They take part in the feeder visits with the head of year and this year we are trialing a new scheme where mentors from Y9 go with students from our feeder schools to Sheffield United for a further transition project.

Mentors now run our parents' evenings and show any visitors around the school. Some have been involved in staff interviews.

As well as all this they provide a kind, caring and listening ear to any pupils who may require any help.

Last September, for the first time, we introduced our first Head Boy and Head Girl. Pupils were nominated from the serving mentors and voted for by their peers in Y10 moving into Y11.

Head Boy	Tom Mills
Head Girl	Amy Holland
Deputy Head Boy	Jack Laverick
Deputy Head Girl	Amelia Pico

All other Y11 pupil mentors became senior mentors.

They have done a sterling job and established themselves as ambassadors of the school. They have shown excellent organisational skills and developed a sound system which can be built upon as the new cohort of senior mentors takes over.

For 2008 – 2009

Head Boy	Harrison Carter
Head Girl	Abby Morley
Deputy head Girl	Charlotte Newton

When on duty, members wear a different coloured sweatshirt and when off duty a mentor's badge. They wear these with pride and have set such good standards that many Y7 and Y8 students have already asked about when they can train up. The future of the programme looks to be in safe hands and future new pupils to the school can rely upon excellent guidance, care and help when it is needed. Well done to them all.

Junior Maths Challenge Results

On 1st May our best mathematicians in years 7 and 8 entered the UK junior maths challenge. They produced some great results, receiving 4 gold, 15 silver and 18 bronze certificates.

Best in school : Fraser Kelly Y8

Gold Certificates

Y8

Fraser Kelly
Joshua Deakin
Matthew Stevenson

Y7

Daisy Cutts

Silver Certificates

Y8

Devon Johnson
Emily Boul
Lauren Wright
Liam Rodgers
Caroline Fung
Thomas Williams
Jessica Meadley
Anna Sanderson
Catherine Oxley
Sophie Scott

Edward Armitage
Philip Nunn

Y7

Amber Parry
Billi Golland
Joshua Banner

Now
it's
your
turn...

Bronze Certificates

Y8

Amy Beanland
Megan Beresford
Oliver Coe
George Martin
Maxwell Etherton
Eleanor Wheeldon
Robert Jones
Patsy Johnson
Alice Butler
Will Cattell

Y7

Matthew Oxley
Alexander Murray
Jane Mottram
Edie Bensley
Scott Davis
Ryan Watterson
Jessica Kay
Kyle Vanes

Can you answer any of the questions that our students had to answer?

1. Which of these calculations produces a multiple of 5?

A $1 \times 2 + 3 + 4$ B $1 + 2 \times 3 + 4$ C $1 \times 2 + 3 \times 4$ D $1 + 2 \times 3 \times 4$ E $1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4$

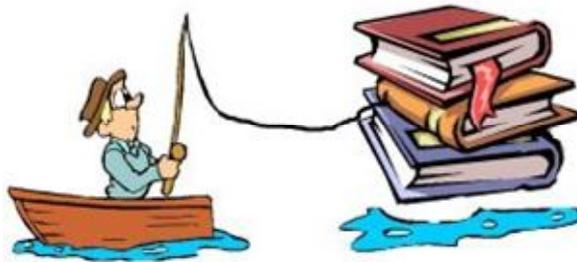
2. All of the Forty Thieves were light-fingered, but only two of them were caught red-handed. What percentage is that?

A 2 B 5 C 10 D 20 E 50

3. An active sphagnum bog deposits a depth of about 1 metre of peat per 1000 years. Roughly how many millimetres is that per day?

A 0.0003 B 0.003 C 0.03 D 0.3 E 3

Answers to Miss Livingston



The Rancid Bugle!!

Can you work out why the group is called this?

(Look at the letters in the title and the reading club)

I am writing this report to tell you of the rancid bugle, otherwise known as the book club.

I have been in the book club for several months now and have had a very good taste of the kind of books we read and activities we do.

There are loads of very exciting things such as, before Christmas we made a stocking out of card. In the stocking we put a picture of a book we wanted for Christmas. We then decorated the stocking, as we wanted.

There are loads of other things, which could be for you.

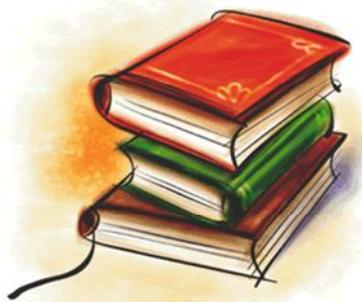
If you're not sure then just come along and find out for yourself.

We also take a chosen book home after every meeting, which you have to read in a month until the next meeting.

At the start of the next meeting we will talk about the book and evaluate it.

Letters will go out to all the form rooms to tell everyone of the date, but if you want to know in advance or if you can make it on that day it is on

the first Thursday of every month.



Real Life Romeos and Juliets

Year 10 students displayed their romantic sides when a theatre company visited the school in April.

Over 100 students, studying "Romeo and Juliet" as part of their English Language coursework, watched a performance of the play and then showed their enthusiasm by getting involved in the acting themselves. A number of students (you know who you are!) performed key scenes from the play, complete with Shakespearean outfits in front of staff and their friends.

Despite the performance being after school, it was a worthwhile experience that



was both emotional and entertaining. Students found it useful and helpful with their studies and some were even heard quoting Mr Shakespeare himself when leaving the school hall.

Thank you to the students that attended the performance and an even bigger thank you to the staff that gave up their time to help.

Miss Thompson

Curriculum Innovators Adobe Certified Associate (ACA) Celebration Presentation Evening

Over the past 4 months 10 of our students, Years 9-11 have been studying for the new ACA qualification using Flash 8. The students all gave up their own time to attend after school sessions.

The students are among 350 people who are the first in the country to gain the award. The course is due to be credited by the QCA in September.

The exam involved the students learning about Flash 8. ALL ten of the students passed the exam, including me. A 100% pass rate. Fantastic result.

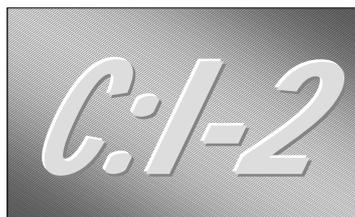


Following this we were invited to a presentation evening at the Millennium Galleries in Sheffield. The evening involved people from Sheffield Hallam University, The IT Foundry, Certiport and Yorkshire Forward. Eight of the students attended. They all received a £10 Amazon voucher from the head of the IT Foundry.

All of the students involved were excellent, a real credit to the school. This is a great example of an online course.



Phil Kay
Curriculum Innovator



Shrinking the World (and time)

Mr Lockley

Meadowhead / Star trek, what do they have in common? No it's not that the phoenix looks like a star ship, it's that we now have video conferencing equipment and can talk to people all over the world.

But to test the equipment and gain some experience Mr. Lockley's year 7 French classes did a very fine job of talking to the Y6 (soon to be Y7) students from Sir Harold Jackson Primary School. They designed a presentation in French to tell the Y6s what subjects they would be studying when they came to Meadowhead and also added a few comments about what they thought of them. The favourite ones were comments about teachers including "M. Robson est effrayant!!!!!" and "M. Afleck est marrant".

They carried out their task wonderfully well and the Y6s loved it. The French session was followed by a question and answer session about Meadowhead. The most eagerly anticipated question was "Do the Y11s flush your head down the toilet?" The Y7s resisted the temptation to tell some porkie pies and there were many more Y6s sleeping better that night.

Mrs Lewis

Mrs. Lewis also did 2 conferences with Lowedges Primary last year. The year 3 classes who are learning French introduced themselves in French to Year 10 pupils at Meadowhead. Lowedges pupils made a very positive impression on the Meadowhead students, as their behaviour was so superb. Staff watching at Meadowhead were also impressed by the high standards.

Mrs Key

7K are experts on life at Meadowhead school - and that's official! Pupils in Mrs Key's form used their Learning Management time this half term to pass on their knowledge about being a Y7 to Y6 pupils from Lower Meadow and Sir Harold Jackson. Using videoconferencing, 7K were able to tell incoming pupils all about what the next year would hold. Pupils gave a Y7 view on topics such as clubs, timetables, lessons, homework, bullying, detentions and the all important school dinners. They also answered the questions that Y6s had on the day. Both classes really benefited from this activity, and the new Y7s will have a few friendly faces to recognise in Y8 when they start in September.

Mr Cutts with Mrs. Steer

Mr Cutts managed to go back in time with his Y7 class and contact a WW1 soldier in a trench. The students were enthusiastic and eager to ask lots of questions. Mrs Steer feels that the students gained a lot of learning from this session and it was made more memorable for them being able to speak to someone who was outside school and very knowledgeable in their field. Also they were able to see artifacts, which they would never have encountered in school.

Mr Lockley

PRISON ME NO WAY

In February 2008, we managed to arrange an extremely worthwhile visit by the "Prison Me No Way" team. Apart from the questionable grammar of the title (why not call it "There's no way I'll be ending up in prison"?!), it was a splendid day of learning for all the Meadowhead Year 9s. As you can see from Alice's winning account of the day (and thanks to all the other entries), the pupils gained and retained a lot from it, especially that prison life is not the luxury that some believe. As for the scary prison guards, if any of them ever need a job as classroom assistants.....! Thanks go to Mr Barrett, Ms Vincent and Ms Webb for helping to set up and organise the day, and well done to all the year 9s for making us proud. The visiting team described them as the most responsive and attentive group they had come across in all their school visits.

Mr. Timms

Prison me no way!!

On February the 25th the "prison me no way" gang came into school to teach us about the consequences of committing illegal offences. They set up a series of workshops to help us to understand why you might get arrested or given an ASBO. Some of the workshops involved questioning actual people that have been in prison and some that have an addiction such as drugs and alcohol.

There were also prison officers present. We were treated like actual prisoners. They shouted at you for doing the simplest things such as putting you hands in your pockets or smiling!

We were shown a replica of a prison cell they are 6ft by 8ft and contained as little as a table, chair, bunk bed for 2, kettle, sink, telly and a flushing toilet, although, if you were unlucky, you had to wash your faces down with a bucket of water! If you misbehave, the officers have a key which switches off all the electricity in your cell (so if you're afraid of the dark beware!)

The prisoners have to wear clothes that have been made by other prisoners in the workshops. Some of the underwear had stains on them (I'll leave you to think about that one). Some of the shoes looked like Grandpa Shoes with hard-wearing soles so they would last longer.

You have the choice when to get up. However, if you want to go out for fresh air and a walk you have to be up by 7:30am. If you are lazy and miss this opportunity you will not get another chance till the next day, and so you have to stay inside for the next 23 hours! You are also entitled to a 5-minute shower. This includes getting undressed and washing yourself. If you have soap in your hair and the shower stops, its tough luck, so you'd better be quick.

Prisoners have to work in the prison either as a tailor, a cleaner or (as I have heard to be the worst job but the most paid) a cook. You get £15 a week to be a cook and £10 a week for working as a tailor or cleaner. This money will pay for your telly at £1 a week, your toiletries and your luxuries i.e. chocolate, snacks and cigarettes. Some prisoners buy cigarettes for bartering to buy things from other prisoners.

You are entitled to 30 minutes of visiting time twice a month. If you are well behaved, your visiting hours will increase up to 2 hours but still twice a month. Some prisoners get their friends and family to smuggle things in such as drugs, money and even weapons! Some ways of smuggling are keeping drugs held in your throat then coughing them up in a drink, and some people go as far as inserting them in themselves!!

Gangs seem to be a big problem in prisons. If you're involved in a gang and don't obey their rules you may get kicked out, or worse still beaten up! Gang wars can happen at any time over the smallest of things, so whatever happens, if it involves one of your gang members you have to jump in and fight.

There are 4 different categories of prisons A, B, C and D
A=Murders, armed robbery, sex offenders, etc
B=GBH, kidnappers, arson, etc
C=drug offences, driving offences, etc
D=shoplifters, fraud, any other small offences, etc

YOU CAN GET ARRESTED AND SENTENCED FOR UP TO 25 YEARS FOR AFFRAY, WHICH MEANS SEEING AN OFFENCE AGAINST THE LAW HAPPEN AND KEEPING QUIET!! YOU CAN ALSO GET ARRESTED FOR HARBOURING A PRISONER WHO IS WANTED BY THE LAW!

By Alice.Ellen.Thomas 9a



Scott Briggs is pictured here with the Terry Hensby Trophy; he is the first recipient of the trophy presented to the school Rugby Union Player of the season. Scott has represented the school throughout his five years at Meadowhead as well as keeping up a busy schedule of both club and representative rugby. He has played his club rugby this season for Rotherham Titans and is a member of Leeds Carnegie Academy. His representative Honours are impressive; he played a leading role in the Yorkshire team who finished the season unbeaten, defeating all 4 Scottish Regions as well as Lancashire, Durham and Cumbria. He was selected to play for the North of England and was unlucky not to be selected to play for England. Scott plays at hooker, he is the second Meadowhead student to play for the North in this position. David Simmons was the first last season. Next season Scott has followed in his brother Neil's footsteps, (Neil, also a hooker, has played for Sale Sharks in the Premiership all season) he has signed for Sale Sharks and will attend Myerscough College in Manchester.

Meadowhead Beat the Kings!

On Monday, 9 June, Meadowhead competed in an athletics competition final. On a red-hot day every Meadowhead student put 100% into their events. Some of us got sunburnt but it was worth it. Altogether we won 4 shields; Y9 Boys, Y8 Boys, Y8 girls and all of Meadowhead won the school shield, beating King Edward's winning streak. The faculty members who took us were very proud and happy. When we heard we had won we all ran round the track and started singing.

Mrs Tym said, "It was absolutely fantastic to see our athletes do so well. Every athlete put their full effort in and helped us to win a prestigious award. I will never forget this massive achievement!"

Kelle Schofield 7J

MEADOWHEAD FUN RUN

Today, 20th June Period 4 the Year 8s went on the new field, and did a great fun run. We got changed into our PE kit and went outside to wait for the helicopter. First the teachers arranged us so we spelt Sheffield, so when the helicopter came we could wave and look down and see Sheffield.

When the helicopter arrived Angelica (TV presenter) Collin Jackson (runner) got out and everybody screamed, all lined up side by side and across from each other so they could walk down and "high five us all!"

We were taken across to the starting point. They blew the horn and we were off! We had to go round 5 times. Put it this way, everybody had red faces at the end!

I thought it was great when the cameraman was there, everybody kept screaming. I thought it was good because we were running for charity. It was a great opportunity and I liked meeting celebrities.

Carly Wellington Y8

sports day !!!

On Friday 13th it was years 7, 8 and 9 sports day at Don Valley Stadium. There were events like javelin, shot put, 200m, 1500m and many more. It was a great day and loads of people took part and tried their best, even the teachers did a tug of war and a race!!

There were loads of forms competing against each other to win points and if they won the event that they had put the joker card on they got double points for their form.

Mrs Holland and Mr Eastwood said that our behaviour was excellent and they said we gave a very good example for the school!!

The winners have still not been announced but they will be in assembly and everybody will be proud of their forms!!



Reported by Rebecca Siddall

Sprinting for your life trying to win a race
PE teachers won 4x100m relay
Old Mr Taylor sprinting like a cheetah
Rioting in the stands
Tug of war, bringing people to the ground
Sunshine slowly faded away
Dilly dally down the track at Don Valley
Attitude aimed at rival runners
You're not singing any more

Sports day 2008 was fun
Pupils squashing into the mini bus
Off we go to Don Valley
Reaching all our targets
Throwing rounders balls
Sprinting to success
Determined pupils wanting to win
Athletes everywhere you turn
Yay what a great day

Leah Smith 7J

Sports day 2008 was immense
Pulling the tug of war rope
Old Mr Hensby driving the mini bus
Running to success
Triple jumping away
Superstars of 7S were super all day
Determination to triumph over the other forms
Athletes were brill
Yahoo! 7J won the girls relay

Lorna Blakemore & Ashleigh Burniston 7J

Sports day 2008 at Don Valley stadium
Pushing yourself to the limit
Old late minibus driver
Running like the wind
Teachers running in the staff relay
Superstars of 7J
Delightful ice cream
Admirer of everyone around you
Yahoo! what a great day

Isobel Andrews 7J



MEADOWHEAD **LANGUAGE COLLEGE**

Invites you to join one of our
Adult Community Language Classes in:
**French, German, Greek, Italian,
Mandarin, Russian, Spanish**

1st Term Starts: 25th Sept 2008

2nd Term starts: 15th Jan 2009

Both for 10 weeks

All classes held on a Thursday evening

Beginners, Intermediate & Intermediate Plus: 7.00pm - 8.45pm

£45 per term*

Advanced Classes: 6.00pm - 7.00pm

£40 per term

ENROLMENT

Thursday 11th September 2008

From 6.00pm - 7.00pm

Come along and see what's on offer with no obligation!

Tutors will be there to discuss course content, levels,
books and answer all other queries.

Places are limited to 25 per class

And offered on 1st come 1st served basis.

Course fees must be paid by cash or cheque

Cheques payable to "Meadowhead School"

by post to

Meadowhead School

Dyche Lane

Sheffield

S8 8BR

prior to start date to secure your place.

Enquiries regarding any of these courses to:

The Language College - Jo Allen or Alison Huff

Tel. No. 0114 237 2723 Ext. 274

Email : huffa@meadowhead.sheffield.sch.uk

*We may have to increase fee if there are less than 10 people in any group,
but would notify customers prior to start date if this is the case.