The Phoenix



Issue 57

The Meadowhead School Newsletter

April 2010

FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH: MEADOWHEAD POST-16



As applications closed on Apply Sheffield, we were delighted to learn that over one hundred of our YII students have applied to stay on and study A levels at Meadowhead. We are still receiving application enquiries directly to the school. All students who have applied are guaranteed a place, providing they meet the admissions criteria.

We will be teaching sixteen A Level subjects from September 2010 and we have been working closely with Norton College, so that students can widen their choices by applying to take certain courses at Meadowhead and ones we currently do not offer, at Norton.

The benefits are clear, students know where they will be, they know their teachers and can be confident of excellence in teaching standards. The teachers know their strengths, and what support they will need to achieve their potential at A level.

Continued on page 2...











Post 16

continued from page 1...

The staff have worked hard to select specifications, draw up the prospectus and organise a Post 16 Open Evening all in the first half of the Autumn Term, but the excellent response we received at the Open Evening from both parents and YII students, was reward in itself.

Parents have taken every opportunity to demonstrate their interest and support in how plans are progressing by attending the Post 16 Open Evening, and asking lots of pertinent questions at Families for Learning Evenings and on Progress Day.

The students have been busy getting involved in the process. A Student Focus Group was very quickly organised. See the page opposite for what the students are saying.

We feel it is a recipe, for success and that our school slogan, "Learning and Achieving Together", will continue to apply in the Post 16 section of the Meadowhead School community.

Mrs Aitken







The Voice of the Students

Throughout the year a large group of YII students have been meeting as a Students' Focus Group with Ms Hickman and Mrs Burdekin to discuss the planning for Post-16 teaching at Meadowhead in September 2010.

We asked groups of students for their comments - here is what they have to say:

'We are really excited to have the opportunity to continue our studies at Meadowhead. We hope to create a positive and mature learning environment so that we can succeed in all our ambitions. We hope to work as a team to create a successful base for a bright future. We also look forward to being involved in these new and exciting arrangements.' **Abbie Spooner & Emma Grant**

'Post 16 will provide excellent options for pupils in school and out of school. We are discussing what will be happening after GCSEs to help us prepare fully for September—including a two day residential experience which we are really looking forward to.'



'Post 16 at Meadowhead is a great opportunity for the students and the community. It will give the school the chance to extend its curriculum to its full potential. We will be able to be taught and supported by teachers who really know us and help us succeed in our A Levels.'

Amelia Norton



'Hey guys. The reason we want to stay on at Meadowhead Post 16 is because it is in our community. Our friends are here, we know our teachers and there's NO UNIFORM!! We've really enjoyed our first five years here, what are another two years going to be like?'

Rhianna and Sophie IIJ

'We believe that Meadowhead is going to be an exceptional Post 16 giving better opportunities to students in the area. The familiar surroundings will make it easier to learn and improve our chances of succeeding.'

Chair of Governors: Mr Jim Mould

Here, we introduce our new Chair of Governors Mr Mould to you and ask him some questions about his life:

Have you lived in Sheffield all your life?

I'm a local lad. As a boy I lived on Hemper Lane going to Greenhill Primary and King Edward VII Schools. I did my Economics Degree at Caius College Cambridge and qualified as a Chartered Public Finance Accountant at Sheffield City Treasury. I eventually became Principal Consultant Lecturer in Financial Management at Sheffield Hallam University. One of my consultancy projects led to me joining W.& G. Sissons, manufacturers of stainless steel, as Finance Director in 1985.

How did you become associated with Meadowhead School?

I started out as a parent governor as both my daughter Susan, (1989-1994) and son Richard, (1992-1997) attended Meadowhead School. I became Vice-Chair and also chaired the Finance and Curriculum governor sub-committees.



Has Meadowhead School changed over the years?

Over the last twenty years I have witnessed Meadowhead School grow and prosper. Back in 1993 the 5 GCSE A-C grades result was at 47% compared to the record 67% last summer. This is a tremendous achievement given the truly comprehensive nature of the school's pupil intake and its commitment to a traditional all-round curriculum.

What impresses you and the governing body?

The governors are proud of not only the fantastic exam results but are always amazed at the range and standard of the school's extra-curricular activities and are very grateful to staff for their time and efforts.

How can the school improve even further?

The Governors are not complacent about the school's current level of performance and will continually strive for improvement. Even OFSTED's verdict of "good with outstanding features" can be taken as a baseline for the future. There are some exciting developments in the pipeline. Post 16 classes starting this September, the opportunities afforded with the formation of the Meadowhead Community Learning Trust, and further developments of the curriculum which aim to give each pupil the right 'pathway' as he/ she progresses through the school.

What is your message to the parents of Meadowhead School?

There are 7 parent governors serving on the governing body and it is important that parents/carers interests and concerns get discussed at our meetings. I also hope to be making more direct contact with the Home and School Association over issues they may wish to raise. Any parent/carer can also write to me, via the school office, with any concerns they may have, although I would hope that such matters have initially been discussed with the management of the school. In most cases this should resolve the issue without the need to contact myself.

Any final words?

I am honoured to be Chair of Governors of such a fine school. The governing body is confident that Meadowhead has the potential to develop and prosper in the years ahead and we intend to ensure that this potential is fulfilled.

Mr Mould 4

Y7 Trip to Kingswood February 2010



We boarded the buses at 2pm, the butterflies in our stomachs resulting from a mixture of nervousness, excitement and the cheese flan and chips we ate at dinner. The journey seemed to take an age, and Y7 took in the sights, the sounds and the smells of Staffordshire, until finally we rounded the corner into the activity centre itself.

There was chanting, cheering and screams of delight (and that's just from the staff) as the gates swung open, and we saw what lay in store for us over the weekend. The imposing climbing tower loomed over the gruelling Team Challenge assault course, and farther off into the distance we caught glimpses of abseiling, Aeroball and archery.

We piled off the coach and made our way to our dorms, where many Y7s faced the toughest task of the weekend: working out how to get the cover on the duvet! Fortunately staff were on hand to teach the old 'inside-out' trick!

Throughout the weekend, Y7 were showcasing their many and varied talents: Elliot 'El Diablo' Middleton wowed us with his circus skills, while Jack 'the Worm' Faulkner was soon body-popping on the dance-floor of Club Kingswood.

In groups of 13-15, Y7, aided and abetted by various Meadowhead staff, and overseen by the indomitable Mrs Christie, spread all over the site, enjoying the various activities on offer. Soon, as far as the eye could see, Meadowhead Y7 were climbing things, jumping off things, crawling under things, firing things and catching things.

The quad bikes and go-karts were particular favourites: Y7 and Mrs Tomlinson, showed potential to be the next Lewis Hamilton (or in some cases Evel Kneivel), tearing up the track or performing hair-raising stunts. The zip-wire was also popular, with many Y7s over-



coming fears to conquer the 'leap of faith'. Sadly, before we knew it it was Sunday afternoon and time to leave, proving the old adage that time flies when you're having fun.

Well done to everyone who went, and a big thank-you to Mrs Christie and all of the staff who helped make the weekend happen.

Mr Beigel



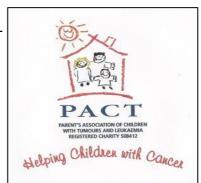




Parents Association of Children with Tumours and Leukaemia

PACT was founded in 1977 - with a donation of £113 - when eight parents created a support group for families whose children had cancer. The charity expanded its remit to include children with leukaemia in 1978 and, as funds were secured, services grew to include new ideas like the provision of equipment and facilities for families.

For over 30 years PACT has raised money to support families, as well as contributing increasingly to research. PACT is based at the Sheffield Children's Hospital and offers help to any family with a child referred



to the Oncology Unit with Cancer or Leukaemia. PACT also provides invaluable and on going support, to parents and children by organising informal outings and parties for fun, encouragement and friendship.

One particular Year 10 student at Meadowhead School has raised an astonishing $\underline{£1500}$ for the charity after completing a sponsored walk last year.

YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE AND WE ARE VERY PROUD OF YOU! Well Done!

Mrs Dixon



On February 15th 2010 Harry Carter, former Meadowhead pupil, was re-elected for a second term to the UK Youth Parliament representing all young people in Sheffield. His first year as a Member of Youth Parliament (MYP) saw him focus on a campaign to improve accessibility to mental health care services for young people. More campaigns took Harry to 10 Downing Street for a once in a lifetime opportunity to advise

the Prime Minister, to the House of Commons to give evidence to the Transport Select Committee and to discussions with Foreign Secretary David Miliband and Speaker of the House of Commons John Bercow.

Harry is also one of the youngest people to be employed by a University as an academic staff member, researching topics relating to young people. For his second term, Harry has announced his main aim: "I want to increase political participation for young people and move towards a fairer, supportive and more involved society for young people to be a part of".

Mr Ridley



Student Voice

Tried and tested!

Students at Meadowhead have always made their views, thoughts and opinions known through Year and School Council meetings. This year we've made a few changes to the system. As usual each Learning Management Group elects its own representative to pass forward ideas about school life to the Year Council meetings. Each Year Council in turn elects two Year representatives to pass forward ideas to the School Council meetings. The School Council meetings have always represented the views of students with regard to all aspects of school life. This year students are being encouraged to play a bigger part in the process.

A bit of a change!

During the first School Council meeting in October, the students elected Laura Screaton as the first ever student Chairperson. The first thing the group did was re-name the School Council. It is now called 'The Voices of the Students' group or VOTeS for short. Laura did a fantastic job by ensuring that everyone had a chance to contribute. Within a very short period of time, the group decided to invite a Governor to the next meeting to discuss the things about Meadowhead that they like and the things that they wished to see change. They also discussed ideas about how to promote the group with the rest of the school through assemblies, displays in the Rosling and via the Meadowhead Learning Platform. The next meeting was attended by Governors Mr Voyse and Mr Winrow who were both highly impressed by the proceedings. The group also set up a Student and Teacher group to discuss movement around the school between lessons.

Future developments



Some year representatives have established a sub-group to look at ways to raise more money for charities. We are also planning to hold a Mock General Election to help students gain an appreciation of the political process. We'll keep you posted!

Laura Screaton (The Chairperson) says:

"The Voices of the Students group is really trying to make a difference this year. We are going to try to resolve any problems; it's our job to fix them."

Laura Screaton Mr Ridley Mr Eastwood



Laura Screaton

Aachen and Cologne Christmas Markets



In December, 27 Y7 and Y8 pupils enjoyed a weekend visit to see the Christmas Markets in Aachen and Cologne in northern Germany. As in previous years, in Aachen pupils got to visit important monuments such as Charlemagne's cathedral and the Rathaus (town hall) and to spend the afternoon perusing the stalls at the magical Christmas market, sampling German food such as Bockwurst (a type of sausage) or Prinzen (the local Aachen gingerbread), and buying traditionally made Christmas decorations, toys or sweets.

The next day, in Cologne, pupils spent time climbing the tower of the cathedral as well as interviewing people in German on the steps of the cathedral. After more time at two different Christmas markets, we then explored the delights of the Lindt chocolate museum and factory. Once again, our pupils' behaviour, attitudes and enthusiasm was exemplary and I would also like to thank Mrs Greaves and Mr. Fernandez for their outstanding contributions in making this trip such a success. Please read on for some of our pupils' comments.

Miss Grotzki







Trip for Y7 and Y8 in December 2009



"I really enjoyed the Germany trip because it was nothing like we have in the UK at Christmas. On the first day we went to Aachen Christmas Markets. It was great fun. They sold lots of things like baubles, candles, chocolate and much more. We then went to the town hall, it was very old, but very nice.

The next day we went to Cologne Christmas Markets which were very busy. We went to a candle stall and made our own candle. We then went to the cathedral – and climbed to the top of the tower. We also carried out a survey in German on where people came from. The chocolate museum was amazing. It was the best thing ever. If you get the chance-go! I really enjoyed the trip and would do it again any day." **Katie Turton**









"I really enjoyed the German Trip, I thought it was fantastic! I loved the Markets in Cologne because there were some really nice things to buy for my friends and family. The steps of the Cathedral tower were so high off the ground. I loved every minute of the trip, even when we were on the coach, we had a right laugh with everyone, even with the year 7 boys!

The Lindt chocolate factory was amazing! The chocolate fountain was massive; we got to try some as well. I bought lots of chocolate for my family. Thank you for this amazing opportunity, I definitely recommend it! " **Rebecca Gallagher-Webb**





BUSINESS LANGUAGE CHAMPIONS try to break into the European Market!

Our Y9 BLC team, Coastering to Success, who have also entered the BiG Challenge enterprise competition, have been working hard to prepare a marketing campaign via an 'eshot' (electronic mail shot) to send to business partner Gripple's overseas branches and distributors across Europe! They have worked with Emma Hibbert (Gripple), Miss Allen and Mr Church over the last few weeks to compile and translate the mailshot (featured below in English), into French, German and Spanish. The mailshot will be fired off to all Gripple's European branches very soon! The aim is to try to sell their Multilingual CHEERS themed coasters to Gripple customers across Europe.

Miss Allen







Congratulations go to team 'GetShirty' who won first place in the Big Challenge Xtra 2 competition winning £150 for putting together a 'Business Case' as to why the judges should invest more money in their business. The team also came runners up in the first Big Challenge Xtra competition for best example of promotional material for advertising their business, its products and services.

As well as winning £25, Christian Gibbons, Joshua Douglass and James Butler, all from Year 9, were invited to a presentation along with their mentors Mrs Rawson and Mrs Simpson at the Sheffield Headquarters of DLA Pipers. Here they were presented with their winning certificates by Councillor Scriven and senior members of DLA Piper.

Mrs Simpson and Mrs Rawson

Watch out for the summer edition for more news about their success with this exciting venture, and news about our other potential BIG CHALLENGE success – good luck to all 9 teams who have submitted their final reports and fingers crossed for the big prize of a 5 day 5* all expenses paid trip to HONG KONG!

Belgian Battlefields Trip February 2010

In the February half-tem holiday 44 Y9/10 pupils and 5 teachers followed in the footsteps of British soldiers almost 100 years earlier. On the coach from Sheffield we met our excellent tour guide Jack Tucker, a history teacher with over 30 years experience and a self-confessed 'World War I Geek'. As Jack introduced us to the trip itinerary and the conflict's devastating statistics we prepared ourselves for our tour of the Ypres Salient.

Early on Saturday morning the consequences of trench warfare demanded our attention as we visited Langemark German Cemetery. Pupils and staff alike were astonished to hear that of the 40,000 German troops buried here, over half were interned in a mass grave. It was also noted that a large proportion were students who had left their first year at university to fight, a theme referred to by the Germans as the Massacre of the Innocents. Next we briefly visited the Yorkshire Trench, created in 1917 but only discovered by archaeologists in 1997 and then reconstructed.





Once in Ypres itself we first stood under the awesome Menin Gate at which the last post has been played every night since 1918, except during Nazi occupation, in remembrance of the fallen. A visit to the In Flanders Field Museum brought back to life the personal stories of war as we each followed the progress of a different civilian or soldier.

A reprieve then came our way in the form of a Ypres Chocolatier with a sign in his window saying 'Welcome Meadowhead School'. In the interests of diplomacy, and not wanting to offend, we partook of the discounted products on offer and then had a break for lunch.

Finally we culminated our day of remembrance at Tyne Cot Cemetery, an immaculate site where 12,000 soldiers are buried and a further 35,000 names of those missing are engraved onto a huge wall.

Tired, overawed and very cold we left Ypres on the north road back to the coast. The *Pride of Bruges* whisked us swiftly and smoothly back up the North Sea and we arrived safely on Sunday morning. After a busy weekend pupils and teachers were free for the half-term week, albeit with some serious food for thought.

Mr Affleck

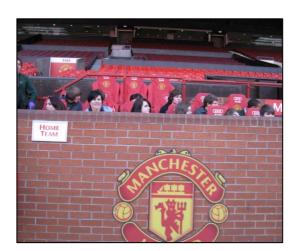
Geography Department Away @ Manchester United

On Thursday 21st January the Geography department took 100 Year 10 students to Manchester in preparation for their Geographical Investigation.

The first study stop was Old Trafford football ground. Here students had an opportunity to have a look around the stadium and surrounding area. We were escorted around the ground to see the scale of the stadium and how it operates on a day to day basis.



The tour included an opportunity to go inside the players' dressing room and players' lounge as well as sit in the dug out. Everyone was surprised at how plain the facilities were inside and how small the dressing room was. Apparently this is because the majority of the money is spent by the club on players' wages.



The focus of the trip was to gain an understanding of the impact that a stadium such as old Trafford can have on the local area.

Next stop on the trip was Manchester City Centre.



After a quick lunch stop in the Arndale Centre it was on to King Street. This is the pedestrianised designer area of Manchester City Centre. Most students were impressed with the range of shops in the area compared to Sheffield.



Unfortunately there was not time to shop because a shopping survey needed to be completed to help students build a case study of land use in city centres.

Ms Cook



Leeds University Languages at Work Day!

12 lucky Y9 linguists attended this valuable event at Leeds University on 26th January with over 50 students from other Yorkshire and Humber Schools. They spent the day learning about how languages are used in the world of work.



Workshops & tasks for the day included:

Taking part in exciting business language immersion workshops, where students engaged in business negotiations and conversations with native speakers and university students to market a British product of their choice into Europe.

Meeting the Manager of the Leeds Novotel Hotel who gave a talk about how they use languages to ensure their work and business is successful.

Language experts from the University of Leeds offered exciting hands-on workshops in which students had a taster of a number of fascinating languages such as Arabic, Russian or Chinese.

Getting a feel for the campus and what it's like to study at university by meeting current students and staff.

All students enjoyed their day, and one team even won a prize for the best German presentation of the day for marketing the 'Pot Noodle' to the German market! Well done Y9!

Miss Allen





TRIP TO RED TAPE STUDIOS

As part of the ASDAN Expressive Arts Award, a number of Y10 and Y11 pupils have recently been on a trip to the Red Tape Studios in the City Centre. Pupils were initially given a guided tour around the building by the station manager Omith Mukherjee, a professional musician who over the years has worked with artists such as Celine Dion, Shania Twain, Ant & Dec, The Spice Girls, Chemical Brothers, S Club 7 and Lionel Ritchie (to name just a few!!) He has also appeared on Top of the Pops over 30 times! When the pupils discovered this, it inspired them to ask him lots of questions about how he came to work with such famous artists.

At the end of the sessions, a large number of pupils expressed an interest in returning to Red Tape Studios to undertake some of the courses they offer, e.g. music production, music business, DJing and music technology. You have to be 16 before you can start a course and all the courses are free up to the age of 18.



James Hattersley and Reece Hardwick

Well done to all the pupils involved. Hopefully this trip will have inspired some of you to learn more about music technology.

Mr Wolstenholme

Cambridge University Visit

The first thing I noticed was how impressive the college looked. A tall, stone building gave an eerie greeting. We went through to the courtyard and into the 'Old Library' where the walls were framed with the Founder's Faces. After a talk on the benefits of Higher Education, our guide introduced us to 5 students who gave us an overview on life at Cambridge University and told us about the extra-curricular activities the university offers. Having only three 8-week terms meant a lot of hard work and effort.



After the talks we set off for a tour of Emmanuel College, taking in the grounds and vast buildings. One of the fun parts of the day was hearing about some of Cambridge's traditions - one being their love of ducks which occupy a pond in the courtyard at the centre of Emmanuel. We also heard about St Johns much anticipated parties that make up the college life.

Rounding off our tour we returned to Emmanuel, filling in a questionnaire on impressions. Our impression of Cambridge had been a good one.

Anna Sanderson 10E

Dark of The Moon

Dark of the Moon was originally written by Howard Richardson as a dramatisation of an old folk song *The Ballad of Barbara Allen*. After being edited and rewritten with the help of William Berney it had a successful Broadway run in the 1940s.

Dark of the Moon is a play about many things, but primarily it is a play about love. It follows the relationship of John (Shaquille Joel, 10I) and Barbara (Bethany Postle, 10E), a pair of lovers who, like Romeo and Juliet, are tragically ill-fated. The play explores the prejudices of the two worlds the central characters inhabit, as both the witch community and the villagers cannot accept that Barbara and John want to be together.

Bringing the play to life was an exciting and intense experience. The talented and committed cast and crew worked incredibly hard to make the performance a great success and gave up their free time generously. Students, staff and parents alike have had nothing but praise for the production, with many people commenting on how powerful and moving the play was.

The *Dark of the Moon* cast would like to say thank you to Mr Merritt for the wonderful production photographs and to everyone who supported us and came to see the show.

Congratulations to all the students involved, you really should feel very proud of yourselves.

Miss Martin



"It was amazing! There was a lot of hard work but it all came together in the end and we put on a great show." **Shaquille Joel** (John)

"The play was a great experience! I made a lot of new friendships, and enjoyed the show. It will definitely be something I will never forget!"

Bethany Postle (Barbara Allen)

"I really wish I had been in more school productions. It was so fun and great to have something to work towards. I'm really going to miss rehearsals and I hope to stay close to my fellow witches!" **Isabel Raven** (The Fair Witch)





3rd and 4th February 2010

"It was an amazing experience! I've made so many new friends and I can't wait for the play next year!" **Emily Boul** (Mrs Summey)



"It was great to act with the people in the cast and I'm already looking forward to the next one." **Tom Ryan** (Uncle Smelicue)

"It has been one of the best experiences of my life. I've made loads of new friends and have loved every minute of it!" Chris Matthews (Preacher Haggler)

"I had such a great time in rehearsals. I loved meeting new people and having huge amounts of fun. I will really miss the cast." **Daniel Matkin** (Mr Allen)

"Dark of the Moon has been so much fun and I can't wait for the next play" **Noemi Dunys** (Miss Jenkins)

"Dark of the Moon was a brilliant play and I made some awesome friends. I am definitely auditioning for the next one." **Nicole Butler** (Witch)

"I had a lovely time and it is a shame I wasn't involved in other school plays. I will really miss everyone in the cast. It was my first time in a big production and I absolutely adored it!" **Daniel Cox** (Marvin Hudgens)

"It took a lot of hard work and commitment from everyone. It was great how everyone could pull together like that."

Rose Timperley (Greeny Gorman and Set Designer)

"DOTM is one of the best experiences of my school life! I enjoyed it so much. My advice is to get involved with school plays, you won't regret it. I want to thank Miss Martin and Ms Pollard for the fabulous opportunity" **Katie MacKinder** (Miss Atkins)







"Dark of the Moon was probably the best acting experience I have had and I enjoyed making many more friends across the school. The support given when the play was performed was terrific, and I'd recommend acting in a school play to any other student."

Anthony Garbett (Witch)

Describing Post-Apocalyptic Cities

My 10W English class has produced some beautifully poetic descriptive writing coursework. Inspired by visions of a post-apocalyptic world in films such as *I Am Legend*, *The Road*, *2012* and *The Day After Tomorrow*, pupils described a city ravaged by cataclysmic events. Below are extracts from their work.

Mrs Key



The playground in the middle of the city looked just like a horror movie, silent and very scary. The pale apricot sand from the sand pit was all over the moss grass as the wind swept it miles. The roundabout was destroyed into pieces like a petal from an innocent flower when it sways from side to side. The bars on the edges of the roundabout were almost like barbed wire, sharp and jagged as if someone got a chainsaw and sliced it in half like a mad man. The slide was a half cut pipe filled with crimson blood. There was a body which was de-

capitated leaned over it like something from a nightmare. It was dirty from the wind and dust but looked brand new as you could see the shine of silver leaking though the scarlet blood like the sun trying to get though the bone candy floss clouds in the sky. **Georgia Pinder 10L**

The city is still and as cold as Satan's heart. There are sharp icicles hanging down waiting to cut though what ever is under them. The evil wind whistles though the still city like excited men and women running for a million pound prize. All around there are people frozen like an army of statues waiting to go to war. There are hundreds of metres of snow piling up on top of the statues and war memorials. The silence was as evil as death.



Thomas Scott 10D



Sky scrapers are abandoned and roads lie broken; scattered with turned over cars left to rust. This once busy city is so peaceful without the human race filling the streets. Crumbling buildings and burnt out fires leave huge fields of bone coloured ash that formed into outsized clouds, swiping past the empty buildings. Broken windows and missing walls bear the scars of aircrafts that have flown into them. The trees are still green but the foot path is dyed crimson from blood. No planes have left their trails in the sky above, as there are no planes to be flown. No singing from birds or barking from dogs.

Hollie Harris 10D

Magic, Romance and Heartache Hit Meadowhead!

Meadowhead's recent production of 'Dark of The Moon' propelled its audience straight into a compelling world of magic, romance and heartache. This production had it all:- costumes, lighting, acting and choreography combined superbly with an astonishing mastery of the Southern American accent. What a fantastic night out—more please!



Mrs Stewart

7L's Poems:

The Power of Nature

Volcano

Calm village, quiet village
Ordinary people doing ordinary things
Unsuspecting victims.

Rumbling like a hungry stomach needing food
Louder and louder
Roaring like a lion stalking its prey.
Smoke thickening like a sheet of fog
Turning daytime into night.

Sudden eruption of the beastly volcano.

A monster

An ogre

The calm village is no more.

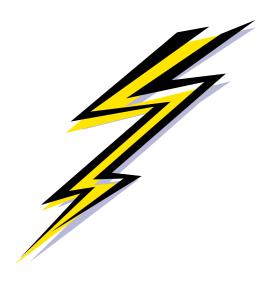
The volcano spits

Like fireworks, whooshing and crackling.

Lava spreading like blood trickling down a child's leg.

Ordinary people doing ordinary things Unsuspecting victims.

Alice Brothers





Storm

Children racing home like bolts of light
Unaware.
Unaware of what's approaching.
Bang!

Terrifying roars of thunder.
Petrified children screech in soprano voices
As bold flashes of blinding light take them off guard.

Trees begin to cower away from the Fiery, ferocious flickers of fearless light.

Forks of lightening like bright blue veins
Pulsing with warm blood
Continuously blinding like a high quality cannon
camera.

Deafening thunder bellows

Slowly yet surely the thunder begins to mute.
Flashes and forks of lightening happen less
And less

And less.

The storm finally passes over.

Helen Mottram





A big "Thank You" to everyone who collected the Times Book Tokens during last summer term. We counted 375 tokens which we were able to exchange for 6 books for the Learning Centre: Goodnight Mister Tom, The Henderson Boys, Hacker, Knife and 2 copies of the exciting and totally brilliant The Hunger Games.

Our other tokens scheme is the ongoing Box Tops from packets of Nestlé cereals – please keep cutting out the tokens and bringing them to either the Learning Centre or Finance office.

Thank you also goes to all of you who have bought books through the Scholastic C2C Leaflets. We get 20% commission on each order, plus an accumulation of bonus stars. Last year we raised £516 which enabled us to get some of the very best brand new fiction into the Learning Centre. Amongst my favourites have been: The Medusa Project, The Bride's Farewell, Creature of the Night, Solace of the Road and Shiver, all high quality, some page turners and others thought provoking. We have lots more for pupils to borrow!! Please collect a leaflet from the Learning Centre.

Mrs Webb



Sainsburys Active Kids

Sainsburys Active Kids has started again this year and vouchers are available from all Sainsburys stores, petrol stations and online groceries until 8th June.

Vouchers can be exchanged by school for PE and Food Technology Equipment.

Please bring any vouchers you have collected into the main office.



On an almost weekly basis, bags full of lost property are brought into the main office. Those items that are named are passed immediately back to the child via their Year Team. Sadly, most of the property we get is not labelled. In order to prompt the students' memories, lost property is put out on racks and tables in the Rosling during break and lunchtime on Fridays for the children to view and collect.





Unfortunately, despite advertising the lost property and displaying it, very little is actually re-claimed. Due to the sheer amount of property we accumulate, we are unable to keep it for too long and it eventually gets sent to a charity shop.

It would be an enormous help to the office staff if all of your child's uniform, PE kit, coats, jackets etc are labelled clearly with their name to ensure any lost items are returned to them promptly.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Mrs Styring and Miss Swift Reception



Beauchief Pre School 40th Birthday Celebrations

BEAUCHIEF Pre-School is planning a 40th birthday celebration for past pupils, parents and staff, to be held during the summer term on Saturday 26 June, I I am to 3pm.

The pre-school is based at Beauchief Baptist Church Hall in Hutcliffe Wood Road and celebration organisers would like to hear from anyone involved during the past 40 years. They are urged to share memories, photos, stories and information of what they are doing now, along with contact details.



Contact: <u>beauchiefpreschool@hotmail.com</u> or write to 40th Anniversary Celebrations, Beachief Pre-School, Beauchief Baptist Church, Hutcliffe Wood.

Grimm Tales



On Saturday 23rd January, twenty-nine Y8 and Y9 students from the Bronze Arts Award group went to The Library Theatre in Manchester to see a production of *Grimm Tales* and meet the Director of the show for a question and answer session.

The production was phenomenal! I had high expectations for such a highly regarded theatre company but I was amazed by the magic of the storytelling. The six actors portrayed a wide range of characters from the *Grimm Tales* and used a combination of physical theatre, live music and narration to bring the stories to life.

One thing that made the performance unique was the fact that nothing was pre-recorded. Every piece of music and every sound effect was created by the actors live onstage. **Amy Scott 8B** said "I liked that the actors used their musical instruments to make sound effects and add atmosphere".

We were all struck by how dynamic the performers were. It was a very physical performance with actors playing all manner of characters, including lions, dragons, witches and Kings. They bounded about the stage, emerging from windows and trapdoors and were thoroughly engaging from start to finish. "I loved everything about it. The actors were so energetic and their voices were really clear" said **Caitlin Bryan 8C.**

The director, Rachel O'Riordan, was very impressed by our students, and was amazed by the high calibre of questions they challenged her with during the Q&A session. She even spotted a few potential directors of the future!

The Arts Award group all rated the performance very highly:

"My favourite two stories were *The Mouse the Bird and the Sausage* for the excellent way tone of voice was used to convey humour and *Little Red Cap*" **Josh Banner 9G.**

"It was energetic and well coordinated with memorable points in each story" **Curtis Clapham 8C.**

"I felt that the Grimm tales was an inspiring performance, and it really opened my eyes to a completely new style of theatre. I loved every moment of it." **Jessica Pickford 8C.**

Thank you to Mrs Vincent and Miss Allen for generously providing us with Enterprise funding to cover the costs of the trip and to Miss Clegg and Miss Grotzki for helping out on the day.

Drive Safely!

The Community Safety Team from Aston Fire Station were recently in Meadowhead School. No false fire alarms this time, thank goodness. They were visiting every Y11 PSHE class, to deliver a presentation about safe driving. While the Y11s were bemoaning the change in the law, which will see future drivers starting at 18 rather than 17 years of age, they were all interested and affected by the hard-hitting stories, facts, images and video clips.

Hopefully they will make wise and safe decisions in the future, both as drivers and passengers. Apart from the obvious tips about speed and distractions in the vehicles (fighting children!), there was the unusual but apparently effective suggestion if you feel the driver is going too fast, pretend you're about to throw up!

Mr Timms









See how many of the facts you can guess (or already know?) in the following questions:

- I. Hitting a pedestrian at 40mph, how many would die?
 - A) 65%
 - B) 75%
 - C) 85%
- 2. And at 20 mph?
 - A) 5%
 - B) 10%
 - C) 15%
- 3. Most girls get killed by ...
 - A) texting while driving
 - B) boys driving them
 - C) drink-driving

- 4. I in 3 accidents are caused by...
 - A) Drink driving
 - B) People under 20
 - C) Men under 20
- 5. 1% of vehicles are motorbikes. How many of the deaths on the road are motorcyclists?
 - A) 9%
 - B) 19%
 - C) 29%

Answers at the bottom of page 7

Coming Soon...



UK JUNIOR MATHEMATICAL CHALLENGE

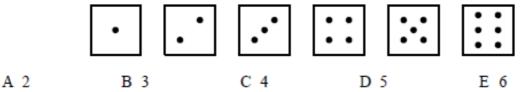
Thursday 29th April 2010

Our most gifted mathematicians in year 7 and year 8 will be invited to take part in the UK Junior Mathematical Challenge.

This challenge aims to stretch the most able - have a look at some of the questions from last years challenge:

How well can you do? (See Mr Weale for the answers)

How many of the six faces of a die (shown below) have fewer than three lines of symmetry?



Starting at the square containing the 2, you are allowed to move from one square to the next either across a common edge, or diagonally through a common corner. How many different routes are there passing through exactly two squares containing a 0 and ending in one of the squares containing a 9?

2	0	0	9
0	0	0	9
0	0	0	9
9	9	9	9

A 7 B 13 C 15 D 25 E 32

The currency used on the planet Zog consists of bank notes of a fixed size differing only in colour. Three green notes and eight blue notes are worth 46 zogs; eight green notes and three blue notes are worth 31 zogs. How many zogs are two green notes and three blue notes worth?

A 13 zogs B 16 zogs C 19 zogs D 25 zogs E 27 zogs

Fundraising for Haiti



On Friday 22nd January 2010, Meadowhead held a fundraising day to raise money for the Haiti Appeal. Students and Staff wore their jeans and trainers to school for the day in return for donating some money to the Haiti Appeal.

In total, we raised a massive

Well done and thank you to everyone who donated!



7], who were exploring ballad form in poetry at the time of the Haiti disaster, used news coverage to form some very moving poems. Below is an example of their work, written by Mark Samuels

Mrs Brabban

In January two thousand and ten The island of Haiti did shake. Half the population have died or been injured In a massive, record-breaking earthquake.

The plates of the earth were moving, Every building on Haiti fell down. Hundreds of thousands of people were killed, And millions left with a frown.

Poor and unhappy people, Lying distraught on the ground, Many of their family members are lost, And even more yet to be found.

People in palaces or barns, They all were struck just as bad. None are better off than others, They lost everything that they had.

The whole wide world is helping. To the island many have paid, Millions and millions of pounds have been raised, The world is offering aid.

Please help the poor people of Haiti, We'll save the children, women and men. This was a terrible disaster, Let's hope it won't happen again.

Mark Samuels 7J





PEPA Presentation Evening



On Thursday 22nd October the Physical Education and Performing Arts faculty hosted their first Presentation Evening to recognise the time, effort and dedication students invest in Sport and Performing Arts at Meadowhead School.

The students were awarded with their 'Colours' - a badge and certificate to acknowledge commitment and achievement in a wide range of Extra-Curricular activities.

200 students received their 'Colours' for Drama, Orchestra, Dance, Choir, Hockey, Football, Netball, Rugby, Trampolining, Athletics, Basketball, Arts Award and Rounders.

The awards were presented by Mr Neil Briggs (ex Meadowhead student and rugby union player for Sale Sharks and England Saxons) and Mr Eastwood (Deputy Headteacher.)

Mr Eastwood said of the evening "students at Meadowhead are always striving for excellence and it was an honour to present these well-deserved awards."





Special PE Awards:

Junior Sportsman of The Year

James Blackburn

Junior Sportswoman of The Year

Jasmine Tolond

Senior Sportsman of The Year (Phil Mintoft Memorial Award) **Rob Sturman**

Senior Sportswoman of The Year

Carys Hall



Well done to all.

Mrs Bowker



U13 Girls Football

Last 8 in the National Competition



Meadowhead has achieved highly in the football season this year.

The UI3 girls team reached the quarter finals of the English Schools Cup, (the last 8 teams in the country!) The season started with convincing wins over teams from Leeds, Birmingham and Lichfield. The quarter final match was against Thomas Telford School, who have a very good reputation in girls' football. The match was evenly contested, with around 500 spectators from Thomas Telford School on the sideline, offering encouragement and support The final result was I-0 to the Midlands team, a valiant effort from the Meadowhead team, who played brilliantly throughout the match. Well done to all the students involved throughout the season- a fantastic effort and achievement.

Miss Dunbar





Last year I went to the South Yorkshire Rugby trials and got into the South Yorkshire squad. I was spotted by a rugby scout and was asked to train with the Doncaster Knights. I then had trials for the Yorkshire team and was selected to play for Yorkshire.

Whilst with the Yorkshire squad I was asked to train with the Leeds Carnegie U16 team. I train five nights a week after school and sometimes don't get back home until I Ipm! Its hard squeezing everything in as I still have to do all my coursework.

I train really hard and have to watch the food I eat. I've met loads of people through rugby. Taking up rugby is the best decision I've ever made and hopefully I will soon be playing for the Leeds Carnegie Ist XV team.

James Blackburn



Jonathan

Becky

Gross Country

Four Y7s have competed in the Sheffield School's Cross Country League this season with amazing successes. The overall winner was **Jonathan Shields** who dropped just one point winning 4 of the 5 races to take the title.

Becky Chambers consistently finished in 4^{th} to 6^{th} position to give a final position of 4^{th} .

Points are only given for a top twelve finish, so many runners don't collect any points but Meadowhead's other two runners **Joe Hibbert** (9pts) and **Olivia Martin** (5pts) missed the first event and still placed 12th & 15th in the league.

Jonathan may well have gone on to become City Champion except the event was 'snowed off'! However all four runners were selected for the South Yorkshire Championships but unfortunately this event clashed with the Y7 'Kingswood trip'. Again Jonathan would certainly have been fighting it out at the front.

Next year our runners will be in Y8 racing against Y9s so league and championship titles will be tougher to come by, as will selection for the Sheffield team. However I am confident they will do well.

Mr Adams



Tesco For Schools Vouchers 2010

Please don't forget to collect the Tesco Vouchers For Schools when you do your shopping. You can collect I voucher for every £10 spent in Tesco. The vouchers can then be banked by the school to buy a variety of goods and equipment for PE, ICT, Art & Design, Music and Basic Skills.

Please being your vouchers in to the main office. Thank you!



Cyclo-Cross

I have been cycling for two years and since September I have competed weekly in the Cyclo-Cross regional and national events - Notts and Derby Cyclo-Cross League, Yorkshire Cyclo-Cross League, National Trophy and National Championships.

On Saturday 21st February I came 3rd in the U16 British Schools Cycling Championships.

Jake Ledger

Hockey Success



I started playing hockey aged I I years and went straight into the role of goal keeper. I have represented South Yorkshire, Sheffield Hallam Ladies and Abbeydale Under 16 teams.

In June 2008 I was chosen to attend the England Hi Pac Camp at Loughborough University with 10 other goal keepers from around England. I was successful in being one of only 4 goal keepers to get into the North of England squad last year. I played for Pennine Pumas in the U16 England Cup and was selected to play and train with England. I am determined to get to the 2012 Olympics.

I am extremely committed to training as a hockey goal keeper, striving to become a member of England 16/18 squad and eventually gaining a place in the GB team.

Lois Hunt Brown

Meadowhead Catering Club

Meadowhead's Catering Club meets every Tuesday and consists of Y9 students who have really impressed us during their Food Technology lessons.

Wearing complete chef outfits, the students began by developing their practical skills and making delicious products to take home! More recently, the students have run a number of break-time enterprise events including Pudsey Bear Iollipops for Children In Need and chocolate heart Iollipops for Valentine's Day. Both of these went down a treat, and were sold out well before break-time ended!

As we write, the club are busy preparing and practising various dishes for an in-school buffet which is happening in May for evening class tutors. Alongside this they are also organising their next enterprise event – Easter eggs! Many egg moulds have been purchased and they have been filling, decorating and packaging them up ready to sell to both staff and students.



We hope to open up the club to other year groups. If you are interested in joining, please come and see us in D03 and D04.

Miss Wale and Mr Holland

Home & School Association

Meadowhead Auction and Auction of Promises Thursday 24th June 2010

The HSA are organising another auction this year after the success of the auction in 2008.

Can you provide an auction item, raffle prize or services for the Auction?

All services would be MOST welcome, e.g. Fitting a Carpet, Cleaning Windows, Meal for 2, Cut & Blow Dry, Riding Lessons, Driving Lessons, Manicure, Hamper, Ironing, Dog Walking, Gardening, Car Valeting,

Trip to the Tip or Removal Van.

The more items we can accumulate, the greater potential we have to raise funds for the school.

If you are able support the Auction in any way, please contact Mrs Bowker,
Mrs Smith or Mrs Brand at school.



Surveys...please complete and return to reception

Parent / Adult:

Do you want to learn a foreign language?

Would you be interested in learning a foreign language on a computer in school at your own pace?

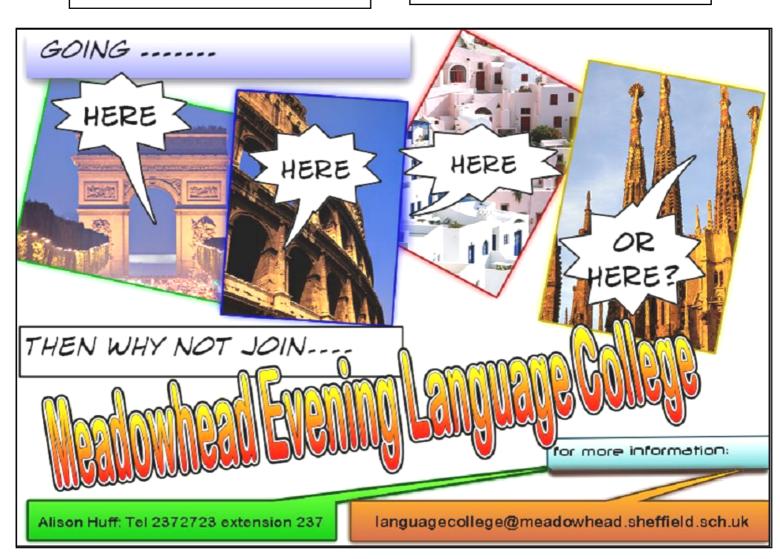
If so which one?

Pupil:

Do you attend any activities or clubs after school?

If not, why not?

Do you have any suggestions for a new club?



Comita Tita Characto when I

STUDENTS HAVE RISEN TO THE CHALLENGE OF CREATING THEIR OWN COLOURFUL PRESENTATIONS IN A NEW APPLICATION "COMIC LIFE" Y7 TO Y10 HAVE BEEN PRODUCING REVISON AND CLASSWORK IN THIS NEW FORMAT





