

The Phoenix



Issue 56

The Meadowhead School Newsletter

December

Post 16 - "The Dream Becomes Reality!"



We are proud to be able to report that from September this year Meadowhead School will be offering A Level courses to our current Year 11 students.

This is a fantastic achievement

as the school has been wanting to make this offer for twenty years. Parents and students have been very positive and the Parent's Evenings held for Year 11 have been excellently attended.

Staff are now working their socks off to ensure top quality courses and first rate provision. Our potential Post 16 students have formed a committee to ensure they have a strong voice in how it will be organised. This group has already earmarked a Common Room and rumour has it that they may have their eye on

Turn to pages 16 & 17 to find out more about Post 16 provision at



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Meadowhead does it again!

Ofsted was very impressed with Citizenship provision at Meadowhead School. We gained much praise for many aspects of that provision including Global Citizenship, Community Cohesion and the involvement of the students in a variety of ways both within school and the wider community.

The personal development of students was highly praised—in fact they are proving to be very good citizens!



Areas for further development include broad

students' views on the political and criminal justice systems

Carys Hall



Carys Hall has been an exceptional athlete and sportswoman. She has represented the City of Sheffield and Yorkshire in the 300m event in the UK School Games, North Inter-Counties, Yorkshire Championships and English Schools Championships. She has competed in Paris and at Crystal Palace and was sponsored by Reebok.

Sat 10th July

English Schools Athletics
Championships, Don Valley Stadium

The highlight of her career was coming 3rd in the country in her age group this summer in the 300m at Don Valley.

Her long term aspirations are:

Turtles, Elephants and Sarongs:



October half term saw Ms James and Mr and Mrs Fowler visiting the 'Pearl' of the Indian Ocean to see our friends at our partner school in Baliapitia.

Ms James originally made the first visit in 2006 and her first comment since going back was to observe the changes that have taken place since.

"The effects of the tsunami were greatly in evidence the last time I was there" she said. "I'm happy to see the new buildings and the eternal optimism of the people here is a lesson to us all."

The welcome to Walipatha College was as warm and friendly as it has ev-

er been. After a formal assembly, Mr Fowler taught a maths lesson and proved that not only is mathematics a universal language but also that teaching is a universal skill. The teachers were also interviewed for a film about the work of the British Council.

They went to Galle to meet with the Minister for Education and the Chief Adviser for English, and invitations were issued for a return visit to Meadowhead.

During the ten day visit there were fabulous opportunities to see the day-old turtles who, as a protected species, were being well looked after by the turtle sanctuary and who were

British Airways



Last November, 9 brave Y10s (now Y11s) opted to join me after school on Tuesdays for the chance to gain an extra qualification.



Abbie Spooner, Hayley Wasden, Agnetha Spencer, Olivia Higginbottom, Julia Odawa, Bethany Fenwick, Emily Golland, Alex Mettam and Amy Patchett all voluntarily put in a great deal of extra work every week from November 2008 in order to take the British Airways Flag Award exam in July 2009. This is the course and exam that British Airways staff must sit in order to prove their proficiency in a foreign language at a professional level.

I'm proud to say that all 9 students passed the intensive final exam, which includes a five-minute discussion, reading aloud a cabin announcement, two long, demanding and unrehearsed role plays as well as unprepared translating and interpreting exercises – and the whole thing was in German!

As well as a professional certificate, the successful candidates were also entitled to a German flag lapel badge – the same ones cabin crew wear in order to display their aptitude in a foreign language.



Sheffield U16s travel to Twickenham to be



On Sunday 6th September, 15 extremely lucky lads including Jake Gilmour, Robert Sturman and myself were given a once in a lifetime opportunity to go down to Twickenham, the home of English rugby, and train with the stars for a day. Naturally we leapt at the chance and were heading down the M1 bright and early, eager to pull on our boots and play with some of the best players in the world.

We weren't disappointed. Walking through the entrance, a great hulking figure stood waiting for us, Joe Worsley. Leading us into the Player's Lounge, he talked us through the day and what it would entail; then after changing in the England changing rooms, we headed out of the tunnel into the stadium. Like Johnson, Fitzpatrick, Wilkinson and Brooke before us, we took in the huge rows of seats surrounding us, feeling the same exhilaration

Germany Trip



On 31st May 2009, 4 members of staff took 43 Y9 students to the romantic valley of the Rhine, just south of Koblenz, known for the Deutsches Eck where the powerful Rhine meets the stately Moselle. All along the Upper Rhine Valley (between Koblenz and Mainz) you will see formidable castles, fairytale towers, steep vineyards clinging to the cliffs and romantic towns where you can lose yourself.

Highlights of the trip included visiting the magnificent Marksburg castle, a beautiful cruise down the river

Rhine, exploring and shopping in the picturesque town of Rüdesheim, a glorious trip on a long chairlift to the Niederwalddenkmal, visits to Cologne cathedral, a Lindt chocolate museum and the Phantasialand theme park and swimming at the leisure complex.

Of course, education plays a big part in the trip; students are required to complete extensive diary work in German every day, fill in a hefty German workbook, visit a German grammar school to partake in lessons for a day and buy – and prepare! – a healthy, German-influenced lunch.

The Very Hungry Caterpillar

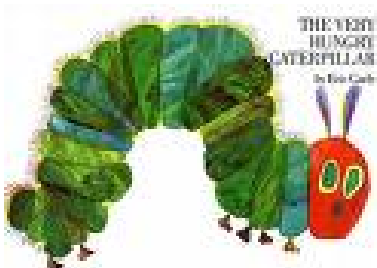
On Friday 10th July 2009, Year 7 pupils from Meadowhead and Year 1 pupils from Woodseats Primary came together at the Newfield CLC to perform a very special Spanish version of the much-loved children's book *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Earle.

The performance was the culmination of a coaching project at



Woodseats, designed to give primary teachers with little prior knowledge of a foreign language, the confidence to deliver language lessons to their pupils.

On the big day, Sam Forester, Liam Jones and Rebecca Gallagher Webb



read the story very confidently in Spanish for the Year 1 pupils who gave a stunning, visual performance complete with fabulous props and costumes! All this was watched by two groups of Year 7 pupils back in Meadowhead's Learning Resource Centre using the video conferencing facilities.

After the performance, pupils demonstrated their linguistic skills further with a quick-fire question and answer session and even a Spanish song!

Many thanks to Señor Fernandez, Señora Cassou, Señor Sockett and Señora



Archery Success



I have been shooting recurve as a member of Derwent Bowmen Archery Club in Darley Dale, Derbyshire since the age of 11. When I was 12 years old I was asked to represent Derbyshire at the Inter-County Junior Shoot.

In 2006, because of my consistent performances I was selected as one of only 5 archers from Derbyshire to attend the Junior East Midlands Archery Society (EMAS) winter training sessions held in Lincoln.

The following year, in April 2007, I unfortunately chipped my collarbone and tore a ligament in my right shoulder. I was unable to shoot in any competitions for the entire summer. However, despite not shooting all summer, I was still asked to attend the EMAS winter training sessions and the following year represented Derbyshire and won the U18 Derbyshire Championships.

At the start of the season this year I became the two times West Midlands Archery

Society Under 18's Champion, once at Lilleshall National Sports Centre in May and the second time at Lichfield in June. After this success I was optimistic about being selected to shoot at the Home Nations and the Euronations but was hugely disappointed to find out that I just missed out. Discovering this, I went to the Junior National Outdoor Championship weekend at Lilleshall determined to shoot to the potential I knew I was capable of.

I was not disappointed. I came second in the Under 18's recurve category and the following day I lead from start to finish and I was awarded the Under 18's National Title and the Most Hits Award.

Again this summer I was selected to shoot for the Derbyshire Junior team where I shot another PB of 1150. In August I became the Northamptonshire Under 18's County Champion as well as becoming the Derbyshire Under 18's Champion again in September.

Sheffield Table Tennis Champions



Y10 Table Tennis Team:

Phil Nunn
Danny Lea
James Tippet
Oliver Coe

On the 13th October, Meadowhead School's Table Tennis team were ready to do battle in the area round of the Sheffield Schools Table Tennis Tournament.

The competition was held at Meadowhead School and we were drawn against King Egberts, Tapton and Handsworth schools. Was this to be our year or not?? We had received training all year from one of England's best coaches—Mick Vasey—every Friday night at school.

The training paid off as we went on to win our round robin and went through representing our region at the Sheffield Schools Final Competition which was held during October half term at The Sheffield Institute of Sport.

Mrs Tym kindly gave up a day of her holidays to supervise us. There were world class table tennis players at the competition and we met the British No 1, Paul Drinkall, who lives close by in Doncaster.

We beat every team on the day making us Sheffield Champions and Philip Nunn was awarded 'Player of the Tournament.'

As winners of the Sheffield Competition we went on to the big one—the South Yorkshire Competition on Monday 9th November. Unfortunately, we had a GCSE Maths exam that week and had to miss our Maths lesson but in the end Mr Fowler allowed us to go.

German Exchange 2009

After the first successful exchange last year with our partner school, the Gymnasium auf der Karthause in Koblenz, we once again embarked on



this cultural, educational and linguistic experience with pupils from years 8 to 10.

The first leg of the exchange was in Sheffield, when our exchange pupils and teachers came over for one week in April this year. The pupils formed close friendships and this continued to develop and strengthen throughout the stay. After a tour of Sheffield for the German pupils, we all went to the Peak District together to explore



historic Castleton and beautiful Chatsworth. Other successful activities were the trip to York, ice skating together, a buffet for parents and pu-



pils and the individual weekend activities. When the German pupils had to leave after 9 days it was as if lifelong friends were saying good-bye to each other judging by the amount of tears and hugs.

Fortunately, it was only 7 weeks before we travelled to Germany and the 11 pupils, accompanied by Mr. Ferrigon and myself, were excited to see each other again. The programme in Koblenz was also very packed – with days at school, a joint trip to Cologne, a visit to Sayn's butterfly garden and climbing forest, a boat trip on the Rhine to a BBQ on an island, a visit and walk to the castle Eltz and a fun-filled day at the Phantasialand theme park. For most pupils (and Mr. Ferri-

gon), this was their first visit to Germany and everybody had an extremely positive experience, meeting new people and making new friends, taking in all the cultural and geographical differences (and similarities) and sampling the many culinary delights. Unfortunately,



Thank you to:

George Middleton, Amber Parry,
Charlotte Ogden, Sara Woodhouse,
Philippa Bailey, Sammy Joyce, Dan-

U12 Boys Football



Sheffield Schools Football is split into 4 leagues. Last year the Under 12s were placed in the same league as Westfield, Park Academy, Birley, Handsworth and Springs Academy. The team won the league with some fantastic performances losing only 1 game. This meant the team qualified for the playoffs with the winners of the other 3 leagues but were

narrowly beaten by Ecclesfield.

In the Sheffield Cup the U12s successfully made their way to the final where they met Ecclesfield for the second time. This time the team won 1-0 with a wonder goal from Joe Morley in extra time.

The boys commitment, passion and desire

Montserrat - A Population Evacuation

Following the pioneering expedition of Commander Healey in July a further series of four groundbreaking videoconference events were undertaken by Commanders Vincent, Cousins and Harvey.



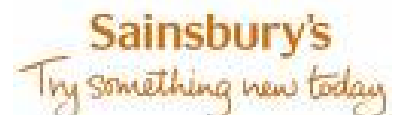
This evacuation simulation experience challenged Y10 students to work together and take control as Emergency Response Teams. Students assumed roles monitoring and reporting as Satellite, Hurricane, Volcano, Communications, Media and Evacuations teams. This was coordinated through the National Space Centre in Leicester and data transfer was via live video and computer terminals linked directly to the Space Centre.

The school had visitors to witness the missions from the Royal Shakespeare Company and a company called Aethra who manufacture videoconferencing equipment. Both were impressed with the way Meadowhead stu-

Tesco / Sainsburys Vouch-



Thanks to your
ers
generosity we have
purchased equipment
for Food Technology,



Politics comes to Meadow-



Meg Munn, our local MP, found the time in her busy schedule to visit 2 Y10 PSHE Politics lessons and answer their questions about her life, the political system, the Queen's role, and her favourite cheese (Camembert).

A local girl, Meg attended Rowlinson School, and was even taught by one of our current teachers 35 years

ago. She was always interested in politics, and eventually left her career as a social worker to represent this area in Parliament. She was willing to answer all the pupils' questions, even about the awkward "expenses scandal", and came across as friendly and hardworking, with many working days ending at 10.30pm. She was interesting and honest in her views, and it certainly wasn't a

"Vote Labour!" speech, although she did make the fair point that the impressive Meadowhead school building is part of a recent Labour initiative.

Congratulations to our year 10 pupils, who did the school proud. They were confident and polite, and Meg commented on their impressive engage-

Y7 Mixed Rounders—Sheffield Runners



Y7 Mixed Rounders Team

Y7's made it to the final of the Sheffield Schools U12 mixed rounders tournament in July. Unfortunately, they lost to Hands-worth in the final.

The team is as follows: (back row l-r) Luke Benson, Emile Akram, Mia Fathers, Will Archer,
(front row l-r) Beth Adcock, Georgina Allen,

French Trip to Nice



Last year's biannual French study visit headed south to Nice. Here, Y9 students had French lessons every morning and worked incredibly. They learned about the history, culture and cuisine of Nice and the surrounding area, as well as lessons on specific aspects of French language.

The walk to Actilangue along the suitably named Promenade des Anglais was a beautiful walk to work and it was great to see such a spring in our students' steps at such an early hour!

Each afternoon we went on different excursions to places students had learned about in their lessons. These visits, guided in French, reinforced their language learning. We had some beautiful views of the narrow streets of Old Nice, a lovely picnic in the Arènes de Cimiez followed by a tour of

the Matisse museum, a town tour around Antibes, an extremely wet tour of Monaco when a tempête hit the principality and a very enjoyable visit to the medieval town of Eze, where we also learned at the perfumery all about how perfumes are produced and about the many sacrifices made by the 'noses'. Ms Maynard, Mrs Brown & Mr Fernandez all concluded that teaching was a much better job!

The week passed far too quickly and it



Jaguar Club

Last year Ms Evans ran the 'Jaguar Club.' This took place every Wednesday after school and the students brief was to design a futuristic car. They had to plan what the car would look like in 50 years time. The following students who attended the Jaguar Club all deserve a mention: Tom Sallis, Emma Robinson Ben Martin and Toni Hall.



show off his designs.

The students learnt airbrushing skills and drawing techniques. There were some intriguing designs. However, the outright winner was Ben Martin 11K who is in Ms Evans Product Design class.

Ben definitely has a flair for design technologies. We wish him every success in the future with his cre-



MEADOWHEAD LANGUAGE COLLEGE



Invites you to join one of our
Adult Community Language Classes in:

**French, German, Greek, Italian,
Russian, Spanish**

Only £60 per term

ENROLMENT EVENING

Thursday 7th January 2010 - From 6.00pm till 7.00pm

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

Term Starts: Thurs 21st January for 12 weeks

**Enquiries regarding any of these courses to:
The Language College - Jo Allen or Alison Huff
Meadowhead School**

**Dyche Lane
Sheffield
S8 8BR**



Why Post-16 at Meadowhead School

The advantages of Post-16 provision at Meadowhead School for the families in the local community have been discussed for many years. In the consultation for Trust Status parents highlighted many positive reasons for Post-16.

- Meadowhead School has a proven record of academic success over many years, and the potential to extend that success at Post-16
- Students will be able to make confident, informed choices based on their knowledge of the school
- Personalised advice on courses and progression routes is based on sound knowledge and evidence
- Positive relationships between families and the school have been established over many years
- Support and guidance can be tailored for individual students, especially when making the transition from GCSE to A level courses
- Students retain a clear link with friendship groups that they have developed over many years
- For most students travel time will be less

From September 2010 we will be teaching Post-16 courses at Meadowhead School. We have high expectations of ourselves and our students. We aim to support students to achieve their potential, and to have the knowledge, skills and confidence to continue achieving when they leave Meadowhead School. Whether you progress to University, training or work the message is clear - aim high!



We believe that Meadowhead is an outstanding school and that many students and families feel the same. We now have the chance to build on the best that Meadowhead has to offer and establish a Post-16 provision fit for the 21st Century. Students will have the opportunity to be taught by teachers they know, and who know them well.

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The Learning Experience

We aim to develop our Post-16 provision to take advantage of many new opportunities. We are working with Sheffield Hallam University to develop our ICT infrastructure to enable our Post-16 students to use ICT as a way to enhance their learning. Lesson notes and assignments should be available through our Learning Platform. This should enable better communication between students and their teachers. Students will be encouraged to use portable devices to log on to the Meadowhead Learning Platform whilst in school. Areas in school will be set aside for private study, including ready access to ICT.

Post-16 Aim

- To provide our students with access to high quality learning opportunities within their own community
- To offer a coherent, personalised curriculum that meets the needs of our students.
- To engage learners, promote participation, raise attainment and enable students to progress beyond school
- To provide quality support and guidance and access to enrichment activities

Partnership Working

We will also be working with our Trust Partners including Sheffield College and Sheffield Hallam University to enable us to personalise the curriculum and offer our students the widest range of courses in the city and excellent guidance and support to progress in the future.

We will be consulting with students and parents about their ideas and suggestions to enhance learning at Post-16.





Abyss

BY BETHANY POSTLE



Secluded from the rest of the world the pier branched out from the beach, its arms stretching out into the black swirl that loomed around me, fighting up the side of the withered wall of the pier, frothing at the last grab of the wave. Cold pricks pinched at my tear sodden face, crumpled with the sorrow that had finally swallowed me. The air stroked gently at my bare skin, then bellowing ferociously, smacking me to and fro; pulling me further and further into the abyss that waited below me. My toes gripped the edge of the pier. "Not yet! You won't take me, not yet!" I screamed, my voice breaking at the end. More tears tumbled over my face, more and more, stabbing at my heart each time.

My eyes swayed down to the infant in my tightened arms, my muscles aching with the strain. The child...my child, eyes softly closed over the blue eyes that used to shine, glitter in the sun. The little button nose, red with the cold. The smile that used to be, now, in an expressionless line. Colour drained from her cheeks, now pale white. I lifted my shaken hand, brushing her blond, silk locks out of her face, running my fingers through her hair as my tears dropped onto her dress flowing with the wind. I pulled her harder into my breast, my blouse

smothering her, as I wrapped my arms tighter around her limp, lifeless body.

My skirt whirled and whipped in the wind as it grew louder, and angrier around me, still pulling me forward. Squeezing my eyes shut, I drew in a deep breath, the cold fingers pinching at my throat and prickling at my nose. As I opened my eyes, the sound of the wind and the sea roared in my ears, screaming and wailing as I turned my back on the black sky, broken with grey clouds. I pulled my body away from the looming black that swarmed under and around me.

Breathing deeply, I cast my eyes over the town that had once been my home, but had now taken everything I had ever loved, or lived for...just gone, never to come back. In response I gripped tighter onto my child, now cold in my arms. My eyes widened as more tears rolled over my eyes. I glanced up to my left, setting my gaze onto the scar in the sky. There the Abbey stood, broken but strong, casting a deadly shadow of menace over the roof tops of the town. The empty windows seem to glare at me, a feeling of death and total despair swamped me as I stared back. The grave yard of the Abbey carpeted the east side of the hill. I winced as I recalled the

Year 7 Humanities Students Excel!

When I asked my Y7 students to complete a project on 'The Tudors' in the summer term Lucy Alexander and Katie Turton of 7K explained they could not hand all their work in until after school as it was being brought in by car! I was delighted to see the result of their dedication and hard work, which was a large model of a Tudor house, finished with precise detail.

Katie said 'We built the house out of wood, cardboard boxes, yoghurt pots, sheets of card and newspaper. The cobble stones on the road are made from pearl barley.' Lucy added 'There are two separate buildings and in one you can see inside where there is a straw floor and you can see the chairs, pots and candles. Between the buildings there is some-one being hung as this would be done in public places. The house walls are black and white, the roof is covered in straw and the street is cobbled. Round the back of the house are a well and a courtyard. Inside the yard is a painted stream with a wooden bridge going over it.'

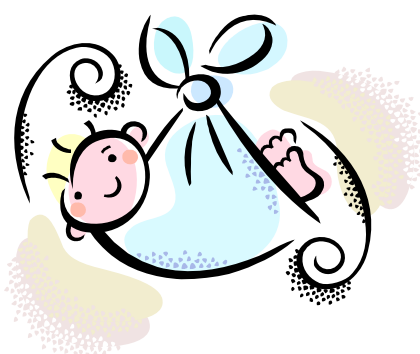


Birth Congratulations

Mr Allen—baby girl Lottie Louise
on 17th July

Mrs Beasley—baby girl Eliza Rebecca Jean on 9th October

Mr Cocken—baby boy Jacob on
12th November



Arts Award Success!

Sophie Perez-Smith, Joe O'Reilly, Billi Golland, Stewart Wildgoose and Lucy Waller are among the 20 Meadowhead students who have shown their commitment to Performing Arts by completing the prestigious Trinity Guildhall Bronze Arts Award. However,



er, the enthusiastic and determined group of five decided to challenge themselves further and aim for Silver!

The Silver award requires a lot of hard work and commitment. The group were assessed on a variety of tasks, including planning and leading a Drama Workshop, reviewing a performance, completing an Arts Challenge

and contacting professional actors to find out more about the theatre industry. Stewart commented, "It was a lot more difficult than we thought it would be".

On Friday 9th October the five theatre enthusiasts performed *Family 2.0* as their final practical task. This was entirely their own work; Stewart designed the set, Lucy took responsibility for costume, Billi modified the script by adding some exceptional monologues which Sophie self-directed for her Arts Challenge, and Joe researched characterisation techniques to make the performance Nicole Stamford even more believable. Daniel Cox Sam Smith

Mahvia Livdumlu
Watching the performance made it clear that all their hard work and commitment had paid off; it was truly something to be proud of. Sophie said "we put a lot of hard work into the performance and it went better

Isabelle Meyer
Emily Davison
Gabrielle Njie



London Symphony Orchestra

In June of this year, 7D took part in a Video Conference with the London Symphony Orchestra. The man leading this conference was a trumpet player called Rod Franks. You'll probably have heard him play before as he has recorded music for various films such as Harry Potter, Star Wars and James Bond.

During this conference Rod gave a few demonstrations on the trumpet as



well as explaining about how the rest of the instruments of the orchestra work. He also played various audio and video clips and answered many questions that pupils

SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL LUNCHTIME CONCERT

During the summer term, the school orchestra was invited to play at the Sheffield Cathedral as part of their lunchtime concert series. Preparing for this concert took several months and extra rehearsals were undertaken to ensure that we would be able to produce a performance to remember.

As the Cathedral is a much larger venue than the Recital Room at school, it was important for us all to rehearse on the day to ensure everyone was used to playing in a venue with different acoustics. After a short break for lunch it was finally time for the concert and I was ex-

tremely pleased that we had a large audience in attendance, including some ex-Meadowhead pupils who came along to support.

We performed a quite varied repertoire including pieces such as 'Themes from Harry Potter' and



We Welcome This Year's Foreign

Hallo an alle!

Mein Name ist Toni Klemm, ich bin 23 Jahre alt und komme aus dem wunderschönen Deutschland. Dieses Jahr arbeite ich als Fremdsprachenassistent für das Fach Deutsch. Ich werde bis Ende Mai an der Meadowhead Schule sein.



Mein Zuhause in Deutschland ist ein kleines Dorf in Thüringen, das Unterbreizbach heißt. Es liegt in der Mitte von Deutschland, hat 1500 Einwohner und ist sehr schön.

Es gibt viel Wald und Natur, aber auch einiges zu sehen. Zum Beispiel gibt es einen großen Salzberg, eine Salzmine und einen alten Grenzturm, denn ich wohne an der Grenze zwischen Ostdeutschland und Westdeutschland.

Meine Universität liegt in Erfurt. Das ist auch in Thüringen. Dort studiere ich Englisch und Sport. Später möchte ich einmal Lehrer werden.

¡Hola a todos! Me llamo Manuel y soy el auxiliar de español de este año en Meadowhead. Vengo de A Coruña, en Galicia, al norte de Portugal, ciudad que destaca por tener el faro más antiguo del mundo en funcionamiento, la Torre de Hércules.



Soy licenciado en Traducción e Interpretación por la Universidad de Vigo, carrera en la que estudié inglés y portugués como idiomas extranjeros. De hecho, Portugal está muy presente en mi vida porque viví dos años en la capital, Lisboa.

Me gusta mucho el fútbol y también el balonmano, escuchar música, ir al cine y salir con mis amigos. También me encanta todo lo relacionado con los idiomas y viajar, especialmente por Europa.

Salut à tous!

Je m'appelle Marilou, j'ai 22 ans et je suis l'assistante de français cette année à Meadowhead. La région d'où je viens en France s'appelle le Centre et j'ai grandi dans une petite ville de 15000 habitants qui s'appelle Issoudun. C'est une ville ennuyeuse. Mais heureusement, j'ai étudié à l'université de Tours et Tours est une ville très sympa où il y a beaucoup d'étudiants! A Issoudun, j'habite dans une maison avec mes parents. C'est une maison de taille moyenne avec un joli jardin. C'est très agréable l'été!



En France, j'ai étudié l'anglais à l'université de Tours et j'ai aussi été étudiante Erasmus pendant un an à l'université de Sheffield l'année dernière. C'est donc la deuxième année que je vis à Sheffield. J'aime bien Sheffield! C'est très joli et sympa et la campagne est superbe, surtout le Peak District!

Quand j'ai du temps libre, je vais au cinéma, je lis, je fais du shopping et j'adore aussi danser et faire la fête avec mes copains! J'aime aussi beaucoup voyager à travers le monde (île Maurice, Espagne, Chine et bien sûr Angleterre et

Ironman 70.3



Mrs Mintoft went to Clearwater Bay in Florida to compete in the Foster Grant Ironman 70.3 World Championships on Saturday 14th November.

Here she swam 1.2 miles, biked 56 miles and ran a half marathon of 13.1 miles. She not only beat her previous GB performance of 8 hrs 3mins and 59 secs but completed it in an incredible time of 6hrs 21mins and 10 secs. She finished in 35th place in the world in her age group which is a tremendous achievement.



She is truly a superstar!

Dzień dobry Poznań



At 3.30am on Saturday 24th October my alarm clock went off. I jumped out of bed, dragged my suitcase down the stairs bleary eyed and slumped into a taxi. This was not my usual Saturday morning routine, but despite pining for my warm cosy bed I had a big smile on my face. I was off on an adventure to Poland!

Myself and five other teachers from Sheffield slept soundly in the minibus on the way to Liverpool airport. We needed to conserve our energy because when we arrived in Poznań, the



Poznań Cathedral

fifth largest city in Poland, we had a busy programme ahead of us visiting schools, meeting teachers and learning about the Polish education system.

Poznań is a beautiful city with some stunning architecture. We spent our weekend exploring the old town square complete with pretty colourful houses and a pair of mechanical goats who entertain the tourists by head butting each other when the clock strikes twelve. We also visited Poznań's cathedral which is the oldest in the country and contains the tombs of the first rulers of Poland.

On Monday the hard work started and our first meeting was with Elzbieta Walkowiak, the Regional Chief Education Officer. We learnt a lot about the Polish system. Currently children in Poland start school at age 7 and attend a Primary School until the age of 13. However, the system is in a process of change and by 2012 all children will start Primary School at age 6. When they reach 13 children move on to a Gimnazjum where they study until they are 16.

After Gimnazjum they move onto an Upper Secondary School.

At the moment the Polish government are interested in developing languages in schools and all students start learning a language, usually English, at Primary level. Languages have recently been added as a compulsory part of the formal examinations at the end of the Gimnazjum stage (our GCSE equivalent).

When we had soaked up all this information it was time to get into schools and see what education in Poland really looked like. During the week we visited one Gimnazjum, three Primary Schools and one Nursery School. I observed many English lessons, a PE lesson and a Biology lesson. The level of English many of the Polish students spoke was incredible; even the children in Nursery School were learning the English alphabet! I felt rather embarrassed stumbling over my two Polish words (*Dzień dobry* – *hello* and *Dziękuję* – *Thank you*) in conversation with Y8 and Y9 students who chatted away quite confidently in English.

Keen to learn about my own subject, I asked about Drama in all the schools we visited but I was told that

it wasn't part of the curriculum and it was only available as an after school activity. Having discovered that Drama wasn't taught in Polish schools I was keen to visit the local cultural centre which focused on making Drama and other Arts activities accessible to young people.

The *City Culture Centre No 2* was an amazing place and I could have wandered the corridors for hours popping my head round doors to see a vast array of creative classes ranging from twenty teenagers doing



Miss Martin (3rd from the right) with the Sheffield group and staff at Debinka School

This school had a Nursery School, a Primary and a Gimnazjum all on one site.

THE BIG CHALLENGE 2010

OUR BIG CHALLENGE ENTERPRISE TEAMS are now open for business until March and will be selling various goods/services in school and our local community.

The Big Challenge is a citywide schools enterprise competition supporting student entrepreneurs who want to run their own businesses for 6 months to see if they could be the next Alan Sugar! Here are some of their first advertisements

**Christmas !!!
Birthdays !!**

**Coasters Galore,
Plus more !**



COASTERING 2 SUCCESS

Prices: £1.99 for 1

£6.99 for 4

£9.99 for 6

Contact - Kya Hany on 0114 2372723 ext 223



*Handmade plastic
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Fantastic varieties of rings in a range of different colours, designs and sizes, perfect for presents and

Looks just like a diamond but a lot cheaper!

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Ring comes in a little gift pouch.

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ONLY £2!



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Get cooking with the new fantastic range of cooking books from the 'COOK IT!' team.

The first book, a seasonal spectacular, will be available before Christmas and will be packed full of Seasonal Surprises for all your friends and family.

And with 25% of the profits going to Charity, you can feel good about it as well!

See us in The Rosling soon...



Design your own T.Shirt

It can be as silly as you want, we can print any caption, any photograph, any drawing direct onto the T.Shirt. Great personalised

T.Shirts are available in adult and children sizes and cost just

£4.99 for adults and £3.99 for children.

For more information please see:

Christian Gibbons or Josh Douglass in 9H (Room E03) or telephone 0114 2372723 ext 262/247

Spanish Exchange

My experience of the Spanish exchange was absolutely fantastic!

Not only did I get to make a new friend but I got to communicate with her in a different language and learn about her culture.

My favourite part of the week was on the Sunday when I took Maria (my partner) to Alton Towers. We had a brilliant time and it was a great opportunity for us to talk. I also loved getting together with the rest of the group, who were all absolutely lovely.

It's hard work having to look after



Spanish students after afternoon tea with the



Danny Lee on the assault course, getting to know our Spanish exchange partners

I decided to participate on the exchange because it seemed like a good idea to meet new people and it is a great way to improve my Spanish skills.

The thing that I enjoyed the most was meeting my good buddy, Victor! He was so funny and just good to be with.

My favourite activity was our trip to Thornbridge, an outdoor pursuits centre because it was hilarious watching everyone fall off stuff!



I really enjoyed the Spanish exchange because we learnt so much and had a great laugh! It was a great experience and we learnt so much about other peoples' lifestyles.

I really enjoyed Thornbridge and doing all the activities, although the helmets were not all that flattering.....

Spanish and English partnersAt the end of the Thornbridge adventure



Now that's what I call teamwork - on the rope ski's at Thornbridge

It doesn't seem 2 seconds since we were up at 4am to collect our exchange partners! I was so excited, I couldn't stop jumping around!

The best activity was at Thornbridge and my main memories are of people falling off the obstacles. The Spaniards were out on other trips, having afternoon tea with the Lord Mayor while we had to stay in school!

The last day was meant to be a leaving party, but

Taking part in the Spanish exchange is a terrific opportunity for me to learn about Spanish culture and for the Spaniards to learn about ours. I'm really looking forward to going to Zaragoza in April and meeting many different people whilst I'm there.

Going to Spain will be a chance for me to test my knowledge of the language and hopefully Aingeru (my partner) will help me to improve it.

When Aingeru first arrived in England, I tried to speak Spanish to him as I didn't want him to feel pressured in speaking fluent English from the very beginning. I am grateful to all my friends who contributed to making



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Class of 2009

In 2009 Meadowhead's Y11 students rose to the challenge by improving the school's GCSE results for the fourth consecutive year. 67% achieved 5 or more A* to C grades, and 57% did so including English and Mathematics.

99.7% of students achieved at least one qualification, so we are still aiming for a perfect 100%.

There were many very high achievers with over 25% of students achieving 3 or more A* or A grades, with 44 individuals getting 8 or more A* and A grades.

Our highest achievers were:

Daniel Ashmore	Joe Baker
Eve Cantrill	Harrison Carter
Joelle Cory	Matthew Cowley
Helen Long	Sam Millington
Rebekah Pitt-Topham	Safa Salim
Rachel Sellars	Hugh Williams

Special Awards were given to:

Daniel Ashmore - Bryan Marsden History Award



Whole School	2006	2007	2008	2009
Percentage 5A*- C	60	60	64	67
Percentage 5A*- C [Including English & Maths]	50	51	50	57
Percentage 5A*- G [Including English & Maths]	91	94	94.1	93
Percentage 1 + qualifications	98	98.5	98.5	99.7
Percentage 3 A*/ A or better	20	19	20	26
Points	378	396	420	418

We Welcome!



Ms Wale



Mr Holland



Miss Swift



Miss Allen



Miss Inglis



Miss Pearce



Mr Beigel



Mr Barnett



Miss Brabin



Miss Greaves



Miss Foroozan



Mrs Davies

Children In Need 2009

Official Merchandise



Mr Wolstenholme raised



Pupils who helped to sell official merchandise had their picture printed in the



Wear A Hat

Joe Belbin 7K



Face Painting raised £20.00



Team 'Get Shirty'



Bun Sale

Design a Pudsey T Shirt.

Ms Wale,



Total Raised:

★ £1,340!

